



Chicuchas Wasi

THE CHILDRENS PROJECT

Alternative School for Girls • Cusco, Peru



CHICUCHAS WASI

25th

ANNIVERSARY

1987-2012

Valued Partner



★ reviewed on GreatNonprofits



A Newsletter for the Supporters of Chicuchas Wasi • Winter 2012/2013

Please **Donate Today**

Student Story SPOTLIGHT



In Her Own Words

Feliz Navidad 2012
to All Friends of Chicuchas Wasi

From all of us
at Chicuchas Wasi Cusco, Peru
and Chicuchas Wasi California



"I am very happy to be in this school of Chicuchas Wasi because they love me alot...I never want to go away from here."

Translated by Rae Lewis (Pieraccini), CW Founder

My name is Ruth Medaly Valence Guevara

I was born in the city of Velille, in the year 2004. My birthday is March 15, and I am eight years old. My father's name is Victor Valencia, and he works on the farm. My mom is Josefina Guevara Alves. We are 11 siblings, and I am the last and in the third grade. My mommy took care of us, but the trouble was that my dad beat my mom and she could not stand it and died and left me only a baby. I had no one to look after me, my dad did not want me, or feed me, or dress me, so I feel very sad.

I was given to my aunt, and now I am with her. Initially I lived with her mother and she hit me, and didn't take care of me or want me. But my teacher Ruth spoke to my aunt, and now she takes care of me, loves me and I am happy, happy because I have a family. I am very mischievous and make problems for myself because of my mischief.

I am very happy to be in this school of Chicuchas Wasi because they love me alot and forgive me when I misbehave. I never want to go away from here.

Get Ready, YOU are in for a Big Surprise!

By Rae Lewis (Pieraccini), CW Founder

With supporters like you so many incredible things continue to happen at the Chicuchas Wasi School. We have so much to tell you since our last newsletter!

The most exciting news is that Chicuchas Wasi (CW) has grown into a full-size, fully accredited primary school, now located in the rural south end of the Cusco. The big surprise is the amazing commitment of the anonymous donor who provided the resources to build this beautiful, recently-completed school. At CW this is a long-held dream come true!

(New School, continued on page 2)

please click here to

Donate Today

**We need
your help!**

Your support of Chicuchas Wasi School means we can continue to bring Ruth and her sister students at CW School education and opportunities for a better future.

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New school classrooms, opened March 2012
(click on this image to see MORE photos of our new school!)

www.chicuchaswasi.org

A Quick History of CW School

With your financial support, in 1997 CW opened our first experimental class for the forgotten girl child. We were still located in the Sacred Valley Of the Incas in Urubamba, Cusco, and we served only a handful of girls that year; it was difficult for parents to understand the value of allowing their daughters to study. It was with great effort that Ruth Uribe, our School Director, managed to persuade parents that it was worth the effort to educate a girl, when it was believed she would be more valuable when helping domestically at home.



Early experimental kindergarten class
(click on this image to see MORE photos of this era)

In those first CW School classes, we could see the changes in our students almost immediately. Eagerness replaced disinterest.

For 8 years Ruth worked alongside CW Founder Rae Lewis. When Rae returned to California, Ruth took over the reins and returned to Cusco to open an official school for the forgotten girl child. You were always at our side supporting our growth with your faith in Chicuchas Wasi and your financial donations.

In Cusco, Ruth once again went to the market and to homes where she knew children were alone while their mothers worked; Ruth found the children who needed an opportunity to be educated.

Our school opened in the Cusco house in 1999 with 11 students, and grew and



Kindergarten class of 2002 in the Cusco house
(click on this image to see MORE photos of this era)

grew until in 2007 we needed to move into larger temporary quarters to increase our size to 3 classrooms so our students could continue another year with us. You stuck by us.



Chicuchas Wasi class of 2008
(click on this image to see MORE photos of this era)

That Was Then...

Today, in 2012, we have 92 enthusiastic students in 7 classrooms ranging from 2 kindergarten classes, and 1st through 5th grade in our own new CW primary school. Next year we will add a 6th grade, the final class to complete the Chicuchas Wasi Alternative School for Girls primary school for marginalized girls of this region. We will have 130 students next year with the addition of the new class and more kindergartners.

Our generous donors, both long-term and new friends, are the backbone of CW and we need your faith and your financial support so we can continue to offer FREE educational services to all our Chicuchas Wasi School girls. ■

[Click to visit the Business and Donate pages on our website for organization and financial information](#)

Please Donate Today



New Kitchen and Dining Room



Kindergarten classrooms



Click on these images to see MORE photos and information about our beautiful New School



We Need YOUR Help!

Donate Today

We recently learned that key 2013 donation pledges have been significantly decreased due to ongoing global economic issues

Pledges Secured
\$5,000 per month

Donations Still Needed
\$5,900 per month

Annual cost per student ... \$1,000

STILL NEEDED
\$45 monthly per student

Costs to provide supplies and services for our girls at Chicuchas Wasi School

- \$10 will provide one student with a Chicuchas Wasi School uniform
- \$55 will provide one Chicuchas Wasi School student with school books and supplies for an entire year
- \$65 will provide one student with school books, school supplies, and a Chicuchas Wasi School uniform for an entire year
- \$95 will provide one student with transportation to Chicuchas Wasi School for an entire year
- \$160 will provide one student with all her Chicuchas Wasi School meals for an entire year
- \$1,000 will provide one student with a Chicuchas Wasi School education for an entire year

Can You Help?

(Your recurring monthly donations will assist in bridging our budget gap)



Chicuchas Wasi supporters have been so great to us over the years, and there are a lot of you out there who have recently discovered our amazing school for girls in Cusco, Peru

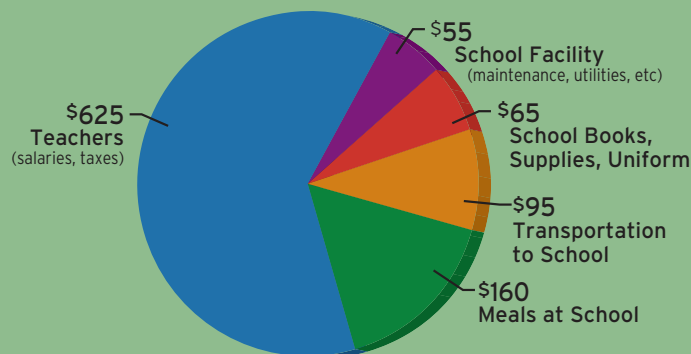


Please support us however you can and know that YOU are truly making a huge difference in the lives of our girls

CLICK



For more info and photos



Chicuchas Wasi School - 2013 Projection

Per Student Expense Breakdown
(\$1,000 per year each)

Please

Donate Today

What a great place to go to school!

Chicuchas Wasi School exists for these girls because our supporters really care.



It's a Science Expo!



Because of YOU, CW is able to offer a midday hot meal for all students who arrive to school with only herbal tea and bread, or nothing at all, in their stomachs.



School friends at Chicuchas Wasi. Your donations provide these girls in need with handsome CW uniforms; worn with pride.

Please
Donate Today



On the first annual International Day of the Girl, October 11, 2012, CW girls marched in the local rural village and spoke to their community about what education means to them.



It's because of generous donors like you that CW School has this van and driver and is able to provide daily transportation from central Cusco to our New School in southern, rural Cusco.



Click on any of these images to see MORE photos and information about CW and our beautiful New School

What YOUR Generous Donations Bring to CW School



We are empowering poor, indigenous female students to grow up and live an adult life with, dignity, equality, integrity, and financial independence.

Here is an overview of what we offer at the Chicuchas Wasi Alternative School for Girls:

- A full academic curriculum reviewed annually by the Ministry of Education.
 - A school-wide focus on student values, self-esteem, integrity, awareness, personal hygiene, and expanding our students' dreams for their futures.
 - English, Quechua and Spanish classes.
 - Art programs that explore creative self-expression.
 - A daily hot meal program that helps to keep students' brains alert.
 - Van transportation to CW School from central Cusco ensures attendance.
- CW students have no money for bus fare.
- Development of family and community awareness of the social and economic advantages of educating girls using the CW all-inclusive style of education. Noticed by all, CW School records excellent attendance, high student retention, and accomplished overall student performance.
 - Obligatory parent classes emphasizing their daughters' potential, teaching the value of female education, women's rights, and personal self-worth. We also guide parents in healthy conflict resolution without violence, encourage women to find their voices and organize to make changes.

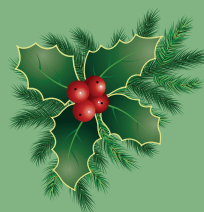
CW students learn that education stimulates their curiosity. Also, they are encouraged to develop leadership roles and are guided to practice creative problem solving.

**Your donations are so very important,
especially now that our new school has been completed**

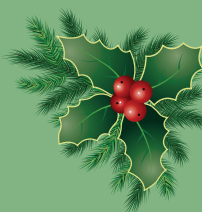
In the past we have had to turn away many students each year due to our space restrictions. We now have many classrooms, which makes a big difference; but, having a new school isn't enough! Your ongoing support enables us to continue to provide our students with a full primary school that includes the teaching staff required to offer each grade its own teacher.

Please **Donate Today**

At Chicuchas Wasi School "Gracias Amigos" means "Thank You Friends"



*Wishing you and your families
a joyful, and peaceful holiday*



Chicuchas Wasi California Team:

*Rae Lewis, Karen Amoruso, Mary Salfi,
Betty Woods, Terry McDonald*

Chicuchas Wasi Cusco Team:



*Ruth Uribe,
Gloria Socorro,
and all CW School
teachers and staff*

CLICK



For more info
and photos

Chicuchas Wasi Mission Statement

Chicuchas Wasi Alternative School for Girls promotes gender equality, personal self-esteem and human dignity in marginalized indigenous females of rural Cusco, Peru, by educating, empowering, and preparing girls for a womanhood of economic survival and opportunity.



Chicuchas Wasi
THE CHILDRENS PROJECT

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... **Chicuchas Wasi** ...
California

PO Box 1043
Forestville, California, 94536
U.S.A.

Tel: (707) 939-7162
email: gitana@sonic.net

www.chicuchaswasi.org