

# PERUVIAN PARTNERS

~ Flores de Villa Peru ~

Dear Friends of Peruvian Partners,

In October of last year, our family of four had the privilege and the blessing of serving in Peruvian Partner's early childhood stimulation center in the heart of Flores de Villa, Lima Peru. It was a beautiful time of connection and we returned to the United States with a heart for this mission and the children of Flores de Villa.

Ninety percent of a child's brain growth happens between birth and the age of three. Dirt floors, unsafe living conditions as well as lack of developmental resources, prevent children in Flores from exploring, developing their imagination, and reaching critical milestones like crawling, walking or talking. Babies in Flores are born into this disadvantaged youth, and the lack of access to quality early education further widens the gap between them and their higher income peers.

Claudia, the director of the early childhood stimulation center, has worked hard to reach the lowest income families in Flores de Villa. She seeks out the poorest of the poor and encourages them to enroll their children in the early childhood stimulation center. In addition, she helps foster the mother-child bond by educating mothers on how to stimulate their babies at an early age, and connects these young mothers to the women's Bible study group. Currently, the program serves 24 children per week from the ages of 5 months to 3 years old, in a rented building. However, as political turmoil continues in Peru and Flores de Villa, and corruption and instability ensues, it becomes even more imperative to own our own land and property.

Peruvian Partners recently purchased a lot near the girls' Casa Darling in America home. Plans for the three-story structure are being drafted to include an early stimulation center on the first floor, a medical nursing post on the second floor, and transitional housing for graduates of the boys' and girls' homes on the third floor. With your help, we hope that the new early childhood stimulation center will double our capacity. The cost of the project will be **\$300,000** and it will take approximately 6-9 months to build. We are hoping to receive all contributions **by June 1<sup>st</sup>** so that construction can begin immediately. Any dollars over the \$300,000 would be allocated for supplies and scholarships for children to attend the early childhood stimulation center. Would you prayerfully consider donating to this cause?

If you have any questions regarding this ministry, please contact **Maria Stavros at 617-869-1807 or [mpstavros@gmail.com](mailto:mpstavros@gmail.com)**. Your prayers, financial gifts, and trips to Flores de Villa have been so impactful in so many lives both Peruvian and North American. Thank you for being so faithful in what God is doing in the ministry of Flores de Villa.

In Him,  
Alex and Maria-Paz Stavros & Advisory Board

**Please make checks payable to Peruvian Partners and include a post-it note marked "Early Childhood Stimulation Center."**

**Send to: Peruvian Partners, PO Box 735, Delano, MN 55328**  
**Donations can also be made at: [www.peruvianpartners.org](http://www.peruvianpartners.org)**