

PARTNERSHIP AMERICA LATINA

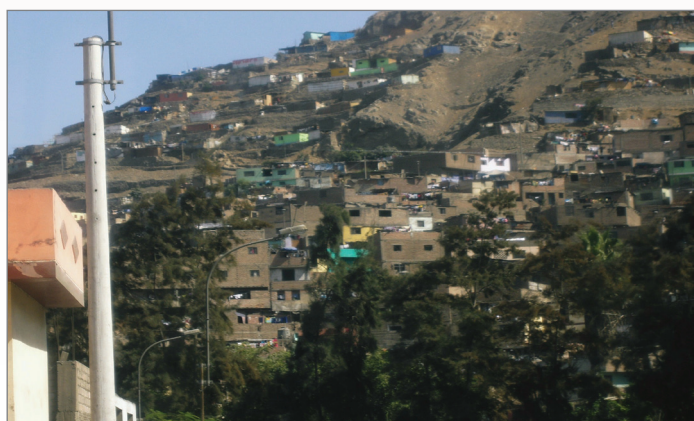
with the Little Sisters of the Assumption



July 2012 - Fergus Roche visits one of the 14 groups of disabled people, called the Frater, that Pal supports in Lima, Peru. Here he shares with us what life is like for a disabled person in Lima.

'Lima has a population of 8 million, the city extends for over 60 kilometres in both directions and up into low lying hills. It almost never rains so one seems to be always covered by layers of dust. If it did rain most poor people who inhabit the hills in makeshift dwellings would be washed away. There is little green except in the rich suburbs of Miraflores where people can afford to water their gardens. People living on the hills have to pay and collect their drinking water. Near the Little Sister's house where I stayed I saw tankers fill big containers and then families decanting into small utensils to be carried up the hill to their makeshift homes.'

'The Sisters have been working with the disabled for many years. It is estimated that one in every 10 families in Peru has a disabled person in their household. It is difficult for them to attend school, one recent statistic showed that only 17% get an education with little prospects of employment.'



'very difficult terrain for wheelchairs'

'Mobility is a serious problem for the disabled especially for the poor. Many of them are in wheelchairs and it is difficult for them to negotiate the terrain, especially those living on the hillsides. Often there are no paths. There is no access for wheelchairs on most public transport and taxis are too expensive. Even if they overcome the mobility question to get to school there are no proper facilities. For instance one young girl in a wheelchair told the meeting that she had been instructed not to return to school as they had no one to bring her to the toilet. This is not uncommon as another woman in the group had the same experience some years ago. As an organised group the Frater were going to demand that the school re-admit the girl.'

'Mobility also impacts on other aspects of their lives. They live each day trapped in a small space totally dependent on their family who are already struggling to survive. Is it any wonder that they might suffer from feelings of low self esteem, isolation and depression.'

'The Frater organization is their lifeline and organises a programme of workshops to address issues of low self esteem, injustices and income generation.'

Pal has been happy to support their work for the past five years.



Worker children from our Manthoc Project in Lima thank Margaret for her generous donation.

We are presently embarking on a new 4 year plan for the disabled in Peru which hopefully will help change the face of disability there. This new plan of Social Participation, which has been researched by the UN and the World Health Organization and successfully implemented in the U.K. will give new hope to disabled people.

Of course, this costs money and we thank our benefactors and Mísean Cara (Irish Aid) for supporting this venture.



Dates for your Diary

Art Exhibition and Christmas Fair

On Saturday 10th November 2012

From 10a.m. to 4.p.m.

In Stillorgan Park Hotel

Gifts of home made cakes, ornaments,
jewellery, bric-a-brac etc. welcome.

Contact Geraldine 2953631 or

Maura 2986862

All welcome - Admission free

Parking free

Please come and bring your friends.



Colombia, in the past renowned for its coffee, now remembered more for its drugs and guerrilla warfare.

This has led to huge displacement of population, estimated at 4 million. Six of the projects that PAL help are situated here and many of our beneficiaries have been displaced themselves or are affected by the displacement.

We invite you to see a 30 minute film on one group of displaced people who at the risk of personal safety, decided to return to their land. Afterwards there will be a short presentation of PAL's work during the year.

This will be held in the Irish Aid Centre in
O'Connell Street, Dublin on
Saturday 24th November at 11.30.a.m.
Tea/coffee will be served from 11.a.m.
All are welcome. (not a Fundraiser)

Your Christmas gift could transform a life . . .

A hand- made card states you have made a
donation in the recipient's name as your
Christmas gift to them.

For further information contact **Sheila Birkett** Phone
2968692 or 085 7316580

Christmas and greeting cards also available.



Successful Fundraising Events...Thank You Friends



Some of our mini marathon team who raised €4,500 for PAL. Our thanks to all and to Clodagh Veale for organizing it.

Marathon Men

Good luck to **Dominic Gallagher** running in Dublin and **John McKeivitt** running in Venice for PAL.

Direct Debit

Thank you to all Direct Debit Friends and to three people for whom we have no addresses.

Sale of Work



Many thanks to Jamie who worked hard all day in Kairos house. The event made €6,000 for PAL and once again a big thank you to **Geraldine Glasgow** for opening up her whole house, taking down doors and devoting so much time and energy for its success. Also to all of the people who contributed goods and who helped at the stalls.

Friends of PAL

Please pass this Newsletter on to a friend who might like to help us in some way. Pal members are all volunteers who try to help our Brothers and Sisters who live in poverty. Look us up at www.palcharityprojects.ie contact us at info@palcharityprojects.ie Find us on Facebook. Little Sisters of the Assumption, 42 Rathfarnham Rd, D6W

Wills and Legacies: Copies of our leaflet available.

Unsubscribe : If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter. email eileenkelly@eircom.net, phone 4555851 or text name and the message *unsubscribe PAL* to 086 3804739

