

## LA NUEVA ESPERANZA

**Look!** The walls are going up for the new education and training center of *La Nueva Esperanza* in Ilobasco, El Salvador. Thanks to the terrific fundraising and support of NOVA Community and *Co-Partners of Campesinas*, a pasture and piles of dirt are gradually being transformed into the outline of their new building. The new center will have areas for workshops as well as a kitchen and events space large enough so that the hall can be rented out for local events and produce income for the organization.

Fundraising continues to cover additional expenses, but Archer and Jim Heinzen, *Co-Partners* Board officers, look forward to officially opening the door to the new center this fall. The women plan to begin their workshops in tailoring, computers, and other income-producing skills in their new home before the end of the year, and the local *Co-Partners* "team" look forward to their next trip to Ilobasco, having the summer workshops and children's arts program in this wonderful new space.

*La Nueva Esperanza* is an organization of rural women from cantons around Ilobasco working for the educational and economic improvement of women and youth. Formed at the same time in 1997, *Co-Partners of Campesinas* is a non-profit organization which supports women's empowerment in El Salvador and Guatemala. For more information, go to [www.copartners.org](http://www.copartners.org).

~ *Teddi Ahrens*



**New Facility under Construction**



**Current Facility**

The woman is standing in the doorway where *Compensinas* events take place. (The open area is where the "custodian" lives and where the fire originated.)



**Current Facility**