



newsletter

Island Kids

Philippines

2021/1

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Dear Friends of IKP

„Nothing is as consistent as change” said Heraklit in 500 BCC. This statement is but a fact in our all lives, not only since the outbreak of the current pandemic. The same is true for PIKIFI (Philippine Island Kids Int'l. Foundation, Inc.), where ever changing challenges keep shaping our need based projects.

Constantly changing are the requirements for our teachers and community workers who are assisting our school children in answering their modules at home, as regular classes are still not allowed. With your help we also continue to provide food and other basic needs to the families of our children and to other people in need.

Through landscaping the area surrounding the Children's Village is taking shape as a safe ground for play and recreation. The construction of the new Child Development Center is progressing rapidly. However, in one area of the Landfill slum the illegally built shanties of several families of our beneficiaries have been demolished because of construction projects of the landowner. We now face the challenge of helping these families to find a new place to live.

Not only a home, but also a birth certificate is a basic need. People without a birth certificate are somewhat „invisible“. We continue to assist such people, especially children, to obtain this important document (The right to have a name is a basic human right!).

It is also because of your most valued support that we can embrace the changes and challenges of the New Year with much confidence. Together, we will continue to fight poverty, human trafficking and injustice. Because if nothing is as consistent as change, then even these dire circumstances can change for the better through joint action!

■ Modular home schooling

Home schooling through modules (Newsletter 2020_4) keeps changing and improving as the difficulties associated with it are recognized and resolved. Still too many elementary school children or their parents/guardians show great difficulties with the instructions in the modules. Modules are not picked up at our center or not understood, worksheets are not completed or not returned. Our staff invests an enormous amount of time visiting families and assisting children in completing their assignments. With over three hundred scattered elementary school students and about the same number of high school students, including ALS students and teenage mothers, the task is immense and increasingly overwhelms our staff. Now, each class has been assigned two teachers or community workers who personally visit each of „their“ students every 14 days and help them with the problems they face.



Well protected on the road thanks to ALPS (Aidline Philippines Swiss)

Survival kits are regularly distributed when the modules are handed over. They replace the hot meals that are given out during normal school days, when the children are allowed to join classes at our learning center. Prior to the handing out of the survival kits, the families through short presentations are also educated on topics such as human trafficking and online sexual abuse and

exploitation of children. One survival kit is worth CHF 15.-. It contains rice, fresh vegetables, soy sauce, oil, eggs, coffee, milk, sugar, soap, washing powder, shampoo and toothpaste. Last November 8, PIKIFI also provided the families with face shields, masks and disinfectants. These protective materials were donated by the Zonta Club of Cagayan de Oro.

■ Continuation of Covid19 Relief

Aside from the survival aid for our child beneficiaries we also continue the relief operation for other needy people in our project area (more details in the appendix). The expenses for the ongoing relief operation are not included in our regular budget. They must therefore be covered by additional earmarked donations. Whoever would like to support the relief operation and donate for this purpose, is welcome to do so with the note „**survival packages**“ using the following account details:

Bank address:

Berner Kantonalbank, Bundesplatz 8, 3001 Bern

Recipient:

Island Kids Philippines, Vorholzstrasse 12,
3800 Unterseen

IBAN: CH84 0079 0042 4190 1489 2

PC BEKB: 30-106-9

Note: «survival packages»

For donations in the Philippines use the following account:

Bank Name: Philippine National Bank
Address: Corrales, Cagayan de Oro City, Misamis Oriental, Philippines

Account Name: Phil. Island Kids Int'l. Foundation, Inc.

Account Number: 410170001079

Routing no.: 02600300-7

Swift Code: PNBMPHMM

Note: Inform us through info@islandkids.ch («survival packages», amount, date)

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the overwhelming support we have received so far and look forward to your continued help in alleviating the added hardship caused by the pandemic.
Flyer!

■ Landscaping inside the Children's Village

Finally, we were able to finish the wall around the Children's Village. We also planted several trees that will provide shade in the future and extended our vegetable garden. The Zonta Club of Cagayan de Oro also donated a trampoline, a swing and a slide to PIKIFI. The joy of the children is great!

Since August 2020, there is also a large open but covered bamboo house in one corner of the Children's Village. It offers space for recreation, outdoor meetings, activities or games.



Fun at the Children's Village

■ Socio-Therapeutic Prevention and Intervention Center/Alice Rose Clover Child Development Center

The construction of our child development center is progressing rapidly: the ground, 1st and 2nd floors have been completed, as well as the roof and the wall finishing. Currently we are doing exterior painting. This means that we are ahead of schedule. This makes us very happy, especially as the start of constructions had to be postponed by several months due to Covid19.

■ Relocation

We are very much concerned about the displacement of some families from their shanties, as the rightful owner wants to develop his land. The local government is willing to provide the affected families with land in a relocation site in exchange for monthly payments. These monthly installments, however, are a big burden for the already poverty-stricken settlers who have to fight daily for survival. At the same time, the offered relocation site is too far away from their livelihood opportunities and also too far from our learning center. Our team in the community is now helping these families to negotiate with the local government.

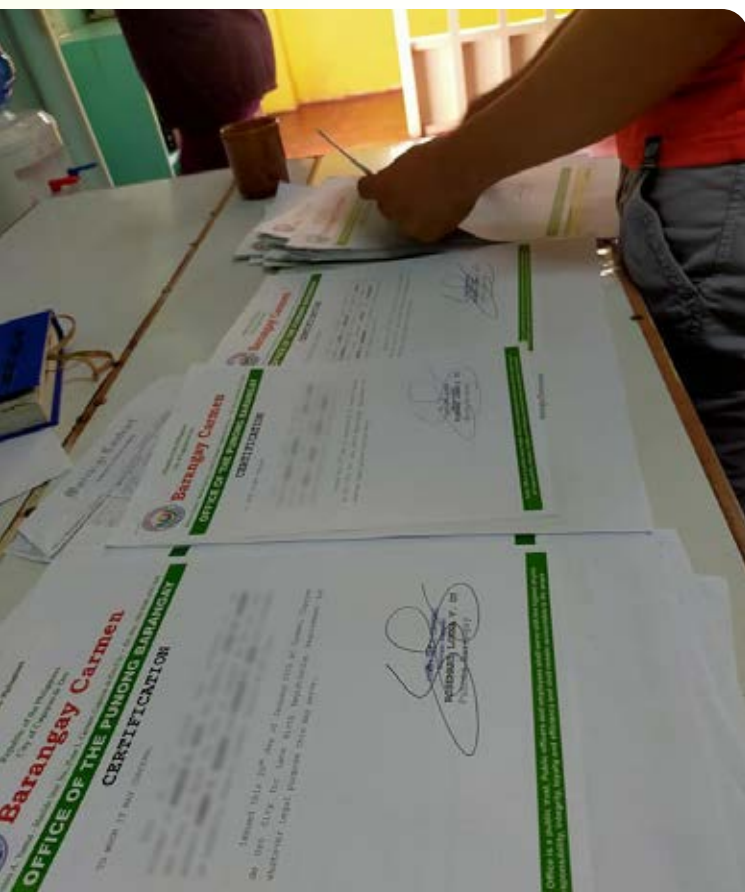


Illegal shanty



■ Birth Certificates - A Basic Need

Children without birth certificates are virtually non-existent. The document is a prerequisite to be officially recognized by the state and thus to enjoy the full rights of a citizen of the state. Without it, children are at high risk to become victims of human trafficking, to be deprived of their right for education, or other basic rights of a child. Despite years of efforts on the part of PIKIFI, there are still numerous children who do not have a birth certificate. **Plan International** (<https://www.plan.ch/de/>) initiated a project, which is now being implemented by PIKIFI in close cooperation with the local government unit of



New birth certificates.

the district of **Carmen and Balay Mindanaw Foundation Inc.** (<https://balaymindanaw.org/main/bmfi/>): Goal of the project is that every child in the project area will have a birth certificate. Obtaining these documents is very time consuming. Therefore, every newly issued birth certificate is a reason for great joy. Projekt «Safer Kids»

■ Project «Safer Kids»

The partnership between PIKIFI and Save the Children Philippines for the implementation of the OSAEC-program (Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children) is now established (see Newsletter 2020_4). As part of the program, the „Safer Kids“ project has become all the more important as children and adolescents are now even more at risk of becoming victims of OSAEC due to the Covid pandemic. The project started last January 30/31, with an introductory training seminar for our staff. Grizshelle Labang, social worker at PIKIFI, relates her experiences:

The objectives of the training were to introduce the manual and to provide guidance on how to work being a counsellor implementing the project among the grass-roots (e.g., addressing the issue, appropriate implementation and delivery of modules). During the debriefing, participants appreciated how detailed and helpful the training was. To implement the program effectively and efficiently, the risk factors and dynamics of Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children and its dangers must be internalised by all staff implementing the project. This will allow the sensitive topic to be addressed, awareness campaigns to be facilitated, and questions to be answered.



From left to right:
Juvy Caipilan, Community Worker
Grizshelle Labang, Social Worker
Virgelia Demata, Co-Founder and Executive Director
Mary Grace Abaya, Social Worker.

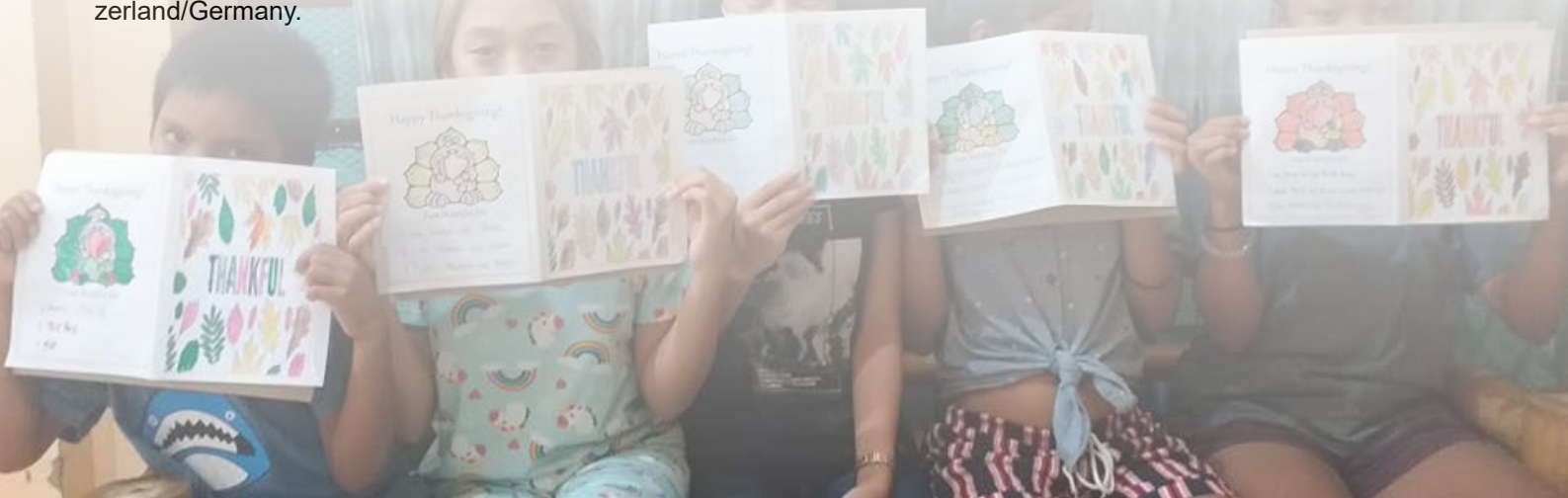
■ Shoulder Bags for the girls in our Children's Village

The women working in our tailoring shop at the Landfill Community Learning Center produced shoulder bags with a funny print of a drawing made by an artist from England. The artist Veronica Clover had designed the bags and financed the whole project to make our girls happy with her drawing. She indeed succeeded in this!



■ Thanksgiving

On November 26, the children in the Children's Village celebrated Thanksgiving with our very dedicated volunteer, friend and advisor Metzie Balandra. The experienced educator and remedial teacher spent several years of her teaching career in the USA. She told the children about the background of the American custom of Thanksgiving. It is very touching to read what our children are thankful for: Accommodation, food, school, healthy bodies, family/friends, gifts (which Metzie had brought) and last but not least for PIKIFI and IKP Switzerland/Germany.



■ Christmas gifts

In light of all that is happening around the world right now, it is more than amazing to see how people are still willing to share, support and help others. Every act of charity is precious and can make such big a difference! In our case, it also meant that despite all hardships all our staff, all the children in the Children's Village and all the elementary school children were able to receive a Christmas gift. These gifts were fully funded by donors who gave donations for this specific purpose. From the bottom of our hearts we thank you all very much for this beautiful Christmas gift.

■ Gendarmen Concerts/Spiegelbasar

The brass band „[Gendarmen](#)“ together with the a cappella ensemble „[Quattro Schatzjoni](#)“ would have loved to once again perform their Advent concerts for the benefit of IKP. Concerts were planned for December 11th/12th/13th. Due to the current situation this was not possible. Since the musicians felt sorry especially for the children who are in need of support, the „Gendarmen“ collected funds among themselves. We thank them very much for their most generous donation! We are also very happy to announce that they have already promised another benefit concert for 2021! May it become possible again!

Our heartfelt thanks also go out to the organizers of the [Spiegelbasar in Köniz](#), whose proceeds were supposed to support IKP in 2020. Since this event also could not be held due to the pandemic, the hard-working women sold homemade jam and, in this way, supported IKP with a proud amount. Let's hope that the bazaar will be able to open its doors again this year.

New payment options for Switzerland

From now on you can also donate to IKP Switzerland through Twint or PayPal on our webpage www.islandkids.ch. Thank you very much!

Twint:

1. Scan the QR code with the TWINT APP
2. Confirm the transaction



More information:
<https://www.twint.ch/>

PayPal:



More information:
<https://www.paypal.com>

Company details



For Switzerland:
Island Kids Philippines
Vorholzstrasse 12
CH-3800 Unterseen

info@islandkids.ch
newsletter@islandkids.ch

Donations account Switzerland:
Bernner Kantonalbank, 3001 Bern
IBAN CH84 0079 0042 4190 1489 2



For Germany:
Island Kids Philippines
Deutschland e.V.
c/o Familie Erzinger
Gartenstraße 36
D-14548 Schwielowsee

deutschland@islandkids.ch

Donations account Germany:
IBAN: DE55 1605 0000 1000 9063 84
BIC: WELADED1PMB

Pictures:
Island Kids
AdobeStock.com

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

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Survival pack

Difficult situation

The situation in the slums of Cagayan de Oro (Philippines) continues to be bad. It has become even more difficult to find work to at least feed one's family.

Emergency aid

Philippine Island Kids Foundation continues to support the affected people in the project area with essential food and hygiene supplies



Please help us to help those in need

With CHF 11.50.- only you can donate one survival pack. You can give a family not only help but also hope in their daily struggle for survival.

**11.50 Swiss francs
for 1 survival pack
for 1 family**

For deposits in Switzerland

IBAN: CH84 0079 0042 4190 1489 2
Konto 30-106-9, Berner Kantonalbank,
Bundesplatz 8, 3001 Bern
Recipient Island Kids Philippines,
Vorholzstrasse 12, 3800 Unterseen

Note «Survival package»

For deposits in the Philippines

Account Number: 410170001079
Swift Code: PNBMPHMM
Philippine National Bank, CDO-Corrales-
Chaves, Corrales Ave. cor. T. Chavez St.
Cagayan de Oro City 9000

Note: Pls. send the note "Survival package"
with your full name and the amount you
deposited to info@islandkids.ch

**Thank you very much for
your most precious
support!**

Island Kids
Philippines



Island Kids Philippines offers neglected, abused and abandoned children temporary shelter with fulltime care as well as complete education with integrated feeding. Currently around 50 children are living in our Children's Village, 450 children are attending classes in our two learning centers, and 250 young people are enrolled in national high schools and universities.

www.islandkids.ch / info@islandkids.ch