



Vocational School Day Care

Care for Children of Poor Parents Learning New Skills

— Arequipa, Peru —



“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.”

MATTHEW 18:5



Executive Summary

Description

This project provides free day care for the children of impoverished parents learning new skills and rebuilding their lives at Integral Human Development and Educational Center. The center provides activities for children that encourage learning, creativity and faith.

Purpose

To provide safe and enriching care for 25 boys and girls up to age 4 so their parents can take hands-on classes to develop job and personal skills.

Location

The Archdiocese of Arequipa operates a vocational school and day care in a poor neighborhood of the city.

Cost

\$20,400 provides learning materials for the children and nearly all of the funds needed to hire two teachers and four other staff members for the day care team.

Highlights

NEED

- More than half of people in rural Peru live in poverty. (Source: CIA World Factbook)
- Destitute parents often move from rural areas to the Yura district of Arequipa, hoping to find a way to support their children.
- Many new arrivals remain mired in poverty and move into the shantytowns located on the edge of the city.

IMPACT

- The diocese's vocational school gives poor men and women important job skills through vocational training. Their goal is to help destitute adults escape poverty by earning a higher wage.
- The day care center enables parents with young children to attend classes and focus on training.
- Cross Catholic Outreach is eager to provide this mission with the support it needs to reopen after being closed by pandemic restrictions.



Children are filled with joy at the day care.



People without job skills live in poverty near the vocational school.

The Need: Parents Without Hope

The rich history and beautiful baroque architecture of Peru's second-largest urban area, Arequipa, are enticing to destitute families from poor rural areas who are looking to relocate and find a new path to prosperity. Sadly though, many of these families only find themselves facing new challenges after relocating to the city.

Settling in impoverished neighborhoods far from the city center, they often struggle to compete for work as day laborers or end up selling small items on the street, earning barely enough to feed themselves and their children. With little or no opportunity to improve their situation, most become further mired in poverty. There are unique dangers and hardships in the city too, including gangs, drugs and the temptations of engaging in prostitution to survive.

Ultimately, a lack of job skills and reasonable employment opportunities force families to settle in one of the shantytowns on the outskirts of the city. There, families often end up in flimsy, one-room houses without access to electricity, running water or sanitation services, and their young children grow up without the educational and emotional support they need and deserve.

While these families may feel abandoned and hopeless in their situation, we know the Lord is aware of their needs and can provide solutions to their hardships through his faithful Church! In this case, he inspired the leaders of the Archdiocese of Arequipa to create hope through education and job training at the Integral Human Development and Educational Center.

At the center, their children are cared for and nourished while parents take part in classes in culinary arts, cosmetology, business administration, information technology and welding. Spiritual formation also is emphasized, so participants are blessed by those offerings as well!

Please help us ensure that these poor parents can rely on the Church's supportive care for their young children while they are in class. In addition to blessing both the children and their parents, your gift will open doors of opportunities for these families, helping them escape poverty and build a better life.



Give Generously

With the easing of pandemic restrictions, we can join our Catholic brothers and sisters in blessing impoverished parents in urban Peru. The day care affiliated with the vocational school can now reopen — but only if it receives critically needed funding.

Your generous gift will allow Cross Catholic Outreach to provide learning materials for the children and nearly all the funds the archdiocese needs to hire two teachers, a classroom aide, a psychologist, a social worker and a maintenance worker.

Help these impoverished parents begin building a future of hope. They are eager to learn, but they need to know their children are safe and receiving loving care. As you support the parents' efforts to become self-sufficient, you will also be inspiring their children to create big dreams of their own!



Parents and children alike are excited over the opening of the day care.

Your gift will nurture young children and enable their parents to develop their God-given skills and abilities!

Our Mission

We mobilize the global Catholic Church to transform the poor and their communities materially and spiritually for the glory of Jesus Christ.

Good Stewardship

We consider every gift we receive as a precious resource from God. We direct every donation to its intended project, provide honest and accurate reports to our donors, and keep overhead costs to an industry low. We handle funds with utmost integrity and hold our ministry partners in the field to the same high standards by asking them to document costs and the impact of their outreach.



Our Promise to You!

Donations from this campaign will be used to cover any expenditures for this project incurred through June 30, 2024, the close of our ministry's fiscal year. In the event that more funds are raised than needed to fully fund the project, the excess funds, if any, will be used to meet the most urgent needs of the ministry.

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