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**Ninos unidos peruanos foundation – news letter
Year of issue 2011, edition 31, june 2011**

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Ninos unidos peruanos foundation in the year 2011

There are five restaurants for children in Cusco, Peru, where 600 neglected children get two meals per day as well as help with their homework and medical and dental treatments. Where they get emotional assistance to escape from their role as victims and where they get a huge amount of attention and love.

The history of how it started

In July 1996 Jolanda van den Berg left everything behind in the Netherlands to emigrate to Peru. Within three months she shared a home with two shoe cleaner boys and within a year she had twelve boys under her wing. Children from disrupted families who roam the streets because they do not even get basic care. They often meet with violence as well. Jolanda was able to finance the Ninos Unidos Peruanos foundation with donor gifts from the Netherlands and at a later date she was able to open the first Ninos hotel due to a large gift. In addition to the home for twelve boys who lived in her house, she also started two homes for girls where 22 girls found a place to live. Meanwhile she is surrounded by a fantastic team consisting of 80 Peruvians who together run five restaurants for children and three hotels. 600 children get

daily meals and from the income of the hotels 80 fellow workers get an income with which they can support their families.



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Dear Ninos donors

If we had to summarize the past year in one word it would be: togetherness. An enormous team spirit prevails. They work together, talk together, laugh together and cry together. The circle talks still are a huge success. They take place every week with the same ritual by the children, fellow workers, kitchen and hotel personnel. Nobody wants to miss them.

The past six months have been very unnerving and sometimes emotional. We said goodbye to 70 children who had to leave the Ninos project because they finished their primary school education and that, alas is when it ends. In their places, however, 100 new children could be accepted. During the introduction many children were waiting eagerly, accompanied by their mother, aunt and occasionally their father to see if they would be allowed to stay for the next six years. The intake talks are held with extreme care for only the neediest of children are allowed to enter.

The first supervisors' training took place under supervision of Jacqueliën van Lonkhuijzen, a professional coach from the Netherlands. She gave the supervisors grip to be better prepared to help the children. Everybody was very pleased with this intensively busy week.

Amilcar, one of Jolanda's first sons, meanwhile has become an interior decorator and has created a small cinema that was built in Calle Fierro next to the first restaurant for the children. It has 18 seats, complete with a sloping floor, red plush seats and a large film screen. It is a novelty for there isn't another cinema in Cusco. Only the Ninos children and their instructors with their families are allowed entrance. From the day it opened it has been a huge success. Of course none of the children had ever been inside a cinema. They can earn their entry tickets through an ingenious system whereby they can earn points.

An American art academy came up with a project for its pupils to paint portraits of all the children. The 600 photos that have been taken for this project will be exhibited in Cusco!

The Dutch organization: My Book Buddy that wishes to promote reading in developing countries, will take care of the contents of the libraries, so that there will always be good and

new books available to the children. Hundreds of children's books are on their way to us.

Furthermore the hotels got a face lift. We have been working very hard on maintenance, paint work, but also on new menu cards with a wider choice for breakfast and lunch. Dining has been made possible. The cooks that prepare the daily meals for the children have also started preparing meals for the hotel guests which has been a great success from the start.

Finally a lot of things have changed in holland as well. Together with the new board members Hans de Bree and Karen van Holst Pellekaan a lot of new things have been introduced, such as the site www.stichtingninos.com with more photos, more practical, and with a lot of recent information. Preparations for a big donors'day on sunday, october 9th are being made.

Read more about all these items in what is to follow.
Ninos keeps moving and we keep bristling with energy!
Best wishes from Cusco and many thanks for all your support!

W.S.

Jolanda van den Berg

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Goodbye to 70 children

At the end of february a farewell day was organized for the 70 children who finished their Ninos project. On such a day one always gets mixed feelings. Jolanda and Vicky delivered an inspired speech and the supervisors were dressed up and acted in short plays, which the children found enormously hilarious; exuberant dancing took place and the children were allowed to eat as many sweets as they liked and were given a bag full of exercise books and drawing material. They postponed it as long as possible but in the end the inevitable moment of goodbye arrived. At the end of the day 70 children who had been able to go to a children's restaurant six days per week for six years and to share joys and sorrows, left the home. They will have to return to their own homes and it is hoped that during those six years with Ninos they have built up enough emotional resistance to help them to get on in life. It sounds heart rendering to send these kids away but if they would have been allowed to stay until the age of 18, it would have prevented the flow and less children in the vulnerable ages of 5 to 12 could have been accepted. So that is why we have chosen for this harsh age limit. Jolanda's big dream is to start a project whereby children between the ages of 12 and 18 can still get a measure of support, even if only with their choice of studies and with homework tuition. Only the fact to be able to visit someone would make a world of difference to them. Fortunately we now know that Jolanda's dreams often become true.

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Introduction of 100 new children

A few days after the farewell day the intake talks for the new children started. An ad random collection of mothers (often with babies tied to their backs), aunts, occasionally a father and many, many children await their turn in the courtyard of one of the children's restaurants. Under the guidance of vicky every adult was able to tell the instructors the reason why they thought their child should be granted admission to the Ninos project. Only the very urgent cases are taken in and only one child per family after which this heaven will be their

domain for an average of six years.

Every year there arrive more. While the adults wait outside the children are having a curious look around. They are not familiar with the gay colours, the happy atmosphere, the clean school yard, the shower stalls with all the toothbrushes in a neat row, the flowering pot plants. If they will be permitted to enter this wonderful place will be theirs for the next six years.



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Cinema

As already said the small cinema on the site of one of the children's restaurants is a huge success. Next to the entrance a small bar has been built where the children can buy pop corn and lemonade. They can pay with coupons which they can earn daily via a point-system.

Every child has been approached as to how they would like to earn their points. If a child never wants its nails cut, he or she earns points when they allow this to be done.

But also if they stop bullying and shouting they get a reward. When they change their behavior for the better the children can decide how they wish to earn their points.

They can get a cinema ticket for 40 points, a carton of pop corn for 20 points and a large glass of lemonade for another 20 points. They have to earn a lot of points but they see it as a wonderful game, are better behaved and they can average a visit to the cinema once a month with the money they earn. In order to prevent ticket trade the points are registered. The instructors and their families are allowed to visit the cinema every sunday. They have to pay for the tickets and in this manner the cinema can make ends meet.



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Initial training of supervisors

What power!

It has been some months ago already (january 2011) that Jacqueliën van Lonkhuijzen went to

work in Cusco with the tutoras (supervisors) of the Ninos restaurants. She is still impressed! she seldom worked with such a dedicated group. And what made it extra special was that both the hotel personnel and the kitchen staff wanted to take part in the training program.

She worked with a group of tutoras eight days on end, in the mornings and in the afternoons By turns with the kitchen staff.

The training was a huge success. The tutoras were keen to pick up knowledge and were open to new methods and certainly open to their own behavior and feelings.

This attitude was a splendid start to acquire a lot of knowledge in a short time. A strict program was drawn up for the eight days of training, which was based on awareness of their own damaged personalities and having to work with damaged children.

Occasionally theoretical concepts were explained, like the universal needs of a child or "how a child gets self-image and how a child's self-image can be influenced. "

But mostly practical exercises were used, such as asking open and concealed questions and what is the effect of the manner in which questions are asked, or which games can be used to teach children to learn their limitations.



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Yo booklets

Under supervision the children are allowed to create their own diaries. Not only to write in them but also to put the booklets together. All books are titled: yo, which means "i" in spanish. It is a lot of work to make these booklets, with hard cover, ring binder, cutting loose leaves and illustrating the cover. The children very much indulge in this work. They then can use the book as a diary for the next six years. They can write stories, make drawings, add a snapshot, etc.

They are not allowed to take the books home. The books have to stay in the children's restaurants as long as the children remain. Once every year an exhibition of all the booklets is held in the big sports hall when 600 yo booklets are shown which all have been handled with love and care.

The children are allowed to take the booklets home when they leave the home.



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Positive letters to the parents

Especially because most schools give the children unfriendly letters to take home to their parents and because parents often get their heads bitten off at parents' evenings Ninos now only hands out positive letters. The tutoras write those letters which are then discussed by the team.

They contain things like: "your child has been very good this week" or "your daughter's hair was plaited very nicely today". Important facts are not necessary but a positive judgment given to the parents regarding their child is. And this method works!

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Photoexhibitions 'Ninos children'

An art academy in the united states intends to paint a portrait of all 600 children. Therefore a professional photographer has taken photo's of all the children and the students of the academy have started working with this material. Meanwhile the 600 beautiful photos will be exhibited in Cusco. This will not only bring about a very special viewing but naturally generate a lot of attention for this project. Cusco is and will remain very attractive for tourists from all over the world. Moreover all the children can bring their parents or relatives to have a look at the photos.

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My Book Buddy

This dutch organization stimulates reading in development countries and has promised to subsidize the Ninos project. This means that the organization paid for a bookcase being set up in every restaurant for the children, filled with nice new children's books which will be regularly replaced by a spanish publisher. This pleases us very much because unfortunately the offer of books for children is very meager in south america and the children love to read. One of the instructors has been given the task to watch the lending. Book buddy allows the children to borrow books and take them home in a special back pack. If this should not be possible due to special circumstances they may leave the borrowed books in the restaurants and read them in the library. If you wish to read more about this organization, go to: www.mybookbuddy.nl

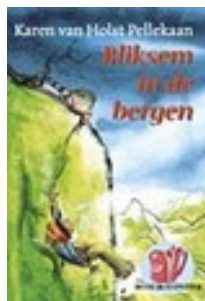


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Lightning in the mountains

As of april 22nd ``lightning in the mountains`` is for sale in all book shops. It is a thrilling book for children of approx. 8 years old. This book is issued by leopold and written by Karen van Holst Pellekaan, who has been a board member of the Ninos foundation since january 1st 2011. Karen has already written many books for children, mostly about a social subject and for a good cause. This story is about the restaurant for children near the hacienda in huasao and takes place in the mountains and in the mountain village where one of the children lives. The story is seen through the eyes of a small western boy who stays at the hacienda with his father and meets one of the Ninos children. Together they are in for a thrilling adventure. With this book karen tries to generate attention for this project and she will read from it at many schools. Oxfam novib (a large organization for development work)

Thought it to be such an interesting booklet that they privately ordered 1.500 copies. Again nice publicity for our project! (isbn: 9789025857738)



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The hotels and the first restaurants for grown ups

During the past year all the hotels have been refurbished before the high season started. During the low season, when the hotel personnel does not have much to do, they all help with the maintenance, tidying up and painting. Each day they climb the ladders whistling a tune. They also worked on the menu cards, new recipes have been tried out and have been chosen and they even opened a restaurant for adults where hotel guests can choose from a number of delicious menus prepared by the cooks of the children's restaurants. This total face lift has been very stimulating not only for the foreign guests but also for all personnel members. At the hotel desk there also is an informative brochure available about the Ninos project in four languages! in order to kindle people with enthusiasm to become donors.

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The new site

The site needed to be renewed. An enthusiastic and able website builder has been found in the netherlands whose heart is in the project. A good site is very important because it is the foundation's visiting card. The new site is better accessible with far more (new) photos. It has been operable since june 15th and we hope you will all visit it. (www.stichtingninos.com) . Under the heading "media" a short film of 10 minutes is shown which has been shot by our board member Karen van Holst Pellekaan. Of course they are only amateur shots but nevertheless they show all that is going on.

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Donor day

Finally another donor day! it has taken too long! the date has been set for sunday october 9th , in the antropia building in zeist, from 13.00 until 17.00. This building is situated opposite the railway station driebergen-zeist and 200 meters from the exit driebergen-zeist (a 12). Very much in the center.

In any case yolanda will be present to tell all about the project, a constant slide show will be given, the booklet "lightning in the mountains" can be bought and we will organise a number of attractions to make the day very successful.

Of course we hope that you will turn up in great numbers and we would appreciate it very much if you would kindly mail or email us prior to september 1st(info@stichtingNinos.com) if you intend to come so that we can assess how many people we may expect. (maximum 300).

A letter can be addressed to: stichting Ninos unidos peruanos, reply number 5505, 3700 vb zeist. A stamp is not needed but will be appreciated.



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Office information

In the previous news letter of december 2010 it was mentioned that Hans de Bree has taken over the office from lydia vastmans at the start of january. After dutiful service for eleven years she has delegated her job to hans. The transfer needed a lot of effort but went well due to the comprehensive and orderly way lydia had arranged everything.

New notary

More than 35 donors have registered their yearly donation in a deed of benefaction. In doing so they will receive the best tax advantage, because a notarial gift can be fully deducted (without threshold). On the condition, however, that your annual gift will be mentioned in the deed. Moreover the deed will have to be closed for at least five years. Until the beginning of this year the deeds were drawn up by the notary's office of eemmer at

bunschoten. Because of a difference of opinions as to the procedure to be followed in order to legalise signatures, simpler agreements have been made with bms network notaries at leiden (see business dates).

The proceedings for drafting a deed of benefaction can now be made in writing. For more information you can contact the office (Hans de Bree).

KLM Flying Bluemiles

Many of you have given us a big number of your Flying Blue miles and so have a big number of non-donors during the past six months, due to the fact that the KLM Flying Blue web site mentioned our foundation as specially selected aid organisation to which miles could be given. Donating Flying Blue to our foundation can still be done via:

- http://www.klm.com/travel/nl_nl/flying_blue/spending_miles/donations/index.htm#7

It is a pity that it might be possible that the link is not working. However it is always possible to donate by phone via KLM 0900-0400252 (€ 0,10 per minute). Take care however that you have your users number of 10 digits at hand

With these miles we save on travel costs and the money we save in this manner goes to activities for our children. Many thanks!

Appeal for email addresses

This newsletter has already been sent by email to approx. 2.000 addresses. However approx. 2.000 donors still receive it by mail. Therefore we are very much interested in having your email address in order to be able to send it by digital mail. This saves the foundation costs for paper, copying and postage. By saving on these items we can do extra things for our children in peru, at the same time helping the environment. Applying for or canceling this digital newsletter is possible via the web site. Thanks in advance.

Collection in the month of june

Up to the month of may authorized donations were presented to the bank via a separately made up collection batch and consequently deducted from the bank account in question. Because the bank has stopped supporting the outdated softwareprogram that made up the collection batch and dispatched, a new method will be used by the end of june.

In order to make things more efficient we have made (more) use of the file which contains the addresses of all donors in order that the collection batch can be sent directly from this file to the bank. Alas it was necessary to insert manually in this file all financial data, like bank account numbers, the donated amount, etc. Of all donors who had authorized us. There were approx. 1200!

Although we did all this with the utmost care (with check and double check)

Something may have gone wrong. If this is the case please contact Hans de Bree (preferably by email or letter).



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Summary of our data:

Contact: Hans de Bree, amalia van solmslaan 53, 3708 cm zeist

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E-mail: info@stichtingninos.com

Foundation's website: www.stichtingninos.com

Website Hotels: www.ninoshotel.com

Bank account: 439971365

BIC: DEUT NL2N

IBAN: NL04 DEUT 0439 9713 65

Jan Schoenmakers (foundation's ambassador)

Phone: ++ (0)10-4739709 or ++(0)6-17243108

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Web site/ distribution news letter: [Anticipate](#)