



Dreams for Improved Medical Facilities Soon to be Realized as Infirmary Building Nears Completion

Paul Healy

After months of planning, praying and pouring, our new infirmary building in Banawa is nearing completion. In spite of inflation and currency depreciation in the Philippines, and a major economic downturn in the U.S. that contributed to some pledges for our Building a Legacy of Hope capital campaign not coming through, the project has continued. God has worked in amazing and surprising ways. When one of our



able to care for children here rather than hospitalizing them, which will be a cost-saving benefit of the infirmary. In addition to the sick rooms, the building will have a large nurses' office, a laboratory and lots of storage areas for medical supplies and medicines.

The infirmary will be connected to our new residence by two bridges.

This infirmary has been the dream of our staff for many years.

When one of our planned sources of income did not work out, another unexpected one did. This whole campaign has been a series of faith-building blessings.

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Our infirmary building will be a huge blessing for CSC in our efforts to provide for the medical needs of our children. It will have six sick rooms, each with two beds and a centralized nursing area. We will be able to care for our sick kids in a more efficient way, allowing one caregiver to take care of several children at a time. And we will be

Newly admitted children require isolation, sometimes for a prolonged period of time. When our children get sick there is often not enough space in our current infirmary, so we have to use other rooms in the homes to accommodate them. It can be a logistical nightmare finding extra workers to care for children in multiple locations. And in the Philippines, when children are hospitalized they need to have someone with them to provide supplementary nursing care. Our building will address all of these problems, providing sufficient space

Continued on page two

Some of the future beneficiaries of our new infirmary building



Every
child
deserves
a family.

Inside

Donor FAQs	- 2
Jeneviev's Recital	- 3
Kids' Korner	- 4
Prayer & Praise	- 5
Banquet News	- 5

Financial Questions Answered



A few years ago I taught a curriculum meant to help direct people to an area of ministry that would hopefully be their best fit. Part of our time was spent identifying passions. It was interesting how varied people were in terms of knowledge of their deepest desires for ministry. Some people had known their passions from an early age; others needed a lot of guidance to pin them down. One thing that seemed to help everyone was when we talked about passion as a burden and asked what got them saying "that shouldn't be!"

It's easy to find what burdens the staff and supporters of CSC. The beauty of our ministry is that our purpose is simple. It comes with various situations and outputs, but the premise of giving kids the best we can is not complicated.

In that context, I'm guessing it's fair to assume that we're all feeling a growing burden about two CSC sibling groups. One is our group of six whose oldest member, Analiza, will be 16 in February. The other is a group of nine, with Jeneviev, who is already 16. When I think about these kids I feel a growing tension swelling up in me. Are they going to have a second chance at a loving family before the girls reach the age of 18?

Of course we don't know. We have to do maybe the most difficult thing God asks of us: wait. It's not easy for these 15 kids to wait and wonder on this question that weighs on them daily. Will God answer their prayers? We know He will, but we just don't know in what way. Pray with me that the kids will glorify Him no matter what that answer is. And maybe God will provide the miracle of a family for both sets. We know that's what it will take.

Before I give, I have a question...

New donors often ask great questions of us. Perhaps you've wondered the same things about CSC's ministry.

You have 75-80 children on average and 70 employees. Why is that? Two primary reasons.

One, we need to have three shifts of childcare workers in our homes, especially for our infants and children with special needs. This is not regular nine to five work! Two, our school requires a full staff to meet the needs of our children.

Is my giving safe in

Cebu? We have controls in place to assure that it is. We do not keep our money in one place, and the banks we use have international branches, including those in the U.S. We have contingency plans and exit strategies to ensure we are diligent in protecting the resources God has given us through your faithfulness.

Why did the percentage of giving that goes to programs drop to 79.4% in your 2007 audit? We always want that number to be 80% or higher, and we focus on stewarding our giving to God's glory. Our auditor

required a change in calculating furlough as a benefit that we expect will balance out in the future.

Is my money really making a difference? The best

answer to that one resides in the pictures of our kids.

Moreover, CSC operates without a large endowment or cash reserves. Any gift you give today is at work in Cebu within a couple of months buying food, medicine, counseling, education and loving care for orphaned children.



Continued from page one

for children who need to be isolated, and offering another option for those who might otherwise need to be hospitalized.

Providing quality medical care for our children has always been one of the most difficult and costly areas of our ministry. We care for children with skin diseases, lice, parasites, malnutrition, tuberculosis, asthma and pneumonia, as well as those needing corrective surgery or long-term therapy. We have children who receive daily growth hormone shots and those who need to be catheterized several times a day due to urinary retention. And when one child gets sick, it is not uncommon for several to have the same illness. We praise God for this addition to our facilities and the many ways the infirmary will contribute to the overall quality of care at CSC.



Note: We still need donations to finish the special needs residence and our teen home/office facility. Please consider a gift or pledge to our Building a Legacy of Hope campaign.

Cebu Children of Hope School

“Ate” Jeneviev Performs Solo Recital at CCHS

October 25 was a big night for Jeneviev, her family, Teacher Francis, and all the staff and teachers. It was our first-ever solo recital and it featured the piano talents of 16-year-old Jeneviev who has lived at CSC for 18 months. Jeneviev did not have the chance to attend school regularly before coming to live at CSC, much less study music. But she has shown remarkable ability and willingness to work hard under the encouragement of Francis Georsua, CCHS's music teacher.

In the Philippines, the oldest sibling has many responsibilities

within the family and this is especially true for Jeneviev who is the ate



Jeneviev played 10 solo numbers during the recital. Here she performs “Swans on the Lake” (above) and gets some drum support from sister Jashly Mae on the family ensemble number.

(older sister) for nine siblings at CSC. On this night her brothers and sisters joined her on two numbers, a quartet rendition of Beethoven's 9th Symphony and an ensemble with all nine on “Mary Had a Little Lamb.” But the star of the evening was beautiful Jeneviev. She played 10 solo numbers from “Moon River” to “Luke's Lullaby,” which was written by Teacher Francis. The recital was followed by a sumptuous dinner. It was an enchanting evening.

A Sibling Group of Nine

Nine is the biggest sibling group we've ever had at CSC. When we took in Jeneviev and her siblings in February of 2007, it was a big step of faith for our Cebu staff and a challenge to the whole organization. Not only did it mean nine more children to house, feed and educate, but we were aware of the challenges ahead in being able to find a family for them or to prepare them for independent living after CSC.

We are still hoping and praying for a family for Jeneviev and her siblings. In the meantime, we will do our very best to meet their needs even as we enjoy their wonderful personalities and talents. Please pray for these nine.

Jeneviev's Eight Biggest Fans



Jashly Mae



Bart



June



Charryto



Charydyn



Leheca



Riza Mae



Niño



CSC IS WATCHED BY MANY EYES



As a ministry that cares for dependent and vulnerable children, and one that seeks the favor and confidence of supporters, CSC has placed itself under the scrutiny of many different licensing and regulatory organizations. In the Philippines, we are licensed and accredited by the Departments of Education and Social Welfare and Development, and the Philippine Inter-Country Adoption Board. We are also members of the Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches and the Association of Child Caring Agencies of the Philippines. As a non-profit organization in the Philippines, we are subject to the rules and oversight of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, the Department of Labor and other governmental agencies. In the U.S., we are regulated by many private and governmental agencies, from the

Internal Revenue Service (we are a 501 (c)(3) organization) to the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, Charities Review Council and Children's Charities of America, among others. And, through groups like Charity Navigator (which gives CSC a four star rating!), interested parties can learn about us on-line.

Our commitment to being regulated by these agencies means that we must submit reams of paperwork and be subject to visits and audits. But we believe that this is for the good of Children's Shelter of Cebu, the people who support us, and, ultimately, the children that we serve. It's a price we are willing to pay to become the best ministry possible and worthy of the gifts and confidence of those who work with us and support us.

by Sandy Swanson

Jazmane is our newest addition to the CSC family. She arrived in mid-September when she was only three and a half weeks old. She is a beautiful and healthy little girl!



Justine (almost 3) came to CSC as a very sickly and malnourished 18-month-old. He spent a couple of months gaining strength and stamina, but from that time on there has been nothing to stop this little bundle of energy. Justine is very verbal. One of the joys of coming to CSC is walking past the Eicher nursery on the way into the compound. If Justine is there and awake, we can be sure that we will be warmly greeted and usually asked a few questions as well. Justine will be leaving soon for adoption.

Rael (14), Weeno (12) and Melrod (almost 11) are brothers who have been with us for one

year. **Rael** is shy, but has gained much in the way of self-esteem in the time he has been here. He loves sports and competes with all his heart and soul. Rael is an excellent student at school who enjoys learning and is not afraid to ask questions. **Weeno** is playful and active. His smile brightens the day of all those around him. Weeno is also shy, but has a great sense of humor that is beginning to show itself more and more. Weeno is cooperative in school. **Melrod** is the stereotypical little brother. Before coming to CSC, he left all his worries to his big brothers and



just concentrated on enjoying life and expecting them to meet his needs – which they did. Melrod likes things to go his way and has a way of making that happen. He is

a charmer. Melrod is shy in school and especially does not like to read aloud. He is making good progress.

Julieto came to live at CSC eight years ago. He is now 18. He has



lived in our Teen Home for the past two years after having spent six years in the Cherne Home. Julieto had never been to school when he came to CSC and academics have been consistently difficult for him. Julieto held on to his dream of adoption until the day he turned 16, when he knew it was no longer possible. Recently Julieto has joined the construction company that is building the new buildings on our CSC compound. It is fun for us to see him coming to work everyday! He is a very friendly and positive young man whom everyone loves and respects.



Your gifts for CSC become smiles on the faces of our children.

News and Information

Trusting God for Amazing Year-end Blessings

Those who have been supporters of CSC for a while will not be surprised to know that we need a big financial finish to the year to reach our income goals for 2008. Typically, we look to strong year-end giving to make up for shortfalls during the year. It is not uncommon for CSC to receive 20-30%

of our yearly income during December.

Our income through the middle of October has been \$863,457, or about 69% of our yearly budget. We need \$380,180 during November and December to reach our goals and to be able to meet our financial obligations to the children in Cebu. This

has been a difficult year in some respects as the world economy has taken a downward turn. In the Philippines the inflation rate has been high and the US dollar is still down almost 17% from where it was in 2005. We are trusting God and our faithful friends for another amazing year-end. God bless you all!

'09 BANQUET MAY 2

Plan to attend the 2009 CSC banquet! Due to venue conflicts, we've had to schedule it a little later than usual this year. Saturday night, May 2, is the date and Bethel University will be the place to be to celebrate with the CSC family and learn about what God is doing in Cebu. This year's theme is **"Living the Dream: 30 Years of Ministry in Cebu."** Check the CSC website for updates starting early next year. Please call the CSC office at 763-689-6558 if you would like to be a sponsor for next year's banquet.

IS E-NEWS FOR YOU?

For those who would prefer to receive their newsletter electronically, CSC offers an E-News option. Our newsletter, with all the information, pictures and updates, is available in e-mail format. If you would like to switch over, go to the CSC website at www.cscshelter.org and look for the "Click Here to Go Paperless with CSC!" link.

FEDEX GRANT

A grant from the Federal Express Corporation has helped CSC decongest our Cambridge office. FedEx will provide free shipping of donated goods to Cebu in the amount of \$5,000. The first shipment of eight boxes has already arrived in Cebu. Many thanks to FedEx and all who donated items.

Multiply Your CSC Fun at www.cscshelter.org

For those with online capabilities, the CSC website is a great place to visit. Since our newsletter only comes out quarterly, the website provides updates and reports on the day-to-day fun things that happen at CSC.

Web site visitors would know, for instance, about the great Burger Challenge whereby Joel Reasoner raised money for CSC by eating burgers in Michigan. They would be able to see who the stu-

dents of the week are or watch a video of the kids' Talent Show or musical presentation. They could even see Uncle Paul get thrown in the swimming



pool at the culmination of the first quarter reading challenge in school. The website is also a good place for those who prefer to give online or find up-to-the-minute prayer requests.

One of the favorite features of our CSC website is the staff blogs. Individual staff members tell stories and describe the ministry from the perspective of their role at CSC. Come join us at www.cscshelter.org!

Prayer

Our CSC Circle of Prayer

Praises

1. Pray for Jacob, who continues to have health problems. He has an hiatal hernia with acid reflux in the esophagus. He was vomiting blood.

2. Pray for our Building a Legacy of Hope Capital Campaign. We still need \$1,450,000 to complete our buildings and strengthen our endowment.

3. Pray for the CSC Board as it seeks new members to assist in the leadership of the ministry.



1. Praise God for the good health of most of our children lately.

2. Thank God for our faithful supporters who remember the ministry financially and in their prayers.

3. Praise the Lord for our gifted teachers who are dedicated to providing the best education to our children. Thank Him for Shari Reasoner, who is our school advisor, and for Criselda Tabra, our principal.



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Change Service Requested

Cebu Staff

Field Director: Paul Healy
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Medical Director: Marlys Healy
Outreach Director: Ruth Ohlendorf
Child Development Director: Sandy Swanson
School Consultant: Shari Reasoner
Teacher: Amy Luck
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Foster Friends is a long-distance friendship between a sponsor and a CSC child. The sponsors may be individuals, families or church groups - people who desire a relationship with the ministry of CSC through an involvement in the life of a child.

Foster Friends is a "win, win, win" situation. The children receive the security that comes from knowing that people across the world care about them. The sponsors receive the joy of knowing that they are making a difference in the life of a needy child. And CSC receives financial help for the purchase of food, medicine, and other needed items.

For the modest sum of \$25 a month, you can be a Foster Friend. You will be assigned a child and will be given a picture and background information on how your child came to live at CSC. You will receive regular updates with pictures so you can chart your child's development. If

your child is old enough, he or she will send you an occasional letter. Since it costs much more than \$25 a month to provide for the many needs of a child, your gift will be combined with those of others to

form an extended family of support for your child.

You can join our winning team at CSC. Fill out the application below or call our office at 763-689-6558 and we will enroll you immediately in this program, match you with a child and send you a packet of information.

- Yes, I would like to sponsor a child through the Foster Friends Program. I will support this child at an amount of \$25 U.S. a month \$25 Canadian a month
Enclosed find my first payment of \$ to cover months.
I cannot become a Foster Friend at this time, but I would like to make a contribution of \$.



Please send me more information about CSC.

Name (please print):

Address:

Phone:

Make checks payable to: Children's Shelter of Cebu.

U.S. donors mail to: Foster Friends, c/o CSC, Box 247, 237 SW 2nd Ave. Cambridge, MN 55008

Canadian donors mail to: Foster Friends, c/o CCSSC, P.O. Box 141 Abbotsford, BC V2S 4N8

Contributions to CSC are tax deductible

