

## How Eternal Threads benefits women ~

Providing sustainable, fair trade income for their handmade goods.

- Eternal Threads is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization and a member of the Fair Trade Federation. When we buy goods from women we insure that they receive a fair and living wage according to the Fair Trade Wage Calculator in the context of their local economy.
- In conventional trade the women artisans receive only 1 to 5% of the retail price that the consumer pays, but in Fair Trade the women receive 20 to 45% of the retail price (this variance depends on the price of the item considering the time it took to produce it). This means the difference between just “getting by” living in poverty and investing in their families financial future.
- Unlike conventional importers, as Fair Trade members we make a down payment of 50% of the purchase price when the order is placed so women have the funds needed to buy raw materials for the goods ordered. Additionally, they receive final payment for their goods as they complete them rather than after we receive and sell the goods in the U.S. Our sale of the goods allows the additional benefits below.

With revenue from our U.S. sales Eternal Threads is able to:

- Place more orders with our artisans so they can earn a consistent income throughout the year.
- Along with donations we return proceeds of sales to the communities we serve to help in ways most beneficial to them.
  - Literacy and Vocational Training
  - New equipment for the artisans – spinning wheels, sewing machines, looms
  - New Project Development