

# YOUR GENEROSITY AT WORK

Vol. 5 No. 4

A publication of Quechua Benefit

November 2021

Mike's Safley's  
newest book,  
*Vicuñas: Survival  
of the Finest*



Mike's book will soon become a feature length documentary film entitled "*Vicuña: The Greatest Wildlife Conservation Story Never Told.*"

The book would make a great Christmas present. **Order online at [Vicuna.org](http://Vicuna.org).** 100% of book sales go to Quechua Benefit.



## *You Did It!* Thanks to You, Casa Chapi Graduates are Going to College

Since 2013 when Casa Chapi opened to give alpaca farmers' children the opportunity to attend school, the goal has been for at-risk children to break the multigenerational cycle of poverty.



*Xeina, Class of 2022*

Thanks to you, Casa Chapi has grown every year. In 2017 and 2019 we added boys and girls homes in Arequipa for graduates of Casa Chapi where students can live and attend secondary school.

Now, several Casa Chapi graduates have completed high school and enrolled in college. **Thanks to your generosity**, three young men now attend SENATI Technical Institute.



*Wilfredo, Class of 2020*

**Without you none of this would be possible.**

**More students need your help to take this next big step!**

Xeina is Casa Chapi's first exchange student to attend Casa Chapi's sister school in the USA. She will graduate from high school in 2022. Xeina's



*Ronald, Class of 2020*

vibrant personality was evident when she enrolled at Casa Chapi in 2012 saying, "When I grow up, I want to be a doctor. A doctor of kids." She toured with the Matsiko World Orphan Choir in 2014, learning a little English. Then she moved to Oregon and became part of the VandenBosch family.



*Isaac, Class of 2019*

***You can help all of their dreams come true!***

When you give to Quechua Benefit's Scholarship Program for Casa Chapi graduates, you will help these families break their cycle of poverty forever!

## The Fight Against COVID in Peru



Finally, Peru's COVID death rate is declining! Approximately 14,900,000 (49.6%) of Peru's population of 29,000,000 have been fully vaccinated.

However, **vaccinations have been slow to reach the highlands where your Casa Chapi families live.** Alejandro reports that COVID cases in the Colca Valley are down, and most activities are operating at a normal level. However, schools remain closed.

*Because of your support, your Casa Chapi grade school kids are still learning at home.*

You're providing monthly food boxes, schoolbooks, cellphones, and internet access so they can connect with their teachers.



**In-person school is scheduled to resume on March 7, 2022.**

Teachers, students, and staff are all looking forward to being back on the beautiful campus in Chivay!

**Thank you for continuing to support your kids and families!**

### Casa Chapi Update

## Girls' Handicrafts Workshop

Thanks to long time Quechua Benefit friend Ruth Mogrovejo of *My Comfy Socks*, your Casa Chapi girls in Arequipa are learning the art of knitting! Janeth and Mayra loved making these beautiful scarves.



Your Casa Chapi girls have made alpacas cuter than ever! Maria Fernanda, Viviana, and Sylvia work together to make stuffed alpacas to sell. Learning life skills is an important part of the girls' education at Casa Chapi.



## Welcome Bruno Franco to the Board of Directors!

Bruno was born in Arequipa and received his education in business and economics in Peru. He worked for several years in the most important think tanks in Peru, advocating for free markets and economic reforms to lift the standard of living of all Peruvians.



*"As a result of our ever-closer relationship, our friendship, common interests, and my participation in several of their social work projects, I was invited to join the Quechua Benefit Board of Directors, which I accepted with deep honor and enthusiasm."*

After working for more than 16 years in the alpaca industry with Michell & Co. in various management positions, Bruno met Quechua Benefit, initially by supplying garments and knitwear for their online store.

Bruno became a supporter of Quechua Benefit's work in the highlands, and he believes it truly make a difference. Years after the business relationship began, and having finished studying photography, Bruno participated as one of the principal photographers for Mike's latest book, *Vicuñas: Survival of the Finest*.

Thank you, Bruno, for your valuable contribution to Quechua Benefit and for joining the Board of Directors.



*Griseta, Class of 2021*

DONATE TO  
QUECHUA BENEFIT ON  
**#GIVINGTUESDAY**  
NOVEMBER 30, 2021

You did it! Kids are graduating from Casa Chapi and heading to college!!

**They need help, and we're asking you to join in creating a scholarship fund.**

Together we will break the cycle of poverty forever.

**Text QBGIVING to 44-321**

OR visit

**[www.quechuabenefit.org/donate](http://www.quechuabenefit.org/donate)**



*Vidal, Class of 2021*



*Maria Fernanda, Class of 2021*

**Wilfredo Cañahua Flores, *Casa Chapi Class of 2020***

When Wilfredo arrived at Casa Chapi in 2014, he had already repeated multiple grades in school. His father passed away,

and his single mother is an alpaca shepherdess struggling to care for her children.



*Wilfredo's success at school is matched by his skill as a star soccer player.*

**Your generosity has made all the difference for Wilfredo. He graduated from high school in December of 2020 and has begun the three-year program at SENATI studying Heavy Equipment Maintenance.**

His success story couldn't happen without YOU! **Your generosity has changed this young man's life.** Instead of becoming lost in the cycle of poverty, he will be able to provide a good life for himself and his family.

**Welcome,  
Katie Lau!**

*Quechua Benefit's New  
Development Director*



Katie is a native Californian who relocated to the Pacific Northwest a few years ago with her husband Wil Melitz, 2-year-old daughter Isla, and "the best dog ever," a Whippet named Moose. Katie enjoys traveling and exploring the outdoors, as well as experiencing new foods and cuisines.

Katie received a BA in Business Management Economics at the University of California Santa Cruz and a Master of Education at San Diego State University.

She has over ten years of experience and success in the fitness industry in management.

As Quechua Benefit's Development Director, Katie's goal is to both grow our brand and Quechua Benefit's universe of donors.



# 2021 QUECHUA BENEFIT HOLIDAY AUCTION *December 2-12*

*Join our online auction to send kids to college!*



*Experience the wonder of Vicuña!*

**FREE SHIPPING TO ALL U.S. ADDRESSES!**

You'll find unique gifts for a special person while you're creating a brighter future for your Casa Chapi kids!

**100% alpaca hand spun yarn, kids' gifts, and MORE!**



*"No Longer Forgotten"*

Original artwork from Peruvian artist Elias Condori

**Bidding starts December 2 at [qb.cbo.io](http://qb.cbo.io)**

All proceeds go directly to providing college scholarships for Casa Chapi graduates.

## Meet Lisa Brungardt

*New Quechua Benefit Accounting Manager*

Lisa is coming to the world of nonprofits after 20 years of bookkeeping experience in various industries including agriculture, property management, food, beverage, and entertainment.

Lisa enjoys spending time with friends and family, and nothing makes her laugh more than her 4-year-old granddaughter.

If you have any questions about donations or IRS tax letters, please contact Lisa at [Lisa@quechuabenefit.org](mailto:Lisa@quechuabenefit.org) or call 503-628-3110. She's looking forward to getting to know you!



## QUECHUA BENEFIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## CONTACT US

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- Visit [QuechuaBenefit.org/Donate](http://QuechuaBenefit.org/Donate)
- Call 503-703-6020
- [Facebook.com/quechuabenefit](https://www.facebook.com/quechuabenefit)
- Text QBGiving to 44-321

## UPCOMING EVENTS

November 30, 2021  
**#GIVINGTUESDAY**

December 2-12, 2021  
**2021 Quechua Benefit Holiday Auction (Online)**