

DESEA Peru - 2011 Year-end Newsletter



www.deseaperu.org

The Year's Highlights

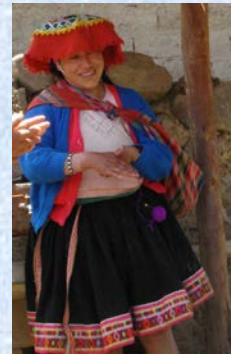


The New PVC Biosand Water Filter

The challenge of distributing filters to remote Andean households led to the replacement of the 95-kg, CAWST-style concrete biosand filters with a lightweight PVC filter designed by Sandy Hart and volunteer Matt Hastie. The new model is light and durable while retaining the geometry of the CAWST filters. DESEA is grateful to CAWST (Calgary), Soluciones Practicas (Peru), and Engineers Without Borders (SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry) for independent testing and consultations.

Accha Alta Qhalis

Completing their second full year of work, the qhalis (community health workers) have made very significant improvements in the health of their communities. In 2011 more than 1400 home visits were made for prenatal and postnatal attention, water filter maintenance, hygiene and sanitation education, and basic medical services (for conditions such as fever and diarrhea).



Six New Qhalis Selected in the Community of Huarqui, District of Lamay

After five months of health clinics and home visits by DESEA nurses, the three Huarqui Community sectors – Kellococha, Chaupimayo, and Sasicanha – have selected six women to serve as community health workers ('qhalis' in Quechua). Their training has now begun with initial training in water filter use, hygiene and sanitation, and intensive first aid.

October Mary Tidlund Medical Campaign



From left to right: Translator Rocio Roman, Dr. Violet Shadd, RN Sandra McGirr, technical nurse Leticia Huanca, RN Christine Anderson, technical nurse Vilma Florez, Founder Mary Tidlund and NP Nicole Entz.

The Mary A. Tidlund Charitable Foundation organized a medical campaign with Dr. Violet Shadd, NP Nicole Entz; RN Christine Anderson and founder Mary Tidlund to deliver medical care, with a focus on gynaecological health, in five of the communities in which DESEA works. Over 200 patients were seen in 8 days, and 43 pap exams were completed, which for many, was their first opportunity to receive this very important exam. The people were delighted to have medical attention offered to them directly in their communities, and are already asking when the team will be returning.



Mary Tidlund entering data



NP Nicole Entz with mother and newborn



Dr. Violet Shadd with a patient



Christine Anderson with qhali Juana Puclla Puma



Licensed technical nurse Leticia Huanca Guevara (on left) has joined DESEA as the new water filter educator/community nurse. Leticia, in addition to working as a rural health nurse, has taken specialized training in hygiene and sanitation and has worked extensively in indigenous communities teaching these concepts. Raised in a remote Andean community herself, she brings a great understanding and passion to her work in the high communities, and will be a valuable member of the DESEA team.

In all project areas, children under six years will be receiving daily multivitamin supplements, through a generous donation from NGO Vitamin Angels (Santa Barbara, Ca.). Preschool programs are providing this support to enrolled children and those not in schools are receiving them at home. As well, all prenatal and lactating women with a child less than one year of age are receiving a multivitamin/micronutrient supplement.



Sandra McGirr distributing children's vitamins



Volunteer Pat Teti installs a new biosand water filter in the high school in Chaupimayo, Huarqui. Installations have now been completed in each community school and preschool, providing treated water for 372 children. All school classes will receive instruction from DESEA in water quality, hygiene and sanitation.

Filter installations are underway in the priority households which use surface water and seepage areas as drinking water sources. All filter recipients are required to attend a two-hour training session with Leticia and the qhalis, to wash their own sand and gravel filter media, and to transport their filter and materials to their homes. Leticia and the qhalis will provide monitoring and education for all installations for a one-year period.

It's easy for Sandy to smile when moving the new PVC biosand water filter. At 10 kg - the concrete version is 95 kg - this filter is much more easily carried to remote households in the project area. Many thanks to DESEA volunteers Matt Hastie and Patrick Teti and to Derek Baker (Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology) for their design assistance. A construction manual will be posted at www.deseaperu.org.



Sandy Hart with the new PVC filter

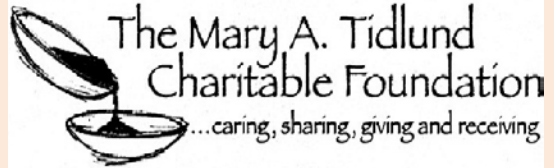
Special thanks to DESEA's partners

How
you can
help...

DESEA Peru is seeking support to continue its work with Andean communities. DESEA works in six communities with nine qhalis, three nurses, and a part-time administrator.

- A water filter for a family or school costs \$90 to build, install and conduct monitoring and education for one year;
- birth control for a woman for one year is \$25;
- a qhali salary averages \$60 per month; and
- medical supplies for a community average \$30 per month.

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!



The Mary A. Tidlund Charitable Foundation (Canmore, Alberta) is a registered charity which supports DESEA through medical campaigns and fundraising.



Capital City Medical Teams (Salem, Oregon), a registered 501(c)(3) charity, supports DESEA by fundraising and grants.



Green Empowerment (Portland, Oregon) partners with DESEA to provide access to clean drinking water and sustainable solutions.

Tax-deductible donations can be made through DESEA's partners:

In Canada – *The Mary A. Tidlund Charitable Foundation*

In the United States – *Capitol City Medical Teams*

PLEASE VISIT www.deseaperu.org FOR PROJECT AND DONATION DETAILS.

October
volunteers

A very big thank you to:

The Mary A. Tidlund medical team, who donated their time, expertise, and expenses to help the project communities.

Ivan Belaustegui, for his passion and professional photos of DESEA's work and the Mary Tidlund medical campaign.

Brian Hettler, from SUNY-ESF 'Engineers Without Borders' who has been working with DESEA to establish testing of the new PVC filter and to provide for water sampling in the new project areas.

Patrice Marier, for videoing the Mary Tidlund campaign and for his work underway to prepare a video of DESEA's work.

Steve Scheuerell, for hauling down 25 kg of children's vitamins from the U.S.

Patrick Teti, for his help with the final filter design and many other tasks and for donation of a PVC welder.

Matt Hastie, in Portland, for his travels to retrieve donated vitamins.

Check out our new Facebook page - search for DESEA-Peru.