

Rebuilding the Jack Wolff School in Iquitos, Peru

The city of Iquitos, Peru is located in the middle of the Amazon Jungle. With a population of 400,000 people, it is the biggest city in the world not reachable by road for 400 miles in any direction. In 2003 we were asked to help build a school nine kilometers out of town in an area called "The Village of the Dolphins". At that time the construction cost \$50,000 to build a school for 150 students. The area continued to grow gaining 50-100 students per year. By 2016 the school had over 1,000 students and the government said they would design and build a larger school. The plan was to tear down the old school and replace it with a two story building for a cost of \$200,000.



Demolishing the old Jack Wolff School (Oct. 2017)

In Peru there is a program for building new schools called an "Emblematic School". An Emblematic School is built by the government to showcase what is possible. New schools that are being constructed enter a lottery to be chosen to be an Emblematic School. In 2017, the Jack Wolff school was chosen to be rebuilt as an Emblematic School. The new building will be built of glass and steel with air conditioned rooms at a cost of over \$500,000. The Village of the Dolphins is very fortunate to be chosen for this special project. One of the most important benefits of being an Emblematic School is that this is where the best teachers want to work because the rooms have air conditioning.



Example of a modern Emblematic School

In the past we have supported the Jack Wolff School with new computers, uniforms for sports teams, classroom supplies and other upgrades. After the new school is completed, in July of 2018, we will have a better idea of the supplies they will need. The new Jack Wolff School is a big upgrade for the Village of the Dolphins. This is good news and a worthwhile investment toward the school project we started 14 years ago.