



## INVESTING IN TOMORROW'S LEADERS TODAY

### TABITHA: FOOD FOR LIFE

#### Purpose:

- To give hope to children who are undernourished and underprivileged and to see them transformed into tomorrow's leaders.
- To provide children and families with an environment where they can be educated, develop, and grow spiritually.
- To see children released from the bonds of poverty and live a full life with Christ as their center.

#### 1. Daily Feeding Program (Tancontian street center):

##### Goals and Objectives:

- The major goal of this program is to provide hot, healthy and balanced meals to children in the community while reaching out to them and their families with the love of Christ.

##### Work Done:

- Feeding: Over 1,600 hot nutritious meals were served to the children of Agdao every month. We selected families who were underprivileged or who needed a helping hand. Meals were cooked on site and served by a team of loving and dedicated staff and volunteers.
- Education: During the feeding, children were taught such things as personal hygiene, reading and writing and other things like how to share or work as a team.
- Health Care: Children received regular health check-ups from nurses and primary health care workers. Major cases or problems were referred to the appropriate specialist. We monitored height and weight as a means to ensure children were developing correctly.
- Spiritual: Children were taught the bible and the basic biblical principles for living a happy and fulfilling life. Bible studies were also conducted in the child's homes in order to impact and transform the families. As the need arose, we assisted parents in connecting with local churches in order that they may become a part of the larger body of Christ, His church.



##### Highlights:

- House Visitation: Our staff got together two times a week, Wednesday and Saturday, to visit families in the feeding program. We prayed with them, encouraged them and let them know we were there for them.
- Open House Saturdays: We opened up our feeding program to anyone in the community who wanted to come as a means to build relationships with more families and children.
- Outreaches: In collaboration with local churches, we held outreaches in three communities outside of Davao City. Our desire is to see the feeding program expand outside of the city. We hope the seeds we planted will grow.
- Christmas Party: On December 19<sup>th</sup> we held our Christmas party for the kids in the feeding program. They received a small gift and a special meal. We also opened this to other children in the community. We had over 200 children inside HFTN!
- Children Service: Every two months we held a special service on Saturday. We invited children from outside our program as well as those who regularly attend. During one of the larger events, we rented a local gym and hired a local Christian clown.
- Field Trip: We took the children to a local park for games, teaching, small groups and food. They especially enjoyed the playground!



- Healthcare: We completed the construction of a small healthcare office for primary healthcare. This will serve as a dedicated center for providing this type of care to the children in the feeding program and their families.
- Vacation Bible School: Through collaboration with the House of Jubilee Church we put on a VBS for the children in the feeding program.

#### Staff and Leadership Development:

- We have had several opportunities for leadership development with our staff. On top of daily devotional times every morning we had a weekend retreat at a local resort where our topic was the importance of our attitude as a leader. We also had a session in house on child abuse and how to deal with it led by some local social workers who are experts in the field



#### Future Plans:

- We would like to return to feeding 5 days a week here. Budget constraints have not made it possible for us to do this, but we will be happy to see it return for 2010.
- We would like to see our numbers in the feeding increase to more than 100 on a daily basis.
- We plan to continue to invest in and impact the children of Agdao with the love of Christ.

## 2. Rosemarie Feeding Program:

#### Goals and Objectives:

- The purpose of this program is to see Tabitha: Food for Life expand to a new area in Agdao. We desire to see our current program replicated in a new area, since the size of our current building limits how many we can feed.

#### Work Done:

- We have started a Saturday feeding program in Rosemarie and are currently feeding 60-70 new children every week. Rosemarie is located approximately 5 minutes (by car) from our current feeding site.
- We have established good relationships with the local community and government and are running weekly bible studies with the parents of the children in collaboration with the local church.

#### Highlights:

- We had the children from Rosemarie visit our current program in Agdao for special events like the children service or the VBS that was held this year.
- The children received t-shirts which they wear every Saturday to identify them as members of our program.



#### Future Plans:

- We plan on extending the feeding in Rosemarie to 5 days a week and we plan on obtaining our own program center to run the program from. Currently, we are using the local gym as a center, but it is only a temporary solution.

## SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

#### Purpose:

- To provide underprivileged children in Agdao with the means to attend school, excel and rise out of poverty.
- To see the children we support come to a knowledge of Jesus Christ and allow Him to be Lord of their life.

#### Goals and Objectives:

- Sponsorship aims to help meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of children at risk. We are located in Agdao, one of the poorest squatter areas here in Davao, where many children go without proper food or shelter and all that they need to succeed in school. It is our goal to rescue children from the cycle of poverty through access to nutrition, education and health care and by showing them God's love and mercy.

#### Work Done:

- Twelve children were sponsored during 2009. Through sponsorship the children received the following:
  - Educational needs like school supplies, tuition and exam fees.
  - The cost of a school uniform (shirt, skirt/pants/shorts and shoes).
  - A hot, healthy lunch five days a week.
  - Tutorial times and lessons to strengthen their skills for school.
  - The mentoring and guidance of a social worker.
  - The cost of minor medical needs as they arise.
  - Parent information sessions on nutrition and hygiene



**Highlights:**

- On top of all the special activities that we held for the sponsored kids, including a weekly bible study just for them, we had a field trip for them to a local resort/farm called Gap Farm. It was a great chance for them to be exposed to some very interesting exhibits.
- We also held a special Christmas party for the kids of the sponsorship program. The children received small gifts and the families received a gift pack of groceries. We also had program and meal for the children and their families.

**Future Plans:**

- We hope to increase the number of children sponsored in 2010 significantly.
- We will continue to refine and improve our current sponsorship program.



Thank you for supporting us through 2009. Your gifts, prayers, encouragement, visits and love are what make it possible to continue doing what we do. Make God richly bless your holiday season with your friends and with your family. Please continue to pray for us and that God would lead us all through 2010!



**Prepared by:** David Allan Wicks

**Date:** December 22, 2009

**Covering:** January 2009 to December 2009

**Hope for the Nations Philippines Inc.**