

MAY 2020 BLESS US WITH ENERGY TO WORK TOGETHER FOR THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN!



Me with some of the members of the Children's Committee in Lampa, high up in the Andes, where I visited them last week. We had a pre-Christmas party and they told me all they had achieved during 2019.

Now for a REPORT ON WARMI HUASI 2019:

The work in **San Benito on the northern side of Lima**, with the four homework clubs, two reading clubs and the toy center, continues to go well. There are now 6 children's committees, each present a project to the local municipality of Carabayllo, north Lima. They have won competitions in 2017, 2018 and again in 2019. The eventual outcome will be the development of the "Maze" (see first two photos) area into a supervised play center. Also, the Warmi Huasi team work with the COMUDENA (Municipal Committee for the Rights of Children and Adolescents), offering training to municipal and other agency staff in safe guarding and our team monitor during the year the effectivity of the COMUDENA in its efforts to defend the rights of over **100,000 children** and adolescents in the district.



San Benito: Celebrating “The Right to Play” Day, children from the homework and reading clubs get together for some fun and to remind the adults of children’s rights!



Miguel wins the sack race, whilst his young brother points the way. A moment of joy in the life of the children in San Benito.

The work of Warmi Huasi in **Ayacucho** began in late 2016, in Pausa and Lampa with two reading clubs and their respective children's committees and the monthly "Right to Play" day in Lampa. Now in 2019, as well as the reading clubs, there are two homework clubs in Lampa and Sacraca, a study group for last year secondary students in Sacraca and tutorials in the primary schools of Pausa and Lampa. Next year, 2020, another reading club will open and a mobile reading club to reach smaller villages. In 2018 the reading clubs helped the children to improve their reading comprehension way beyond other schools. This was noted and applauded by the provincial education authority. The children in Pausa also have a weekly radio spot to promote children's rights and to the forthcoming Warmi Huasi events in the Province.



Here we are high up into the Andes mountains, in the department of Ayacucho, Province of Paucar de Sara Sara, in the countryside near its capital, Pausa. In the photo we have the school prefects of the primary schools in Pausa and nearby Lampa taking part in a leadership workshop.



The children from Lampa came to Pausa and joined the children there in the “Right to Play” celebration. They were lining up, boys and girls, to see if they could score penalties and, at the same time, they reminded the adults of children’s right to play.



2019 saw the opening of a new homework club in the town of Sacraça for children who are slow learners and for those whose parents are unable to help them with their homework.



The town of Lampa has the other homework club as well as a reading club.



A new venture, with top secondary school students from 3 villages, Lampa, Sacra and Maracabamba. They get together on Saturdays as a Study Group to help prepare them for entrance exams to university.



Luzmila, the Warmi Huasi community psychologist, takes weekly tutorials in two primary schools, those of Pausa and Lampa, where we have reading clubs.



Luzmila also meets with many of the parents, mostly the mothers, to give emotional support in their task of parenting.



Lalo, on the right, an industrial engineer by training, is our coordinator in the Province of Paucar de Sara Sara. Luzmila is on the left. Here they are posing for a photograph with the COMUDENA team (Municipal Committee for the Rights of Children and Adolescents), at the end of a workshop they ran on children's rights and on safeguarding.



Lalo, in the middle, with children from the leadership workshop presenting a list of the needs of children, in the name of **the 4,000 children** and adolescents of the Province, to a local councilor, she is standing on the right with the list.



Charito, obstetrician and educator working with the children from the reading clubs of Pausa and Lampa on a leadership training day as a preparation for the formation of their Children's Committees. The creation of these Committees gives them a legal status and a right to express their opinion to the community and municipal and other town authorities.



This photo sums up all our work. Not only are we out to accompany families, especially children at risk, living in situations of poverty, by providing safe and secure places in which they can learn and play. We also want them to develop their talents and self-confidence, so that their voice will be heard in the adult world and be listened to and acted upon.

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From:

Ed O'Connell, founding member and President of the NGO Warmi Huasi.