



info@kiyasurvivors.org

41-43 Portland Road, Hove,
East Sussex, England,
BN35DQ

+44 (0) 1273 721092

Update from Rainbow Centre/ Rainbow House — July 2011

Rainbow Centre

The school year started in March with a visit from Kiya Survivors' Founder and Director, Suzy Butler. This annual trip is a chance for Suzy to see how things are going in Urubamba and meet any new staff members. We started the school year by getting everything in order. The classrooms and offices were cleaned and tidied from top to bottom and the store cupboard organised.

In April, we received the first instalment of money from the **Alma Foundation**, a Canadian NGO dedicated to improving the education of children in Latin America. The Alma Foundation are sponsoring the Life Skills class here at the Rainbow Centre, enabling the teacher Irma to run workshops on cooking, housekeeping, working in the farm and gardening. The skills that the students will learn in their class will enable them to find work, contribute financially to their families and eventually live independently.



Students from Life skills class

Our social worker, Iris, is doing a great job finding employment for our students. Two deaf boys in the class, Santiago and Maverick, started working for the council of Urubamba in April and are gardening in the Plaza de Armas. In May, Lizandra from the Rainbow House also secured a gardening job with the council. Luis Alberto and Nayda have employment at a local hotel where they are doing some housekeeping and some cooking.

The Rainbow Centre has two new members of staff, Yasmine Toma and Carla Duran. Yasmine is Canadian, has lived in Urubamba since September 2010 and is a trained social worker. She started working at the Rainbow Centre in April fulfilling a number of roles: acting as an auxiliary teacher in *Funcional*, supporting the Coordinator by working more directly with the volunteers, supporting Iris in her work as a social worker especially for Proyecto de Vida (Outreach programme), and acting as a 'buddy' for Lizandra and Soledad. Yasmine went back to Canada in May and organised several fundraising events that were incredibly successful – she raised over \$1000 USD for Kiya Survivors! Carla is the Rainbow Centre's new psychologist and started working here in June. She has a degree in psychology from the Universidad Andina in Cusco, where she specialised in special needs children. Carla has also worked at the Ann Sullivan Centre which works to provide an integral education for special needs children. At the Rainbow Centre, Carla is carrying out psychological assessments of all the children which will help the teachers and parents to better work with the children on an individual level.



Are you a fan
of Kiya



Survivors on Facebook?

Follow our activities by becoming a fan. Help us reach a 1000 fans by the end of the year by encouraging your friends to join us and become fans.



Yasmine

41-43 Portland Road, Hove,
East Sussex, England,
BN35DQ

info@kiasurvivors.org

+44 (0) 1273 721092

Keep in
touch
with
what's
going on



day by day at the
Rainbow Centre and
Mama Cocha.

Join the Kiya Survivors
Twitter page to receive
daily updates from the
centres

[https://twitter.com/
KiyaSurvivors](https://twitter.com/KiyaSurvivors)



[www.kiasurvivors.org/
sponsor-child](http://www.kiasurvivors.org/sponsor-child)



On the march

We have had a number of wonderful volunteers working at the Rainbow Centre over the past few months, who have all contributed enormously: Chloe, Caroline, Jenny, Jasmine and Kaitlyn have all been and gone since the last Rainbow Centre update and all are missed! Our latest arrivals are Laura, Ashling, Hannah and Ellie. They are very much enjoying their experience at the Rainbow Centre and are all working on writing up classroom profiles for each class so that future volunteers know in advance what to expect. Phillipa has been here for three months now and is doing a fantastic job! She worked with Kaitlyn to devise an Individual Education Plan that we could use to monitor and evaluate each child's progress. We are starting to use these now and the teachers are happy that we have come up with a simple method that will help them to work better with the children.

The Rainbow Centre is always open to visitors. In the past few months we have had a couple of visits from Exodus and a couple from Enigma. Visitors usually spend the morning at the Rainbow Centre and learn about how we work, and very often they are generous enough to donate money or materials to Kiya Survivors. From Enigma and Exodus this year we have received cash donations, food donations, and also kitchen equipment. The largest cash donation was \$1000 from a group of tourists from French Canada who came with Enigma and brought a shaman who did a Pachamama ceremony for all the tourists and children. All donations are very gratefully received!

The Rainbow Centre is fortunate to receive a monthly donation of 1500 soles from Corazones para el Peru. This covers all the food at the Centre, including a hot lunch every day for the children and weekend meals for the Rainbow House kids. Dieter, the founder of Corazones para el Peru, came over from Germany in April and visited the school. He was very impressed by what he saw and how we were spending his generous sponsorship.

The Rainbow Centre now has a computer room! This recent addition to the Centre boasts two new computers and two old ones. The new ones came courtesy of the Alma Foundation sponsorship of the Life Skills class, and the two old ones were lying about unused in the school. The Life Skills class children will be using these computers to learn IT skills, and we hope to extend the computer work to the younger children too. Volunteers and staff can freely use the computers during the day. This is proving to be a great help as it means that volunteers can work on projects for the school, and staff can write up their reports.

Kiya Survivors is always keen to work with other local NGOs. Our most recent partnerships are with Awamaki and My Small Help, two NGOs that are based in Ollantaytambo. MSH and Awamaki are now working incredibly hard to fundraise the money we need to enable a van to run for the rest of the year to enable more children to attend the Rainbow Centre who lived too far away. In total, 7 children are currently benefitting from this transportation and we really hope that it will continue.

On 18th June Urubamba celebrated the anniversary of its political creation and every school in Urubamba had to participate in a march in the main Plaza de Armas. The Rainbow Centre children all turned up in their best outfits and teachers and students proudly marched past the local dignitaries to the sound of applause from the local people.

41-43 Portland Road, Hove,
East Sussex, England,
BN35DQ

info@kiyasurvivors.org

+44 (0) 1273 721092



Sponsoring a Child with Kiya Survivors is one of the best long term ways of supporting our work.

If you would like more details on how to sponsor a child please visit our website:

www.kiyasurvivors.org/sponsor-child

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO KIYA SURVIVORS!!

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, the Rainbow Centre celebrated **10 years** on 29th June. To commemorate this important occasion, the staff took all the children to Cusco for the day where they visited an amusement park and all enjoyed a roast chicken dinner!



RAINBOW HOUSE UPDATE

In May, we were unfortunate to lose Rosa Luz, one of the substitute mothers. She had worked with the children for a number of years and was sad to leave, but promised to keep in touch. Asunta started working with us at the end of May as Rosa's replacement. Asunta is from Cusco and has a lot of experience of working in children's homes, and especially working with children from damaged backgrounds. She settled into the role straight away and is doing a really great job.

We were very grateful to receive a donation from Andy and Gerry Munden and their family to purchase a fridge and a washing machine for the Rainbow House! Both appliances will make life a lot easier for the substitute mothers! Other home improvements have also been made - we fixed three of the beds in the Rainbow House that were rather wobbly, and made them secure again. We are also very grateful to Roulla Fiakka for donating money for us to buy a computer for the Rainbow House.

Yasmine is working with all the Rainbow House children, but in particular with Soledad and Lizandra. As the two teenage girls of the house, we felt it to be important that they had some time every week just for themselves with an older sister type role model. On their outings with Yasmine, they talk more freely about boys, about their friends, about problems at school etc, and do fun activities like baking cakes and painting their nails.

Similarly, Profe Miguel is working every week with Yelson and is taking him out of the house and giving him the time and space away from the other kids in the company of a good male role model. In May, we celebrated Yelson's 15th birthday. Yasmine and Laura took all the Rainbow House children, plus Enoe and Iris, to a local café where we had a big birthday cake to celebrate. We fixed Yelson's bike, and he and Miguel went out for a bike ride.



Soledad



Yelson's 15th Birthday