

Promoting Partnership with Parents in Peru



Ines de Escallon, a parent and inclusive education advocate from Toronto, spoke at a conference in Lima, Peru in October 2010.

Ines made a presentation to 600 teachers titled “The Role of the Family in Inclusive Education”. She was invited by the Ministry of Education in Peru. Ines also conducted a workshop on Families and Inclusive Education with eight (8) mothers participating as well as a number of support teachers. The National Director of Inclusive Education, Clemencia Vallejo, is working to promote inclusive education in Peru. According to the Ministry of Education, only 23% of children with disabilities receive an education in Peru. The department has entered into an alliance “PRODIES” with the Spanish Embassy and the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation. The support is focused on providing economic contribution to efforts to improve education for students with disabilities. Ines observes that there is a high level of need to help teachers understand why it is important to work with families in Peru and throughout Latin America. Teachers and school officials need to learn how to work with families and develop strategies that will build partnerships in the effort to promote inclusive education.