

MA'MA

CHILDREN'S CENTER OF NORWAY

Desember 2010



Kjære venner, forbedere og økonomiske støttespillere



**Det er nå 3 mndr. igjen til Barmhjertighetens Hospital innvies.
Datoen er satt til 22. februar 2010.**

Håper de 6 tyfonene som fortsatt ventes å komme inn over oss dette året, vil gå i fjellene eller havet, men vi kan ikke bestemme over dem. Imidlertid fikk jeg meg en stor overraskelse på siste orienteringsmøte, da jeg ble orientert om merutgifter på 1,5 mill n. kr.

Jeg visste at septiktank, vanntank, vei og beplantning ikke var i byggeprisen, men i tillegg kom også REGULERINGER FRA HELSEDEPARTEMENTET.

Det tok meg 2 døgn å komme over sjokket. Da fikk jeg nytt mot. I mitt hjerte var det som Gud sa: "Når sviktet jeg deg?" Aldri har han sviktet meg. Nå ser jeg fremover og oppover. Idéen kom. Hvis 7 fremgangsrike bedrifter gir n.kr. 200.000 hver, har vi beløpet.

GUD LA DET SKJE!

Kjære venner. Jeg garanterer dere GUDS velsignelse + at pengene ikke blir borte underveis.

Jeg er ansvarlig overfor min
GODE ARBEIDSGIVER.

HAN ER GOD OG HAN TRENGER DEG OG
MEG FOR Å GI BARMHJERTIGHET I EN
OND VERDEN.

Vennlig hilsen

Rachel

MY LIFE TESTIMONY

By Elsa Domingo

I could say that my life was miserable before Ma-Ma's Hope took me. My mother died when I was nine years old and my father has found a new wife. The most hurtful incident that happened in my life was when the person whom I trusted the most and should guide us has abused me. I felt my life was ruined. I stopped from school and transfer to different homes.

When my stepmother learned that me and my sister were abused by our own father, she immediately reported it to the brother in-law of her sister who in turned reported our case to the law enforcer. They helped us to file case against our father. The social worker from our municipal office took us and brought to the Bahay Kalinga (center for girls) in Dasmariñas, Cavite. We stayed there for two years but still I felt empty.

Until one day, there were two Norwegian ladies came in the center and I met Lola Rachel Trovi and Tita Tone Midgaard. The social worker in the center asked me and my sister if we want to study and have a good education. We said yes as we have been dreaming to go back to school after that hurtful experience. Two days later, we were transferred to our new home in Ma-Ma's Hope Haven of Norway. I still remember that Lola Rachel whispered in my ear, "Welcome to Ma-Ma's." But I did not understand those words before because it's English but now I know what those words are.

I learned that the year Lola Rachel has started her work in the Philippines was the same year I was born. Indeed, the Lord is good. In Ma-Ma's Hope I came to know the Lord more. I realized that He has good plans for me and for my sister. I thanked Him for all the bad experiences I had in my life for this experiences has brought me to Ma-Ma's and to Him. Satan has tempted my father and he failed to win over Satan. But I believed that in every good deed there is a reward and punishment for a sin. After three years in Ma-Ma's, I was baptized and decided to serve the Lord. I realized that Jesus has suffered more than my sufferings and He is willing to bless His children. I have forgiven my father and moving on for a better life. Now, I am confident that I could overcome every challenge that will come along my way as the Lord is with me always.

Today, I am serving the Lord by teaching the small children in Sunday school. I am now in college and proud to say that I am studying Bachelor of Science in Social Work. I really want to become a Social Worker someday because I also want to help people in difficult situation and return to them the same care and love I experienced from the people who took me out from darkness.

I sincerely thank the Lord for all the works He has done in my life. I also thank all the people (especially Lola Rachel) who has cared and loved me more than my family could give. Lola Rachel has a BIG HEART for people like me. I will never forget you for the rest of my life. Most of all I will not forget GOD. My favorite verse in the Bible is Psalm 27:10.

MY LIFE TESTIMONY

By Nilo Ibañez



My name is Nilo Ibañez from Bunga, Tanza, Cavite. I am one of the thousands people received help from Ma-Ma's Hope Haven of Norway through their Medical Assistance Program. I needed an emergency operation due to ruptured appendicitis. My family brought me to the nearest hospital but the doctor refused to admit me because we don't have money. But the Lord was good, we met Pastor Louie that day. He referred us to Sister Gilda Pingco, a community health worker of Ma-Ma's Hope. When Sister Gilda heard about my health condition, she immediately went to our house and brought me back to the hospital.

In short, I was operated and recovered from the bad health condition. I would have died that day if Ma-Ma's Hope did not extend medical assistance to me. Today, I am still strong and happily living with my family. My family and I are attending Worship Service.

I thank Ma-Ma's Hope Haven of Norway for the good service they are extending to a needy people like me. Thank you very much.



Embassy of the Philippines

NORWAY • DENMARK • ICELAND

My Visit to Mama's Hope Haven of Norway

Published on Wed, 24 Feb 2010 - 13:20 – By Amb. Elizabeth P. Buensuceso

By the time we reached Barangay Pag-asa in General Trias, Cavite, the sun was beating furiously against the parched rice fields although it was supposed to be the coolest month in the Philippines. Following the directions of the tricycle driver I inquired from, we came upon a half-finished road where a few men were 'poisoning' the land, apparently preparing it for ground-breaking. In the middle of the road were three foreign looking women, one about seventy and two others in their fifties. I got out of the Innova my sister was driving and inquired from the slim but sturdy looking lady, "Ma'am, could you be Mrs. Rachel Trovi?"

The grey-haired lady burst out into laughter and exclaimed, "And you must be the Ambassador of the Philippines!" So, right there in the middle of the street on a scorchingly hot Saturday afternoon, we hugged as if we were long-lost friends. "Come, come," she urged and ushered us to the frugal mission house where she and the two other Norwegian ladies lived. Coffee and cookies



and some rattan chairs were soon brought out into the windy porch and we talked and talked, about Norway, about the Philippines, about the Center, and about how God has blessed us with opportunities to serve Him.

Introductions were hastily made. My sister, Pastor Nel Trinidad and two friends from Norway who were vacationing with me, Svein-Erik and Liv Berit Skibrek also hugged Mrs. Trovi and her missionary friends, Astrid and Sophie.

Soon it was time to visit the Center and Mama Rachel's "children." I was quite unprepared for the scene that met us at the building housing the abandoned old women. These old women she picked up wandering aimlessly in the streets, famished and squalid. Some of them were just sleeping



off the days, waiting for their time to meet their Maker. At least they are doing so with dignity. Soon, two or three toothless women embraced me and we started to sing and dance. I taught them to sing, "Mahal na Mahal Kita, Panginoon," a song popularized by Filipino composer and singer, Rommel Guevara. Lola Tessa soon caught up with the catchy simple lyrics and repeated the song over and over. She coaxed two or three other old women to join the dance. She would not let me go. And as tears were streaming down my face, buried in the bosom of these otherwise unloved old women, I thanked God for Mama Rachel, for pouring out God's love to my countrymen and women.

It was nap time for the little angels (aged 1-5 years old) when we moved on to the building where

they were being cared for, so we tiptoed quietly into their rooms . Again, my heart broke. What kind of women abandoned the fruit of their wombs? Maybe, the babies had physical and mental deficiencies, but it is no matter. Mama Rachel loved them just the same. Next stop was the building of the teen-aged girls who were busy with some craft or another or were studying their lessons. They told me they attended a public school nearby. At the chapel, the pre-teens were having a game of newspaper dance with some volunteers who were once also wards of the Center and have now “graduated” and found employment outside. They visit every now and then to give of themselves in return for Mama’s love for them.

My Norwegian friends wondered how Mama Rachel could live in her mission house all alone by herself, with no security guards and personal assistants. This tough

elderly lady who manages a multi-million peso operation did not even have a car when we met her and was about to board a tricycle on her way to the newly opened SM Rosario to buy supplies for the Center. “Oh, I just pray to God for protection,” she declares matter-of-factly. While other foundation managers would heartlessly squander donations given by donors and sponsors, Mama Rachel is prudent in her personal expenses. She gazed delightedly at the simple beaded bracelet Pastor Nel gave her as though it were the most expensive gift she ever received.

It was amazing how Mama Rachel, as she is fondly called by her wards, was able to put up such a huge Center for the homeless and disadvantaged of all ages, despite her advanced years (She is actually eighty two). What we saw was just the tip of the iceberg. Mama Rachel includes in her operations the following: 3 orphanages, 6 pre-

schools, a sewing school, a center for sexually battered or abused girls and single mothers, a drop-in center, a home for old and abandoned women, a prison visitation ministry, street ministry, scholarship for 25,000 school children and a community/church center. In fact, the ground was being prepared for the building of a new hospital which would deliver free medical services to the poor residents of the area. For more information about the Center, please visit fr-trovi@online.no.

After my visit, I said to myself that if the Lord would allow me to live to the ripe old age of Mama Rachel, I would like to live my life like that, in the service of Him who loves the unloved and the lost. Thank you, Mama Rachel, for loving my people as God loves them.

MY LIFE TESTIMONY *By Joel Dalanon*



My name is Joel Dalanon, 48 years old from Bagtas, Tanza, Cavite. I sincerely thank the Lord and Ma-Ma’s Hope for the Medical Assistance they extended to me during the time I am nearly dead.

I had an accident three years ago. I was on my way home at that night from work when drunken men shot my right eye with a gun bullet. I fell down, unconscious until somebody noticed me and rushed me to the hospital. I was given first aid in the hospital. The doctor said the hospital has no enough facilities to cater me so I was transferred to Philippine General Hospital. It was big problem for my family because we don’t have other resources for my medication. I was placed in the Trauma Department for operation. The doctor advised operation to take out the bullet from my head. I’d lost blood and my fever was high at that time.

But the Lord did not forsake me. My neighbor is attending Bible Study with Sister Gilda and my wife shared my condition with that neighbor. My neighbor asked Sister Gilda if Ma-Ma’s Hope could help me. Sister Gilda went to the hospital and visited me. Ma-Ma’s Hope provided all the medicines I needed for the operation, CT Scan, Laboratory Tests and other expenses. The operation was successful and I stayed for more than a month in the hospital.

Thank God for my second life. I was able to go back to my work and I can still provide the needs of my family.

DANA ROSE COLINA

(Former College Scholar of Ma-Ma's Hope)

*“Your Father knows the things you have needed before you ask Him”
Matthew 6:8*



This verse is very true to me, as I live my life in this world. As far as I can remember, this is the verse I reflected on during my college days. Let me take you to those memorable days where I continually thank God for His loving grace and providence.

My college days are not that easy, not only because of difficult subjects but also in financial matters. My father already passed away when I was in grade school, thus

left my mother to raise and support us. My father was a full time missionary and so my mother is. Being a daughter of a missionary, my parents raised me to always trust in God. That's how I live it out, trusting always in God's will for me. If we truly trust in God we can be rest assured that He will plot the path that we are going to walk. I didn't choose my school in college; God used my friends to encourage me to take entrance exam in Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP). God used different people to help me to finish college; He used some friend of my mother so I can have a free board and lodging. And as far as I can remember when I'm entering 3rd year college, I've come up to a decision to become a working student because there are lots of projects and my allowance will not be sufficient. During my vacation, after I finished 2nd year I pray to God if He want me to work while studying. I also ask my mother if it's alright to work, though I also told her that I might not be as good as when I was focused in studying. And God answered my prayer, come mid-May my mother told me to write a testimony and application

because I may be chose to grant a scholarship of Mama's Hope. And God truly knows what I need; He used Mama's Hope to grant me a scholarship, thus saving me to be a working student. Mama's Hope not only provides us financial needs but also it helps us to be crafted and to be spiritually matured. I'm so blessed to be part of Mama's Hope Scholarship, because I learned a lot from my co-scholar during our worship, sharing and meeting. I enjoy teaching children in Mama's Hope home for orphans. I've learned a lot from those children and share those experiences in other children where I'm teaching a Sunday school. I can say that God really knows each one of us and He really knows what we need.

And now I am already a Certified Public Accountant, working in Property Company of Friends Inc. as Material Management Head. And until now God uses different people not just for my needs but also to shape me and to help me grow. And in my small way I return it all to God, that I may be His vessel and be used for others.

Støtteforeningen MANILAs VENNER avd. SANNIDAL/KRAGERØ har samlet inn

1 million kroner siden 1992!



Høsten 1989 og våren 1990 skjedde det noe som har fått store ringvirkninger i vårt distrikt. En dame fra Langesund, Rachel Trovi viste lysbilder og fortalte om nøden og elendigheten på søppelfjellet i Manila. Hun hadde da kjøpt et hus der ute som skulle bli hjem for gatebarn. Hun ønsket utstyr, klær og sko som skulle sendes i container fra Stabekk folkehøyskole. Vi var to ektepar fra Sannidal / Kragerø som kjente på kalle til å være med i dette, Karen og Kjell Søndbø, og Liv og Reidar Mikkelsen.

Vi fylte 2 biler og 2 tilhengere med masse fine ting (700 par nye sko fra en forretning) samt 2 sykehussenger fra Kragerø Sykehus m.m. Senere kom Lilly og Olav Sørдалen, og Elna Bjørkkjær med. Høsten 1992 ble støtteforeningen "Manila, s Venner" avd. Sannidal/Kragerø startet. I dag er vi 10-12 damer som samles en gang i måneden, kollekten da går til alle utgifter.

Vi har arrangert en (og to) basarer hvert år. Flere ganger stor basar på samfunnshuset, eller bedehuset, med fullt av mennesker som ser lysbilder og hører energiske Rachel fortelle fra hjelpe-arbeidet som vi er blitt en del av. Veldig mange i distriktet er faste givere. Gevinster til utlodningene får vi fra forretninger, privatpersoner, og vi lager mye fint. Alt som kommer inn av penger går uavkortet til Ma- Ma Children's Center of Norway.

Lokalavisen "KV", og nærradioen "Hallo Kragerø" har vært gode støttespillere i dette arbeidet, alle disse årene. Vi selger lodd på Volum

Senteret i Sannidal og i Kragerø. Vi har også deltatt på "Broklandsheias markedsdager" i vår nabokommune Gjerstad, og på "Bondens Marked" i Kragerø med loddsalg, og steking av "Svele-kaker" i partytelt!

Vi har siden 2006 hatt spesiell "Julemat/Julegave-aksjon", med utlodning. I tillegg har vi informert om en bankkonto som folk har sendt penger til. Dette har vi gjort godt kjent i lokalavis, og på plakater.

Høsten 2009 kom det inn kr. 41.200,- som gikk direkte til Rachels utdeling av store MATPAKKER og GAVER til barn og fattige familier i Manila. Høsten 2009 satte vi i gang innsamlingsaksjon til flomkatastrofen i Filippinene, og mange tusen ekstra kroner kom inn til nødhjelp da.

Mange er engasjert gjennom denne støtteforeningen. Håndlagde kort og smykke-salg, m.m.

På Fiane Bedehus i Gjerstad ble det holdt flott Gospel-konsert i Nov. 2009, med fin sang av Marit Lien Gulliksen. Rachel Trovi fortalte, og viste lysbilder. Mange mennesker deltok, og stor kollekt ble det.

Vi takker Gud, og alle som støtter oss i dette hjelpearbeidet som drives v/Rachel Trovi i Manila; Ma-Ma Children's Center of Norway.

Hilsen Manilas Venner Avd. Sannidal/ Kragerø
Leder Karen Søndbø

RETURADRESSE:

B R. Trovi,
Postboks 2,
3993 Langesund



RANDY GATDULA AND ADELFA DOTS

Randy and Adelfa are young people from Tanza Dumpsite. Their families are living in extreme poverty as their only source of income is scavenging. They have been dreaming to have a good education for their future but their family economic condition hinders them to reach their goal. Randy and Adelfa reached elementary but were not able to continue their High School.



When they learned about Alternative Learning Education for out-of-school youth, a program of the Department of Education, the two joined the program and took an acceleration test. Fortunately, they passed the examination and are qualified to study in college.

Randy wants to take up Information Technology but again his family could not help him. So when he learned that Ma-Ma's Hope is working in the dumpsite, he tried to ask Educational Assistance. Now, Randy is one of the college scholars of Ma-Ma's Hope. He is very happy that he is now on the way to reach his goals in life.

MA'MA

CHILDREN'S CENTER OF NORWAY

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Styreleder, Frank Trovi: fr-trov@online.no

Ma'Ma Children's Center of Norway

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