

Dear MTF and Yashalum:

May the Holy Spirit fill your hearts with cheer and strength.

How have you been? I hope all has gone well in your work and projects.

I want to share the summary of the statistics of the hospital for 2008. Here you can see the results of the work done by the teams of staff and those who have helped as volunteers and with donations.

We draw attention to the fact that the number of patients hospitalized in 2008 remained the same as in 2007. As for the outpatient service, there was an increase of 2,141 patients.

During 2008 there were 17,198 patients in outpatient and 3,118 hospitalized making a total of 20,316 people served.

We are concerned about the economic situation on both the national and international level. This crisis will definitely affect the lives of our poor and sick indigenous brothers and sisters. There has been a striking increase in anemia with very low hemoglobin generated by malnutrition. We rely on the providence of God, manifested through solidarity of the hearts of those who do what they can and share what they have with the poor.

I say good-bye with deep affection. Be assured of our prayers for every blessing for yourselves and for your work.

Sister Julia Chavez Acosta
Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent De Paul
St. Charles Hospital
Altamirano, Chiapas, Mexico

July through December of 2008:

Costs of the 1,331 patients who were hospitalized was USD\$ 257,284. The income from the 984 patients, who paid part of their costs was USD \$ 62,721 which represents 24.4% of the total cost. Probono treatment was given to 820 persons, totaling USD\$ 194,563.



Outpatients waiting in line outside the hospital

Remarks from MTF: MTF partners with Yashalum to give scholarships to Mayan nurses aids to go to nursing college and return to the hospital to give service to their own people. Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent De Paul run the hospital in the Lacandon jungle. Above are the stats from the Catholic Hospital