



Health and Nutrition Education Adaptive Agriculture Youth Development Family Services



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## When Something Goes Wrong



What happens when a pregnant woman's joyful anticipation of delivering a healthy infant is replaced with a disturbing sense that something

is wrong? If the woman has access to adequate health care, she will usually make an appointment with her doctor and receive the treatment she needs to put her back on the path of delivering a healthy baby. But for women living in developing countries, such as Peru, a complication in pregnancy will often be left untreated and can lead to the death the mother and/or the baby. According to the World Health Organization, approximately 287,000 women die each year from complications related to pregnancy. These are deaths that could have been prevented with adequate diagnosis and treatment. Pregnant women may also experience a number of health complications that, while not immediately life-threatening can be quite serious if not treated, such as urinary tract infections, diabetes and high-blood pressure.

Recognizing the essential need for obstetric care for women in developing countries, INMED launched the Healthy Babies program in partnership with USAID in 2006 and



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Disadvantaged children in Loudoun County, Virginia, will soon have a place to learn and grow, giving them

in partnership with CORA in 2008 and eventually developed maternity waiting homes in remote regions of Peru's Amazon rainforest, where the nearest health care facility is often up to 12 hours away. Thanks to support from INMED's partners over the past years, including Johnson & Johnson, Dining for Women, Dominion Woman's Club and Ronald McDonald House Charities, expectant mothers in these remote regions now have access to qualified obstetrical care because they can stay at a maternity waiting home (casa de espera) as their due date approaches.

In February, with the support of DIRESA, the regional health directorate, a new maternity waiting home was formally inaugurated in San José de Yarinacocha. The Ministry of Health has installed an ultrasound and heartbeat detector at the home, so now expectant mothers have greater access to essential tools that will help predict pregnancy complications and provide proper diagnosis.



For more information about INMED's Healthy Babies program, [click here](#) to read INMED president and CEO Linda Pfeiffer's [blog on The Huffington Post](#). And make a comment if you'd like to join in the discussion.

### A Message from the Mothers

Some of the mothers who benefited from INMED's Healthy Babies program in Peru tell their stories in this video (in Spanish). [Click here to view it:](#)

a chance at a brighter future. [Click here](#) to read about **INMED's Family and Youth Center**.



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