

Project Description

Background: In August 2007 a massive earthquake hit Peru, devastating the area of Pisco, as well as surrounding areas. It killed a reported 600 hundred people, and left thousands of survivors in terrible conditions. A year after the earthquake, when disaster relief organizations were preparing to leave, Pisco Sin Fronteras was created as a way to continue aiding the people of Pisco pick up the pieces that the earthquake left them in. More than two years later, PSF is still focusing on short term disaster relief through various construction projects, but it is also making strides towards more long term sustainable solutions through methods like education and community outreach.

Project Proposal: I will return to PSF in March 2011 and focus on generating two projects; one geared towards raising awareness of the need of health education (i.e., pre and post natal care, nutrition, contraceptives, etc.) for locals, and the other aimed at sharing cross-cultural experiences through video blogs.

The purpose of the health education project is to get a closer look into the reasons why locals are not taking advantage of the available medical practices, such as contraceptives and sex education workshops. There is a possible existing educational structure that we would be able to build off of, improve, and figure out a way to better get it out to the people. There is a need for intensive research, as well as a lot of delicacy in this type of situation, especially since Peru is a very religious, as well as “macho-minded” country. With the help of local medical experts and fellow volunteers, it is my hope to improve the health education in Pisco and create a long lasting program/educational structure, so that the people are fully aware of all of their medical options.

Through the video blog project, I want to generate better understanding as to the type of work that PSF does and the type of people that work with PSF, both local and international. It will be a good way for past, present and future volunteers, as well as donors, friends and families, and anyone curious about PSF, to see and hear what is currently going on in Pisco and at PSF. It will be a weekly blog featuring different topics, volunteers, and locals. Technology is currently playing a major role in connecting people from all over the world, so why not utilize at PSF?