



Dear donors,

Time flies and another 6 months have passed! It has been a very busy and eventful start of the year. Some events were challenging but mostly successful and heartwarming. We are happy to tell you all about it in this Niños News edition.

It might not have gone unnoticed that Niños also felt the consequences of the world wide financial crises. Despite the many donors, including a solid core group that has been supporting us faithfully for many years, the financial flow from the Netherlands declined. This development was a cause of concern to us, but it put us right back to reality and we realized again that, as a foundation, you can never fully count on financial support from external parties. This observation has reinforced our view that financial independence has to be our main objective and should come from within the foundation. That is why we are going to put more effort into creating our own consistent revenue stream in and from Peru.

## NIÑOS ATELIER HAS OPENED!

With this objective in mind, we recently started an atelier. Driven by the inspiring leadership of some very creative Peruvians, we are now developing the finest bags and pillows from reused woven clothes. The products from our atelier are offered to hotel guests and tourists in Cuzco. Additionally, they will be shipped to the Netherlands to be sold via our new Niños webshop and hopefully will be sold in various stores in the country soon. You can find more information about this exciting new project later on in this newsletter!

## YOUTH PROJECT

The youth project entered its second year and is running at full speed now. With great enthusiasm our youngsters assist our employees in the chocolate and souvenir shops. As most Peruvians love good food, our kitchen is always full with youngsters who like to learn about cooking. And in the hotels, our guests can enjoy a massage or get a manicure or pedicure. In addition, our youngsters have their own youth club where they can do homework or relax with each other. We are happy that this project is now running well.

Our next plan is to give additional workshops and courses in our new atelier including sewing, design, photography and marketing. These courses are all directed to prepare the youngsters for a better future, in which they are more likely to make money using their acquired knowledge. We are still in the developing phase and searching for financial possibilities to start the project, hopefully in the near future.

## YORYET & ALFREDO

But the most important 'news' for me is that I started training two young Peruvian staff members, whom I admire for their continuous commitment and dedication to our Niños project. They are getting educated to fulfill the management role of the Niños projects in the future. This will certainly not happen in the near future but probably in about five years from now. Alfredo and Yoryet recently started a three-year management training program to give them a strong base of skills for these future roles. The main reason for this decision is to ensure that the survival of the Niños Foundation does not depend solely on me. Next year, I will turn fifty. My plan is certainly to stay connected to the foundation with my heart and soul for many more years to come, but it's also important to understand that I cannot keep going like I have over the past 18 years. Moreover, this transition fits into the objective that we are aiming for, namely in which Niños develops into an increasingly autonomous Peruvian foundation that is self-supporting and completely independent of Dutch and international support.

## HEART WARMING SUPPORT FROM THE NETHERLANDS

To actually achieve this dream of being independent is still a long way ahead of us and we realize that we could never reach our objectives without external help. Without your monthly or one-time donations, we would not have been able to do half of what we do now. Your support plays an important role in the continuous help we provide our children and youngsters. Your reactions by phone, mail and social media are not unnoticed. It gives us the right positive spirit. They are heartwarming and in this encouraging and indispensable. For example we re-

ceived

many messages and additional donations to support us when we explained our financial needs in the recent news flash mail. You have no idea how much this means to me, to everyone in Peru, and to my team in the Netherlands.

## NIÑOS PEARL

Talking about special donations, this time I would like to give some extra attention to Mrs. Nobbe-de Rijke. This special donor is a real pearl of the Niños donors group. Read more about her and her story later on in this newsletter.

Last but not least, I would like to thank the Dutch team for all their work and dedication. They really do everything they can to generate awareness, raise funds, support events and find new donors. There is also a special event coming up this September, as Niños takes part in the famous Dam to Dam run in Amsterdam and Zaandam (NL).

Yes, we have again worked hard over the past six months here in Peru and there is very little time to relax. But I can assure you that I still find an immensely rewarding experience and enthusiasm in my work, like every other day of the 18 years that I have been here now. It remains a dream project that helps many children and adults here in Cuzco to create a better life and a better future.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

*Jolanda van den Berg*



# THE STORY OF NATHALIE

Nathalie lives in a mountain village near the kid's restaurant in Huasao, which is located half an hour outside of Cuzco. She has been participating in the Niños project for quite a while already. It takes her a few hours to walk down the mountain and a few hours to walk up again. She loves being at the kid's restaurant and never complains about her difficult daily trip.

Nathalie lives with her parents in a clay hut. Her parents have no fixed jobs and brew corn wine; unfortunately they frequently end up being drunk. Until recently, Nathalie's parents didn't pay any attention to their living environment. Their house and outside ambience was an unlivable mess. Who could have known that the participation of Nathalie at the Niños project would start a change in their family lives, as Nathalie discovered how different life was at the kid's restaurant. She learned about nutritious food and cooking, hygiene, the effect of living a healthy lifestyle, and how to become



life of her family. We have a lot of respect for the courage of her parents to make this change, and are happy to see they have now found a new purpose in life. Her parents still love their corn drink once in a while, but the shop and the kitchen

more self-aware and believe in change. Motivated by what she learned, she started to talk about her experiences with her parents. After a while, they felt motivated because of what their daughter told them and decided to change their lives. They started to clean up the hut and yard and all family members participated. They even converted the little shed into a small shop. Nathalie's mother now sells cans and bottles of lemonade to the people of the hamlet. Thanks to Nathalie's advice, even the piece of land they own changed into a vegetable garden. Now Nathalie's father grows all kinds of vegetables and potatoes. He is extremely proud of what he has achieved. Nathalie truly helped to make a change in the

garden ask for so much attention, that there is little time left to get drunk constantly.

Nathalie's story is a wonderful example of how the chain of poverty and misery can be broken. We are super proud of Nathalie!



# OWN ATELIER FOR BAGS AND PILLOWS

Every Saturday there is a large outdoors market in a suburb of Cuzco. Many little streets are packed with people. Traders from all over the region sit on the ground with their merchandise. Recently, Jolanda started to get up very early each Saturday to visit the market, accompanied by some Peruvian employees of the foundation. They search the market and 'hunt' for beautiful used weavings and clothes. The long narrow streets are full with traders (mostly women) from local villages. They present piles of old colorful clothes, which they bought from their village neighbors. These clothes are woven by hand and used to carry equipment

or to carry babies. They all have different colors and patterns and therefore absolutely unique. Jolanda and her team search for the most beautiful pieces and help the traders with income by buying them. Back in the Niños Hotel the clothes are being washed and transferred to the new Niños atelier. The Niños atelier has a number of industrial Singer sewing machines, which are used by a group of talented Niños employees to create unique bags, laptop sleeves and pillows. Jolanda herself also helps along to combine the materials, patterns, and colors in the most beautiful way. Everyone is very excited about this new challenge and they are putting a lot of energy and passion into this new project.

Each piece is labeled with a tag, which tells the story of Niños and the origin of the product. The products are for sale in the shops of the Niños hotels in Cusco at the moment. We are happy to announce that the sales are excee-

ding expectations! We are confident that we are developing a successful new Niños industry, which will provide additional income for our kid's restaurant and in this way will help us to continue our work for underprivileged children and young people.

We plan to sell this new Niños products in the Netherlands in the near future via our Niños webshop. The aim is to also boost sales via stores in the Netherlands. It seems like there is plenty of interest for recycled, original and unique Peruvian lifestyle accessories. Needless to say, 100% of the income from the 'bag factory' (as it is jokingly known in Cuzco) will flow back into our children's project. If you are interested in our products, please check out the webshop [webshop.stichtingninos.com](http://webshop.stichtingninos.com) or have a look at our Facebook site to get a glimpse of the new Niños Lifestyle products.





# A PEARL WITHIN THE NIÑOS SUPPORTERS

We receive stories of donors on a regular basis who create great events to help our cause. We recently heard about the story of Mrs. Nobbe-de Rijke and it was so touching that we spontaneously named her the pearl of the Niños Supporters. Our board member Jan Tops visited Ms. Nobbe-de Rijke and shared our deep appreciation for her work and gave her a big bunch of flowers on behalf of the whole Niños team.

Ms. Nobbe-de Rijke has been exhibiting products on a local fair - called the Neuzelbeurs - in the Broodfabriek in Rijswijk (NL) for many years. This exhibition takes place during the weekend every month. After reading a newspaper article from 1996 about the work of Niños, she dedicated her sale to the children in Cuzco. During the first few years, she was accompanied by her husband, but he passed away 20 years ago. After his death, she decided to continue her effort to help Niños. Each month the sons of Ms. Nobbe-de Rijke

help her prepare the exhibition on the Friday night by loading the products into the car. On Saturday she gets up early at 5.30am in order to be admitted to the fair at 7am as one of the first exhibitors. At her market stand, she receives assistance in setting up her stall. At 10am the doors open to visitors and Mrs. Nobbe-Rich starts selling her products until the end the day, the fair closes at 5pm. It is an impressively long day for Mr. Nobbe-de Rijke, considering the fact that she is 86 years old. But we have seen with our own eyes how committed she is and how much pleasure she gets from it. Ms. Nobbe-Rich is still a very vital lady behind

her stall. With a clear mind and sharp reactions, she resolutely answers questions about prices and products. Many visitors and exhibitors know her through her presence over the years. As she mentions herself: "exhibiting and selling products in this fair is just my thing!"

Incidentally, Jan Tops was also told that Ms. Nobbe-Rich received a Royal Honor for her work two years ago. A title that we think she absolutely deserves. And this also means that we are proud to have two\* 'Niños queens' in our family!

\*Jolanda received a Royal Honor in 2013



# SUPPORT FOR YAKI

Yaki is a young lady who has participated at the Niños children's restaurant in the past. She is now 19 years old and has been told last year that she suffers from a rare neurological disease and has tumors in her brain and back. Yaki has been operated for the brain tumor, and at first it looked as if the surgery had been successful. Unfortunately the latest survey showed that she has two new tumors in her brains, which are located in a very dangerous spot and therefor cannot be operated. Additionally, Yaki recently suffered from several attacks that has resulted in her body being partly paralyzed. She now has difficulties to get out of her bed and lives under inhumane conditions, especially in her state of health. Winter has arrived in Peru and the damp house of Yaki and her family has turned into a refrigerator. Yaki is confined to her house due to her illness and the only distraction she has is a small, old black and white television.



There is no chair she can sit on in her house, as the only hard wooden chairs that the family possesses are tilting and falling when Yaki tries to climb them. Her bed blankets are very old and heavy, making them almost impossible for Yaki to lift from her body if she wants to get out of bed. The pain medication Yaki now uses cost 100 soles (about 26 euros) a month, which is a fortune and a huge burden for the family. That costs are expected to increase in the near future, as Yaki probably will require heavier and more expensive drugs. In addition, the family is living with huge debts due to the surgery that Yaki had to undergo in 2013.

## HELP US SUPPORT YAKI!

Jolanda committed herself and all her free time to improve the living conditions for Yaki and support her wherever and however possible. In the last weeks she joined Yaki to the daily checkups at the hospital. The Niños Foundation In the Netherlands has launched a special project to financially support Yaki and her family.

Do you wish to help Yaki? Please make a donation to our bank account:

IBAN: NL85 RABO 0123 2663 19

BIC: RABONL2U

Please indicate that the donation is for Yaki.

We highly appreciate your support.



## SPANISH CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Currently, there is a great demand for new Spanish children's books in the Niños library. The children love to read, but it is hard to find good books for children, as there are not a lot of them published in Peru. If you have some Spanish books for youngsters left, or know people who like to donate their books, we would love to know. If you send them to us in the Netherlands, we will make sure that they are transported to Cuzco. And if you go to Cuzco yourself, you will definitely make the children very happy by taking a few Spanish books with you.



## YOUNG HAPPINESS IN CUZCO!



Rosa, one of our young employees and former participant in our first girls house, gave birth to a lovely baby. Lucio, her boyfriend, works as a concierge at our hotel, is the proud father. Liam Patrick is very fortunate with those two loving parents!

## RUN FOR NIÑOS!

The Niños Foundation is participating in the Dam by Night 2014, the largest running event in the Netherlands, for the first time. On Saturday September 20th, 2014 we will run a beautiful 4 Mile trail in Zaandam. It will definitely be a festive and fun running event, as there will be plenty of people and music to cheer on

the runners along the route! Many children of the Niños project are walking two hours one way and two hours back home each day to reach the kid's restaurant. It is a very heavy journey, especially in the mountains, but the children don't mind. Would you like to inspire our children? Let yourself be sponsored by family, friends and colleagues, and run along with us on this unique 'Dam by Night' running event. More information via: [zita@stichtingninos.com](mailto:zita@stichtingninos.com)

## BECOME AN AMBASSADOR!

One person can make a difference. You too! As an ambassador of the Niños Foundation you help to create publicity and attention for the work of Jolanda and the Niños Foundation within schools, clubs or organizations in your area. The more people we can reach, the more children we can help. Your contribution really does make a difference! Interested? Mail to: [info@stichtingninos.com](mailto:info@stichtingninos.com)

## MESSAGES FROM THE SECRETARIAT

### NEW BANK ACCOUNT

Please note that the Niños Foundation has a new bank account since July 2013. The number is NL85 RABO 0123 2663 19 (IBAN) in the name of Stichting Niños Unidos Peruanos in The Hague. We would like to urge all donors who transfer donations to our old account at the Deutsche Bank (43.99.71.365), to update their information to our new account number. Our account at the ING bank (69.46.511) will continue to exist, but we prefer to receive all donations to the new bank account. Unfortunately, this change also requires commitment from you as a donor. If you are using automatic periodic transfers for your donation, we would like to ask you to adjust this to the new bank account. Attention! Automatic payments issued by the Foundation through an authorization can be modified by us. In this case you do not have to change your information.

### KLM Flying Blue Award Miles

The Niños Foundation is part of the KLM program 'AirCares', where you can donate your

Flying Blue Award Miles (from 3,000 miles on). With the donated Award Miles we save travel expenses. The money we save goes directly to the activities for our children and youth. Do you wish to donate your Award Miles? Please contact the Flying Blue Service Centre via 0031-900-040 0252 (0.10 ct per minute). Please mention that your donation is for the charity programs KLM AirCares and our Niños foundation. Make sure you have your 10-digit Flying Blue number at hand.

### Direct debit

More than 1200 donors have authorized us to automatically cash their donation. This is for you as well as for us an easy way to pay your contribution and it saves us a lot of administrative work. Many others transfer the money themselves straight to our bank account. If you should wish to have your contribution sent to us automatically, please let us know by sending an e-mail to: [info@stichtingninos.com](mailto:info@stichtingninos.com). We will send you the necessary form.

### PRACTICAL INFORMATION

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#### Note: New account!

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