

Adopt-a-Village International



providing a hand up, not a handout, to break the cycle of poverty in Ecuador and Peru

In this Issue:

- Letter from the Chair
- Ecuador Updates
- Updates from Peru
- AaVI's 20th Birthday Party
- Donated Land for Sale
- 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:

Linda Johansen, *Chair*
 Karen Mitchell, *Secretary*
 Darrell Fleck, *Treasurer*
 Mark Backlin
 Barb Beaton
 Hannah Mitchell
 Joe Mitchell
 Scott Perry
 Lynn Walker, M.D.
 Karen Yuan



Letter from the Chair

Dear Friends of AaVI,

I am very honored to have stepped into the role of board chair in January. I have volunteered on numerous AAVI trips through the years and have served on the board for the last two years. We are always looking for more board members, and no special skills are required except for a desire to help others. If you are interested, please don't hesitate to contact me.

In the pages that follow, you'll read about the exciting projects and trips that we have facilitated in Peru and Ecuador already this year. With the help of our amazing in-country partners, we led a medical and dental expedition to Ecuador in March with 80 volunteers, the largest number we've ever had! This spring we also participated in the Adopt-a-School program in Peru, finished construction on a school kitchen and planted more crops as part of our microbusiness project in villages on the Amazon River.

On that note, I would like to personally invite you to join us as we celebrate AaVI's 20th birthday at our annual garden party on June 24. You'll be able to meet our board members and past trip participants to hear first-hand how being involved with AaVI is changing lives.

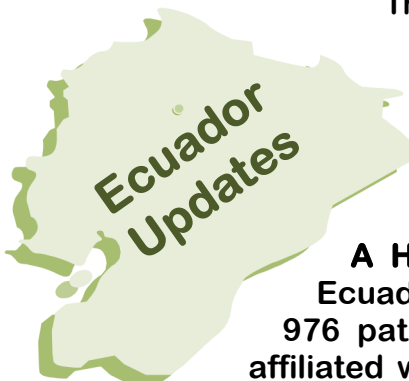
Providing a hand up, not a handout,

Linda Johansen, Chair



At our annual garden party, we will celebrate AaVI's 20th birthday! Mark your calendar for Saturday, June 24, at 6:00pm. If you are unable to attend, we will miss you, but please consider making a donation to the people of Ecuador and Peru anyway! To make a secure donation or for more information, visit our website at www.adoptavillageinternational.org.

The global pandemic has not stopped the progress on our projects in Ecuador and Peru, which are made possible by generous donors like you!



Guaranda Medical Clinic by Mark Backlin

A Hand Up not a Handout. AaVI held its first 2023 medical brigade in Ecuador. From 14-18 March we went to Guaranda, Ecuador and attended to 976 patients in coordination with the Hands for Health Foundation which is affiliated with Rocky Vista University of Parker, Colorado. This brigade involved over 80 volunteers which included five dentists, four optometrists, eight general medicine doctors, two audiologists, two radiologists, one OB/GYN doctor, one rheumatologist, one ENT doctor and 20 medical students from the USA. Collaboration was also provided by the University of Bolivar (Guaranda), the local Ministry of Health and office of the mayor. It was a great trip with much medical student teaching, country collaboration, and improved lives of many patients. This was all made possible by generous support from people like YOU! Thank you!



patients waiting in line



a partnership between many organizations



School and Agribusiness Programs by Karen Yuan

Last month, we delivered school supplies to San Luis, a community in which we previously funded an economic development agribusiness. The kids welcomed us with dances, some adults sang solos and the women served us a delicious, hot lunch with at least ten different fruits, four of which I've never seen before!



new school supplies

I also visited our school kitchen project in the village of Ramon Costillo. (The Peruvian government provides meals to all schools with a kitchen). The population of this village is 60-70 people. They have solar panels at each home, some walkway lights and a new water treatment system. The school also has functioning bathrooms! While I was there, we planted camu camu tree saplings in the children's orchard behind the school garden. Students are responsible for the orchard and garden. The fruit will be used to feed the school children and community. Cacao trees planted in 2019 are producing fruit to feed the community and the excess is sold at market. Lemon trees planted in 2021 are adding strong growth and are thriving. Thank you for making these sustainable, life-changing projects possible!



planting camu camu



school kitchen



Adopt-a-Village International's 20th Birthday Party!

We would LOVE to have you join us at our annual garden party fundraiser! Bring a friend! If you are unable to attend, we will miss you, but you can still make a secure, tax-deductible donation on our website: www.adoptavillageinternational.org. To RSVP for the party, visit: <http://evite.me/f9Ped7xJBa>



Donated Land for Sale in Southern Colorado

YOU can benefit from an incredibly generous donation AaVI received late last year! AaVI is selling a 1.07 acre lot in southern Colorado and you may purchase it! Live, build a second home or camp on your new property and wake up every morning greeted by the Sangre de Cristo mountains. Fish for trout, hike and enjoy the scenery of colorful Colorado. For more information, please visit:



<https://matrix.recolorado.com/matrix/shared/L7b0JVCs7vc/Lot3ConejosTri>



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.



Scan to donate.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

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

I want to get involved. Please contact me.

Adopt-a-Village International
P.O. Box 26599, Colorado Springs, CO 80936
Secure donations can be made at www.adoptavillageinternational.org
AaVI is a 501(c)(3) organization; all gifts are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.