

The Peru Children's Trust (No. 1063976) Annual Report July 2020-June 2021

History

The Peru Children's Trust (PCT) was formed in 1997 to support the work of the charitable organisation, El Shaddai, in the city of Huancayo, Peru. El Shaddai was set up by Gay and Manuel Reynaga who witnessed the poverty of children and adolescents living in the shanty towns in and around Huancayo (a city in the Andes mountains). The charity initially assisted children and families affected by the 'Sendero Luminoso' terrorism of the 1980s and has helped over 2,000 children to date.

In 2012 a new charitable organisation, 'Peru Children's Trust - Huancayo' (PCT-H), was established and assumed responsibility of the work done by El Shaddai.

Mission Statement

The focus of the Peru Children's Trust is the relief of poverty and sickness, and the advancement of education and Christian faith amongst poor, orphaned or abandoned children and adolescents. It operates in the shanty towns and deprived areas of Huancayo and surrounding villages in the Andes – an area with a population of 500,000 people. The charity employs family support workers who build and maintain close personal relationships with the children and families.

Structure & Governance

The Peru Children's Trust is governed by a Board of Trustees in the UK. The Trustees oversee fund raising and transference of funds to its partner charity Peru Children's Trust-Huancayo, who provide local governance and complete audit checks. Regular reports and accounts are reviewed to ensure that the money is appropriately spent. The transfer of funds to Peru is dependent on a review of the prior month's expenses and forward looking forecast. The Trustees make the occasional visit to Peru to see first-hand the work carried out by the charity.

Objectives and Activities

1. **To support holistically the education of poor children and adolescents, enabling them to reach their full potential.** Although education in Peru is officially 'free' the government covers the cost of the teachers' salaries only; everything else such as desks, books, stationery, and uniforms must be purchased by the parents. Families struggling with poverty cannot, therefore, afford to send their children to school.
2. **To improve the living standards of children and adolescents in impoverished families.** With care and love we can improve living conditions such as sanitation, bedding, roofing, nourishment, medical care and earning prospects, with self-help advice and small business start-up schemes.
3. **To promote Christian teaching, family guidance and counselling.** To enhance the life of the community by running Sunday school, children's holiday weeks, pastoral visits, women's welfare groups and Bible studies.

The objective of PCT is to encourage people to sponsor children by committing a regular sum per month towards the education and wellbeing of the child. The Trust endeavors to keep sponsors informed of their child or students' progress by regular reports and updates.

Over the last 20 years, many children have completed primary and secondary education, some have gone on to university and gained good degrees, whilst others have been coached to be entrepreneurs setting up small businesses. They could not have done this without the help of the PCT and its supporters. As well as encouraging individuals to sponsor a child, the PCT raises awareness of the work through talks and activities at church, community groups and other interested bodies. It is also active on several social media platforms. In addition to its main sponsorship model, the PCT is developing a range of funding mechanisms to empower ongoing support., such as hosting handicraft and food sales, raffles, and sporting events. The PCT in the UK works very closely with its sister charity in Peru, PCT-Huancayo.

The PCT-Huancayo employs family support workers who are responsible for visiting the children and families supported by the charity. The workers assess on a case by case basis what is required in order to enable the child to attend school and ensure they are equipped with the necessary tools. As well as school supplies, this will include roof repairs, solar panels (to provide light where there is no electricity), furniture and bedding. Not only does this drastically improve living conditions but financial and employment opportunities too, benefitting the family as a whole. Family guidance, counselling and Christian teaching are all important parts of the work that the Trust does.

The families helped by the Trust live in run down areas of Huancayo, in the shanty towns around the edge of the city, or in the villages along the valley. The housing is basic, cramped, with no proper sanitation or cooking facilities, and sometimes without doors or windows.

The children who live in these terrible conditions often cannot afford to attend school. Although education in Peru is free, children have to pay a registration fee and must wear a uniform. They also have to provide their own stationery, equipment and books, including all textbooks.

Through a sponsorship scheme the Trust provides the means for the children in each family to be educated to the end of their secondary schooling. It also often fund their housing needs by providing roofing, doors and windows, furniture, and bedding. Often the Trust workers have to work to obtain birth certificates for the children as many have not been registered at birth due to the cost and therefore are unable to access an education without identity.

In addition to the sponsorship scheme, we ensure the children can have fun. Most of the children have never celebrated their birthdays. The Trust organises bi-monthly birthday parties for the children. Christmas parties are also held each year, when the children can enjoy games, festive food and presents, with a reminder of the true meaning of Christmas. Family guidance, counselling and Christian teaching to parents are an important part of our work.

Fundraising

The primary source of income for Peru Children's Trust is through the sponsorship scheme, the funds of which go towards providing urgent relief to the children and families severely affected by poverty, and wages for the Family Support Workers. Sponsorship is driven by word of mouth and talks given by volunteers to churches and schools, as well visitors to our website.

Sponsors are also asked to make an extra contribution around Christmas time to enable the children to have a Christmas gift and a party. Funds raised through reclaimed tax, along with general gifts to the Trust, go towards any shortfall caused by cancelled sponsorship, medical emergencies, and general administration. We endeavor to ensure that most of the sponsorship money is spent on the children using very little for administration. The principal expenses are bank charges and costs associated with running the website. We also encourage everyone to contribute to the PCT via easyfundraising.org.uk.

A special emergency COVID-19 campaign was launched in 2020 that went into 2021, seeking additional contributions from sponsors to assist the most the most vulnerable families who were unable to work due to government-imposed restrictions.

We have also had a number of businesses provide direct donations to contribute to the work.

Achievements and Performance

Many of the normal scheduled activities were disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and as a result the team had to adjust to new emergency measures. Peru has been particularly hard hit through the pandemic and experienced the highest death-toll per capita during this difficult period, despite having severe restrictions imposed. As a result of this, many of the families were unable to work. For many, the daily challenge is very real, either work or starve! Government aid and income support was late coming and was limited. Facing this desperate choice and to prevent infection by breaking lockdown restrictions, PCT provided multiple emergency food deliveries and PPE aid. This has enabled them to survive without needing to put themselves in harm's way.

Limiting the spread of the virus amongst the poor and vulnerable was a clear goal as the death rate, even among the rich and political elite due to no oxygen or respirators in hospitals, is a stark reminder that prevention is better than cure. If there is no provision for the rich how will the poor survive? To date, the Trust has not lost any lives amongst the supported families. This emergency support was possible due to the increased contributions from the sponsors.

During the pandemic education suffered immensely. Schools closed due to lockdown restrictions and resorted to home schooling through an online platform and a radio channel. Most homes do not have computers, radios, internet access or electricity. PCT launched a solar panel project providing energy to homes, enabling the children to access education and maintain contact during the period of lockdown.

Future developments

It is becoming clear that the sponsorship model of fundraising is changing. As such, the Trustees have been exploring new ways to raise funds, such as collaborating with other charities doing work in Peru and increasing our profile amongst new channels of communication to encourage donations.

Public Benefit Requirement

The Trustees have complied with the duty in Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission concerning the public benefit requirement. Approval: Due to the coronavirus outbreak all approvals have been given remotely via email or internet.

PCT Trustees and Personnel

The PCT Trustees are as follows:

Mr. David Reynaga (acting Chair)

Mr. Andres Reynaga

Mrs. Gillian Coe

Mr. Carlos Troncoso

Miss. Catherine Hennessy

Mr. Jeremy Nordbert

The PCT Treasurer is Mrs. Janet Booker.

The PCT Auditor/Examiner is Mr. Robert Warren.

David Reynaga

April 2022

THE PERU CHILDREN'S TRUST
Registered Charity No. 0163976

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
Year Ended 30th June 2021
UK

	30.6.21		30.6.20
	£	£	£
RECEIPTS			
<u>Donations:</u>			
Sponsorship of Children	39,686		40,335
General Gifts	6,354		11,430
Salaries	<u>2,720</u>		<u>2,945</u>
Total Receipts		48,760	<u>54,710</u>
PAYMENTS			
Funds transferred to Peru	42,717		58,432
Bank Charges	140		132
Expenses	<u>4</u>		<u>3</u>
Total Payments		<u>42,861</u>	<u>58,567</u>
Net Deficit/ Receipts for period		5,899	- 3,857
Bank Accounts			
Bank current account balance b/f		19,191	30,048
Bank savings account balance b/f		<u>7,008</u>	
		26,199	
Bank current account balance c/f		25,150	19,191
Bank savings account balance c/f		<u>7,028</u>	7,008
Total Assets		32,178	26,199

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES at 30TH JUNE 2021

	30.6.21	30.6.20
	£	£
ASSETS	32,178	26,199
	<u>32,178</u>	<u>26,199</u>

THE PERU CHILDREN'S TRUST

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
Year ended 30th June 2021
PERU

	30.6.21		30.6.20	
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Funds transferred to Peru by the Trust	42,717		58,432	
Less difference due to exchange (estimated)	<u>2,000</u>		<u>5,496</u>	
		40,717		52,936
 PAYMENTS				
Child Support	18,876		25,874	
General projects	8,951		12,022	
Salaries	<u>12,705</u>		<u>17,340</u>	
		<u>40,532</u>		<u>55,236</u>
 Deficit/Surplus for year		185	-	2,300
 Funds held in Peru (01/07/21)		4,563		5,283
 Surplus for year (as above)		185	-	<u>2,300</u>
 Surplus for year		<u>4,748</u>		<u>2,983</u>

Financial Accounts
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Peru Childrens Trust

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30 June 2021, which are set out on attached page.

Respective duties of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1933 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Disclosures given by the Charity commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report


My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's report

In connection with my examination of the UK statement no matter has come to my attention:

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of those accounts to be reached.
- 3) but in respect to the Peruvian statement I have been unable to see the accounting records.

R Warren
Chartered Accountant
Willow Croft
Thicket Grove
Newlands Drive
Maldenhead
Berks
SL6 4LW



4/4/2022