Picaflor House Community Project Annual Report

2015

Picaflor House Community Project Annual Report
**MISSION STATEMENT**

Our aim is to provide a better long-term future for the children of Oropesa Village through our locally managed and staffed project, where children receive free education, learn new non-academic skills, and have access to health education and family support.

**How we achieve this**

**EDUCATION**
We provide impoverished Peruvian children with English language classes, homework assistance, maths and Spanish language instruction, computer classes, arts and crafts programmes, music and traditional Peruvian dance classes, sporting facilities and equipment, and general education.

**HEALTH CARE**
We include health education classes in our general education programme. We also provide dental hygiene equipment to the children.

**FAMILY SUPPORT**
In addition to academic and health education, Picaflor House also provides family support through nutrition (through our Healthy Snack Programme) and by providing children with a safe place to learn and play after school.

**Picaflor House Community Project** is located in the village of Oropesa, less than an hour from the centre of Cusco, Peru. The magnificent city of Cusco is the oldest continually inhabited city in South America and the staging post for Machu Picchu but very little of the money tourism brings into Cusco reaches Oropesa and locals rely on farming and bread-making to earn a living.

Originally established in November 2010 by Globalteer, a UK-registered not-for-profit charity, Picaflor House achieved Peruvian NGO status in September 2011.

Picaflor House provides a stimulating and dynamic after school programme to the children of Oropesa. Currently, the children range in age from 3 to 14 years old and attend the project from 2.30 to 5pm Monday to Friday, outside of state school hours. The programme initially started with English language classes, homework assistance and a general education programme. In 2013 we expanded to include computer training and at the beginning of 2014 began our Kindergarten Programme. We are working with the local community to identify their needs and help them to become stakeholders in proposed solutions.

In the past, many of the children attending the project had to help their families earn an income. Picaflor House offers a safe environment for children to play and just be children, away from the worries and burdens of everyday survival.

Our long term goal is to hand over the project to locally trained teachers and community leaders.
**EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT:**
Director: Stephen Roger Elliott
Secretary: Kriz Camila Ochoa Campana

**STAFFING:**
Picaflor House Academic Coordinator & English Teacher: Luz Chapi Huillca (March 2015-present)
Teacher: Johan Uldecarco Chapi Huillca (until September 2015)
English Teacher: Nélida Rimache Accahuallpa (until September 2015)
Teacher: Angel Habidan Conza Pacca (October 2015 to present)
Teacher: Yesenia Villalobos Purizaca (October 2015 to present)
Kindergarten Teacher: Elizabeth Caya Loaiza

*From left to right: Luz, Angel, Yesenia and Elizabeth*

Two Globalteer staff members are also based in Cusco and assist with the management of Picaflor House and the day-to-day operation of classes:
Regional Manager, Latin America: Chris Bannister (November 2014 to present)
Picaflor House, Programme Manager: Laura Hoskins (February 2015 to present)

Picaflor House employs local staff in order to provide employment to Peruvian nationals and to ensure continuity in our education programme. English language training is provided to the Peruvian staff to enable the development of relevant skills, and the staff are assisted by long- and short-term overseas volunteers who bring a diverse range of skills which are then passed on to the local staff.
ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2015

At Picaflor House Community Project we are proud of what the teachers and children achieved in 2015 and are confident that 2016 will bring even more success.

HEALTHY SNACK PROGRAMME

As of January 2015, we have been able to provide the children with healthy snacks during break time thanks to the generosity of Lai Choi Kuen (who also kindly provides funding for our Kindergarten programme). Starting 2 days a week, we were able to expand our healthy snack programme to 5 days (Monday-Friday) per week. Every day at break time, the children receive either a piece of fruit or granola bar. For some of the Picaflor children, this is the only piece of fruit or vegetables they will receive during the day (and for some it will be the first time they have eaten since breakfast).

Group 3 children enjoying their watermelon

In May 2015 we had a return visit from The Giving Lens, a photographic organisation that works with selected charities around the world. With the help of our 7 visitors, the children continued to develop their digital photography skills and participated in several walks around Oropesa, including up to Señor de Raqchi, a church high above the village (see the photo on the front page of this report) and to some of the children’s homes. They also participated in a ‘treasure hunt’ style photo competition, the winners being the team who could source and photograph everything on the list of items/scenes before the end of The Giving Lens’ visit!

From the end of August to the beginning of September, a group of 11 students from Durham University Charities Committee’s (DUCK) Programmes volunteered at Picaflor House. As in previous years, they created some fun, colourful and bright murals to add to our collection of DUCK murals at Picaflor!
The murals include a sports stadium on the soccer pitch wall, an English language mural in English and numbers and colours in kindergarten. The walls of the English and Kindergarten classrooms also got a fresh lick of paint thanks to DUCK. During DUCK’s visit the children also learnt about the importance of not littering and participated in a litter collection in and around Oropesa village.

Our new soccer pitch mural, thanks to DUCK

The 2015 DUCK group
In 2015 we sadly said goodbye to three members of Picaflor House staff but were able to welcome three new teachers in their place. Luz Chapi was started in March as the new Academic Coordinator. Luz, a fluent English speaker, as well as coordinating timetabling, registration and on-site admin, is Picaflor’s local English teacher and provides the children with English classes at least twice a week. Angel Conza, a former head teacher in Cusco, joined Picaflor House as our new Maths teacher. An excellent musician, Angel also teaches Music and chess. Finally, Yesenia Villalobos also joined the ranks as our reading and writing teacher. She also teaches hygiene and nutrition, all of which are keys parts of the Picaflor curriculum.

At the end of December Picaflor House celebrated Christmas (an important holiday in Peru) in true fashion with a chocolatada, this year, with a special guest – Father Christmas! The children were delighted to welcome Father Christmas to their party (some more sceptically than others!). Thank you to our friend Andrew Dare for donning his costume and playing the part. Panetón, an Italian fruit cake typical in Peru at Christmas, and hot chocolate were served to all the 80+ children who attended. Local travel agency, Southern Crossings, contributed funds to purchase the chocolatada supplies and presents for the children, presents which had been bought the previous week by staff members Luz and Laura. Many of the children brought along their siblings to the party and six mothers helped all afternoon to make the hot chocolate. As a gesture of thanks, Picaflor House gave clothes and panetón to those mothers who helped.

Enjoying hot chocolate at the party

Father Christmas attended this year’s chocolatada and created balloon animals for all the children!
EDUCATION

- Delivered classes to between 30 and 60 children per day in Mathematics, Reading Comprehension, English, Chess, Traditional Dance, Art, Photography and Homework Help.
- Registered all children attending Picaflor House. Our final registration numbers were:
  - Kindergarten – 30 children (16 girls, 14 boys)
  - Group 1 (Primary School Grades 1-2) – 35 children (25 girls, 10 boys)
  - Group 2 (Primary School Grades 3-4) – 36 children (18 boys, 18 boys)
  - Group 3 (Primary School Grade 5 and above) – 29 children (17 girls, 12 boys)
- Collected State School report cards from students in order to monitor their progress during the coming year.
- Hired a new, experienced Academic Coordinator from Cusco who also taught the children English.
- Employed 2 other members of staff, specialists in Communication, and rural primary education and music.
- Continued to offer a kindergarten class for 3-5 year olds thanks to funding from Picaflor House donor, Lai Choi Kuen.

HEALTH & HYGIENE

- Provided health education classes in our general education programme.
- Provided dental hygiene equipment to the children on a regular basis.
- Picaflor House received a large donation of dental equipment from Dr Tonya Triplett from Paediatric Dental Associates and Orthodontics (Arkansas, USA).

FAMILY SUPPORT

- Continued to provide a Kindergarten Programme for pre-school children (3 to 5 years old) to five days per week.
- Family members attended the annual chocolatada at Picaflor House.
- Throughout the year, as and when required, children were provided with new shoes and clothes where available.

FACILITIES

- Hired a maintenance person and gardener thanks to financial support from Peter and Coral Waite, volunteers at Picaflor from February-April 2015.
- Installed a filtered water tap so that the children may drink clean water instead of bacteria-ridden, muddy water from the tap, also thanks to donations from Peter and Coral Waite.
- Purchased shelving furniture for art, sport and office equipment thanks to Lai Choi Kuen and friends.
- School equipment, including toys, games and stationery were donated throughout the year by volunteers, Southern Crossings and other friends of Picaflor House.

OUTREACH

- Conducted a survey with families to monitor our work in the community and gain ideas to continue improving our work in Oropesa.
- Staff members visited the poorest areas of Oropesa to tell families about Picaflor House’s work in the community, as a result, many new children started to attend Picaflor House in 2015.
- Staff members Luz and Laura met with the mayor of Oropesa to make Picaflor House’s presence further known in the community.
- Following the meetings with parents and the mayor, Picaflor House saw increased attendance, which included new and returning students.
- Provided English classes at a local English school to improve Picaflor House’s teachers’ English skills and interaction with international volunteers.

**WE ASKED OUR KIDS WHAT THEY LIKE ABOUT PICAFLOR HOUSE:**

**Graciela*, Group 2 (aged 10).** I like coming to Picaflor House because I can do my homework and learn new things in the classes. I like the teachers, too. They're fun and friendly.

**Miguel*, Group 2 (aged 9).** What I love about coming to Picaflor House is being able to play football with my friends. I play before classes and at break time once I've finished my fruit. I also love playing on the tablets and art class.

*Children’s names have been changed for child protection purposes.
A HUGE THANK YOU!

None of what we have achieved in 2015 would have been possible without the amazing support of so many people around the world who believe in and sponsor the work we do, and everyone at Picaflor House is extremely grateful to our international Picaflor family for all your support!

A very sincere thank you to all our Picaflor friends, to our generous donors and fundraisers, to our hard-working staff and volunteers, and, of course, to all the wonderful Picaflor children, who light up our lives every day with their smiles, their enthusiasm and their achievements.

FINANCES

Picaflor House Community Project is reliant on donations, fund raising and grants to undertake its work. As a relatively new NGO, the majority of our funding to date has come from volunteer donations, and the financial support we received from our founding organisation, Globalteer.

Our financial accounts are based on the official Peruvian financial year, which follows the calendar year. The figures shown here are, therefore, for the period 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2015. The financial accounts have been prepared by a Peruvian registered accountant in accordance with Peruvian law.

FUNDRAISING DRIVE

In December 2015, Picaflor House held a Christmas fundraiser, encouraging friends and previous donors of Picaflor House to donate over the festive period. For every donor, a Christmas decoration, sporting the donor’s name was added to our Christmas tree at Picaflor House. Furthermore, throughout the year, friends, family and past volunteers of Picaflor House were encouraged to make regular donations to help support the work that Picaflor House carries out for the children of Oropesa.
PICAFLOR HOUSE QUIZ NIGHT

Started in September 2015, The Picaflor House Quiz Night, a weekly trivia night became an instant hit with Cusco expats, travellers coming through Cusco and others. Every Thursday, Picaflor House Programme Manager, Laura Hoskins, hosted the trivia night, attracting around 25 people who donated an entry fee to participate in what is always a fun evening. The Quiz Night continues to be successful throughout 2016. All the money raised throughout 2015 from the Quiz Night goes directly to Picaflor House.

DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

From running ultra-marathons to making regular donations to help support the daily running, upkeep and programmes at Picaflor House, all individuals who donate and fundraise to support us do not go unnoticed. That being said, we would like to express our immense gratitude to all of our regular and one off donors. If you would like to hold a fundraiser for Picaflor House or if you would like to know more about to fundraise, please enquire using the email address at the end of this report.

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Anne Hoskins  Andrew Hoskins  Julie Hopkins  Simon Hare  Gun Chong Siew
Anne Taylor  Jayne Martin  Samantha Falcucci  Wei Leng  Christine E Burns
Rebecca Wilson  Louise Hatter  Juan Trujillo  Ann Powell  Christine McAllen
Caroline Hatherall  Jessica Mullan  Colin Newstead  Rosemary Leung  May Ling Yeo
Zacharia Leonardo  Amanda Deering  Stephen Elliott  Angela Chong  Claire Cope
Sadie Speers  Thong Yin Ling  Phillip Todd  Sandra Stucki  Ms. Yim
Lola De Miguel  Serena Mitchell  Ching Lie Joan  Bilands Dy  Anna Teo
William Miller  Herman Fung  Gen Heng  Helen Mok  Svetlana Chigaeva
Valerie Pickard  Carolyn Vaughan  Lisa Lam  Shurn Wai Man  King See Lee
Marcella Hennessey  Jennifer Bowden  Irene Lee  Norman Bird  Linda Kernan
Darian Rodriguez  Kirsten Koh  Kay Yoong  Mariam Ng  Michael Lee
Catherine Marsden  Andreas Deggeller  Henricus Hendriks  Wong Soon Fen  Mimi Wong
Dean Elliott  Sylvia Deggeller  Diane Patterson  Jonathon Lillie  Coral Waite
Peter Waite  Annie Irving  Lai Choi Kuen  Katherine Kua

INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORTERS & DONORS

Globalteer, UK  Durham University Charities Kommittee, UK
The Giving Lens, USA  Paediatric Dental Associates and Orthodontics, USA
Southern Crossings, Peru  JHA LTD, UK
Andean Treks, USA  Pac Foods PTY LTD, Australia
VOLUNTEERS
Thank you to all of our amazing volunteers who donated time and financial support to Picaflor House. Picaflor House received 44 volunteers from January to December, each of whom brought enthusiasm and willingness to help to Picaflor House.
Expenditure from 1/1/2015 to 31/12/2015 in Peruvian soles

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<td>Food costs (Fruit, Birthdays &amp; special occasions)</td>
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<td>English Classes for Staff &amp; Sundry expenses</td>
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<td>Utilities (electricity, phone, internet, water)</td>
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ASSETS
Furniture, IT and office equipment, sporting and games equipment, books, and miscellaneous items: S/ 36,418.00.

PLAN FOR 2016

- Continue improving our official registration of students in order to focus on the children who most need our help in Oropesa, to monitor absences, to tailor our classes to better fit the children’s needs, to track students’ progress, and to work more closely with the children’s families.
- To hold quarterly exams in maths, English and reading. Monitor Picaflor House and school grades throughout the year to identify positive and negative changes.
- Hold three parent meetings throughout the academic year to inform them of their children’s progress, attendance and overall aims and achievements of Picaflor House.
- Continue developing a curriculum for the kindergarten/preschool.
- Increase regular attendance of children registered in the programme.
- Implement an improved English language programme with new materials, facilities and staff through grant funding.
- Continue to provide free dental equipment to the children.
- Continue to provide the children with a healthy snack at Picaflor House.
- Implement a low cost lunch programme for Picaflor House children.
- Provide employment opportunities for members of the Oropesa community through additional teaching, maintenance and family support roles as needed.

For details of our Picaflor House Child Protection Policy, Donation Policy and Volunteering Policy please contact picaflor.house@globalteer.org

ANNUAL REPORT COMPILED BY:
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