



FILIPINO MINISTRY

4954 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90029

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August 22, 2005 (Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

Mga Kapatid at Kababayan,

The Filipino Ministry of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles has embarked on another journey – one that entails the Filipinos in America to reach out to our Kapwa-Pilipino in the Philippines. We have partnered with ANCOP Gawad Kalinga 777 to build a village in the Philippines. We do not know yet the specific site where the village will be built – most probably in Luzon which has been badly hit and damaged during the last typhoon – what we do know is that the poorest of our poor will benefit from this partnership of nation-building.

GK 777 is the better alternative to reliance upon government-initiated projects which takes too long to be implemented while benefiting only a few and not necessarily the ones who need the help most – as well as private dole-outs – both have historically failed to work based on community-wide basis. GK 777 is a wholistic concept that tackles the basic needs of people.

* Shelter: Each village consists of 30-50 houses which are built by both monetary and sweat equity, i.e. funds raised by organizations like the Filipino Ministry and the hands-on participation of the recipients of the houses as well as the caretaker team from Couples for Christ (CFC). This translates to 30-50 families out of the slums!

* Livelihood, Education, Health & Community Empowerment: A team from CFC trains the people of the village an industry that is pertinent to their specific location. Hence, if fishing is one of the means of livelihood for that area, people are encouraged to be productive in that occupation or any corollary work. If they are in the city, the CFC team helps them find jobs to sustain themselves and their family. The caretaker team also implements education, health, and community empowerment programs to lead the community to sustainability.

* Dignity: With work comes the desire to maintain their standard of living – they take care of their homes, provide food on the table, clothe their family and most of all, they take pride in their ability to do all these!

Now is the time for us here in the United States to give back to our “Inang Bayan” that nurtured us. Whether we admit it or not, the Filipinos here in the United States are in a far better position to help the poorest of our poor regain their humanity and dignity as children of God. We have the power to break this cycle of poverty and ignorance but it would take both compassion and mercy on our part to realize this. Compassion creates a kinship with our kababayan – we feel for them and saddened by their plight but it is mercy that translates these feelings into action – the hero in us is awakened and we cannot help but respond.

Here are some basic facts regarding this project:



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Project Goal: \$ 44,000.00 for one village

- Shelter: \$ 1,000.00 for one GK home (at least 30 homes per village)
- One year salary of teacher: \$ 2,000.00 (to be sustained by partner for 3 years)
- General Livelihood Fund for village: \$ 2,000.00
- General Health Fund for village: \$ 3,000.00
- School House/Multipurpose Center: \$ 6,000.00
- Water Well (if needed in village): \$ 1,000.00

Helping the poor help themselves is not a new concept – it just needs people power to make it a reality – it needs each one of us to work together in a spirit of “bayanihan” to make our country once again “Perlas ng Silangan” (Pearl of the Orient)! **Please extend your hands in a gesture of giving and join the Filipino Ministry in its efforts to build one village at a time through your generous donation (see below).**

Salamat po at nawa'y ang pagpapala ng Panginoon at ang pagmamahal ng ating Mahal na Inang Maria ay sumata-ating lahat!

Ang nagmamahal ninyong Lingkod,

Sr. M. Christina O. Sevilla, RGS

Dear Sister Christina,

I/We would like to help our *kababayan* by supporting the Filipino Ministry’s partnership with the ANCOP *Gawad Kalinga 777* by donating –

___ \$ 1,000.00 ___ \$ 500.00 ___ \$250.00 ___ \$100.00
 ___ \$ 50.00 ___ \$ 25.00 Other \$ _____

NOTE: All checks must be payable to **ANCOP FOUNDATION, USA** with notation on the memo section of the check Filipino Ministry of LA. **Please mail to: Office of Filipino Ministry, 4954 Santa Monica Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90029.** Donations are tax-deductible.
Tax I.D. of ANCOP USA is 68-0463495.

Name(s)/Organization (please print) _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____ Telephone Number: _____

