

NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2016
DOWNKIDS INTERNATIONAL (DKI)



Dear sponsor/interested party,

In the past year, a second training took place in Peru. To date, 68 physiotherapists have been trained. In addition to trainings and gatherings, lectures at the university were also organized.



In Cajamarca (Northern Peru) contact person Susan van der

Wielen introduced “Reading Talks”, a reading program for DS (Down syndrome) children. She is currently guiding a number of children, parents and speech therapists. DKI subsidized the costs of Susan attending the above-mentioned course in The Netherlands.

During an orientation visit to Mexico City in March, DKI decided to pursue the training there with three physiotherapists in 2017. In addition to the training, we will work to establish and advise parent organizations.

We will also attempt to make contact with a pediatrician, in the hopes that a Down clinic can be established in Mexico City in the future. Michael Wijermans, head of the Down clinic at the VU Hospital in Amsterdam, has expressed his willingness to go abroad for us to train the doctors there.

In the meantime, we have established contact with Marlies Leong, a Dutch woman who lives in China. She would like to organize trainings to take place at her xxxxx center (Len, would mention here what kind of center/practice she has). It seems as though she has a sufficient network to ensure the success of this project. Thus far, nothing has been organized in China for children with Down.

The online contact game that DKI wanted to develop for Dutch DS youth to encourage contacts outside their own network has taken a different turn. A dating site will be developed with the organization Teach Yourself Online in cooperation with the DS Foundation Down Syndrome Netherlands. (Downcontact.nl) Young people will soon be able to make contact through the site, and get-togethers will also be organized.

We’re definitely not sitting still and will keep you posted on all developments!

With kind regards,
Len Dinger
Peter Fokker
Jet Stoutenbeek