



# Chicuchas Wasi

## THE CHILDRENS PROJECT



CHICUCHAS WASI

25<sup>th</sup>

ANNIVERSARY

1987-2012

Alternative School for Girls • Cusco, Peru

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

## Greetings to our Chicuchas Wasi Friends



From the entire Cusco & California Chicuchas Wasi Family

[www.chicuchaswasi.org](http://www.chicuchaswasi.org)



### Student Story SPOTLIGHT



In Her Own Words

### My name is Evelin

My name is Evelin Benign Ormachea Cayllahua. I came to Chicuchas Wasi school in kindergarten, and spend a very happy childhood here learning what love is. In my saddest moments with my family, who helped me was my little school. It helped me be brave

*[Chicuchas Wasi] helped me be brave and strong in my difficult moments...*

Translated by Rae Lewis (Pieraccini), CW Founder

*and strong in my difficult moments and I learned many things and saw that my little school cannot be compared with any other school.*

*I will never forget this and I wish to stay forever here and that the school will thrive to teach to other girls what is love and courage.*

### Director Ruth's comments:

Evelin is an example of rising above problems. She learned in these 8 years with us to experience and transmit the values of love and respect and dignity, while overcoming her shyness in these past few years. This year, as part of the 6th grade graduating class, she was nominated as a candidate for our school Mayor, and achieved her goal. Today she is the first student authority representing her fellow students in the school, with projects that help the teachers see more clearly the best

way to help the other girls. She is the voice of those who can not yet speak of problems out loud, girls who were like her before, teaching them by example that anything is possible with a little courage.

Now she is ready to move on and continue her secondary education, we will keep an eye on her, because we know she will go very far and we will hear often from her. Of this I'm sure!

please click here to

[Donate Today](#)

## We Have Had an Incredible 2013!

By Rae Lewis (Pieraccini), CW Founder

What makes this year so special is that we will graduate our first 6th grade class; students who have been with us since kindergarten. That means they have had the benefit of the Chicuchas Wasi style of quality primary education created especially for poor indigenous girls, ignored and unvalued in their communities. We have seen the changes in girls who entered CW School at 4 or 5 years of age with no hope for a positive future. As the years went by these same girls began to light up with energy, interest and promise, becoming so bright there was no question

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Students from our first 6th grade graduating class  
(click image for more photos of our 6th grade students)

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# My Passion

By Ruth Uribe  
CW School Administrator/Director

The greatest gift of life is to have the opportunity to live and share our experiences. Not everyone is able to feel what is special about our girls at Chicuchas Wasi School for Girls.

Each girl comes to our school with her history reflected in her face; there is fear, anguish and sadness. Our mission is to restore her inner joy and help her find strength to face life with courage and love.

For us, each girl is her own universe that we must respect and help her to develop. It is so important to care for her emotional, social, biological and intellectual development, which we incorporate into our program. However, we receive many girls that bring with them very deep wounds.

Generally our girls bring emotional wounds as most come from dysfunctional families. We have girls who live with a caretaker that is not family, or a single mother, or an aunt, or both parents. Most of them are filled with abusive anger, don't communicate or give them love. This might not be due to a lack of desire or intention but due to ignorance (ignorance as not understanding something unknown to them), so you cannot easily blame when



CW School Administrator/Director Ruth Uribe upper left with some of her students. Other photos of our girls on this page and the next - look at their faces to see how they are thriving!

we need to open not only the minds of our girls and parents, but also their hearts.

Chicuchas Wasi will have its first graduating class this year 2013 from our primary school. We feel this is our first big achievement for CW School, even though we know



parents are not able to give love, because they have never themselves received love. It is here that we work, because

*Please* **Donate Today**





## My Passion

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that our work is constant, and we have to begin again each year, each day, and each moment. Today our girls, as you have already read some of their shared stories, are girls who will break the vicious cycle of violence and anger, submission and sadness. Because their transformation has not



only been external, with a good education, nice uniforms, nutritious food, but also with personal inner healing. They have replaced resentment and fear with forgiveness and joy and have acquired newly earned confidence to realize their dreams.

It is with immense joy we see our girls today as young women, so sure of themselves, with trusting facial expressions, strong eye contact and with the necessary tools required to build their future. ■



Please **Donate Today**

## New to Chicuchas Wasi?

*Click here to learn more about our beginnings in 1987, and to see how far we've come*

**History of Chicuchas Wasi**

## An Incredible 2013!

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of their inner healing and hope for tomorrow. Today, with only 2 1/2 months until they graduate, these same girls are ecstatic about their personal growth and achievements and their joy is contagious. For Ruth and I and the teachers, all dedicated to helping our girls utilize the opportunities provided to them at CW, we are extremely proud of their achievements and development. The sun is shining over Chicuchas Wasi School and our students. The high spirits of these graduating students has infected the younger classmates who can now see their own future in the eyes of our 6th graders about to move on. It is bittersweet for us to see them leave CW, but know they are well prepared to confront the world and their futures. What an exciting time this is. ■

*Click to visit the Business and Donate pages on our website for organization & financial info, and to become a Chicuchas Wasi supporter.*



*(click on this image to see MORE photos of our 6th grade students)*



***Don't miss this exciting event  
to benefit Chicuchas Wasi!***

**A Celebration of  
Andean Music & Dance**



**November 10, 2013  
Sonoma Veterans Memorial Hall**

Two outstanding SF Bay Area musical groups,  
*Trio Chaskinakuy* and *Colectivo Anqari*, will  
perform at this music & dance concert to benefit CW

Click on image  
for more information and to purchase tickets

**We can't do this without YOU**

With YOUR help  
we met our 2013 budget  
**Thank you!**

The generous match we received  
for 2013 is not guaranteed for 2014.  
We urgently need your support  
now more than ever!

***Please remember CW with your  
Holiday Season tax-exempt donation***

**Donate Today**

**Annual cost per student ... \$1,075**

***Your monthly donation of \$90  
will educate one girl for a year***

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

- \$25 will provide one student with a Chicuchas Wasi School uniform
- \$45 will provide one Chicuchas Wasi School student with school books and supplies for an entire year
- \$70 will provide one student with school books, school supplies, and a Chicuchas Wasi School uniform for an entire year
- \$105 will provide one student with transportation to Chicuchas Wasi School for an entire year
- \$165 will provide one student with all her Chicuchas Wasi School meals for an entire year
- \$1,075 will provide one student with a Chicuchas Wasi School education for an entire year

#### ***How Can You Help?***

***Sponsor a CW girl for her entire school year  
with your recurring monthly donation of \$90!***



Your continued support provides  
**FREE** education to these girls!

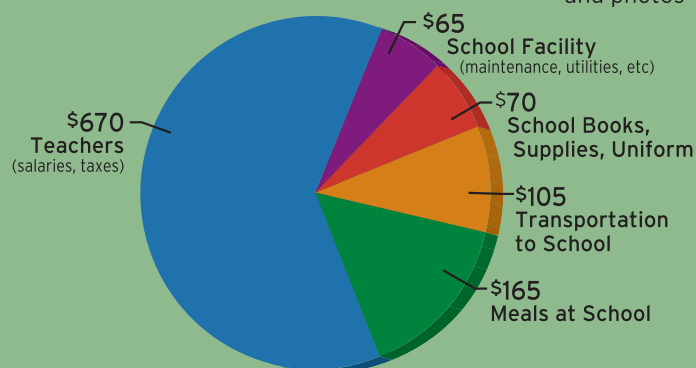


***YOUR donations are changing  
their lives forever***

CLICK



For more info  
and photos



#### **Chicuchas Wasi School - 2014 Projection**

**Per Student Expense Breakdown  
(\$1,075 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.



CW school is full of excitement as the end of the school year is near, especially for First Graduating class of Chicuchas Wasi School. The entire student body is excited for the 6th graders, as the younger classmates are filled with thoughts of their own graduation in the future.



CW school honors student birthdays every 4 months so that no student is forgotten or not celebrated for her birthday



Our students take study seriously and fully understand they will have a better life with opportunities their mothers were never offered.



Chicuchas Wasi Students LOVE their school --- built for girls by donors who care.



A theater performance for Peruvian Independence Day --- the end of Spanish rule of Peru

*Please*  
**Donate Today**



In Kindergarten, the littlest students begin their educational journey, with the older students as role models.



CW School provides safe transportation to and from school for our students from a location near their homes. On muddy rainy days they still must walk across a field to reach the school; the road is too muddy for the Van.

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



# CW School Provides So Much Because of YOUR Generosity



*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:

- Free quality education for girls denied school because they were born a girl, including a uniform to be proud of, books and school supplies.
- A fully-inclusive academic curriculum reviewed annually by the Ministry of Education.
- The CW focus on values: honesty, integrity, respect, responsibility, forgiveness, courage, kindness included daily.
- Nutritious daily hot meal program for every student
- Activities promoting Art, Dance and Music and pride of Andean culture.
- Safe transportation to and from CW school to a central location near their homes.
- Obligatory separate classes for mothers and fathers focusing on the value of their daughters and education, conflict resolution, family cooperation, gender equality, personal self-worth and group problem solving.
- Language classes in the native Quechua to better honor the native language of Cusco and Spanish for all, especially for Quechua language only speakers, and also English.
- School participation in social and community celebrations to increase awareness of the importance of education for girls.
- CW school participates in all Cultural celebrations to honor the Cusco Culture and to involve student families.
- We prepare our students to be future leaders to raise the status of girls and women and promote gender equality by leading the way.

*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 makes it possible for 100 girls to attend CW school free of charge — providing a life-changing opportunity

Because of the CW school success, we have gained the attention of other schools and the community. Three promising students graduating from CW are being tested for possible scholarships to attend a private high school as incoming 7th graders. Student performance is high, on par with local private schools; attendance and retention are both 95%. *Our students WANT to learn!*

*Please* [Donate Today](#)

The 6th grade class says *Thank You*  
for giving them 8 years of CW education and more!



**Wishing you the best as we  
head into the Holiday Season**

Chicuchas Wasi California Team:

*Rae Lewis, Karen Amoruso, Mary Salfi,  
Terry McDonald, Betty Woods, Francy Vidal-Badoux*

Chicuchas Wasi Cusco Team:

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



Director Ruth Uribe and all staff...Celebrating the Day of Cusco with traditional clothes.

## 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.

CLICK



For more info  
and photos



**Chicuchas Wasi**  
*THE CHILDRENS PROJECT*

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• • •

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**School Director/Teacher**  
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**Asst. School Director/Teacher**  
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Haide Lenas Fanola  
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Karen Melani Mendoza Tesci  
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Aydee Zuñaga Tunque  
Luz Marina Vargas Contreras

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Nutritional Services**  
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Julia Turpo Tecse

**School Bus Driver**  
Rita Baca Silva

**School Secretary**  
Yoni Yesenia Sucno Maza

• • • **Chicuchas Wasi • • •**  
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