

Mary Bloom Center in Peru

The Mary Bloom Center is a medical and education center serving the underserved in Puno, Peru. Named for the mother of Fr. Phillip Bloom, the center promotes the values she exemplified, i.e., marriage, family, children, and faith in God.



To strengthen marriages and families, the Mary Bloom Center staff teaches the Billings Method of family planning to medical professions, married couples and young adults. Below are pictures that illustrate some of the ways in which the Mary Bloom Center aids the underserved in Puno.

Medical Assistance

Children with Congenital Conditions

Delia with her son Wilson who suffers from an inability to control his balance.



Obst. Luz Marron with Aurelia & daughter Leidy (who has growth and development problems).

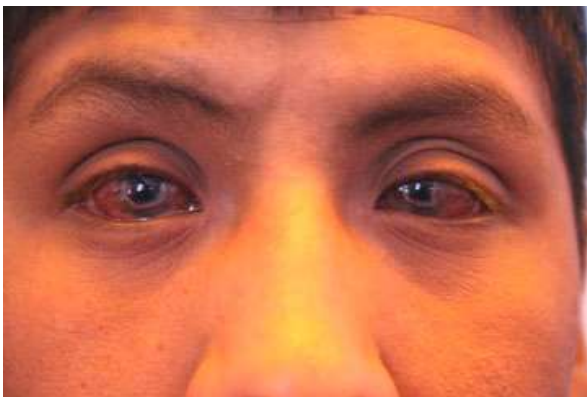


Diego Apaza Navarro – Eye Operation

In October 2009, a delegation from St. Mary of the Valley in Monroe, Holy Family in Seattle and Queen of Angels in Port Angeles visited Diego's family at his parents' home. Because of their extreme poverty Diego's parents had not obtained medical attention for Diego. Michelle Palmer, a delegation member and nurse at Seattle Children's Hospital, examined Diego's eyes and stated that he needed immediate medical care.



Obst. Luz Marron, Director of the Mary Bloom Center, took Diego to an ophthalmologist in Puno, and then to Arequipa, a major city an eight-hour bus ride from Puno. The doctor diagnosed him with “Queratocono Queratoconjuntivitis Actinica.”



The Peruvian ophthalmologist said that this disease strikes about one in every 200,000 children and that it manifests itself in adolescence. As you can see from the picture of Diego's eyes, the disease has caused severe degeneration of the cornea. Diego said he experiences blurred



and multiple vision problems. After nearly two months of anti-inflammatory eye drops, Diego received medical intervention on December 15. Luz arranged for Diego's dad to accompany him to Arequipa and stay with him during the time of the treatment. Two days later, he had a second operation on his right eye. Here are pictures of Diego after the operations:

Diego with his dad and Obst. Luz Marron (director of Mary Bloom Center)



Dr. Corrales of Arequipa, Peru, performing the eye operation:

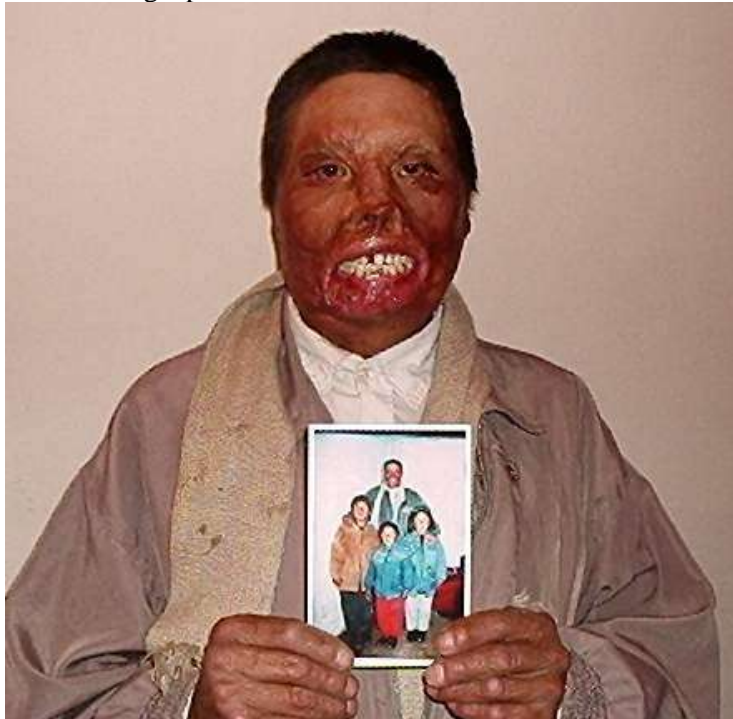


Fidel Quezada Borda – burn victim

In January of 2000, Fidel suffered burns on his face, neck, back and chest caused by a propane explosion. The Mary Bloom Center has helped him with two operations, medicines and various consultations. When he first came for help, his arms were so inflexible that he moved like a robot. He needs a further operation to free his hand to be able to do manual labor in order to provide for his three school age children.



Fidel holding a picture of his three children:



Fidel's hand after operation



Burn victim Fidel Quesada with daughter Anna & Fr. Phil Bloom



Promoting Women's Health

Obst. Lidia Quispe with Nancy before her exam for cervical cancer ("Pap smear"). Lidia's own mom died of cervical cancer, and so she has a passion for this program.



In recent years, the Mary Bloom Center has provided Pap smear tests for several hundred women, identifying many cases of cervical cancer or pre-cancerous conditions. Some of the women received treatment in Puno. Others with more advanced cases were sent to Lima for treatment.

Aid to the Elderly

Simon and Justina in rural community of Pilcuyo



With help from donors, the Mary Bloom Center has purchased colostomy bags for Justina.



Luz Marron with Justina and Simon in front of their home.



Several years ago Mary Bloom helped purchased for them a cow that gave birth to the calf on the left.



Major Robert Lindenau tutoring program

My niece, Tonya Lindenau, made a donation in honor of her husband, Major Robert Lindenau who died in Afghanistan on October 20, 2008. Below are pictures from tutoring program.



The children met three times a week with college students who tutored them. The program included a meal. For some of the children it was their most nutritional meal of the week. One boy said that when he got home, he gave his younger brother his portion of that evening's dinner.



Visits to homes of children enrolled in the Bob Lindenau Tutoring Program.

Carolina (social worker and director of the Bob Lindenau Tutoring Program), and Agustina with daughters Gisela and Eulalia. Agustina said this was the first time her daughters did well in school.



With Francis & Leon



At home of Francisco & Mercedes, two of their children are in tutoring program, October 20, 2008



Roman (one of students in tutoring program) with his stepfather, Jaime, & stepsister, Soledad



Mass for eternal rest of Major Robert Lindenau



Memorial to Major Robert Lindeanu in Mary Bloom Center



Children (mainly from orphanage) enjoy chicken & French fries after Mass



Retreat for Mary Bloom Staff and Volunteers

Presentation by Benedictine Father Simon Pedro



Mass at Benedictine Monastery, Chucuito (10 miles from Puno)



Toy Distribution

Holy Family School Children collected favorite toys, lightly used, for Peruvian children



Children receiving toys at Mary Bloom Center



Distribution of toys for Juan David Maquera's rural preschool
(Juan David was severely burned by a stove explosion when he was six years old.)



Yesica Veronica Condori (b. Nov 27, 1993, Ilave) her mom Estefania and her grandmother



Peru Delegation distributing toys

Aaron



Pressy with Diego (see above)



Annie



Francisca

Sor Maritza (director of Puno orphanage for girls) wrote: "We received a baby named Francisca, whose mother also died in childbirth. She was born with a high degree of malnourishment, also is in treatment but we are sure that God blesses us in finding persons like yourselves who help us, otherwise our work would be limited since without economic support very little can be done. Francisca was hospitalized in Juliaca for *enterocolitis necrozante perinatal*. When her mom died, they gave her cow's milk because they had no other option and this caused intestinal problems. She is in our home but we have to be very careful because she is a tiny baby, weighing only two and half kilos."

Francisca with Vincentian Daughter of Charity, Sor Maria



Francisca today



Course in Billings Method

Married Couples and Health Professional participate in a four month course.



Milagros

With Grace and her daughter Milagros, Puno Hospital



Milagros at Mary Bloom Center with Luz Marron



Grace receiving baby clothes for Milagros



School for Parents

Escuela de Padres:

