

# Adopt-a-Village International



Providing a hand up, not a handout, to break the cycle of poverty **SPRING 2012**

## In this Issue:

2012 in Review

Ecuador Update:  
November Surgical Trip

Volunteer Spotlight

Peru Updates:  
AaVI Sponsors Sawyer Water Project  
Hannah's Well Project Update

We Welcome Your Personal Involvement

## Our Mission:

The mission of Adopt-a-Village International (AaVI) is to partner with strategic leaders in developing countries to provide sustainable improvements in the basic human needs of impoverished villages. We accomplish this by providing a hand up, not a handout, to break the cycle of poverty.

## Board of Directors:

Joe Mitchell, *Chairman*  
Scott Perry, *Secretary*  
Sam Erickson, *Treasurer*  
Maggie Adams-Holway  
Mark Backlin  
Andy Baldwin  
Darrell Fleck  
Karen Mitchell  
Dave Ruckman  
Karen Yuan



## 2012 in Review

2012 was an exciting year for AaVI. Much needed medical/dental care and water projects were provided in rural communities in Ecuador and Peru and none of it would have been possible without our volunteers and donors.

In June, a medical team along with a teacher and students from Doherty High School travelled to Peru to provide healthcare services in four remote villages downriver from Iquitos.

In August, Adopt-a-Village International and the Judith Lombeida Medical Foundation (JLMF) conducted two dental/clinical missions in Ecuador. Four separate rural villages were provided medical and dental care and over 2,400 patients were served during these two projects.

Last fall, we provided funding for a school boat project in the village of Nuevo San Juan de Amazonas, Peru, which faced a 40-year flood last spring and we were able to provide household water filters for this needy village.

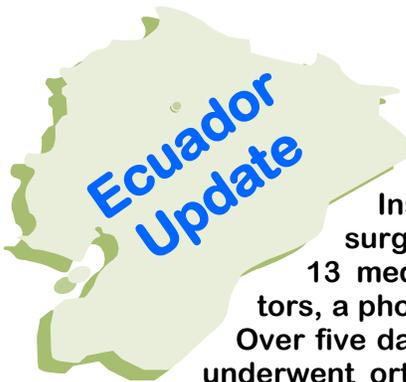
In November, AaVI conducted its first surgical mission in Salinas, Ecuador. Fifty-two surgeries were performed to repair cleft lip/palate, club foot/hand, and webbed fingers/toes.

The link provided below is a video produced by Francisco Cruz, a professional photographer from Denver who participated in the clinical project in early August. This video is representative of the work AaVI is able to do because of generous donors like you. Please feel free to share this link with your family and friends.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WMMIt4vT9o>

Thank you for your continuing support!

P.O. Box 26599, Colorado Springs, CO 80936  
[www.adoptavillageinternational.org](http://www.adoptavillageinternational.org) 719.492.8736



# November Surgical Trip

In November 2012, Adopt-a-Village International, in partnership with the Institute of Basic & Applied Research in Surgery (IBARS), participated in its first surgical clinic in Salinas, Ecuador. Ms. Naomi Quillopa of Minneapolis led a team of 13 medical personnel, along with two translators, a photographer and two AaVI representatives. Over five days, 52 patients (41 under the age of 12), underwent orthopedic or plastic surgery. Procedures included cleft lip and cleft palate repair, removal of extra fingers/toes, separation of webbed fingers/toes, removal of fibroses and masses and repairs to club feet and hands. Knowing these children have a chance at a better life is incredibly inspiring and humbling.



*Maria before and after surgery*



*Maggie receiving the keys to the city of Salinas from the mayor*

One amazing story to emerge from this experience is the transformation of a shy, 49-year-old woman named Maria, who is married with eight children. We first met Maria during the AaVI dental clinic last August when her husband brought her to us to ask if there was anything we could do to repair her cleft lip. During our November trip, Maria underwent surgery for her cleft lip; the “after” picture above was taken in December. Maria has had quite a transformation and now has hope for a better future.



*Orthopedic Surgery*

Another highlight of this surgical trip was that AaVI’s volunteer and Board member, Maggie Adams-Holway was awarded the keys to the city of Salinas by Mayor A.B. Paul Barbor Mite. The mayor, along with the Ecuadorian Air Force (FAE) personnel, in particular Colonel Pablo Lopez Chavez (FAE Base Commander) and Colonel Luis Lopez Bernal (FAE Hospital Commander) and their staff members, went out of their way to provide AaVI/IBARS team with outstanding support and hospitality while in Salinas.

# Volunteer Spotlight



**Meet Caitlin Taber.** Caitlin volunteers with AaVI as our Webmaster. The first time we met her in the spring of 2012, Caitlin impressed us with her enthusiasm, creativity and spirit...and although she can come across as quite shy, she is anything but shy once you get to know her!

Caitlin is a very busy young woman, a senior at Palmer High School and currently the Editor in Chief of Palmer’s yearbook. She is enrolled in AP classes and is a member of Palmer’s National Honor Society. After school most days, Caitlin can be found at her art studio at Cottonwood Center for the Arts and on weekends she performs Irish dancing. She is interested in filmmaking with plans to pursue that as well as art in college, hopefully at Colorado College here in Colorado Springs. This summer, Caitlin will be traveling to France to visit a friend in Paris. Next year, she will be enjoying college and hopes to be able to continue to volunteer for AaVI and potentially participate in one of our projects in Peru or Ecuador. Thank you, Caitlin, for supporting Adopt-a-Village International!!

**If you are interested in volunteering your time or talent with Adopt-a-Village International, please contact us at 719.492.8736.**





## AaVI Sponsors Sawyer Household Water Project

According to the World Health Organization, "Water management is a key factor in the global battle to remove the scourge of extreme poverty and to build secure and prosperous lives for hundreds of millions of people in the developing world." For this reason, AaVI has teamed up with CONAPAC and the University of Colorado in a multi-village pilot study using the widely successful Sawyer Household Water Filter. Together, we hope to bring about sustainable change in our adopted village, Nuevo San Juan de Amazonas. In December, AaVI matched dollars raised by donors who supported flood victims to purchase 22 filters for this challenged and hard-working village.



Teaching students and their teacher how to use the Sawyer water filter

Sawyer water filters use Hollow Fiber Membranes, a technology developed for kidney dialysis. The filter's pores are so small (0.1 micron) that no harmful bacteria including those which cause Cholera, Typhoid and E. Coli, protozoa, or cysts can get through. The filter attains the highest level of filtration available today, exceeding U.S. EPA standards for drinking water.



Learning to pretreat the water and use the filter

Thanks to your support, AaVI is making a tangible, sustainable difference in the lives of approximately 21 families in this needy village.

## Hannah's Well Project Update

After a year-long effort, Colorado Springs high school student, Hannah Mitchell, has raised over \$5,000 for a well in Peru. AaVI has already sent a portion of these funds to CONAPAC, our partner in Peru, and construction is underway in the village of Timicurillo, which is home to about 55 families. Construction should be completed in May and Hannah plans to attend the dedication of the well this summer. Way to go!



## We Welcome Your Personal Involvement



Your financial gift supports the life-changing projects of Adopt-a-Village International.

Please detach this portion and return it with your tax-deductible donation.

I enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help with the ongoing projects of AaVI.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ (name of project)

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I want to get involved. Please contact me.



Adopt-a-Village International  
P.O. Box 26599, Colorado Springs, CO 80936 (719) 492-8736  
[www.adoptavillageinternational.org/donations1.html](http://www.adoptavillageinternational.org/donations1.html)

AaVI is a 501(c)(3) organization; all gifts are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.



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