

## REPORT (Required every 6 months by SIM).

## Project PE91890 Training Lima's Young People

### Reporting Period April – September 2011

Progress: A number of students have finished their courses or are nearing the end. Because we expect to leave Peru in about a year we are trying not to accept new students, though we have permission for the SIM Peruvian secretary, who is on our Training Committee, to continue running the project as necessary after we leave. We are also looking for a possible missionary recruit to take it over. In any event we always tell students our commitment is for one year at a time. (It is quite common here too, for students to stop studying for a period if they have economic problems and continue when money is available.) At present we have 23 students studying, plus 5 who are either working their probationary period and/or finalizing their accreditation papers.



Trainees meeting in our garden on 30 Oct.

Raúl



During the period four have stopped receiving our help although they continue to study; one changed courses without consulting and didn't want to fulfill our requirements; one for reasons unknown; one who finished but then wished to study something else in another city, with which we felt unable to assist and one who now has her own resources. **Raul** has just completed his mechanical engineering training and started work. He is the most recent of 16 who have finished so far.

Nearly all students work as well as study in order to pay for materials and bus fares as they all experience the economic stresses which are an integral part of life in the shanty towns. Just over half also participate in some form of Christian service, which we encourage, though we say that their studies or the need to earn extra income must take priority whilst they are in training. We give varied amounts of support depending on their personal circumstances. We require that students provide receipts, fill in a monthly report and attend a monthly meeting.

Included in those now studying three are new, accepted because they have little possibility of studying without our help and had been known to us for a long time:-

- **Abner** is the son of a very hard working committee member in another of our projects and is studying business administration.
- **Fredy** from a very poor part of Peru came to look after his older, blind brother, whom we are helping through another area of our work. Fredy is studying to enter an electrical engineer course but also goes each day to clean shoes on the street while his brother sells sweets. After lunch Fredy takes Milton home and then goes to study.
- **Vicky** who is partially paralyzed and used to be in a feeding project we ran. She is studying to enter a state university to train as a teacher.



Fredy↑  
Milton



As might be expected several have had difficulties so we have devoted quite a lot of time to pastoral and practical care. Three have no parental support and live independently:-

1. **Miguel**, who also has to support his 16 year old brother still in school. Miguel is now on the last stage of his 3 year training. (After this he hopes to continue whilst paying for himself as he will be earning.) His father is an alcoholic who comes & goes, his mother lives in another city a long way off.
2. **Anarosa**, who also has to care for her 16 year old sister still in school. She had to suspend her training to survive economically when her sister became her responsibility, (she has no parents) but is hoping to begin study again soon. Fortunately cosmetic/beauty courses are easy to stop and start, though jobs do not usually pay well.

3. **Rosana**, who has completed a 5 year linguistic course in a state university. She is now studying for one year with Wycliffe with a view to being a missionary translator. Her parents live apart and neither is willing to help her. (Later insert:- Learning to trust. Rosana had shared with us how she needed a computer for her studies. After writing this report, she has told us the Lord has provided one! She is also very pleased that her mum has started to attend the church.)



Other problems have included one who became pregnant so has suspended her final practice until after the baby is born, parents who became ill and needed hospital treatment putting pressure on the student to earn more, accidents or illness of the student and failures in exams. (Three have failed in a part of their courses during this period, but all can retake that part again later without it affecting their studies.)

The successes however outweigh the problems. Most students are well motivated and show perseverance in overcoming the obstacles. Their self esteem improves and when they qualify they are able to find jobs with an income they could not otherwise obtain.

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**Later news not included in the report:-**

Twenty one attended the latest monthly meeting in our garden. Here they are being challenged to read their Bibles more. On their monthly form most say they pray every day, but often don't get time to read the Bible. Also only three present had read the whole Bible. Some have to make long journeys on local buses so we suggested they take their Bibles or N.Ts. with them – we gave them a free gospel to take if they had nothing small. We also gave them copies of 2 Timothy 3<sup>15-17</sup>, Hebrews 4<sup>12</sup> and Deuteronomy 11<sup>18-21</sup>. At the next meeting there will be a competition to see who has learnt them. The best will get prizes.



< Example of the living conditions of many of the students.



Yesenia, trained in accountancy, proudly showing her certificates.