



newsletter

Island Kids
Philippines 

2020/3

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Dear friends of Island Kids Philippines

«You want to know my place? Wherever there is fighting» said Christian Morgenstern, the German writer and journalist. PIKIFI too is fighting on various frontlines: the fights against child trafficking and against the hunger caused by the Covid-19 crisis are only two examples. But even getting a building permit can become a battle that consumes a lot of precious time and energy. Likewise, the establishment of a functioning, unprecedented form of teaching for the 2020/21 school year – which has been delayed by 4 months already thanks to the Covid-19 crisis - turns out to be a challenging struggle. Creativity combined with the knowledge and the exchange of intelligent thoughts of our educators are the weapons that will hopefully win this battle in favor of our school children. In the struggle for a cure for a young girl suffering from bone tuberculosis, we are now thankful to receive support from her community.

We are very grateful that we can count on you and your support in our struggles and our commitment! Together we are making a difference!

■ Fight against Child Trafficking

In the fight against child trafficking, the sexual exploitation of children in particular, PIKIFI stands side by side with other local NGOs that have organized themselves within the KASO-Network (Kagay-Anons Against Sex Offenders). KASO is a network of NGOs and partners from the city social welfare and other local authorities in Cagayan de Oro City. Together as a strong unity we take legal action against sex offenders who abuse children and destroy lives for their self-gratification. During a seminar on „Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation“ (OSAEC), shocking facts were presented: The Philippines are at the forefront of this dirty business. In 41 percent of cases the perpetrators are one or both biological parents, in 42 percent they are relatives. The online consumers are typically male foreigners between the ages of 27 and 76. With millions of demands on the Internet and the nowadays relatively easy access to the Web even for poor communities, offers arise.



Especially marginalized poor families see their chance in this dirty business with children. When the money comes, poverty goes - but at what price?!

A small victory was recently achieved in our fight against Child Trafficking. The corrupt and unscrupulous lawyer who years ago kidnapped one of the victims of child prostitution under our care in order to prevent her from

giving her testimony during the court hearing has finally been convicted for the obstruction of justice only. The penalty is very low at around CHF 150.- / EUR 140.-, but our hope that this lawyer's license will be withdrawn is great. This would be a strong sign against the corruption within the ailing judicial system in the Philippines. After years of fighting, this mild verdict still encourages us and our fellow campaigners to continue the fight against child trafficking. However, at the center of our work with the victims always stands their rehabilitation, with restorative justice being an important part of it.

■ Emergency Aid thanks to Survival Kits

Thanks to very generous donations, we were able to distribute more than 6,000 survival kits with urgently needed food and personal hygiene items. The packs worth CHF 11.50 or EUR 12.50 each were given away during five emergency aid campaigns. They went to families from Landfill and from other extremely poor communities in the city: to the families of our school children, to persons with disabilities, to the elderly, to the homeless, to single parents, to a center for children with leukemia, to transient people stuck in the city due to Covid-19 travel restrictions, and to families living in evacuation centers. On behalf of the recipients, we want to thank everyone who supported this campaign. We truly appreciate your precious help, especially at a time that is not easy for many of you as well. Our aid will continue as long as needed and of course as long as there is funding.



■ Alice Rose Clover Child Development Center – A Social Therapeutic Prevention and Intervention Center

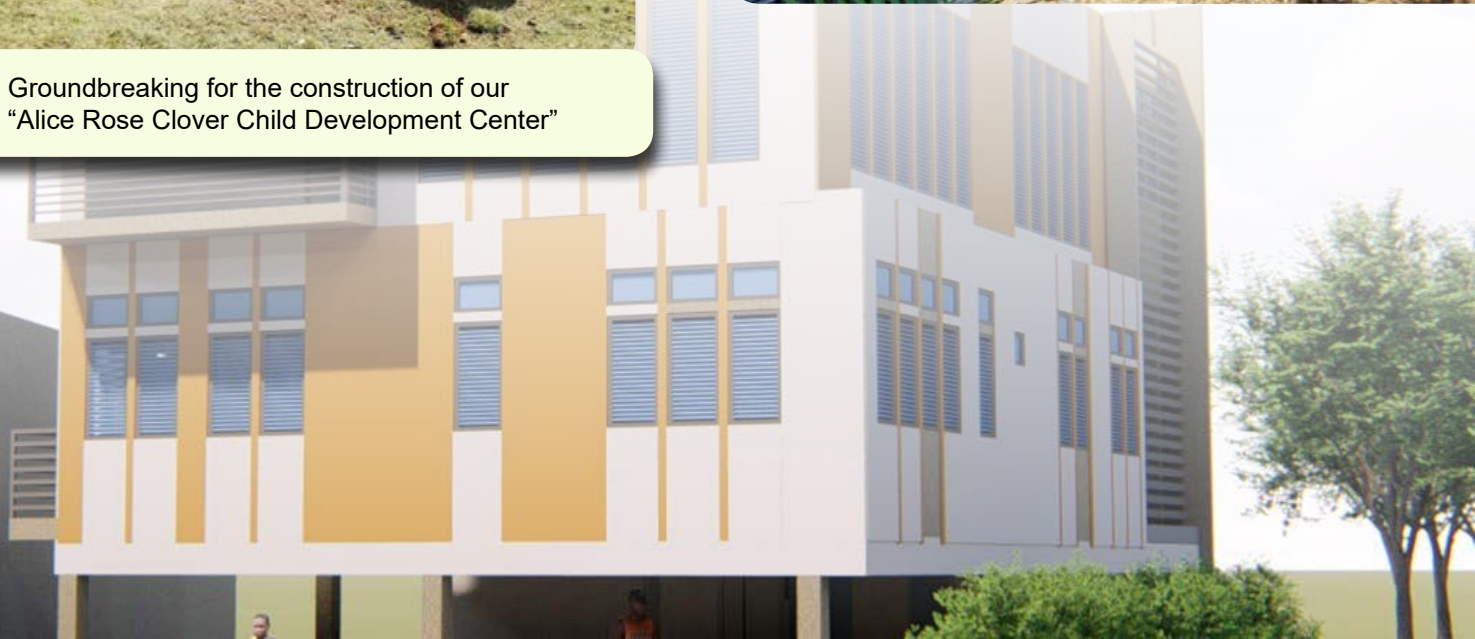
On July 14, 2020, we celebrated the long-awaited groundbreaking for the construction of our “Alice Rose Clover Child Development Center”. This was a reason for great joy. After its completion, the social therapeutic prevention and intervention center will offer space for therapeutic interventions for the 55 children admitted in the residential care program of our Children’s Village, the 700 children and youths under our community based program, as well as for other victims of sexual and/or physical abuse and extreme neglect who seek our help. Many of these children urgently need psychological and socio-therapeutic support in order to deal with their traumata and to live the best life possible following their rehabilitation. Aside from providing services for the children and young people already supported through our sponsorship program, the center is also intended to serve as a contact point for other victims.

In addition to the therapy rooms, the center will also accommodate our administration, a conference room and two rooms for volunteers from abroad. On the ground floor, our own commercial space with shops and a bakery will generate income for a more sustainable long-term financing of our charitable projects.

We are further grateful for the support for the construction of a playground in the Children’s Village. We, and even more so the children, are very much looking forward to the realization of the playground project. But even after the successful completion of these projects our dreams will not stop: A safe house for mothers with their children is also planned. In this future facility mothers of rape victims together with their children will be temporarily accommodated. These mothers often find it difficult to stand by their abused children due to their financial (and thus existential) dependency on the perpetrators.



Groundbreaking for the construction of our
“Alice Rose Clover Child Development Center”



■ COVID-19 Preparations for the School-Year 2020/21

Preparations for the already delayed start of classes on August 24, 2020, were already in full swing when the Department of Education (DepEd) once again postponed it to the 5th of October. Since lessons in a conventional classroom setting are not allowed until further note, the challenges for our teachers and other staff involved are enormous. You prepare modular lessons, i.e. Modules that the children should work on at home using instruction sheets and worksheets.



Many families in Switzerland and Germany got to know home schooling. For families in the slums or street families, however, home schooling alone is almost impossible. They have no access to computers, let alone an Internet connection at home. Parents are also often unable to help their children because they can neither read nor write themselves. In the huts with one or two rooms there is seldom a table at which the children can do their homework in peace and quiet, and there is often a lack of material such as notebooks or pens. In addition, the children and young people have not had any lessons for

five months. It won't be easy to motivate them to study at home. All in all, there are immense hurdles to overcome. "There is a solution to every problem. We just have to find them," said one of our teachers. With this positive attitude, our staff try their best in dealing with all the new challenges.

■ IKP calendar for 2021

We are pleased to present to you our new calendar for 2021, which you can now order as long as available. The 12 very beautiful and lively individual and group pictures were taken by the amateur photographer Daniela Steffen. Daniela served as a volunteer in the Philippines and is now a board member of IKP-Switzerland. The pictures were taken during Daniela's latest visit to Cagayan de Oro, last February 2020.

A4 portrait format, durable glue binding
Price: CHF 19.- plus 3.- shipping costs



Feel free to use the attached order slip.

For orders in Germany, please directly contact
deutschland@islandkids.ch

Januar

Mo	Di	Mi	Do	Fr	Sa	So	Mo	Di	Mi	Do	Fr	Sa	So
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31							

1. Neujahr

2021

■ Events with Thomas Kellenberger

Fundraising events with or for the benefit of IKP were again planned for the last quarter of 2020. However, we are sad to announce that due to the current situation with Covid19 all planned events had to be canceled and will be postponed to 2021. We hope to see you in 2021 and wish you good health and a positive outlook in these difficult times.

14. November 2020

09.00-17.00 Uhr, Spiegelbasar
Event postponed to 2021.

11./12./13. Dezember 2020

Brass and acapella concerts with the Gendarmen and Quattro Schatzjoni. Concerts postponed to 2021.

■ Destinies

In February 2020, during a visit to a slum near the shipping docks of the port of Cagayan de Oro, Thomas Kellenberger was urged to take a look at 15-year-old M. One year earlier, the young girl M. had been running around and playing with her friends. Now, for several months already she had been sitting in the dark small

shanty of the urban poor family. Their shanty also serves as a "sari-sari store" (small local kiosk). She was wasted to the bones and apathetic. Her spine was bent and all over her body she had some fresh and some older large wounds. The wounds were only provisionally bandaged as a protection against flies. Quickly arose the suspicion of bone tuberculosis.



A few days later, a social worker from PIKIFI brought the girl together with her mother to the hospital for detailed examinations. After having been diagnosed with bone tuberculosis, M. received medication for a period of six months. The costs for her medicines are fortunately covered through the tuberculosis program of the World Health Organization WHO. PIKIFI, following the advice of a medical doctor, provided patient M. with a special milk enriched with high calories, nutrients and vitamins. The mother now accompanies M. for regular check-ups.



On August 14, 2020, one of our social workers visited M. again. She was happy to see that M. had gained weight. The girl told us with joy that she was no longer tired all day long and that she was not anymore suffering from pain. She also said that she wanted to meet and play with friends again.

We continue to monitor and to assist M. We wish her the best possible recovery and a lot of joy in playing with her friends.

«It is not enough just to wish well; we must also do well»
(Ambrose, Bishop of Milan)

With your support you are making this possible for us -
thank you!



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Layout/graphic: René Müller

Actual information you'll find as well
www.islandkids.de
www.islandkids.ch

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Fotokalender 2021

Fürs Jahr 2021 gibt IKP einen Fotokalender mit 12 Fotos von IKP-Kindern für die Schweiz heraus. Als Geschenk oder Deko ein bisschen Philippinen für zu Hause. Die Fotos wurden im Februar 2020 auf den Philippinen erstellt. Island Kids Philippines wurde vom Schweizer Polizist Thomas Kellenberger gegründet und setzt sich seit 2007 aus Nächstenliebe und Überzeugung für Strassen- und Wertstoffsammlerkinder in der südphilippinischen Hafenstadt Cagayan de Oro ein.



A4 Hochformat,
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