

Tragedy and the road to recovery in Santiago Atitlán, Guatemala: the story of Hospitalito Atitlán

Dr. Irene Quiejú Sojuel

3:30 – 4:30pm (reception to follow)

October 17, 2006

Claire M. Fagan Hall (Nursing Education Building) Auditorium
418 Curie Boulevard, University of Pennsylvania



October 5, 2006 marks the anniversary of Hurricane Stan, which triggered mudslides that buried the neighborhood of Panabaj in Santiago Atitlán, Guatemala, killing hundreds of its indigenous Tz'utujil Maya residents. Hospitalito Atitlán, which had just re-opened in April 2005 after being closed for 15 years due to civil war, was also destroyed by the mudslide. The Hospitalito quickly resumed providing 24-hour medical care in a temporary facility and performed its first emergency surgery only 15 days after the mudslide.

Dr. Quiejú Sojuel will discuss her experiences as the Hospitalito's medical director, life in Santiago Atitlán during the civil war and after the mudslide, and how she realized her dream of becoming the first female Tz'utujil physician.

sponsored by Guatemala Health Initiative, Women's Health and Midwifery at Penn, and Pueblo a Pueblo

*for information on Hospitalito Atitlán, see www.puebloapueblo.org
for information on Dr. Quiejú's visit, e-mail byunj@mail.med.upenn.edu*