



The Foundation for Endangered Languages
(Registered Charity No. 1070616, England and Wales)

Batheaston Villa, 172 Bailbrook Lane, Bath BA1 7AA, United Kingdom

Name: Susan E Kalt, Ph.D. **Department:** Language
Organisation: Roxbury Community College/independent researcher

Title of Project

Yachaywasipaq q'ipikuna: Promoting Parent Input in Rural Andean Schools

Target language and location

Quechua (quz), Cuzco, Peru and Cochabamba and Chuquisaca, Bolivia

Objectives

- 1) To promote an awareness of Quechua language, culture and ways of teaching in rural Andean communities and schools
- 2) To pilot a prototype of a formal curriculum vehicle by which parents may expand their input in their children's school education
- 3) To communicate our research team's findings about schoolchildren's Quechua language to parents, community leaders, rural teachers and teacher educators

Summary

To support children's acquisition and maintenance of Quechua (quz) in rural highland Bolivia and Peru. According to the most recent Peruvian Census (2007:2.4.1,) declaration of Quechua as the language learned in childhood declined 3.3 percent between 1993-2007. Most children are immersed in Spanish upon entering school, and Quechua language, culture and ways of teaching are poorly integrated into the school curriculum.

Our independent research team has studied children's Quechua and Spanish grammar in rural Andean schools and has promised to report results to community leaders, education authorities and those responsible for teacher education in Cuzco, Sucre and Cochabamba.

We propose to combine our report-back sessions with workshops in which we present parents, teachers and teacher educators with a prototype of a vehicle for incorporating indigenous input in the formal curriculum. Our model is the "curriculum kit" offered by museums to elementary educators in Massachusetts. These kits are thematic, multimedia bundles that include books, songs, games, projects and lesson plans. Our team includes indigenous educators experienced in curriculum design who will train parents and teachers to develop, store and exchange their own kits (Yachaywasipaq q'ipikuna) to promote Quechua language, culture and ways of teaching in the rural classroom.