



Friendship Home

Education Support for Vulnerable Children

— Manila, Philippines —



“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me,
and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

MARK 9:37

Executive Summary

Description

This project will fund a residential and community outreach center providing hope to impoverished children in urban slums.

Purpose

To provide nourishing meals, educational support and Christ-centered spiritual formation so vulnerable children can discover their God-given gifts.

Location

Metropolitan Manila and Puerto Princesa City in the Philippines.

Cost

\$48,000

Highlights

NEED

- According to *The World Factbook*, poverty afflicts more than one-fifth of the population in the Philippines.
- Children are among the most vulnerable population groups. In 2015, 31.4 percent of children in the Philippines lived in impoverished families.
- The pandemic has been challenging for the poor because it increased unemployment rates and created food insecurity.

IMPACT

- To break the cycle of illiteracy and poverty, Friendship Home incentivizes extremely poor youth, ages 8 to 21, to stay in school, earn their diploma and even go to college.
- The ministry serves 175 students by covering costs of school supplies, providing tutoring, leading field trips, providing nutritious meals, performing health screenings and offering spiritual formation.
- Some children live on-site. But for those who live at home, parents are engaged through home visits and adult Bible studies.



Help Provide a Way Out of Poverty

In the parable of the lost sheep, we hear of Christ's tender love and mercy for every person — “Which one of you, having 100 sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the 99 in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it?” (Luke 15:4). As the Church, we should have the same desire to seek and save each of the lost, even when it means leaving the comforts of our own communities to find those in greatest need elsewhere in the world.

Were we to demonstrate that level of compassion, our journey would surely take us to the urban slums of the Philippines where vulnerable children are lost in the shuffle of busy streets and fall into hopelessness because of their poverty.

Princess Yhana was one of these children. When the young girl lost her mother to cancer and her father to the overcrowded prison system, Princess was taken in by her grandmother and an aunt who share a little shanty home. What the grandmother makes with her laundry services barely covers the cost of even that meager home, so all three of them faced the hardships of that poverty.

When Friendship Home learned of the family's plight and how the young girl struggled with low self-esteem, it recognized its responsibility to act and looked for ways to help Princess! Today, she has renewed hope and is entering the fourth grade with educational support and food provided by the Friendship Home. These blessings have also been a great relief to her grandmother and aunt, especially during the pandemic.

Princess is just one example of how children can easily be lost to the hardships of urban poverty — and how the Church can be the source of their deliverance when friends like you support those works of mercy. Love has transformed her and her family — and it can do the same for many other children who have yet to be “found” and who continue to suffer.

By partnering with Cross Catholic Outreach today, you can ensure Friendship Home has the resources it needs to help hundreds of other struggling children with material aid, educational opportunities and spiritual formation. Join us in searching out these desperate children and showing them the love of Christ!



With your help, Princess Yhana is one among 175 students who will continue receiving support from Friendship Home.



Give Generously



Brother Luis Ortiz of Friendship Home pours out his heart and soul each day so children will have a brighter future. Thanks to his compassion and your support, these boys and girls learn to believe in themselves, love God, and see a path to a life beyond the slums.

Please help Brother Luis keep the Friendship Home programs moving forward. Your support will fund this life-changing outreach for the coming year, bringing help and hope to families who don't have the resources to properly feed or educate their children.

Cross Catholic Outreach wants to make a firm commitment to providing Brother Luis and his compassionate team with the resources they need to continue reaching out to the "lost sheep" of Malate, but we need your support to accomplish that ambitious goal.

Your gift will help ensure Brother Luis can keep his outreach operating for another valuable year. By showing compassion to people who live half a world away, your actions will provide a tangible sign of God's transformative love.

Please join us in this work of mercy today!

Our Mission

We mobilize the global Catholic Church to transform the poor and their communities materially and spiritually for the glory of Jesus Christ.

Good Stewardship

We consider every gift we receive as a precious resource from God. We direct every donation to its intended project, provide honest and accurate reports to our donors, and keep overhead costs to an industry low. We handle funds with utmost integrity and hold our ministry partners in the field to the same high standards by asking them to document costs and the impact of their outreach.



The Chronicle of Philanthropy
The nonprofit world's No. 1 news source

Our Promise to You!

Donations from this campaign will be used to cover any expenditures for this project incurred through June 30, 2023, 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.

2700 N. Military Trail • Suite 300 • PO Box 273908 • Boca Raton, Florida 33427-3908

800-914-2420 • CrossCatholic.org

@CrossCatholic @CrossCatholic @CrossCatholic /CrossCatholic CrossCatholic.org/blogs