

AYNI Newsletter 2011

SEASONS GREETINGS

<http://ayni.footboot.net/>



A Message from Margie Orsi - Founder of Ayni



It is hard to believe that come this spring, it will mark the 11th anniversary of Ayni. I still can't believe that collectively, "we" (**donators, volunteers & community members**), have been able to accomplish so much with so little.

People often ask me, how is Ayni different from other organizations. I tell them, that with Ayni, as a volunteer, you get a real raw experience instead of a prepackaged, pseudo cultural feel good one that your likely to pay big bucks for elsewhere. With Ayni, you get to be a part of a highly rewarding and simultaneously frustrating experience, as one gains a truer understanding of how paralyzing or limiting poverty can be on children and families struggling to survive. With Ayni, each volunteer lives an unparalleled emotionally charged experience, with all the ups and downs that come with combating poverty.

As a donator, you get the satisfaction of knowing and seeing how your donation has made a difference through direct feedback, pictures, updates and thanks from the community, families, and children that you have helped. Given that all volunteers, including myself dedicate our time and energy without receiving a dime in compensation, our donators feel good about the fact that all their money goes towards our projects and NOT in administrative costs, salaries, advertising or fancy board of director luncheons. This is what sets us apart from larger heavily financed over-advertised organizations and it is why we have been able to do so much with so little. It's no wonder that because of our good reputation, all of our funding comes from word of mouth.

The other question that people always ask is how and why do I do it? The answer is threefold. Once you see people living in such desperation, you just can't walk away from it. It is a "Labour of Love." These words really hit home for me, when a young friend whom I spent many months with in Peru, got to experience what it was like to be a mother to little children vicariously through me. She kept saying to me, I never want to have kids, as she watched my own kids misbehave as all kids do. She said to me, kids are too much work, and it is not worth it. I kept trying to explain to her that despite what may seem painstaking at times, there was nothing more precious, valuable and worthwhile in the world, and it very much is worth it. The love you receive is indescribable. The same goes for the self sacrifice for others. While investing a good portion of one's life to something without financial gain may not seem very enticing, it comes back to that same Labour of Love, but for others. I think too, that given we share this planet we should also share the responsibility of taking care of each other where we can. Living in a country where there is plenty, it would be a shame to keep it all to ourselves. Ultimately, that is what Ayni means, "today for you, tomorrow for me," having a sense of responsibility to each other, especially when one is in need.

"Hanging out at the library"



Special Thanks to all of our 2011 Donators:

St. Brother Andre CHS

Fr. Michael McGivney CHS

Chasing Dragon Japan

Deerfield High School

Bombardier Family

Szczygielski Family

Marg & David Lingard

Hellmann Family

Zanele Poverty Relief

Etudiants Fracophones de York

Menzies & McGarry Family

Tallarico Family

Col & Anita Signorino

Catherine Fullerton

McLean & Navarro Family

Ontario Tile

Veronica Tomaiolo

Blando Family

Zoretic Family

Colegio Trener Lima

Samantha Torres & Co-workers

Thank you for Donations Honouring the Marriages of:

Dave Bates and Donna Ngo

Don Drnovscek and Diana Livia

Leora Sas & Cliff Van der Linden

Thank You Support Team:

Maria Gerrard & Ali McLean

Baby Denixta...Healthy at Age 2.5

If you remember the story of baby Denixta, you'll recall that when we first met her she was extremely malnourished weighing only 7 lbs. at 9 months old and a step away from death. We are happy to share with you the latest picture of her at 2 1/2 years old, looking cute and healthy. Thanks to all those who helped save Denixta!



Library, Hot Spot in the Community!

The library that we built in 2010 continues to be a hot spot for all the kids in the community. Reading, puzzles, games, after school help, arts & crafts and story time attract hoards of children weekly! Thank you to all those who donated funds towards new library books! Thanks to Tim & Thom Dewitt for financing the construction.

School Supplies & Educational Sponsorships



Ayni continues to pay the tuitions for all students wishing to attend high school and post secondary education. Each year we also purchase school supplies for 350 students. Thanks to all of our major donators! We continue to see an increase in the number of students furthering their education and in the number of professionals in the village! Volunteers



Gina, one of our nursing students

Daria Stadnik (Canada), Peter Wood (England), and Ines Sernaque (Piura), distribute the annual school supplies. Currently Ayni sponsors over 100 high school students, and 30 post secondary students.



More Micro-Credit Loans, Mud Brick Stoves, Trees... Means More Hope & Improved Quality of Life

PAGE 3



Volunteer Margie Lingard (Australia) & Ayni Field Director Ines Sernaque purchase pigs and goats for more families to support income generating opportunities & food security.



Marina makes full use of her new Mud Brick Stove and no longer needs to cook over an open pit fire. Volunteer David Lingard (Australia) works with the village children to plant more Neem Trees, bringing further shade, medicine and income to the community of Alto de Los Mores.

Volunteers... The Veins of Ayni

Ayni 2011 Volunteers include: Kathleen Romond, Kelly Cahill, Elizabeth Chavez, (U.S.A.) Andrew Ramsay (Scotland), Daria Stadnik (Canada), Peter Wood (England), Margie & David Lingard (Australia), and **Returning Ayni Veterans** Jackie Salas, Nadina Abdullayeva, Jessica Tallarico (Canada)



We are so fortunate to have this years Ayni Team made up of volunteers that have travelled from around the globe to dedicate their time, energy and love to the community of Altos. Our Volunteers are the veins of Ayni, teaching in the classrooms, running extra-curriculars, library programs, organizing field trips, fiestas and assisting with our development projects in the village. **Thank you TEAM Ayni 2011, you are all INCREDIBLE!**



Ayni's Ongoing Wishlist... Gift Giving that Makes a Difference



An urgent call goes out for Nelly and other special needs children who need help with special schooling & medical support.



Contribute to our Medical Emergency & Assistance Fund which goes towards operations, medicine, nutrition & illness prevention.



\$100 will fund a family with a Micro-credit Sponsorship that will help them earn income to cover basic necessities, through investments in small businesses like raising and selling animals.

Donate on behalf of a friend or family member this Holiday Season..Ayni will send them a Card with Feedback.

Funds are always needed for:

- Constructing More Mud Brick Stoves
- Planting More Trees in nearby communities and Schools
- Providing More Educational Scholarships
- Running Extra-Curricular School Programs
- Purchasing Library Books & Supporting Library Programs
- Supporting Mother's Club Workshops

Thank You to Everyone for Making a Huge Difference in this Community!



Thank you to the Hellman Family for the NEW Playground & Community Announcement System!

Make A Difference... How to Donate

Gracias!

Option #1: Direct Deposit or Transfer

Account Name: Ayni
Account #: (0211)5206268
Address: 3 Wooten Way N. Markham, Ontario,
Canada L3P 2Y2
Branch: 19972
Swift Code: tdomcattor
Institution #: 004

Option #3: PAYPAL

Please go to Ayni's Website, <http://ayni.footboot.net/>
Click Donate & follow Paypal instructions.

Option #2: Send a Cheque Payable to Ayni

C/O Margie Orsi 8 Spring Meadow Ave. Markham,
Ontario, Canada L6B 1B5

Option #4: TAX RECEIPT

For a tax receipt (for donations over \$150), please make cheques or money orders payable to Rights Action, an umbrella Human Rights NGO that supports Ayni's work. Please remember to write on the cheque it is for Ayni-Peru so that funds can be directed to Ayni. Please send to above address so that Ayni can forward it to Rights Action.