History: The Maya Pastoral Project was established in 1994 under the auspices of the United States Catholic Conference, Office for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Refugees. It was established at the request of Maya Catholics from the Diocese of Huehuetenango (Huehuetenango, Guatemala), to aid and assist the then estimated 150,000 to 200,000 Maya Catholics who, since 1944, had fled the Civil War in Guatemala and settled in Arizona, California, Florida, and elsewhere in the United States.

1999-present Maya Catholics held the first National Encuentro of Maya Catholics at St. Raphael Parish, Los Angeles with representatives from Greenville, South Carolina; Canton, Georgia; Lake Worth, Florida; Mesa, Arizona; and San Diego and Los Angeles, California; a national board of directors was organized and subsequent national encuentros have been held.

1999-2004 The project was administered from an office in Mesa, Arizona, under the direction of Sister Nancy Wellmeier, S.N.D.deN., and Padre David López Silvestre (Maya).

2005-present The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Office of Migration and Refugee Services has administered the project.

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans are unknown.