



KIYA SURVIVORS

~ CREATING POSITIVE CHANGE FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN IN PERU ~

ABOUT US

Kiya Survivors is a UK-registered charity supporting Peruvian children who have special needs and who have suffered abuse and abandonment. By building and running educational centres in Peru, Kiya Survivors helps over 200 children, young people and their families in need of support. Kiya Survivors' work also reaches out to violated women and families living in severe poverty.

Kiya Survivors was founded by Suzy Butler in 2001, with the original aim to support victims of the “el Niño” phenomenon on the north coast of Peru. The charity soon extended its support to children and young people with special needs after Suzy witnessed the social exclusion these children suffer. “In Peru there is very little understanding of children with special needs, and they are often abandoned or abused”, says Suzy. “By giving them a proper education and the love and support they deserve, Kiya Survivors is able to offer these children a bright and positive future.”

WHAT WE DO

Kiya Survivors currently operates five centres in Peru:

The Rainbow Centre – opened in 2002, this was the first centre opened by Kiya Survivors and now works with over 40 children and young people from Urubamba (Cuzco) and surrounding villages who have some form of special needs or who have suffered abuse. The centre offers rehabilitation and free physiotherapy to children and young people in need, as well as social work and psychological services to the children's families.

The Rainbow House – as none of the orphanages near the Rainbow Centre had facilities to house children with special needs, Kiya Survivors opened the Rainbow House in 2007 to meet this need. Kiya Survivors employs two substitute mothers to look after the children to make sure they are always well fed and cared for, and that they attend the Rainbow Centre every day for meals and to take part in its workshops.

The Pasitos Centre - Kiya Survivors' newest project opened in 2009 and is located at Chinchero, in the Sacred Valley (about 30km from Cuzco). It is an extension of our outreach programme and arose due to the sheer quantity of children and young people with special needs in the area – our drop-in centre, which runs three days a week, is the only source of support for people with special needs in Chinchero. We offer basic education on nutrition, sexual health, hygiene as well as physiotherapy, speech therapy, early stimulation programmes, psychology services and counselling.

The Mama Cocha Home – opened in 2008 in Los Organos, northern Peru. Mama Cocha provides a safe and stable home for children and young people needing love and support. Those living at Mama Cocha are aged between 5-22 and we offer creative workshops, outreach projects, and the Buddy system - where the young people of Mama Cocha are buddied with other young people from mainstream schools to improve reciprocal understanding of similarities and differences.

The Early Bird Centre - also in Los Organos, the Early Bird Centre helps Kiya Survivors staff attend to the needs of local communities. As well as the Early Stimulation Programme and workshops on Emotional Well Being, Cognitive Processing and Body Stimulation, the centre also offers programmes for adults in the community: **Mama Café** (for single mothers to have a safe and open space to share knowledge and concerns about their home life) and the **Parents School** (offering both mothers and fathers advice on special needs, how to care for their children and how to improve relationships in the home and in the community).

HOW WE DO IT

Since 2002, Kiya Survivors has run successful volunteer programmes to ensure there is enough support in our centres, to encourage new ideas and to help raise vital funds for all our projects. The volunteer programmes are our main source of funding, providing an essential service for the 200+ children and families we support. Our variety of programmes each provide different levels of logistical support but all with the opportunity of making a huge difference to the lives of the children and young people in our care.

Sponsor a Child Programme

Sponsorship/Support of individual projects/centres by individuals, groups, foundations

Private donations

~ Ends ~

Notes to editors:

Kiya Survivors is a UK registered charity (no 1121519) founded by Suzy Butler in 2001.

www.kiyasurvivors.org

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