

Perla Padilla

Honduras



Perla Padilla was born and raised in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. At the age of 20, she immigrated to the United States.

She graduated from the University of California San Diego with majors in Psychology and Latin American Studies. She has done research in motivation, learning, political conflict and health through different academic fellowships such as McNair and Mental Health International Research Training and honours programs.

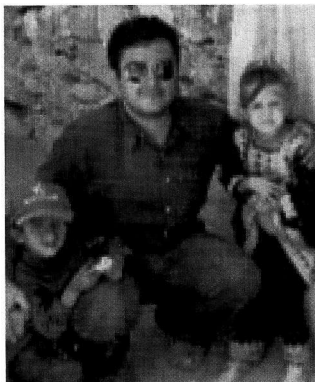
Her field of work is advocacy and direct care of youth at risk. She has work with unaccompanied undocumented immigrant children, low income youth, and homeless pregnant and parenting young women. While working with unaccompanied children, she reunified more than one hundred children with their families in the U.S. She was able to motivate changes in documentation processes within the Honduran consulates to

accelerate reunification of minors with their families.

Working with low income and homeless pregnant and parenting youth, she has helped to reduce the obstacles facing youth who seek education and self-sufficiency. Perla's goal is to continue advocating for at-risk youth to access education and work opportunities.

Nadir Shah

Pakistan



Nadir is from Peshawar, Pakistan, an ancient city and gateway to Central Asia via the famous Khyber Pass. For the last five thousand years, his city has seen armies coming in and going out to conquer South and Central Asia.

Owing to this fact, Peshawar for the last five thousand years has been under wars waged by foreign powers against each other. The strategic significance of the area he lives in drove him to seek understanding of policies and the interests of powerful countries in the region.

Nadir did his BSc (H) in rural development in 2007. As an integral part of his degree, he interned with the National Commission for Human Development for six months. During the internship, he worked extensively in the field against corporal punishment of children in schools. Along with his studies, he also worked as a campaign leader to

promote awareness about basic democracy- then a novel idea- in his province.

In 2009, Nadir completed his MA degree in English Linguistics and Literature and got an appointment as a lecturer in the English in Higher Education Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. During his six year tenure as a lecturer, he conducted many basic education sessions at different refugee camps in Peshawar and adjoining areas. In 2014, he got the opportunity to visit the USA on a Fulbright scholarship. His main responsibility was to spread awareness about his culture and instil goodwill among Americans and Pakistanis. In that capacity, he conducted many seminars and dialogue sessions at the University of Georgia.

Given his zeal for peace and harmony in the world, his supervisor recommended him to Rotary District 6910, Georgia. He is thankful to be selected as a Rotary Peace Fellow to study Peace & Conflict Studies at the University of Queensland.