**Women’s Economic Development (WED)**

- WGC submitted three grant applications for Bukoba Women’s Empowerment Association (BUWEA), WE-CAN, and other projects in Kenya and Tanzania. WGC mentored BUWEA on completing their own grant applications and reports. BUWEA continues to expand its current projects, while new projects include a bakery and the marketing of solar torches and stoves to its members.

- Former IWM in Peru, Ada Garza, provided consulting and workshops to the Pushaq Warmi women and active practice in the December immersion trip to Chimbote, Peru.

- Pushaq Warmi will now have a Global Business Partner program as BUWEA does in Tanzania. The first three members to receive funds for expanding their businesses have been approved.

- Pushaq Warmi’s radio program is including more segments on family and healthy communities. They have made promotional items for the program and visited communities to conduct interviews.

- WGC’s December Immersion Trip workshops in Peru covered topics such as quality control, using social media for promoting business, and branding/marketing. Immersion trip participants completed the last two of six 2015 Christus Health funded workshops on family and community health.

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**Development**

- WGC friends answered the call for women’s empowerment in BIG ways! We recently sent over $50,000 in funding to our partners at the Tanzanian women’s collective known as BUWEA. The majority of clean water monies came from donations to the Lieveld Water Project during our successful 2015 Women and Water Gala. **Funding went to:**

  - **8 new Biosand Filter water treatment systems** for BUWEA households
  - **9 new grassroots business ventures** for soap and sanitary-pad making
  - **5 ventilated pit latrine toilets** in Tanzania villages
  - **8 rain harvesters** for BUWEA village families
  - Soy farm project expansion, member business training, a **BUWEA day care center** start-up, and general operations support*
  - A WGC Computer Literacy Grant to send BUWEA staff to **computer training courses**
  - Two BUWEA women’s **small businesses**

- **Total: $50,150**
  *Flora Foundation pass through funds for BUWEA*

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*Members of the UIW Ettling Center for Civic Leadership recently held a campus sale of Pushaq Warmi’s UIW-themed embroidered greeting cards. The cards were produced as part of a partnership between WGC and the UIW H-E-B School of Business and Administration - particularly Professors JT Norris and Michael Forrest.*
Incarnate Word Missionaries

- Incarnate Word Missionaries (IWMs), Nicolena Vranicar, Yvonne Moynihan, and Kristen Amaro, who serve in Chimbote, Peru, held a retreat in December at Casa San Angel. They also spent time with the sisters of the Incarnate Word at Casa San Angel and gave a presentation about their experience as IWMs.

- During the December immersion trip to Peru, IWM Kristen Amaro, guided UIW nutrition student Priscilla Benavides through service at the Hospicio Santiago Apóstol. IWMs Nicolena Vranicar and Yvonne Moynihan participated in the vision campaigns held by the University of the Incarnate Word Rosenberg School of Optometry.

- Housing in San Antonio for four future missionaries has been secured at no cost to the program under the condition that each missionary contributes 15 hours to Inner City Development, a Westside non-profit organization.

- Four mission work sites were identified in San Antonio for future missionaries: Inner City Development, Visitation House, Women’s Global Connection and The Village at the Incarnate Word. There is a tentative discussion for a mission site in St. Louis, Missouri.

Girls Leadership Recruitment and Outreach

- The 6 high school interns and the UIW intern Bianca Ponce have had several leadership meetings as they prepare for the Girls Global Summit on March 5th. They have also learned about the CCVI mission as they toured the Headwaters Ministry and the Incarnate Word Motherhouse Chapel.

Immersion Trips 2015

The December 2015 trip to Peru was a success with 21 volunteers participating due to a collaboration between WGC, the ECCL and UIW. The WGC team carried out projects such as nutrition and well-child research preparatory work, pre-school teacher trainings and workshops for women on using social media for business.

If you'd like to read in depth about our trip experiences, please visit the WGC Travelblogue at https://wgctravelblogue.wordpress.com.

Early Childhood Education (ECE)

Two workshops were given during the December immersion trip to Peru by Lisa Uribe, WGC Executive Director and by Associate Director Nicole Foy.

Recruitment and Outreach

Juan Piña, who just graduated from the University of the Incarnate Word with a Bachelor in Spanish, will start missionary work in San Antonio, TX at the Inner City Development on January. He will be transferred to Chimbote, Peru in May 2016.