

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The purpose of this book is to give voice to traditional peoples in Latin America who are experiencing profound and wrenching cultural and economic changes—in some cases, the threat of extinction of their communities—as a result of globalization and development. *Surviving Globalization* is the work of many people in both Latin America and the US to whom I am deeply grateful. First, I am indebted to all those who gave so freely of their time and themselves in the interviews. They are acknowledged in the bibliography. In particular, I would like to express my gratitude to the people of Xapuri and Rio Branco, Brazil, for their warmth and openness, to the villagers of Naurenda and neighboring Guaraní pueblos in Bolivia for their heartfelt welcome and hospitality, and to the women of Malpaisillo and Guanacastillo in Nicaragua for their good humor and enthusiasm. The humility and strength of spirit of members of every community were, at times, overwhelming. I am thankful to the people in all three locales for demonstrating in their daily lives the importance of never giving in to despair, always believing that there must be a better way, and celebrating the gift of life even amid great hardship and hunger. The agency, consciousness, creativity, and organizational skills they exhibit as they hammer out concrete survival strategies remind us of the rich wisdom, experiences, and cultural and human values instructive to the modern world that are to be found at the grassroots level.

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