Newsletter



"All we do is support you in your efforts"

Being related to Andre, I have been hearing about *Wings of Hope* since I was a little kid. I quickly understood what I thought was the unique mission of the organization, which is to implement projects to provide access to clean water in remote communities in Peru. The privilege of spending three weeks with André and the

Wings team in Peru and meeting the communities I had heard so much about made me see something else: Wings of Hope is much more than water projects!

Behind each water project, communities mobilize and commit themselves to make it a reality. While they carry out various actions

for the construction of the infrastructures, the communities also organize themselves through committees that will be responsible for the maintenance of the water system. Wings of Hope provides ongoing support by providing essential knowledge and technical expertise, but most importantly, Les Ailes assists communities in their efforts to become more accountable and organized, including strongly encouraging the participation of women in the water committees.

This community empowerment is both the most important driver and impact of water projects. Empowering communities to take responsibility for the implementation and maintenance of the water system allows them to realize that they are capable of improving their living conditions and breaking the cycle of poverty.



Luc Franche on his arrival in Santa Luz

Water projects become an initial impetus that has the potential to become something bigger. During my stay, I had the chance to visit communities where *Wings of Hope* had already carried out projects several years ago and to see that the water projects were just the beginning of a series of other actions taken by the local population to improve their villages and their lives.

The Wings team consistently says during field visits that "all we do is support you in your efforts". This phrase sums up the Wings of Hope approach, a partnership approach based on trust in the capacity of communities to act. Having worked with several international organizations over the past few years, I had never seen this approach put into practice. What Wings of Hope has understood is the central importance of the participation and empowerment of the communities in order to carry out the projects and ensure their sustainability and, ultimately, the future of their villages.

Luc Franche



This peasant woman from Huaralica enjoys having running water

Gloria, a water warrior

In this column, we introduce you to people who are committed in their community to access to clean water. Today, we will talk about Gloria Quispe, a



Gloria Quispe

39 year old single mother who lived without clean water in her small village of Peñico since she was a child. The only water available was from the irrigation canal, a brownish water that was highly polluted, as was the water from the river more than a kilometer away.

One day, Gloria heard that Alas de Esperanza was supporting communities to provide them with access to clean water. So she walked to the next village where there was internet access to get the contact information. She quickly arranged for our field partner to visit her village. From the very first visit, Gloria demonstrated innate leadership in her community.

Under her guidance and despite the pandemic that was going on, the Peñico drinking water project was completed and inaugurated in July 2021. The villagers now



His daughter Andrea and the forbidden fruit: a huge mango!

see themselves differently. Gloria didn't stop there. She went to a neighboring community that suffers from the lack of clean water and brought them this message: If we did it, you can do it too! And that's how the Nueva Esperanza Water Project came to be.

Annual report

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, cash receipts totaled \$1,355,968. In addition to donations from individuals and organizations, deposits of \$167,139 in endowment funds, capital of \$30,000 to purchase life annuities, and income of \$226,936 from endowment funds and the life annuity fund.

- \$729,438 was transferred for projects in Peru
- 9.80% is the percentage of fundraising **and** administration expenses.



The 50th

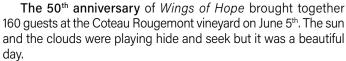












The friendly comedian and host **Guy Richer**¹ kindly accepted to be the master of ceremonies. His talent as an orator and his sense of humor enhanced his interventions.

M° Jean Lambert², founding member and honorary president of the event, told us about the first moments of the organization and the air transport in Amazonia.

Elizabeth Arias³ and Verónica Flores⁴, from our Peruvian team, gave moving testimonies on the positive impact of access to drinking water in remote communities. President André Franche stated that access to drinking water is now the *raison d'être* of Wings of Hope.

The Consul General of Peru in Montréal, Mrs. Evelyn Miyagui Henna⁵, honored us with her presence. She said some very warm words to thank Wings of Hope for the beautiful work done in Peru for 50 years.

William Navas⁶ transported us to Peru with the sound of the zampoña (pan flute) and the quena (Andean flute). The dance



colored this meeting with magnificent performances of the school *Baila Conmigo Canada*. Lourdes Postigo and Gloria Torres⁷ danced a Valicha, a traditional festive dance. Kiara Massa-Piedra and Alvaro Serrano Cordova⁸ performed the Marinera norteña, a dance of seduction.

Guests honored our silent auction with beautiful items lined up on beautiful white tablecloths. All the funds raised will soon give access to drinking water to the Andean community of Uchuraccay Pata.

A sincere thank you to everyone for contributing to the success of this event.

Water for all

In Chulit Alto, Chota



These mothers listen carefully to Verónica Flores

Chulit Alto is a peasant community of about 60 families in the province of Chota, department of Cajamarca. In this community, there is no access to drinking water. During the rainy season, people manage to collect rainwater, but during the long months of drought, they are forced to use water unfit for human consumption from the irrigation canal. The Peruvian Government will not intervene because it does not install a system of pumping, system required in

Chulit since the only available source of water is in bottom of the village.

Left to its own devices, this community contacted Alas de Esperanza Perú. On August 24th, I went to Chulit with some members of the Peruvian team. The leaders explained to us the consequences of the lack of drinking water on their community. The mothers added some with a great emotion.

Before leaving, we went down to the spring from where crystal clear water

gushes out and from where the water will be collected. For these brave peasants, it was unthinkable to let us leave without serving us a meal.

A few weeks later, the engineer Nicanor returned to Chulit to elaborate the following project: a solar pumping system will be installed to propel the water from the cistern to the reservoir, the water distribution network, the house connections and the sinks for each family.

The total cost of the project is \$176,911. Labour provided by the community and some materials from the Municipality represent 21% of the budget. This brings the total amount of outside assistance required to \$140,392.

Thank you in advance for your support of the Chulit community's efforts.

André Franche



This young girl is intrigued by my white hair

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