

# IMPACT REPORT 2021



**Heart-Links**

*... in solidarity with the people of northern Peru*

## 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Trish Gergich, Chair

Tayane Santos Bomfim Andrade,  
Treasurer

Nathalie Kroeker, Secretary

Sara Alva Lizarraga

Maya Clarke

Cecilia Inguane

Tallys Moreth

Elisa Alvarez

Melissa Zuleta Jimenez

Julia Rolo

Giada Ferrucci

## MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

When I look back at 2021 and what Heart-Links has accomplished with your help, I think of two words: creativity and passion.

When I think of creativity, I think of all the creative ways our partners addressed the ongoing pandemic challenges they faced and how to best help their communities.

When I think of passion, I think of our donors. You are also at the heart of our work with your unwavering commitment to our partners, friends and communities in northern Peru. Thank you to everyone who gave generously to support Heart-Links in 2021 and also made special COVID-related donations. Together, you donated just over \$109,000 to Heart-Links. Thank you for this amazing generosity.

I am so grateful to work in solidarity with all of you—our donors, partners, friends and communities in Peru and in Canada and our Board of Directors—to continue this meaningful work. We will continue to honour our founder, Sister Janet, and those who came before us. We will continue to work in solidarity with each of you to create a more just and equitable world.

I hope you find some time to reflect on your own moments of creativity and passion during this past year. I'm sure you will discover many of those moments!



## HELLOS AND GOOD-BYES

Welcome to these new board and committee members: **Tayane Santos Bomfim Andrade, Giada Ferrucci, Melissa Page Nichols, Vivian Lopez-Bondi, and Alexia Ahani.**

Our enormous and heart-felt gratitude to **Julia Rolo, Elisa Alvarez, Melissa Zuleta Jimenez and Paula Papel.** We wish you well and hope you keep us in your thoughts.

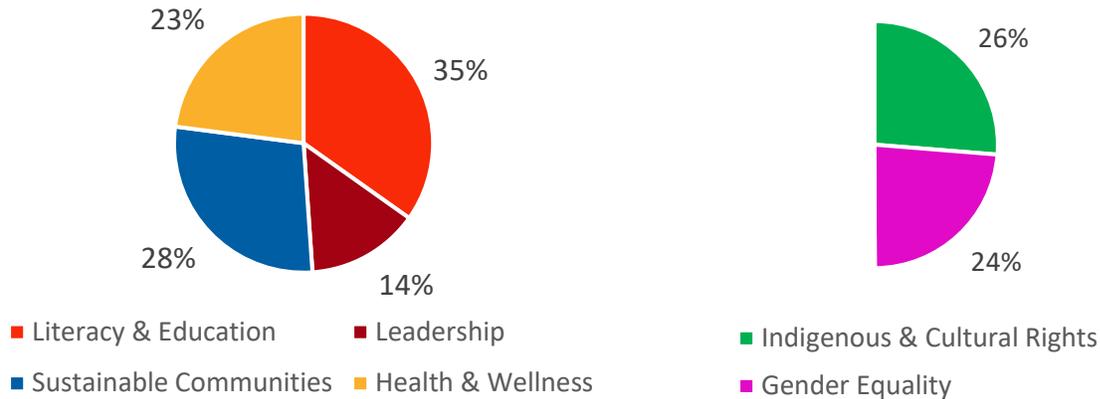
## SPECIAL THANKS TO

Yim Rodríguez Sampertegui, Community Engaged Learning – Western University, *Correo Canadiense* and the Ontario Council for International Cooperation for connecting with Heart-Links in 2021.

**STRATEGIC GOAL**

**OUR 6 PARTNERS' ROLE AS CHANGEMAKERS IS STRENGTHENED.**

In 2021, you financed 8 projects totalling \$69,860.



All Heart-Links' projects advance one or more of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.



*“Now the families that started with five laying hens have approximately 30 laying hens per family. We have 90 chicks, eggs that we eat ourselves and also sell when there are enough. And our family’s situation has improved, and we are learning how to improve our breeding. It also helps us to have better livelihoods and to be able to feed our children better. It’s important income for all our families.”*  
—Savina Vargas

**YOU HELPED SAVINA FEED HER FAMILY!**

**Sustainable Chicken Hatchery.** Run by Centro Esperanza, in 2021 this project continued to provide training and material support to rural families affected first by severe flooding in 2017 and then by the COVID-19 pandemic. Drawing on the skills and resources of community members themselves, Centro Esperanza helped them to launch a hatchery for laying hens as well as to strengthen their organization, practise ecological farming, ensure participation by women in decision making, and negotiate with state bodies.



- San Isidro
- 21 families
- \$9,440



## YOU HELPED BRING MALLY COMFORT!

*“In the workshops, I found some relief from the sorrow of losing my father, uncles, cousins and friends during the pandemic.”*  
—Malyly

**Women’s Empowerment.** Run by Madre Oliva Association, this program empowers women in the communities of Zaña and Nuevo Mocupe. Twice a week, the women receive materials and instruction in making handicrafts that draw on local cultural traditions and every two months they attend workshops on topics such as self-esteem, gender equality and women’s rights. They sell these handicrafts in local and regional fairs.



- Zaña Valley
- 15 women
- \$4,178

**Supporting People with Disabilities.** With food security still a grave concern in 2021, Madre Oliva Association continued to provide adults and children with developmental disabilities with medical attention, food, educational support, and life skills training. They also helped them register with Social Security to receive comprehensive health coverage.



- Nuevo Mocupe
- 20 people
- \$8,846



**Reducing COVID-19's Impact.** Latidos helped families in the Zaña Valley secure healthy food, masks and cleaning supplies and provided them with both educational support and mental health workshops and counselling. They boosted local vaccination efforts significantly by supplying volunteers and refreshments and carrying out information campaigns.



- Zaña and Cayaltí
- 85+ people
- \$11,075

**Quiritimayo Community Centre.** This centre, run by ACIES, had 3 lines of action: help children and youth express themselves in drawing and words, empower women through small income generation projects and mutual support, and work with teachers and volunteers to develop and share practices and strategies in alternative education.



- Cajamarca
- 45+ people
- \$7,300



*"I come to ACIES to learn to read and write. We're making a little book to read and a notebook to write in."*

—Brigitte

**YOU HELPED BRIGITTE EXPRESS HERSELF!**

**New Edition of the Campesino Encyclopedia.** With travel restrictions lifted in mid-2021, Rural Libraries Network again took up its goal to publish and distribute a revised edition of the *Enciclopedia Campesina*. This project will print 500 copies each of 5 revised volumes in this series of 20 books containing Indigenous knowledge and traditions from the region and deliver them to nearly 400 rural libraries.



- Cajamarca
- 2500 books
- \$10,445

**Ecological Action Plan.** Centro Santa Angela wrapped up five years of work in the marginal urban neighbourhood of Urrunaga, in José Leonardo Ortiz, leaving in place an ecological library for children, an Eco Club for youth, a nursery run by women, environmental committees for each of the neighbourhood's 21 streets and a coordinating committee that will work with neighbours and with city hall to ensure Urrunaga continues to take steps to protect the environment and promote sustainable, healthy habits.



- José Leonardo Ortiz
- 21 streets
- \$9,288



**Leadership School.** This school for community leaders strengthened the ability of individuals and communities to participate fully in society. Meeting virtually because of COVID-19, participants from across Lambayeque province developed projects to help their communities and monitored and pushed by local authorities with the Governing Agreement they signed. Run by Centro Santa Angela, the school gives priority to developing women leaders and to leadership that is democratic, transparent, and inclusive.



- Lambayeque
- 50 leaders
- \$9,288



*“The main ways the school has helped me are first, to strengthen my self-esteem; second, to motivate me to participate actively as a citizen and in that way achieve the great change I want for my community, and third, to show me that to solve a problem it’s better to work as a group rather than individually.”*  
—Esperanza Herrera

**YOU HELPED ESPERANZA BECOME A LEADER!**

**STRATEGIC GOAL****CANADA-PERU SOLIDARITY WILL REMAIN STRONG.**

In 2021, our partners spoke to Canadians at 4 different events and through 2 broadcasts.

**Share the Love @ Home 2021.** Leaders from Centro Esperanza, Madre Oliva Association and ACIES joined us at our first-ever virtual fundraiser to speak about the projects Heart-Links supports in Zaña, Lambayeque and Cajamarca. More than 50 people tuned in for the event, and between donations and revenue from our online silent auction, we raised almost \$5000 for community-led projects in Peru.

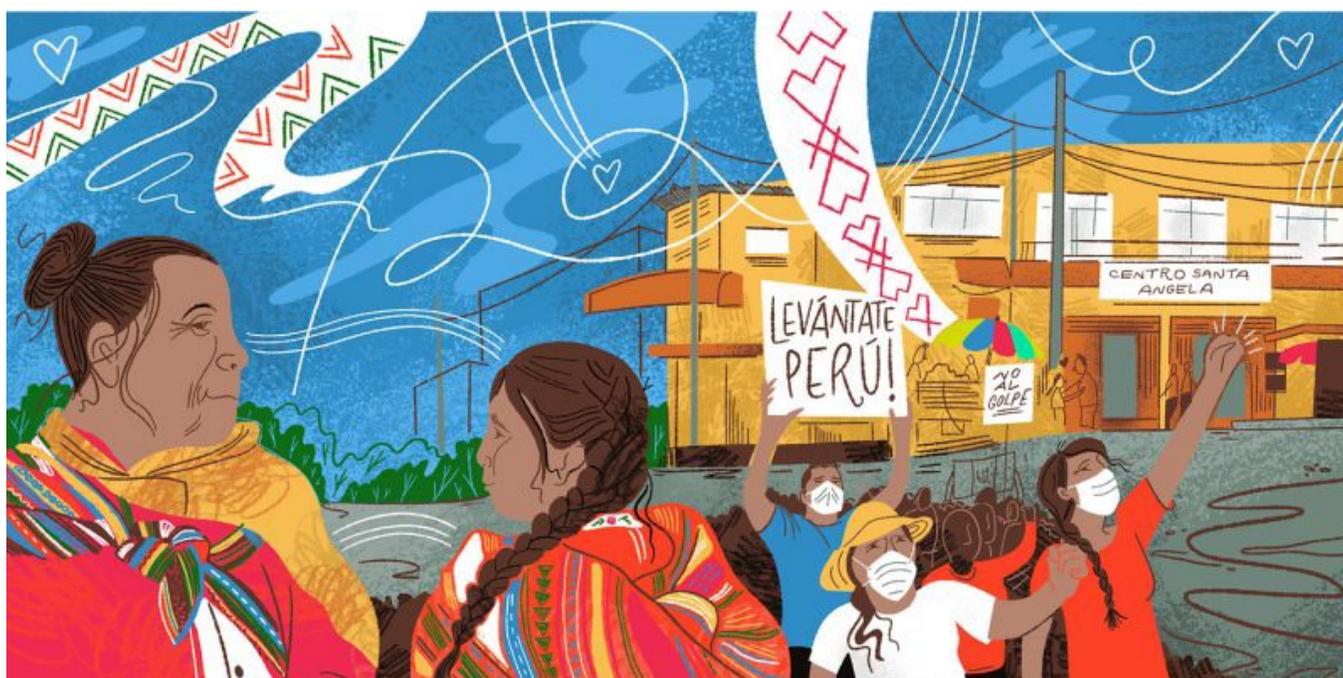


*“Heart-Links really honours its name, because the relationship is from heart to heart.”*

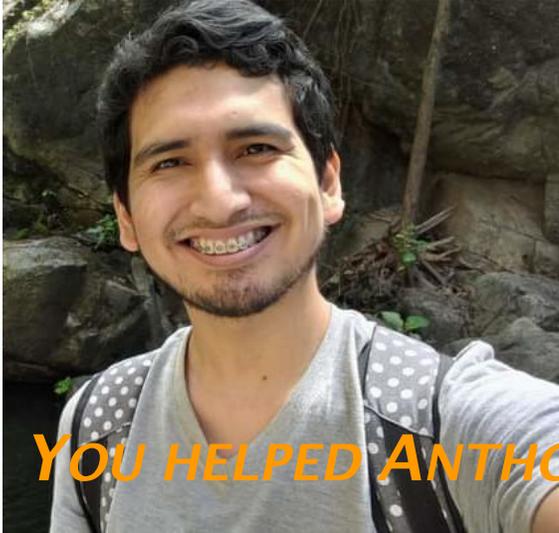
—Erla Hoyos

**Women in the Lead.** Erla Hoyos, of Centro Santa Angela, joined women from Malawi, Haiti and Canada for this “fireside chat” hosted by the Ontario Council for International Cooperation (OCIC). The women shared their views about the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on women and girls and what a feminist recovery would look like around the world.

**Tapestry 2030.** Centro Santa Angela’s leadership school was the focus of an episode in OCIC’s podcast and illustration series on the future of international cooperation and global solidarity, and the partnerships needed for gender transformative, sustainable development.



**Annual General Meeting.** Our virtual annual general meeting in the spring of 2021 was another opportunity to invite one of our partners to speak about their work. Flor Reaño, director of Latidos, described the different ways her organization was helping people in the Zaña Valley get through the pandemic, including a vaccination campaign “so that the vaccine reaches everyone, without regard for age, without regard for social condition.”



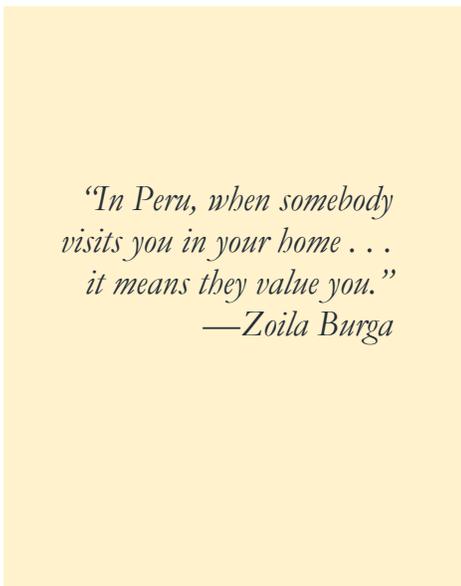
*“We start by recognizing that in the matter of gender-based violence, the ones who suffer most from it are women, and the people who perpetrate this violence are mostly men.”*

*—Anthony Peña Flores.*

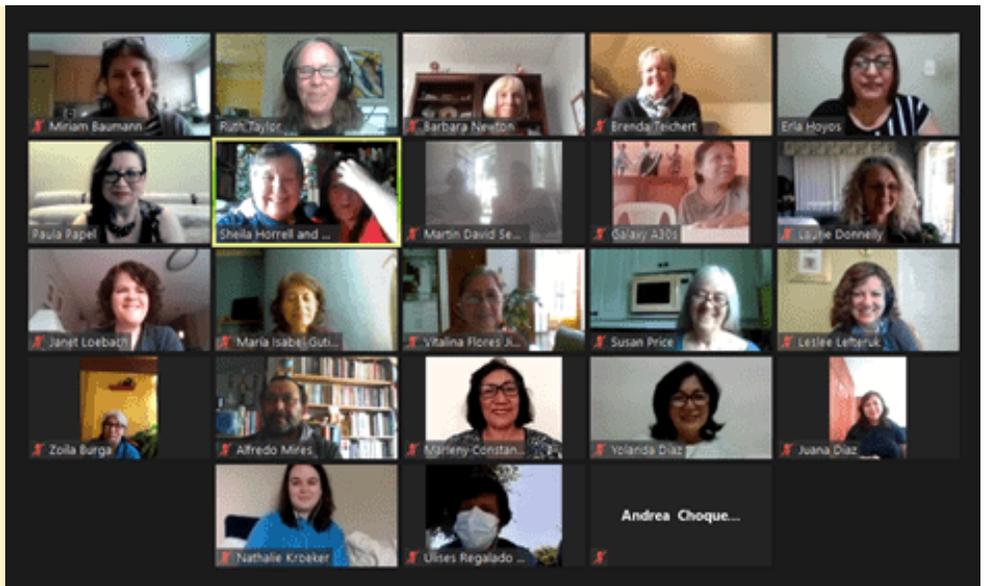
**YOU HELPED ANTHONY SPREAD HIS MESSAGE!**

**Interview with *Correo Canadiense*.** *Correo Canadiense* editor Isabel Inclán sat down (virtually) with Marleny Constantino and Anthony Peña—both of Centro Santa Angela—and Heart-Links board director Sara Alva Lizarraga to talk about how Centro Santa Angela is enlisting men and boys in the struggle to end violence against women by promoting concepts of masculinity that embrace relationships of equality and respect.

**Solidarity Trip Reunion.** In an emotional first-ever Solidarity Trip Reunion, alumni of our Solidarity and Work/Awareness Trips connected by zoom with our partners and other Peruvians they’d met during their visits. Trip participants said they learned as much about themselves and their communities in Canada from these trips as they did about the people and places they visited. Our partners spoke about their memories of sharing their work and their daily lives with visitors from Canada, noting that such exchanges have strengthened their organizations and enriched their work.



*“In Peru, when somebody visits you in your home . . . it means they value you.”*  
—Zoila Burga



**STRATEGIC GOAL****WE WILL BE AN EXCELLENT STEWARD OF DONOR FUNDS.**

Heart-Links remains in a sound financial position and capable of funding our work in Peru. Our investment portfolio is independently managed by external advisors at ScotiaWealth Management, and our accounting, financial statements and reporting are subject to annual review by external auditors. All government (CRA and Corporations Canada) regulatory reporting, which is completed annually, is up to date. Administrative expenses are reasonable and within established budget.

Financial highlights for 2021:

- Fund balances as of December 31, 2021, were \$470K.
- Peru Project expenditures for 2021 were nearly \$70K. Projects approved by the Board are rigorously reviewed and monitored by the Peru Projects Committee.
- The Treasurer and Finance Committee conduct ongoing financial reviews to ensure Heart-Links' funds are managed in accordance with our bylaws and that funds allocated for charitable purposes to organizations in Peru comply with Heart-Links' standards and CRA requirements.

Like many organizations, Heart-Links continued to be impacted by COVID-19 in 2021. Despite these challenges, we met our fundraising targets and our investment portfolio experienced positive gains.

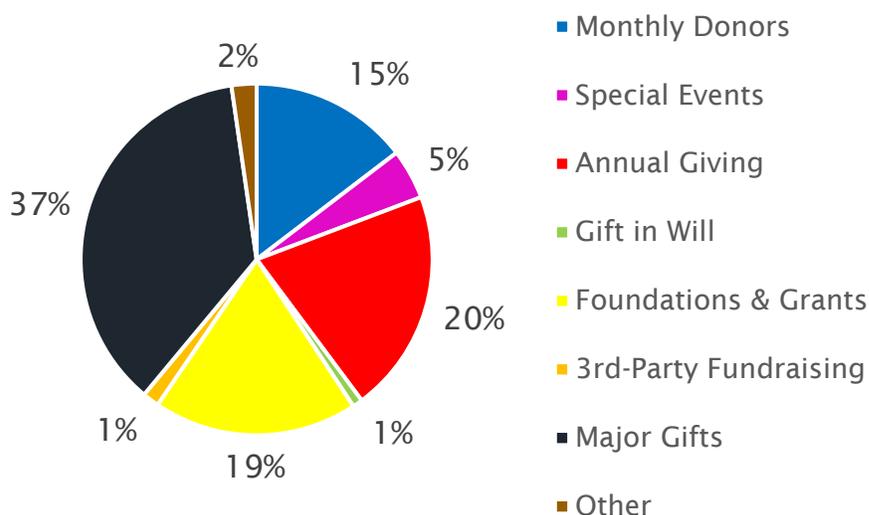
**\$\$ SENT TO PERU**

2012	66,488
2013	64,565
2014	79,539
2015	98,359
2016	117,768
2017	139,964
2018	136,136
2019	142,648
2020	99,119
2021	69,860
<b>LAST 10 YRS</b>	<b>\$1,014,446</b>

**STRATEGIC GOAL****WE WILL BE IN A FINANCIAL POSITION TO MEET NEW & ONGOING NEEDS IN PERU.**

**\$109,111 raised**

The Fund Development Committee continued to work to diversify Heart-Links' funder base. A total of **145 individuals, families and organizations** donated to Heart-Links in 2021. Between individual gifts, foundation and other grants and special events revenue, Heart-Links raised **\$109,111**.



## HEART-LINKS COMMUNITY OF DONORS

Thank you to our 2021 donors for *sharing the love* with Heart-Links!  
You make this important work in Peru possible.

### Visionaries (\$5,000+)

Ursuline Sisters of Chatham  
Cambia Development Foundation  
Sisters of St. Joseph  
Sisters of Saint Martha

### Champions (\$1,000–\$4,999)

Dr. Burneo de las Casas  
Louise Mauffette-Leenders  
Louise and Mark Vandenbosch  
Marie and Jean Steinmetz  
East Windsor Catholic Family of  
Parishes  
Fraser and Yvonne Macdonald  
Holy Name of Jesus Mission  
Committee  
Kimberly Frias  
Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de  
Paul  
Frank O'Connor  
Regina Women's Group  
Jennifer Witzel  
Anonymous (1)

### Builders (\$250–\$999)

Virginia and Robert Pettapiece  
Metropolitan United Church  
Mary Patricia and Mike Hudak  
Pat and Wayne Scott  
Bruce Hewitt and Helena Steinmetz  
Christine Troughton  
Valgerdur Gylfadottir  
Silvia Langer  
Ruth Taylor  
Jean McPhail  
Francesca Lobo  
Patricia Mack  
Frances and Ronald Anderson  
Julia Kolb and Kirk Maltby  
David Walsh  
Sisters of the Precious Blood  
Barbara Lent  
Diocesan Mission Office  
Carolyn Beukeboom  
Michael Loebach and Patricia Howe-  
Loebach  
Yolande DeClercq  
Keith Brooks  
Helen Jimenez

St. Mary's Mission Group  
Allan and Susan Edwards  
Leslee Lefterluk  
Mary Durand  
Anonymous (2)

### Believers (\$100–\$249)

Lee Cyn Ang and Liang Yong Ang-Low  
Metropolitan United Church Women  
Audrey Timmerman  
Gordon Price and Jennifer Slauenwhite  
Brenda and Bill Zadorsky  
Denise Dalton  
Irene Donohue  
Jill Young  
Susan Price  
Shannon Calvert  
Linda Disik  
Sheila Horrell  
Jean Garanger  
Janet Loebach  
Barbara Newton  
Aileen Czerwieniec  
Michael and Jane Wu  
Sandra Mackenzie and Bruce Brillinger  
Linda Lustins and Richard Phillips Trish  
Gergich  
Sarah Lucier  
Paula Marcotte  
Ann Steadman  
Riley Trottier  
Judy Wirsch  
Denyse Regan  
Mira Ratkaj  
Logan Rohde  
Marie White  
Andy Kroeker  
Cecilia Inguanse  
Susan Cassan  
Mary-Jane and Paul Francescutti Larry  
Macdonald  
Justa Gilliland  
Jayne Brady-Miltenburg  
Barbara Boles-Davis  
Carolyn Corcoran  
Sally Vernon  
Dianna Kuypers  
Eileen and Eugene Lucier  
Marriane Vandenbosch

Karen Gleeson  
Sister Kitty Stafford  
Julia Rolo  
Pauline Roy  
Jeff Rynard  
Janet Stewart  
Anonymous (9)

### Monthly Donors

Brenda and Bill Zadorsky  
Mary Patricia and Mike Hudak  
Frances and Ronald Anderson  
Bruce Hewitt and Helena Steinmetz  
Eileen and Eugene Lucier  
Janet Loebach  
Aileen Czerwieniec  
Christine Troughton  
Riley Trottier  
Irene Donohue  
Jean Garanger  
Justa Gilliland  
Mary Durand  
Sheila Horrell  
Michael Loebach and Pat Howe-  
Loebach  
Denise Dalton  
Ruth Taylor  
Julia Kolb and Kirk Maltby  
Jennifer Witzel  
Patricia Mack  
Paula Marcotte  
Anne Gehman  
Jean McPhail  
Trish Gergich  
Mira Ratkaj  
Virginia and Robert Pettapiece  
Audrey Timmerman  
Pat and Wayne Scott  
Dr. Burneo de las Casas  
Gordon Price and Jennifer Slauenwhite  
Lina and Chris Bowden  
Valgerdur Gylfadottir  
Kimberly Frias  
Leslee Lefterluk  
John Hamilton  
Barbara Lent  
Julia Rolo  
Pauline Maheux  
Anonymous (3)

## OUR PARTNERS IN PERU

Heart-Links works with 6 partner organizations, in three distinct geographical settings.



### LATIDOS

- Location: Zaña Valley
- Facebook: @latidos.asociacion

Latidos provides training and support in the communities of Zaña and Cayaltí to develop social and business skills and improve living standards and general well-being. In particular, Latidos promotes literacy in its broadest sense, promotes healthy eating and sustainable agriculture, and works with women to develop their small businesses.



### MADRE OLIVA ASSOCIATION

- Location: Zaña, Nuevo Mocupe and Aviación
- Facebook: @experienciassolidarias.zana

Madre Oliva Association promotes comprehensive and sustainable human development through training programs and income-generating projects. The Association's programs advance gender equality, environmental stewardship, leadership and community organization.



### ASOCIACIÓN CIVIL ESPERANZA (ACIES)

- Location: Pomabamba and Quiritimayo, Cajamarca.
- Website: [aciesesperanza.jimdofree.com](http://aciesesperanza.jimdofree.com)

ACIES offers children and adults programs that help improve their quality of life and their levels of education through personal and community development. Members of ACIES are volunteers—students and professionals—from a range of disciplines.



### CENTRO SANTA ANGELA

- Location: José Leonardo Ortiz, Chiclayo
- Website: [cefoprohsantaangela.org](http://cefoprohsantaangela.org)

Centro Santa Angela takes a right-based, gender and environmental approach to form and strengthen community leadership and promote an engaged and organized citizenry for comprehensive human development. The centre also participates actively in local forums such as the Lambayeque Roundtable to Combat Poverty.



## RURAL LIBRARIES NETWORK OF CAJAMARCA

- Location: Cajamarca
- Website: [rurallibrariesofcajamarca.blogspot.com](http://rurallibrariesofcajamarca.blogspot.com)

The Rural Libraries Network comprises a web of nearly 400 tiny libraries housed in the homes of dedicated volunteer librarians throughout the mountains surrounding Cajamarca and neighbouring provinces. The Network publishes and distributes to these librarians books that record the lives, stories and knowledge of the region's Indigenous people.



## CENTRO ESPERANZA

- Location: Chiclayo
- Facebook: [@centro.esperanza.pe](https://www.facebook.com/centro.esperanza.pe)

Motivated by faith and a preferential option for the poor, Centro Esperanza provides training in leadership for children, youth, women, educators and community leaders. Their work is based in urban and rural communities throughout Lambayeque. Focus areas are human rights and democracy; gender equity; interculturality; and the environment.



**HEART-LINKS LAZOS DE CORAZÓN** is a London-based nongovernmental organization that works to advance community development in northern Peru. We partner with organizations in Peru to finance and accompany initiatives in education, leadership training, women's empowerment and environmental stewardship, among others. We also organize trips to northern Peru for people interested in learning what it feels like to walk in solidarity with people from another part of the world.

INNOVATION WORKS, 201 King Street, London, ON, N6A 1C9 • 226-884-2845 • [info@heart-links.org](mailto:info@heart-links.org) • [www.heart-links.org](http://www.heart-links.org)  
Charitable Registration Number: 86596 7517 RR0001