

GRACE CARES, Inc.  
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April 1, 2007

Dear Friends of GRACE Cares:

GRACE Cares celebrated 3 years of existence in 2006. Thanks to all of you for your support!

In 2005 and 2006 our funding focused on a project started by Marilu Perez in the lower Urabamba region of Peru. The goal of the project was to strengthen the Matseguenka community. One project implemented to help accomplish this goal, was to enable school children to interview their elders and write down the myths and legends of their people. Attached is the near final draft of this in the local language and Spanish (know anyone who wants to translate this into English?). I looked at and read the "Stories and History of the Matseguenka of the Lower Urabamba" with such joy. Thank you Marilu for accomplishing this despite the many, many obstacles.

This accomplishment renews my belief in GRACE Cares' mission to support small community building projects, projects that would normally not have access to funding. GRACE Cares will continue to support projects in the Lower Urabamba as communication and transportation in that remote area permit.

Beginning in 2007 we will also support 2 projects in the North/Central part of the Dominican Republic. While on my fellowship in the Dominican Republic I was introduced to Ruben Ottenwalder, a compassionate and energetic man, who has returned to his community in the Dominican Republic after several years in the US. Ruben wants to help strengthen his community with two projects. The first is aimed at assisting the elderly in his community. Much of the youth have left for the "big city" leaving the sick and the elderly at risk.

Ruben has created a small rest home to help elderly in need. Funds for food, care-takers and medicines are needed. The second project is to assist local children who lack access to education and a safe place to play. So join me in welcoming Ruben and Teresa Narvaez (who will be helping Ruben) to the GRACE Cares family.

Thanks to all for kind donations of time and money. Special thanks to Kenny Giancola for our webpage [www.gracecaresvt.com](http://www.gracecaresvt.com) and to T. Namaya for donating proceeds from poetry shows and book, T-shirt and banner sales to GRACE Cares (see the items at [www.vermontpoet.org](http://www.vermontpoet.org)).

I encourage you to ask others to support GRACE Cares. Our fundraising goal for these projects for 2007 is \$3,000. Donations can be sent to:

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Best to all of you!

Zoe Kopp, President  
GRACE Cares, Inc.