

MARY'S PENCE (www.maryspence.org)

Interview with **Maria Mejia Tum**, Santa Cruz, Guatemala

I'm María Mejia Tum, and I'm the secretary of the Association. I thank God for being here in this association. We've done really well because sharing our experiences with other sisters has helped us very much. I realize that being part of the groups of women has made me feel so happy because ...*(the video is cut here)*

Becoming a member of this association has changed me in many ways and has made me feel very happy. We've had access to much information by means of this organization. We've shared many experiences with other women, and I've realized that being in a group is a really nice experience since when we are alone we are overcome by fear and are unable to express ourselves. But, thank God, I've felt really comfortable with the other ladies. In each of the groups of women, I've witnessed many other experiences. The ladies have changed a lot. They are no longer terribly frightened. They used to be really scared of expressing themselves. Now they are learning how to deal with their own lives through their projects. They move forward now because they know what to do. I want to thank Karen for having contacted us with you. Also, I want to give thanks to sister Maruca who has helped us a great deal. I'm the mother of five children, and I thank God for them.

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