

# YOUR GENEROSITY AT WORK

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## COVID-19 in Peru

- *In June, Peru was reported to have the third highest case total in the World Health Organization's America's region.*
- *Today, it has the highest per capita death rate from COVID-19.*
- *Daily income for one alpaca raising family was below the international poverty level of \$5 a day prior to the pandemic.*
- *Alpaca breeders in Peru have experienced a 50% cut in the prices of alpaca fiber as a direct result of the pandemic.*
- *By providing more communities with essentials like food, soap and masks, you are providing the means to stay safe during this pandemic.*



## Can You Help Fight COVID-19 in Peru?

Peru has among the highest death rates per capita in the world from COVID-19. **It currently exceeds 1 COVID death for every 1,000 people.** Unfortunately, people in highland villages don't have any resources to protect themselves and their families. Bloomberg News recently summed up the dire situation:

*"Peru is facing the worst of both worlds. In addition to the world's highest death rate, its lockdown also caused the world's deepest economic contraction in the second quarter."*



*Your love is reaching families in Yanque and beyond.*

Recently, the government began stressing the importance of masks, hand washing and social distancing to reduce the spread of COVID.

Quechua Benefit has cultivated good relationships with mayors and town

leaders, which enabled us to quickly develop a plan to come to the aid of their communities.

**High-quality washable masks are nonexistent in Quechua communities.**

On September 25, 2020, Quechua Benefit began its campaign to fight the spread of COVID-19 by delivering masks, soap, and educational materials to 1,300 children, women, and men in Yanque, a town just a few miles away from Casa Chapi.

This project also supplies badly needed jobs for the indigenous Quechua women who are sewing the masks.

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*Your generosity gives skilled Quechua women a way to provide for their families.*

## Sponsor a Village!



You or your organization can sponsor COVID-19 relief in an entire village!

To find out more, contact Mike or Dale

Mike Safley  
503-702-6020  
mike@alpacas.com

Dale Cantwell  
303-902-4503  
dalecantwell@yahoo.com



## Help Fight COVID

*continued from page 1*

The results were exactly what we had hoped: an increase in mask wearing, deep appreciation that someone cares about them, and widespread interest from other mayors in the area

**More than 23,000 people in 17 remote villages still need our help. Together we can fight the spread of COVID-19 and help save the lives of the Quechua people.**

**Text QB-MASKS to  
44-321 to donate**

## Quechua Benefit Delivers!

*Your generosity has made it possible for Quechua Benefit to deliver necessities to our Casa Chapi families and keep your kids in school.*

Monthly food deliveries to all Casa Chapi students and their families began at the end of May, followed by anemia treatments in June. Many of Casa Chapi's students like Janeth live in remote areas where internet access is unavailable. Janeth loves school and is an excellent student. She was sad to think she wouldn't be able to continue school, but Alejandro found a way for her to stay with her older sister where she could access the internet and continue her studies.



*Janeth is grateful for your generosity that makes it possible for her to stay in school.*

You've also made it possible to deliver cellphones to students and their parents so they can stay in touch with their teachers through WhatsApp. **Students continue to show good progress with their monthly reading assessments.**

In August, you provided new clothes for your kids! They loved showing off their new Casa Chapi sweatshirts and pants as well as the animals they care for at home.

**Your generosity is making all the difference during a difficult time for**



*Second grader Jose can continue learning because of you.*

**your Casa Chapi families.** Without you, these kids would be unable to continue attending school. Without you, their families might not know where they will get their next meal.

*Thank you for giving!  
Give today and save a life tomorrow.*



*Gloria stays warm in her new Casa Chapi sweatshirt.*



## Welcome Xochitl Berns, Quechua Benefit US Staff



Xochitl Berns

Xochitl Berns recently joined the Quechua Benefit USA team as the Director of Digital Marketing.

Xochitl is majoring in biology, working towards a

career in veterinary medicine. She has been breeding alpacas for nine years and is a knowledgeable business manager. In January 2020 she began developing a very selective breeding program for her black and brown Huacayas.

Xochitl's experience as a volunteer delivering preventative medicine in Peru and mentoring young girls plus a wealth of knowledge in social media and marketing makes her an asset to Quechua Benefit invaluable.

On weekends she enjoys training her dog Maggie to do tricks and hitting the trails to identify the native plant and lichen species of the Pacific Northwest. Xochitl also has an expansive collection of houseplants and enjoys baking.

As she pursues veterinary medicine, she hopes to continue helping the Quechua people, who have paved the way for her passion over many generations. Xochitl is excited to officially join the team and interact with all the donors that make QB possible!



Xochitl is passionate for alpacas and the Quechua people.

*World Economic Forum  
September 22, 2020:*

## The Danger of COVID-19 in Developing Countries

*"Peru's difficulties with COVID-19 result in part from the predominance of its shadow economy. **More than half of the country's non-agricultural workforce is believed to be employed "informally" in a way that generally involves a hand-to-mouth existence and lack of legal protections, yet generates an estimated one-fifth of Peruvian GDP.***

*"Countries with large informal economies have been especially vulnerable because so many people were unable to stop working as the pandemic spread. At least, not without losing their sole source of income, because they lack protective benefits like unemployment insurance.*

*"While many have therefore continued working, others have only been able to avoid similar exposure to COVID-19 by seeing their livelihoods disappear entirely. One survey of Peruvians during the lockdown found that **nearly half of those with informal work said they'd simply stopped receiving income entirely, compared with just 16% of those with formal employment.**"*

**Text QB-MASKS to 44-321 to donate**

## Help Provide COVID-19 Relief in Peru



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# Xeina's New Life in the United States

*When Xeina arrived at Casa Chapi, her irrepressible personality was immediately obvious. It soon became clear that she was smart and blessed with a curious mind.*

*Mike Safley was drawn to her when he heard her sing and saw how the other students looked up to her. When Mike asked her what she liked best about Casa Chapi, Xeina replied, "At Casa Chapi they love you even when you do something wrong."*

*On a trip to Peru, Amanda VandenBosch made the off-hand comment to Mike that she would like to find a sister for her two boys, Hunter and Cody. Xeina tells the rest of her story:*

I have been in the U.S for a little more than four years. From the moment I got here, my whole life has changed.

Since arriving in the U.S. I spent two summers with the Matsiko World Orphan Choir. I enjoyed meeting the kids from different countries.

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*"The changes started with not being worried about shelter, food, clothing, school supplies, and other things. Now I see the world from a whole new perspective. "*

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My school, Cascades Academy, is the BEST! The teachers are so nice, and I learn a lot. All the school's extra activities make me happy. I have learned to ski and



*Xeina is a welcome addition to the VandenBosch family.*



*Xeina loves her life in the U.S.*

snowboard, and I have been part of the cross-country team for two years. During my sophomore year in 2019, math and chemistry were my favorite classes because there is so much to solve, and sometimes there is not an answer. In the fall I was on the cross-country team, and in the winter I participated in the school's skiing program.

In 2020 things changed for the worse, starting with the Australia fires that devastated so much wildlife and then COVID-19. I experienced online schooling, but I have to admit I do love the in-person social interaction with my classmates and teachers. Now I am in 11th grade.

Last summer I kept busy by learning French. I love going for a walk with the dogs to the river every day. I have also started training for cross country. Because of COVID, the season was moved to February 2021. My brother Cody graduated from high school in 2020 and is now in college in Arizona. I have always looked up to him.

**I cannot thank you all enough for everything you have done for me. My life has changed, and that is all due to all of you that have supported me.**

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- **Visit [QuechuaBenefit.org/Donate](https://QuechuaBenefit.org/Donate)**
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*100% of your generous donations go directly to children's education, preventative medicine campaigns and economic empowerment programs in Peru.*