DECEMBER 2007





THE WORLD IS OUR NEIGHBORHOOD FALL WINTER 2007 - 2008

We came to the village of La Ouebrada unannounced. Although the recent earthquake in Peru had ravaged this small community just months ago, I found a happy spirited community working to put their lives back together again. Men, women and children (in their school uniforms) were working together to clear refuse, clean, plant and build. The Care Foundation, US Aid, and Telefonica seemed to have been very instrumental in immediate disaster relief putting up many tents and temporary shelters where there were no longer homes, businesses and schools. Now however, this community is ready to move on. Shortly after

our arrival, a teacher seeing an opportunity informed the head of the school. Within minutes of finding out that we may be interested in helping them, a very knowledgeable construction worker/supervisor appeared. He sat with us in our outdoor make shift office on children's school chairs. Within a short period of time he had given me a general breakdown of what materials would be needed and the approximate cost. We explained to the school director, Luis Ulema Vargas Tuya that we planned to visit a few communities and could not make any promises to her at this point. She graciously thanked us for considering to help them.





We visited several communities, all of which were friendly and in need of assistance but my mind kept on coming back to La Quebrada. Ultimately, it was the overwhelming willingness of the community wanting to team up with us and participate in their own success that made my decision. In keeping with The World is Our Neighborhood's guidelines for our "IMPACT" projects, this community seemed to be the perfect fit. With donated land and willing volunteer workers, we have begun pre-construction planning of a 5-classroom schoolhouse for young children in preschool. The school will include 5 classrooms of 30 children each, bathroom and shower facilities. Two existing buildings that are not suitable for classrooms will have slabs of cement put under them. One of them will be converted into a soup kitchen and the other into a dining hall. If funds allow, we will also install a playground.

TEAMWORK







JOY, JOY, JOY!







IT'S MAGICAL! A SURPRISE CHRISTMAS PARTY!



While spending time in Lima, we met with Dr. Luis Alberto Zuniga the director of Hospital Santa Rosa to make sure that we had all of the proper paperwork in order for their upcoming shipment of medical equipment. With approximately 4,200 births per year this is one of the busiest hospitals in Peru. It is also one of the first hospitals to provide chemotherapy for patients. As a result infusion pumps have been requested as well as sterilization equipment. Of course, supplies of all kinds including beds are very needed.

On the last day of my stay in Peru we hosted a Christmas Party for a small very poor community near La Quebrada. We handed out grab bags, clothing, soccer balls, blankets, stuffed animals etc. but no gift was better than the one that I received...those Great Big Smiles and JOY, JOY, JOY!



We Are Still Proud to Say

No one in TWION Takes a Salary. We are a 501 C 3 organization helping the poor elderly, mentally and physically disabled. The only criteria we have to team up with someone on a project is that we have a similar vision.



Medical Basics

We want to say "Thank You" to our in-country teams:

Sosep, Dr. Enio Morales Lemus & Rotary of Chiquimula, Guatemala Las Enfance , Aissata Traore, Sidy Ba & Guida Landoure, Mali Africa Caritas, Sister Bilma, Eduardo Gonzales, Nicaragua Nancy Castaneda, Peru

* Next shipment - Hospital Santa Rosa, Lima Peru

"COATS & CAPS" USA

We have coats, caps, shoes, boots, mittens, gloves, backpacks etc. available. If you know of any child or children in need of any of these items, feel free to let me know. Please note that we no longer give bulk donations to schools or groups without having specific needs identified. The World is Our Neighborhood (TWION) Catherine A. Haala 917 359 4406 <u>catherinehaala@mac.com</u>



Thanks for Teaming - up with TWION

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Many Thanks, Catherine A. Haala founder & president 917 359 4406 Catherinebaala@mac.com



