

# The Hunger Project (THP) – Switzerland Newsletter

April 2016

## **Marie-Laure de Beusacq, person responsible THP Suisse Romande**

«By teaching for more than twenty years, I faced many social families aches. Therefore, the social question has become my focus. In 2000, I was a video-journalist-reporter trainee at RTS in Geneva and also a correspondent at the Revue Musicale Suisse. In 2003, I realized a documentary in Benin, for a Swiss-Benin association. In 2008, in Russia, I organized fundraising projects for Homeless Russia in St. Petersburg. The misery of millions of homeless people in Russia touched me as much as the struggle of families in Africa. I enrolled in social sciences studies at the University, and graduated. I wanted to dedicate my upcoming years in the humanitarian field. I was responsible for communication and fundraising in various projects at associa-



tions. Since 2013, I have been a part-time teacher in the Education Public Department in Western Switzerland and director of PKB International, the magazine of reinvention, transitions and global issue.

Today, I am very happy to take part in The Hunger Project Switzerland team and to contribute towards a global essential objective: sustainable end of hunger and women empowerment.»

## **Our volunteer Jürg Lienhart introduces himself**

«My name is Jürg Lienhart, I am 70 years old and I have been retired for six years. After 44 years of teaching you can't just stop working, and you want to give back a little something. That's why, at present, I'm doing different kinds of volunteer work: Once a week I drive a taxi for handicapped people in Zürich. In Germany, where we live in the Black Forest, we are actively engaged in caring for the many refugees. For THP I write translations in English and German and, together with my wife Beatrice, sometimes assist the THP representatives at

## **Save-the-Dates!**

### **THP will be present at the Gospel Festival on April 23, 2016 in Moudon**

Our new THP representative for the French-speaking part of Switzerland, Marie Laure de Beusacq, will introduce THP with a short presentation before the concert and with a booth at the festival.

### **We are looking forward to your participation on April 23, 2016 at 8 pm.**

Tickets:

[www.moudongospelfestival.ch](http://www.moudongospelfestival.ch).

### **THP will be present at the Eco-Festival: May 27 to 29, 2016 in Basel**

The Hunger Project will be present at the Eco-Festival in Basel from May 27 to 29, 2016 with a booth on Barfüsserplatz or Theaterplatz. Our aim is to call attention to the topic of hunger and our activities. On World Hunger Day, May 28, 2016 at 1:00 pm, we cordially invite you to our Rethinking What's Possible-Workshop in the «Forumszelt» on Barfüsserplatz. This Workshop offers you a two-hour experience that illustrates the impact of The Hunger Project by bringing the village classroom to you. The impressive stories of our partners in the villages provide insight into the latest findings about leadership.

**We are looking forward to your participation and to your visit of our booth.** Further information on the festival: [www.eco.ch/festival](http://www.eco.ch/festival)



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fundraisers and festivals where we have a booth. On those occasions we have always met interesting and dedicated people.

I learned about THP on the website of Benevol, a Swiss internet platform for volunteer work. THP was looking for a translator, and as a language teacher I have always liked translating. So, I got in touch, and soon was sent the first text that needed translating.

Translating is very instructive work that requires a lot of research and looking up. You learn a lot about life, culture and living conditions in the countries where THP is active. If you translate and formulate carefully, the work takes quite some time, sometimes a few hours, sometimes several days.

Funnily enough, the THP translations usually reach me when we are on holiday. The last few texts I translated on a French campground in a Polish holiday apartment and at a Canadian motel. Thank God, there are

computers and the internet; like this, we are able to work without any problems, wherever we are, throughout the world.

What I find most impressive about The Hunger Project is how much can be achieved with little money, provided that people are trained to help themselves on site and that, first of all, women are empowered and supported.»

### Partner Story from Peru

Eusebia is from Canoa Puerto, Balsapuerto, Peru. She is 28 years old, and wants to become a Health Promoter. She has a garden, where she plants vegetables and raises hens, and she has always had a passion for learning more about agriculture and proper nutrition. She says that she has «much to learn to be able to teach the other mothers; they don't know what to do to be better nourished».

Eusebia has noticed that food is harder to come by than it was before. She avoids visiting the contaminated river because she does not want her children to eat contaminated fish but there are also less animals in the moun-

tains to hunt and feeding her children is not always easy. But, thanks to her home-grown garden, Eusebia has plenty of food to feed her family. She has attended workshops with Chirapaq (a NGO partner of THP) where Eusebia has learned how to diversify her family's diet with new crops from her garden. She is happy to know that her garden is contributing to her family's food security and she even says that her husband and children appear stronger on this new diet.

Armed with the knowledge she has acquired at Chirapaq and The Hunger Project workshops, Eusebia is enthusiastic about sharing what she has learned with her community. «I now understand about nutrition. And I



Eusebia Pua Chanchari, Health Promoter

am going to teach everything to the mothers in my community, because I want to be a leader, and share what I am learning»

Eusebia remarks.

Thank you for your commitment and dedication to ending chronic, persistent hunger by 2030!

Alexandra Koch, Managing Director THP Switzerland