



Newsletter for 2025

Dear Friends,

I am writing this newsletter with great sadness as I have to tell you that 2025 has turned out to be the final year for Quaker Bolivia Link because the Trustees have decided to lay down our charity.

In recent years we have tried to find new Trustees but have been unsuccessful: a lack of new blood, trustees' ages, long service, and declining health, mean that it is not realistic to try and carry on any further.

The generosity of Quaker Meetings, individuals and Trusts has meant that the unfinished work planned for late 2025 and early 2026 will be completed. So far, we have sent \$46,363 to Bolivia this year. We are planning to allocate as much of our remaining funds as we can to work in Bolivia. There could be more projects to do and communities to help but that is no longer to be our task.

You can read in this newsletter about the projects we have supported this year and our intentions for the remainder of the year. If you have donations for us, please can you let us have them by the end of October.

This December, Quaker Bolivia Link - QBL, celebrates 30 years of service. A sister organisation in the United States followed but was laid down for similar reasons in 2020. Our sole delivery partner for many years has been the Bolivian charity, Fundación Quaker Bolivia Link, joined more recently by AVPPAV Bolivia and Centro de Investigación y Promoción del Campesinado—CIPCA.

Over the years, we have delivered around 200 projects and directly benefitted nearly 20,000 families in the rural Altiplano. We could not have done this without the years of support from many individuals, Quaker Trusts, and more than 250 Quaker Meetings. We are profoundly thankful for all this and the opportunity for service it has given every one of us who has been involved.



Projects Delivered in 2025



We have launched the three projects below in 2025:

- Providing a water supply to a village on the Altiplano.
- Expanding the reach of the AVP work on Domestic Violence
- Building another greenhouse in a prison

All these are underway, although all have been affected by social unrest and inflation in Bolivia. We will support similar work with our remaining funds.

Providing fresh drinking water to Chipanamaya, a village on the Altiplano - \$19,138

Chipanamaya is a remote village of 30 families, 170km from La Paz. They have no running water – water has to be collected from unprotected sources shared with animals. The project, which is being delivered by Fundación Quaker Bolivia Link, will pipe running water from a protected source to standpipes in the village, giving water of sufficient quality and quantity for the families use. The villagers are contributing by providing most of the labour, and the local municipality has given a grant too. Quality of life will be greatly improved and disease reduced.

Domestic Violence Prevention - \$8,320

The endemic levels of violence against women is a significant challenge in Bolivia, which has one of highest rates of femicide in South America. Following a successful pilot project in La Paz, Quaker Bolivia Link is now funding a project in Santa Cruz which aims to reduce the levels of domestic violence through training in the constructive management of conflict and peace-making. The new project will transfer PAV's successful Alternatives to Violence methodology to another city and provide training workshops on non-violent, gender – sensitive approaches to conflict resolution for 250 boys and 250 girls in at least ten schools. Whilst it has been delayed by a measles epidemic which forced schools to close, work is now underway. Following requests from the school authorities, another venture has been funded to enable AVPPAV Bolivia to support the implementation of "Peaceful Coexistence Plans" in schools in Santa Cruz.

"It is an enormous privilege to be able to be the link between people deprived of their liberty, their needs and the love of Quakers around the world, specifically in the UK...Thank you infinitely for believing in our work and for helping us to make it possible".



Magaly Quispe. Country Representative, PAV – Bolivia

www.avppavbolivia.org

Prison Greenhouses - \$18,905



Starting ceremony for the building of the first greenhouse

Given the success of the Greenhouse Projects with the men and women deprived of their liberty in Potosí, Oruro and Uncia, Quaker Bolivia Link, with the support of the German Quaker charity, Quaker Hilfe, has funded a new Greenhouse Project in another penitentiary centre in the highland community of Chonchocoro. As a result, the Prison Governor has agreed to help pay for a second greenhouse in the prison and we have recently been able to send the extra funds for this project, too.



Introductory workshop on Alternatives to Violence

Other links with Bolivia

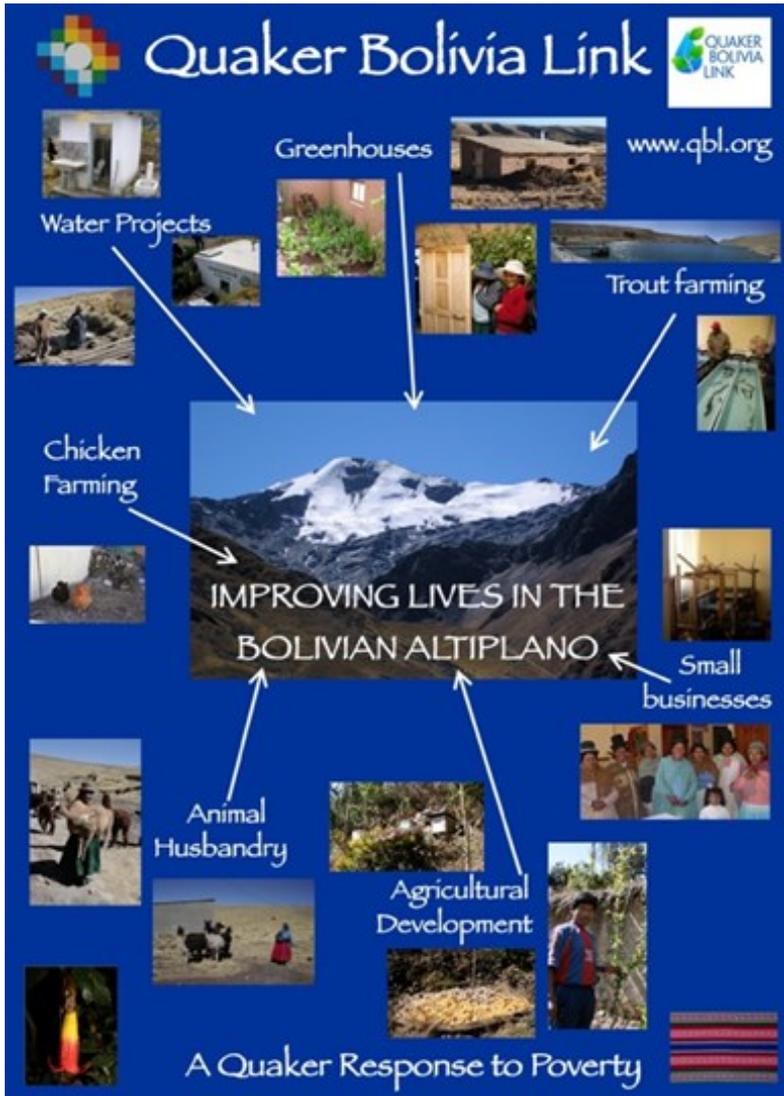
Whilst Quaker Bolivia Link will be gone, there are still some organisations with Quaker links supporting work in Bolivia, albeit from the United States:

- The Bolivian Quaker Education Fund, BQEF, supports Quaker students at university through scholarship programmes and is organising a study tour in Bolivia in January 2026 - www.bqef.org
- Waljok supports the hostel for secondary students in Sorata which is managed by AVPPAV Bolivia - www.waljok.org
- United4Change supports water projects and other work in Bolivia, including through Fundación Quaker Bolivia Link. It was founded by Ximena Murillo who worked for QBL in the USA. united4changecenter.org



FINAL DONATIONS

Please let us have any final donations **by the end of October 2025**—we will do our best to make sure that as much of our remaining funds as possible will go to projects in Bolivia. We will also arrange that these projects have the resources for them to be completed successfully. Please donate through our website <https://qbl.org/> , send a cheque to the address below, or email for bank details.



Some of our projects

- Water Greenhouses Food Security Fish Farming
- Violence prevention
- Condo Chejuaya
- Jayuma
- Putuni Condoroco
- Thimpa Apacha
- Playa Verde
- Rosarani
- Puki Wilki
- Chojñoko
- Marka Tincachi
- Chullunkani
- Khara Khota - Suriquina
- Tupal Tupa
- Rosapata Yaribay
- Junuta Condoroca Parcocota
- Tiji Chuapaca
- Challa Belen
- Romer Huma/Collpa Belén
- Villa Puchuni
- Condo Chejuaya
- Calari
- Chojnoco
- Collpacanta
- Palcoma Alta
- Botijlaca
- Topohoco (Exaltacion, Taracollo y Santiago B)
- Jirapi Alta
- Ayllu Originario de Berenguela.
- Antarani
- Sombrapata
- Santo Domingo de Cantumarca
- Merced de Oruro
- Sombrapata Phase 2
- Prison Projects Monitoring
- Uncia Prison*
- La Paz
- Chonchocoro
- Chipanamaya
- Santa Cruz

Quaker Bolivia Link

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A Quaker response to poverty

Quaker Bolivia Link grew from the concern of individual Friends to improve the living conditions of some of the poorest people in Latin America: the Aymara of the Altiplano. All our work in the UK has been done by Trustees and volunteers. Also more recently, with some administrative support from Mindful Business Services. In Bolivia, we partner with local Bolivian charities and NGO's to deliver our projects.