



CCCR LENTEN PROJECT: ADOPT A LLAMA FOR A BOLIVIAN FAMILY TO HELP IMPROVE THEIR FOOD SECURITY



BACKGROUND:

The Community of Saint Paul (CSP) is working to improve the quality of life of the population of Vacas County. We work in 12 small rural villages in Vacas County, located in the Andes Mountain, at 10,000 to 15,000 Ft above sea level and 115 miles southeast of Cochabamba (the 3rd largest city in Bolivia).

The inhabitants of Vacas County are small farmers planting potatoes, oats, and beans who practice small-scale livestock farming (sheep, pigs, and llamas). It is a predominantly primary economy with meager returns and a primarily self-employed population.

THE IMPORTANCE OF LLAMAS:

The llama is a natural resource native to the Andes, and it constitutes a significant activity because it is the only species that has best adapted to the adverse conditions of the environment, being one of the productive alternatives with the most considerable livestock activity that takes place at more than 13,000 Ft above sea level.

All families take advantage of the products that llamas offer. The llama's meat is a source of protein that the family consumes. Families process the wool locally, and clothing and blankets are handcrafted. Another essential product for the families is leather and skin, used to manufacture clothing, shoes, handicrafts, and other household products. In addition, the llama, due to its size and strength, is also used as a work animal and plays a vital role in transportation in rural areas that lack communication routes.

PROBLEM:

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many young families settled in cities without a steady job have returned to the countryside to settle down and start over. These new families have their lands and are growing potatoes and cereals, but more is needed for them to have a balanced diet, and their cultivation depends on the harsh climatic conditions of the area. Many children and adults, about 87% of the population, have nutritional deficiencies due to poor diet quality based on carbohydrates (corn and potato). Therefore, they need to complement agriculture with livestock to improve this situation. In this way, each family needs a pair of llamas (male and female) to start creating their llama herd and thus be able to improve both their nutrition and economic development.





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WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?

- Provide 100 families with a pair of llamas (100 males and 100 females) to create their flock.
- Technical assistance on the care and management of llamas' livestock.
- Implement workshops on llama management, production, and marketing to strengthen the knowledge and skills of breeders.



WHAT ARE WE GOING TO ACHIEVE?

- Increase the availability of a balanced diet, and therefore improve the nutrition of 448 people.
- Access to a balanced and nutritious diet is essential for sound development. It is a human right.
- To promote the economic development of rural families through llama livestock production.



HOW CAN YOU HELP:

- With 300 USD, you can adopt a llama for one family.
- With 600 USD, you can adopt a pair of llamas (male and female) for one family.
- With 100 USD, you can help two families have technical assistance in caring for and managing llamas' livestock.



The total cost to provide 100 families with a pair of llamas to create their herd is \$65,000.

