

# INTERNATIONAL PROJECT PROPOSAL

PROJECT 0265



**Cross Catholic**  
**OUTREACH**

*Delivering Food, Shelter and Hope to the Poorest of the Poor*

# Daughters of Wisdom Medical Prison Ministry

— Manila, Philippines —

**“...I was in prison and you visited me.”**

Matthew 25:36

Sarah Marquez is serving a life sentence for drug trafficking. Sadly, this kind of extreme sentence is common for low-level, nonviolent offenders in the Philippines, and its prisons contain a disproportionate number of impoverished women who entered the drug trade out of a desperate need to help their struggling families.

Sarah's poor husband visits monthly, however, most of her extended family has disowned her. Since her incarceration, she has been diagnosed with diabetes, has lost a leg to amputation and struggles to cope with the spiritual and physical demands of prison life. The stark conditions at the prison compound this suffering.



*Inmates at Quezon City Correctional Facility gather in prayer.*

Built for 175 inmates, Quezon City Correctional Facility houses 300 women, many of whom sleep on cold, hard floors because there aren't enough beds. We thank God that the plight of these forgotten women has motivated the Daughters of Wisdom religious order to step in and bring hope to these women; but they cannot fulfill their mission of mercy without your support. Please help us answer Christ's sacred call to serve "the least of these," as a tangible example of God's love and mercy.



## Project Synopsis

### Description

This project seeks to meet the basic needs of female inmates by providing soap, toiletries, personal hygiene items, medicine, and other necessities. The detention center only provides basic food and shelter.

### Purpose

To restore dignity and bring the hope of Christ to incarcerated women who are shunned by society.

### Location

Quezon City Correctional Institute for Women in Manila.

### Cost

**\$6,600** provides inmates with supplemental food, glasses, medicine, toiletries and medical testing.

### Highlights

- Women who have been accused of a crime are detained at the facility's female dormitory while they await trial. Some wait for as long as seven years for their court date.
- Sister Lianne Rainville of the Daughters of Wisdom leads the project, working with the facility to identify women who have no outside support.
- Special attention is given to the most vulnerable inmates — the elderly and pregnant — to ensure they have adequate medicine and bedding. The sisters also note if beneficiaries' dorms are unclean or lacking ventilation and bring concerns to prison officials' attention. They have also donated ceiling fans which were installed in the most crowded areas of the prison.
- After attending Sunday Mass with inmates, the sisters facilitate counseling and support groups to listen to inmates' concerns and address spiritual needs.
- Sr. Lianne's ministry demonstrates God's love in action. The women who have their practical needs met experience Christ's unconditional love and genuine compassion.



*Sister Liane Rainville converses with an inmate.*

**Cross Catholic Outreach is committed to providing basic supplies and the message of the Gospel to these hurting women. Won't you join us today?**

### Our Promise to You!

Donations from this campaign will be used to cover any expenditures for this project incurred through June 30, 2020, the close of our ministry's fiscal year. In the event that more funds are raised than needed to fully fund the project, the excess funds, if any, will be used to meet the most urgent needs of the ministry.

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