

PARTNERSHIP AMERICA LATINA

with the Little Sisters of the Assumption



Welcome to the October 2013 Newsletter

Update on our 4 year plan for Special needs people in Peru.



Sandrita, aged 11 with her mother.
Medical attention better late than never.

Special Needs in Peru.

Imagine you were born with special needs to a poor family in Lima, Peru, population over 8 million. You live on a hill in a makeshift dwelling without running water or electricity. Everyday your mother goes out to sell sweets on the street to buy food for the family, often there is not enough to go around. Your father has gone. This is the family's only income, there is no state aid. You cannot go to school because there is no transport or the school doesn't cater for your special needs. You cannot access Health Services. You are trapped, you feel alone, a burden on your family, isolated and depressed. Far fetched? Meet Sandrita.

She was born 11 years ago with a mal formation of her mouth. She cannot speak properly, eats with difficulty and never went to school. She is underweight and mal nourished. Confidence, self worth, and enjoyment of life, zero. Now, thanks to your help all that is changing. She has had several visits to the dentist which Sr. Bernie says she loves. Surgery is planned, followed by special therapy and tuition. A new life awaits her. Sr. Bernie, who is a Little Sister of the Assumption, now working in Lima is our coordinator there and as you can imagine there are many more needing help.



The Frater is a Support Group for people with special needs, organising workshops to address issues of low self esteem, injustice, income generation, acceptance and moving forward. Three of their number were funded by a friend of Pal (Dublin woman) to attend a special course on Leadership over 2 years. Maritza and her two graduate friends are now heading up our team here, supported by Mabel, a Peruvian psychologist and Ray Feeney, an Irish Development consultant, living in Lima. This project is funded by Misesan Cara (Irish Aid) 75% and 25% (PAL) through your generosity. They started work 5 months ago on this Social Participation Plan, recommended by the U.N. and World Health Organization and is giving hope and energy to the people with Special Needs in Peru. Pal has also funded two more members for this two year leadership Course.



Filiberto, one of the new team, outlining plans for the future.



Powerpoint Presentation



Micheal Delahunty is giving a powerpoint presentation of his wonderful pictures of Wicklow & some from Austria in Landsdowne Park Hotel, Pembroke Road, Ballsbridge on Friday, 25th October at 8 p.m. Music for fun from the Footnotes & Martin Dermody. Free Parking after 7.p.m. Donation Box for Pal.

Art Sale and Christmas Fair



Art Sale and Christmas Fair will take place in Stillorgan Park Hotel on:

Saturday, 9th November from 10.30 to 4.30.

Free Admission. Free Parking.

New this year, hand made items and paintings from our projects in Latin America along with Cards, Home Baking, Jewellery, Painted Glass, Bric a Brac and Gift Stall.

We urgently need your unused gifts, China, Pottery, Jewellery, Raffle Prizes etc. Sadly we cannot accept clothes or furniture bigger than car boot size. Please contact Brid Cahir 01 490 0829 086 6800270 or Geraldine Glasgow 01 295 3631 087 4177433 if you have items to donate

Sr. Bride is currently in Brazil, visiting her projects where she spent 17 years. She is doing trojan work for Pal and we wish her well in her present mission.



CARDS FOR ALL OCCASIONS!!! Hand Made in Peru

If you want Christmas cards, individual greeting cards or birthday cards that are made by disabled people, why not buy some from: Sheila Birkett, Phone: 01 296 8692 | 085 731 6580.

Latin American Solidarity Centre

(Lasc) was set up in 1996 to highlight injustices in Latin America. While campaigning for everyone's basic human rights it focuses on groups who experience oppression, exploitation, disadvantage and marginalization. They are committed to working in solidarity with people resisting oppression and to stand together with the popular movements in the country who struggle for social justice.

PAL are exploring ways in which we can work with Lasc. Poverty in this continent is not only caused by lack of resources but by unequal distribution of wealth.

To this end we have recently joined a group called 'Justice for Colombia,' which includes LASC, INTO, Frontline Defenders to highlight displacement of poor farmers from their land, many of whom have been killed or arrested and languish in prison without trial. Displacement often means armed men arriving at night, shooting some people dead so that the rest flee in terror carrying nothing. Then they burn the houses so people cannot return.

We will keep you informed.



Displacement of people from their land.

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@palcharity-projects.ie

Little Sisters of the Assumption,
42 Rathfarnham Rd, D6W

Wills and Legacies: Copies of our leaflet available.

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