

September 2010

# Assisting Children and Families Around the World

A SPECIAL REPORT FOR

Women of Vision - Orange County

**WORLD VISION REPRESENTATIVE**

Cynthia Breilh

National Director, Women of Vision

World Vision, Inc.

[CBreilh@worldvision.or](mailto:CBreilh@worldvision.or)



## ASSISTING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AROUND THE WORLD

### On the cover

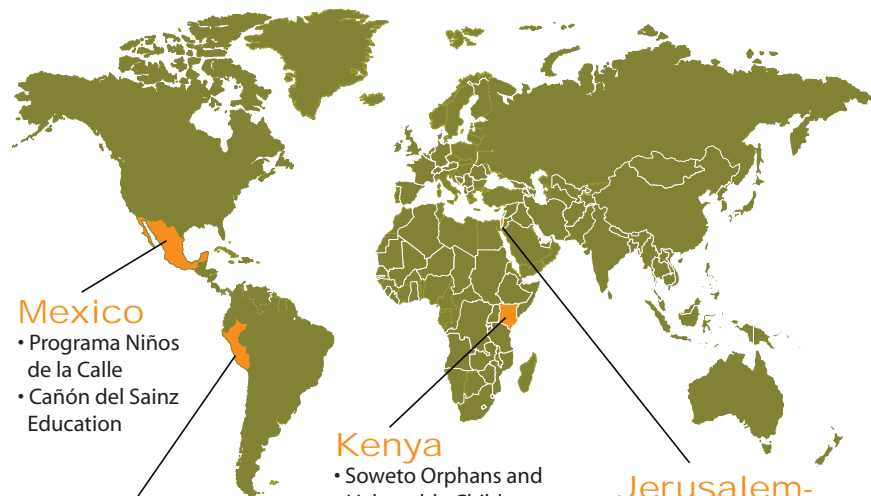
Children sing during a break from their studies at the Siyapei Primary School in the Soweto area of Nairobi, Kenya. Thanks to the Maasai People's Project you support, fewer girls in Kenya are being forced to undergo female genital mutilation.



## Table of contents

- 1 Introduction and background
- 2 Mexico
  - Programa Niños de la Calle
  - Cañón del Sainz Education
- 4 Kenya
  - Soweto Orphans and Vulnerable Children
  - Maasai People's Project
- 6 Jerusalem-West Bank-Gaza
  - El-Majed Women's Association
  - Atfaluna School for the Deaf
  - Guidance and Training Center
  - Holy Child Program
  - Lazarus Home for Girls
- 11 Peru
  - Community Investors - Calca
- 12 Thank you

Orange County Women of Vision, current projects



### Mexico

- Programa Niños de la Calle
- Cañón del Sainz Education

### Kenya

- Soweto Orphans and Vulnerable Children
- Maasai People's Project

### Jerusalem-West Bank-Gaza

- El-Majed Women's Association
- Atfaluna School for the Deaf
- Guidance and Training Center
- Holy Child Program
- Lazarus Home for Girls

### Peru

- Community Investors Calca



A higher standard.  
A higher purpose.



[bbb.org/charity](http://bbb.org/charity)

**ASSISTING CHILDREN  
AND FAMILIES  
AROUND THE WORLD**



*Our vision for every child,  
life in all its fullness.  
Our prayer for every heart,  
the will to make it so.*

—From World Vision's  
vision statement

*\* The United Nations defines an orphan as a child younger than 18 who has lost one or both parents. Children who have lost one parent are called orphans because even the loss of one parent, especially if that parent is the mother, often leads to the breakup of the family and a change in living situation for the child.*

## Introduction and background

World Vision is deeply appreciative of the care, support, and love the Orange County Women of Vision have shown families throughout the world. You have helped thousands of people—particularly children—regain the hope they had lost and again believe they can have a full life and a bright future.

This report describes accomplishments in projects your Women of Vision chapter supports in Mexico, Kenya, the Jerusalem-West Bank-Gaza area, and Peru. You will receive a separate report on U.S. projects. Here is a look at your international projects:

### Mexico

- Programa Niños de la Calle (Street Children Program): Serves abandoned and homeless children in Mexico City by offering them food, clothing, shelter, educational and vocational possibilities, and a caring, loving relationship
- Cañón del Sainz Education: Addresses the educational needs of impoverished children and families that live along the Mexico-U.S. border by increasing both the opportunities and the access to education

### Kenya

- Soweto Orphans and Vulnerable Children: Works to improve the quality of life for orphans\* and vulnerable children and their caregivers through psychosocial support, educational assistance, and vocational training
- Maasai People's Project: Works to combat female genital mutilation by educating community members as to its harmful effects on women and girls and providing alternatives to this traditional rite-of-passage ceremony

### Jerusalem-West Bank-Gaza

- El-Majed Women's Association: Empowers Palestinian women to compete in labor markets by helping them acquire new skills in a variety of fields, which in turn empowers women and enhances their roles in the community
- Atfaluna School for the Deaf: Works to provide care, support, and hope to deaf children and their parents living in the Gaza Strip
- Guidance and Training Center in Bethlehem: Provides counseling and therapy to help heal people affected by the continuing conflict in the region
- Holy Child project in Bethlehem: Counsels young children suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder as a result of the ongoing regional conflict and gives them support and love
- Lazarus Home for Girls: Provides a safe haven for girls between the ages of 3 and 18 by offering them three meals a day, educational and recreational activities, clothing, shelter, medical care, and protection

### Peru

- Community Investors Calca: Expands microfinance into the Calca area to help improve the incomes and well-being of families through a variety of activities, including small loans and business training

## Mexico:

### Programa Niños de la Calle

Each year, caring donors deliver life-changing help to hundreds of children in Mexico City through Programa Niños de la Calle (Street Children Program). The focus is on children living and working on the street, those at risk of street life or drug abuse, and working children. The program helps these children move away from destructive and neglectful environments to more nurturing ones.

A range of interventions helps to foster improved self-esteem, good mental health, and physical well-being, and to equip children to move in positive directions so they can develop their God-given potential. Those interventions include promoting positive values and strong family relationships, and encouraging youth to make safe choices.

Much of the work begins when outreach workers visit places where children gather (abandoned buildings, parks, transit stations) to build their trust and encourage them to turn away from street life. The program also operates three centers:

- The Patio (a drop-in center) gives children a place to rest, clean up, eat, obtain medical care, and learn vocational skills.
- The Matlapa Prevention Center helps keep at-risk children from the streets by improving the well-being of children and encouraging them to stay in school or learn vocational skills.
- Hovde House (or Casa Hovde) provides children who have left the streets with care and nurture in a residential setting.

In the first half of fiscal year 2010 (October 2009 through March 2010), you and other donors helped the program provide services to 577 boys, girls, and youth who live on the street or were at risk of ending up on the street, as well as the families of 35 of the children. Here are some highlights:

- At the Patio, 305 children participated in activities designed to modify their behavior from what might be acceptable on the streets to what is acceptable in regular society, 32 received emergency medical help, and 157 voluntarily attended sessions that teach Christian values.
- At the Matlapa Prevention Center, staff worked with 223 youths at risk of becoming street children. Another 153 benefited from campaigns in schools designed to keep them off the streets. They took part in activities geared to ensuring consistent attendance, development of capacities and skills (including computer literacy, awareness of human/children's rights, recreation, and values), and emotional stability (psychological support and listening sessions).



*Andres, who was orphaned as a toddler, was addicted to drugs and living on the streets when he was approached by World Vision five years ago. Mayra had been on the streets a number of years when she was contacted two years ago. Now, both are taking advantage of programs we offer to help them embark on a more productive, more hopeful life. Andres and Mayra, who now are a couple, serve as examples for other street children that there is a better life beyond the streets.*

protection 

## **Who we are**

Women of Vision was chartered as a ministry of World Vision in 1991 in Orange County, California. What began as a grassroots movement led by 14 women is today a nationally recognized organization with 28 chapters within the United States and one international chapter in Bermuda.

The founding chapter, Women of Vision - Orange County, has an active membership of more than 300 women and currently raises funds for World Vision projects in Jerusalem/West Bank/Gaza, Kenya, Mexico/Baja California, Peru, and the U.S.

Women of Vision is a volunteer ministry and a partnership of Christian women called to invest their time, intellect, compassion, creativity, and finances to meet the needs of impoverished and oppressed women and children.

As women who believe that God works through human hands and hearts, we seek to educate and motivate women of diverse ages, backgrounds, and circumstances to use their God-given resources to meet human needs in their own communities and around the world.

*(From the Orange County Women of Vision website)*

## **Mexico:**

### **Cañón del Sainz Education**

Thanks to your partnership, children in this impoverished area have been provided with knowledge and skills to build a better future. By increasing access to educational opportunities and mobilizing communities to promote the intellectual development of children, we are helping to equip boys and girls with life skills that will enable them to break the cycle of poverty in which their families are caught.

Families who migrated from southern Mexico have settled in this small hillside community on the edge of Tijuana. Basic services are limited, and educational opportunities are rare. Unable to afford school fees and supplies or access local schools, many children miss out on the education that would enable them to build a more fulfilling future.

World Vision is blessed to be working alongside you in Cañón del Sainz to help improve the intellectual development of children and youth. Our work includes helping children access both formal and nonformal education, creating a regional education committee comprised of local educators and community members, helping parents learn to advocate for their children, and providing scholarships to students in need of financial assistance.

As a result of these efforts, families here are beginning to overcome obstacles that once prevented children from completing their education. Uniforms and supplies provided to families lacking basic resources have enabled children to remain in school, and improvements to local roads have increased access to nearby classrooms. In addition, the project has helped to supply materials for refurbishing local schools and community centers, contributing to more effective learning environments.

World Vision's offer of opportunities for nonformal education has complemented primary schooling and helped children catch up with their studies as well as learn things like English and important life skills, to include prevention of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases. This helps equip them to lead healthier lives and build a solid foundation for their future.

## **Juniors help out**

Earlier this year, members of the Women of Vision Juniors traveled to Mexico as part of their project to equip the Las Palmas Community Center. The Orange County Women of Vision have been instrumental in partnering with members of the Cañón del Sainz community and World Vision to construct this community center, which will benefit all residents of the area.

**school**



### Prisca's story

Prisca Omolo is the eldest in a child-headed family of two brothers and four sisters. The children became orphans in August 2004 when their parents died. "After my mother's death, we had no place to call home since she was the family breadwinner," said Prisca. "We didn't have anyone to pay our house rent and for food."

World Vision, through the orphans and vulnerable children project, provided food, clothing, and rent money to the children to help them get established on their own. The project also paid their school fees.

Now, six years later, Prisca's brother Justus has received a diploma in community development and social work and uses his computer skills to earn a living. Prisca's sister Mariam is pursuing an accounting degree. And Prisca has a diploma in computer studies and uses those skills as a volunteer for World Vision in Soweto.

"In my heart, I have infinite gratitude to God and to the organization He used to transform me from nothing to now something," said Justus.

## Kenya:

### Soweto Orphans and Vulnerable Children

Kenya has been devastated by the AIDS pandemic. More than 900,000 children have been orphaned by the disease, which affects every aspect of the lives of more than a million people as well as their families and children. This is particularly true in the Soweto area of Nairobi province. In response, World Vision is helping bring education, psychosocial support, and healthcare to orphaned children through the Soweto Orphans and Vulnerable Children project.

The tragedy of HIV and AIDS in Kenya reaches beyond the lives that have prematurely ended. According to the United Nations, as many as 1.3 million of

Kenya's 37 million people are living with HIV. Approximately 17 percent of the population in Nairobi province is HIV-positive, including 214,000 in Soweto, of whom more than 25 percent are children.

The explosive spread of AIDS—declared a national disaster by the government in 1999—has contributed to an increasing number of orphans, and many families no longer can cope with them because of rising poverty levels. The death and incapacitation of parents from the disease have forced thousands of children onto the streets. Soweto has among the highest number of street children in Nairobi, and they often adopt high-risk behaviors that include begging, stealing, prostitution, and drug abuse. Many youth quietly die alone on the streets from disease, poor nutrition, and lack of medical care.



*Samuel Ngure, 20, has been an orphan since 2002 and is being trained through World Vision to repair auto wiring. "Previously I did not have any means of helping myself. Even as I undergo training, I'm able to earn some money that helps me buy food and pay rent," he said.*

Through this project—which targets 300,000 of the 700,000 people living in Soweto—we seek to help orphaned children by providing medical care, vocational training, counseling, and health education. We aim to reduce the devastating impact of HIV and AIDS on youth, and to improve the overall health and quality of life in the community.

protection 

## Kenya:

### Maasai People's Project

For millions of girls throughout Africa, female genital mutilation is a part of growing up. UNICEF estimates that 70 million girls and women worldwide—most of them in Africa and Yemen—bear the terrible scars and pain of this practice. For generations, this rite of passage has been a tradition for Maasai girls.



*Girls who have been rejected by their families for not agreeing to undergo female genital mutilation may be able to stay at a boarding school. This one, Siyapei Primary School, is home to 76 girls who are continuing their studies.*

According to 2006 UNICEF statistics, 21 percent of Kenya's urban females and 36 percent of rural females have undergone this brutal procedure. It entails cutting away the external genitalia of young girls for a number of reasons, which include initiation into womanhood, reducing sexual desire (so a woman won't stray from her husband), the mistaken belief that it enhances fertility and child survival, and the also-mistaken belief that it is a religious requirement.

The procedure, usually performed by village birth attendants or women who make their living this way, often is done with rudimentary, unsafe equipment and in unsterile environments. It can result in death through severe bleeding, pain, trauma, infection, urinary tract infections or incontinence, painful menstruation, obstructed labor, and increased risk of bleeding and infection during childbirth.

World Vision has been combating female genital mutilation among the Maasai people since 2001, using grass-roots campaigns to educate parents and girls about its dangers. Cultural practices such as this that have gone on for generations often are difficult to change. It can take years. World Vision continues to reach out to groups and individuals, and slowly things are starting to change. Here are some examples from the past full fiscal year (October 2008 through September 2009):

- The number of girls attending secondary schools continues to increase, as does the number of parents who believe all of their children deserve an education.
- More men and boys, including local leaders, are being educated on the effects of the mutilation and agree that the practice should stop.
- An alternative rite of passage ceremony was held for 60 girls who graduated to womanhood without being mutilated. Forty boys who support the alternative also graduated. These ceremonies include the traditional education and mentorship girls receive when becoming women, but not the mutilation.
- In Kikuyian, 13 girls have been saved from being mutilated. Some, whose parents support the practice, are being assisted to attend boarding schools.

**protection** 

## Jerusalem-West Bank-Gaza El-Majed Women's Association

The Gaza Strip, a narrow sliver of land between Israel and Egypt on the Mediterranean Sea, is home to 1.6 million people—more than one-third of whom are refugees. Approximately one in seven lives below the poverty line, hampered by high unemployment rates and chronic hunger. In crowded, unsanitary camps like Nuseirat—located five miles south of Gaza City—poor economic opportunity and continuing political instability make it extremely difficult for women to provide for their children.

World Vision is responding to the needs of women in Nuseirat through the El-Majed Women's Association. Established in 1999, El-Majed is committed to social welfare and development, and has provided women in Nuseirat with much-needed services for more than 10 years. Because of its commitment to those in need, the association has a positive reputation in the community.



*These women are learning computer skills through the El-Majed Women's Association so they can generate more income for their families.*

Through programs and training aimed at empowering women through practical skills, the association enables refugees to make the most of their desire to build a better life. As they learn to compete in the labor market, women in Nuseirat are beginning to improve their economic situation and social status. By helping these women increase their incomes, we also are providing them with more opportunities for good nutrition, quality healthcare, and education for their children.

In fiscal year 2009 (October 2008 through September 2009), participants in a baking class learned to produce pizzas, cakes, pastries, and other edibles. The ability to make something practical that people in the community could purchase gave women in the camp a new economic opportunity that is helping them improve life for their families, even in the midst of the camp's harsh conditions.

World Vision and the association have partnered to train hundreds of women. As they use their new skills to generate income, hundreds of their family members—particularly children—will have a brighter, more sustainable future.

Through this program, women have received training in computer research, clothing design, hairdressing, baking, and food processing. In the first half of fiscal year 2010, in response to an assessment of the greatest need, the program focused on improving women's computer skills. During this six-month period, six new computers were purchased and five courses were held to train more than 100 women in the use of basic computer programs.

These efforts are continuing as we work to further expand women's computer knowledge by training them on Internet use, design, and technical language.

**work**



## Jerusalem-West Bank-Gaza

### Atfaluna School for the Deaf

Hearing-impaired people in conflict zones live in a silent nightmare. They cannot hear warning shots. They don't always understand what is happening when violence breaks out, and they often cannot communicate their fears. Approximately 20,000 Palestinians live with hearing loss, and deaf women and children are particularly vulnerable. World Vision comes to their aid through the Atfaluna School for the Deaf, which provides care, support, training, and hope for those in need in Gaza.

Chronic hunger and an unemployment rate of more than 41 percent contribute to Gaza's misery, while genetic disorders, meningitis, and lack of access to basic healthcare are largely responsible for the high incidence of deafness (World Factbook, 2008). Political turmoil compounds the situation. Hearing-impaired women are particularly marginalized, and deaf children often are seen as liabilities to society and given little training in basic life skills.

Through the Atfaluna Society for Deaf Children, quality of life has greatly improved for many marginalized Palestinians. Each year since its inception in 1992, the society has served thousands of deaf adults and children with education and vocational training, counseling, speech therapy, and income-generating programs.

Over the past few years, 280 children at the school have directly benefited from a formal educational program that includes speech and language therapy; family support, counseling, and sign-language training for parents; hearing tests and referrals to doctors for ear infections; and health checkups and hearing-aid repairs.

The School also has supported 20 deaf and marginalized women through training for home-based income-generating activities such as sewing, culinary training, and handicrafts; a hearing-aid bank; a sign-language course for women and their families; and counseling sessions with training on hygiene and human rights.

Additionally, in the first half of fiscal year 2010, extensive training in sign language and early interventions was given to 23 social workers and psychologists. This included home-based education, individual deaf education sessions, awareness and counseling, and mother-child training.

Twenty-four deaf children age 5 and younger, along with their mothers, also received training. Providing home-based education for mothers improved communication between the deaf child and family members and contributed greatly to the deaf child becoming fully integrated in the family. As a result, mothers of deaf children said they felt more self-confident and more "psychologically relaxed" because they were able to take real steps toward a better future for their children.



*Dental care is one of the many services provided to hearing-impaired people through the Atfaluna School for the Deaf in Gaza.*

**school**



## Jerusalem-West Bank-Gaza Guidance and Training Center

Post-traumatic stress from the ongoing regional conflict is deeply affecting the quality of life for many who live in the Jerusalem, West Bank, and Gaza regions. World Vision is addressing this by helping the Guidance and Training Center provide counseling and therapy to children and families.



Children draw images expressing what they witnessed during violence on the Gaza Strip in early 2009. Studies indicate that more than 90 percent of Palestinian children do not feel safe. Programs like the Guidance and Training Center are designed to help these children.

One study found that 35 percent of families suffer from post-traumatic stress syndrome, characterized by depression, cognitive disturbance, and anxiety. Women and children are particularly affected. Studies indicate that more than 90 percent of Palestinian children do not feel safe. But with well-directed help, children can feel calmer, safer, and happier—even in the midst of their violent surroundings.

The Guidance and Training Center in Bethlehem works to address the ongoing needs of children and families affected by these stressful conditions. Participants benefit from psychological consultations and therapy sessions, which involve relaxation techniques, debriefing procedures, and behavior modification methods.

One 10-year-old girl who visited the center was struggling with behavior issues and her academic performance. After several therapy sessions, it was determined that the underlying causes were sadness, fear, guilt, and low self-esteem resulting from her family's socioeconomic situation and her parents' poor health. She now receives educational assistance at the center, and her family attends counseling sessions. The girl's school performance has improved, she is making friends with other children, and her self-esteem has increased.

The center was founded in 1994 by a mental health supervisor at the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees, who had observed high rates of developmental delay, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder among Palestinians.

In fiscal year 2009, the center's achievements included the following:

- Averaged 109 patients per month, and provided 1,847 consultations
- Used psychological therapy to treat an average of 75 children per month
- Offered clinical internship training to 20 university students

The goal is to help children cope with and overcome psychological difficulties and enable them to remain and excel in the school system. Counseling and support can help them overcome their circumstances to lead healthy, productive lives.

protection 

## Jerusalem-West Bank-Gaza Holy Child Program

Ongoing political turmoil and waves of violence have left thousands of Palestinian children reeling from post-traumatic stress disorder. The lasting effects of unaddressed fears and anger cripple their growth and development. In response, the Holy Child Program provides a healing environment, psychological care, and a creative outlet for children dealing with fear and anger.

The uncertain political climate and ongoing conflict make it difficult for Palestinian children to live without fear. Some studies indicate that 90 percent of them believe they are vulnerable to attack. For many, memories of death and bloodshed are vivid. As violence increases, so do a child's symptoms of distress. Some parents report an increased incidence of bedwetting, nightmares, aggressiveness, and hyperactivity.

Many children living in these tense situations suffer from post-traumatic stress, and poverty prevents their families from getting treatment. Bewildered by fear and anger, many children fall behind in school. Some have difficulty concentrating and often lose confidence and hope for the future.

The Holy Child Program responds to the needs of children living in the Palestinian territories. What began in 1996 with four children in a two-room space has become a busy, vital program for 30 children in Beit Sahur, south of Bethlehem.

World Vision works with this program to create a foundation of peace by giving children a safe place for healing and restoration. In its 13 years under the leadership of the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist, in partnership with a team of Palestinian and foreign professionals, the program has provided psychological care and education for more than 100 children suffering post-traumatic stress disorder.



*Children who participate in the Holy Child Program had the opportunity to go on a few field trips, including this one to the Biblical Zoo in Jerusalem.*

Staff members work continuously to develop a healing environment built on respect for each child and his or her basic right to life, love, and laughter. They provide children with safe, creative outlets for dealing with their fears, building foundations of mutual understanding, and hope for the future.

In fiscal year 2009, the program provided holistic care for 30 children and accomplished the following:

- Trained staff members in cognitive behavioral therapy, enhancing their ability to assist children suffering from extreme stress
- Responded to crisis calls from families, and provided family therapy
- Implemented experiential learning activities, including grape, olive, and lemon cultivation to help children learn about nutrition

**protection** 

## Jerusalem-West Bank-Gaza

### Lazarus Home for Girls

In the violence and uncertainty that characterizes life in the Palestinian territories, it is often children who bear the deepest scars, and who show symptoms of acute distress stemming from anger and fear. Many orphaned and otherwise vulnerable Palestinian girls are denied an education and the security of family. In response, World Vision gives these precious girls a safe place to call home, pays for their education, and provides a sense of family and community.

In developing countries, half of the girls of primary school age have no access to education. Yet according to the United Nations, almost 59 percent of young people in the Palestinian territories say their first concern is education.

The ongoing regional conflict has left children in the Holy Land deeply traumatized. Frequent bombing attacks coupled with an uncertain political situation and ethnic

tensions perpetuate the climate of fear. In the wave of violence that swept Gaza between 2000 and 2004, many children witnessed the killing or arrest of neighbors, friends, and relatives. Some lost the support of their parents and had no one to turn to. Without shelter, care,



*In the center of the photo is part of the wall that now separates the Palestinian town of Bethany, rear, from East Jerusalem. The political unrest and recurring conflict in the area have left many girls feeling alone and afraid.*

counseling, and education, these children continue to live in fear and uncertainty.

The residents of the Lazarus Home for Girls—a social institution for the protection and welfare of orphans and needy girls in Bethany, East Jerusalem—know what it is to feel abandoned and afraid. The pain of losing their parents is compounded by a political climate that breeds hatred and distrust.

World Vision is addressing this situation, which prevents many girls from fulfilling their potential. Established with our help in 1998, the Lazarus Home for Girls provides a safe haven. The home is a division of Jeel al Amal, meaning “generation of hope,” an orphanage founded in 1972. The orphanage was expanded to include the Lazarus Home and began with just three children. Today, it can accommodate up to 40 girls ages 3 to 17 with three meals a day, education, clothing, shelter, medical care, and counseling.

The home follows the Arabic philosophy that “educating a mother is educating a nation.”

**protection** 

## Peru:

### Community Investors Calca

Rain, snow, and wind are common in Calca, and temperatures rarely rise above the 50s in the Andean highlands community. Raising crops is difficult, yet agriculture has long been the economic mainstay for the 18,000 people living in this rugged region. World Vision, which has worked in the Calca community since 2000, seeks to help its people supplement agriculture with activities better suited to the environment. Credivision, a microfinance institution founded by World Vision in 1994 to serve the people of Peru, will play a key role.

The importance of the project is underscored by the fact 60 percent of children in the area are malnourished. One reason is an over-reliance on the potato, which does not provide the full range of vitamins and minerals needed

for healthy bodies. Growing other crops is complicated by the weather, insect infestations, plant diseases, and poor soil.

These challenges limit children's access to education, because family income usually is too low to support schools within a reasonable distance, and child labor is needed to support the family. To help improve incomes and children's well-being, World Vision is making microcredit and business training available in the Calca area.

This will help people start or expand businesses—for example, as guinea pig farmers or artisans producing and selling local handicrafts. Farmers have targeted guinea pigs as a viable enterprise,

because the small animals are high in protein, easy to raise, and guinea pig manure is exceptionally good for improving soil fertility. Opportunities for artisans include handmade woolen products.

By the end of this three-year project, World Vision anticipates the addition of nearly 400 new Credivision clients. Most will be women—few, if any, with prior business experience. The project only recently started operating in Calca, and the first results of the initiative might be available in November.

Credivision has enjoyed healthy growth in recent years, seeing its active borrowers increase from 3,664 in 2005 to 10,723 in 2008, and the number of jobs created or sustained increased from 21,818 to 49,163. During this time, the percentage of female clients rose from 61 to 68 percent. Also, an estimated 22,564 children have enjoyed improvements in their lives, including better nutrition, a greater opportunity to attend school, and improved housing.



*A World Vision Peru agronomist, left, talks with Felix Puma about ways to improve the productivity of his land. World Vision is working through its microfinance institution, Credivision, to help farmers explore other income possibilities so they can provide more for their families.*

work



**ASSISTING CHILDREN  
AND FAMILIES  
AROUND THE WORLD**

**Thank you**

A mere thank you doesn't adequately convey our appreciation for the dedication the Orange County Women of Vision have shown so many children and families over the years.



You are a wonderful example of Christ's love for people in need. May you be richly blessed for sharing your blessings.



*Your efforts on behalf of impoverished and oppressed children in Mexico are bringing smiles to the faces of countless children in Mexico City and in the Cañón del Sainz section of Tijuana.*

**Quick comparisons**

	<b>J-WB-G*</b>	<b>Kenya</b>	<b>Mexico</b>	<b>Peru</b>	<b>California</b>
Population	4 million	40 million	113 million	30 million	37 million
Area (square miles)	2,413	224,081	758,449	496,225	155,959
Life expectancy	74.4 years	58.9 years	76.3 years	71 years	81 years
Literacy rate	92 percent	85.1 percent	91 percent	92.9 percent	96 percent
HIV prevalence rate	not available	6.7 percent	0.3 percent	0.5 percent	0.4 percent
Per capita income	\$1,230	\$770	\$9,980	\$3,990	\$22,711
Population below poverty line	52 percent	50 percent	18.2 percent	44.5 percent	13.3 percent

Sources: United Nations, World Health Organization, World Food Program, and World Factbook. \* East Jerusalem-West Bank-Gaza (these figures are close estimates based on combining individual numbers for East Jerusalem, the West Bank, and Gaza)



P.O. Box 9716  
Federal Way, WA 98063-9716  
worldvision.org

INT10WVOREP Orange County  
© 2010 World Vision, Inc.

*World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God's unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.*