



FONDATION
IMPACT HOPE

Holistic development for street people in the Philippines

Context

Nearly four million Filipinos live on the streets in Metro Manila alone. When asked why they live on the streets, they mainly cite family problems and relationship conflicts. Poverty and peer pressure come second. Some manage to survive life on the streets, but most barely get by. The project is committed to helping people living on the streets (kaibigans) reintegrate into society and lead a dignified life.

Brief summary of the project

In an approach aimed at transforming people, kaibigans are taken off the streets, fed and cared for, equipped with skills that enable them to become employable. They are led back to productive, dignified lives as valued members of society.

Specific objective and expected results

Objective

To help homeless people get off the streets and enable them to live in decent homes, with a permanent source of income. Also to help their spiritual transformation and integration into community life.

Expected results

1. The rough sleepers are organized into fraternity groups that will be used to launch the various interventions aimed at their rehabilitation and development.
2. Street children have access to formal and alternative education, shelter, a home and care in residential centers until they are reunited with their families. These families will provide them with optimum protection against all forms of abuse, neglect and exploitation.
3. Rough sleepers are reunited with their families of origin and loved ones, and a social support system becomes viable for the desired change.

4. Development opportunities are created for a life of dignity, self-esteem and respect.

5. Street dwellers have a means of living in community, and have learned the importance of being part of a body that models Philippine values and traditions.

Activities

1. Street food

Initial contact is made through the street food program, under which packaged meals are distributed to rough sleepers. While the packets of rice and meat meet their need for physical nourishment, the project also provides spiritual support to street people.

2. Savings program

People who regularly attend the street community are encouraged to save part of the income they earn on the street. Savings are collected from those who agree to participate, and they receive passbooks in which their savings are recorded. The savings program teaches them to value what they have and make it grow. It's also a lesson in sound financial management and a way of instilling in the kaibigans that they still have a future ahead of them.

3. The roadside school

Roadside School is an educational initiative designed to meet the pressing needs of street children. This approach uses a mobile school and implements an accredited program delivered by a team of well-trained educators who venture out onto the streets of Manila.

4. Kaibigan centers

CCT KMI has reception centers and home care facilities.

- Cabrera Center - The center provides temporary accommodation. Various social services are available, such as medical care, legal document processing and family reconciliation, among others.

- Children's Homecare Facility - This is a facility dedicated to children who have been rescued from the streets, neglected and abandoned. This homecare program enables children to continue their education and make the most of their formative years.

- Home care for the elderly - This facility is in a separate cottage where the elderly will stay until they are reunited with their families.

5. Vocational training and scholarships

Through vocational training and scholarships, we want kaibigans to realize their potential and dreams for a better future, and acquire the skills that will make them employable.

6. Employment or livelihood opportunities

People who have completed the training course and obtained a scholarship are then sent out into the job market. People are referred to partners in the business world.

Contribution of the project to real change

The project offers a glimpse into the possibility of breaking the intergenerational cycle of poverty and life on the streets. We have already seen kaibigans reconcile with their families, receive scholarships and training, find meaningful employment and support their families, gain acceptance in the community, become stronger in their faith and make a positive contribution to society.

Location of the project

The project is carried out in the Manila area and in Pasay City. Its residential home-care center for street children and the elderly is located in Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija.

Local partner

From one small organization that was founded in 1991, the Center for Community Transformation (CCT) is now a group of 16 ministries that implement holistic and transformational programs among the marginalized communities in the country.

CCT gives an organized Christian response to poverty and social injustice.

Direct and indirect beneficiaries

Families living on the streets are considered the poorest of the poor. They are prey to major criminals, drug traffickers and sex merchants. They are also sometimes victims of natural disasters, street cleaning programs, road accidents and communicable diseases.

The project targets the following categories of people living on the streets, whether individuals or families:

- Able-bodied men and women ;
- Orphaned, abandoned and neglected children and young people ;
- Other street individuals in need of temporary care (single mothers, abandoned elderly people).

Sustainability of the project

As part of its sustainability model, CCT KMI works hand-in-hand with the multi-purpose cooperative Kaibigang Maaasahan. This is a cooperative formed and owned by former street dwellers that operates various social enterprises, offering work opportunities to kaibigans and hoping to become income-generating to help support the organization's various services and capacity-building programs.

Monitoring and evaluation

The organization uses a project monitoring, evaluation and learning tool (the logframe), an institutional measurement mechanism that assesses the rate at which transformative interventions are being achieved.

Each logframe measures program objectives, desired results, outputs and activities against targets, using indicators and means of verification. Hypotheses are then formulated as a result of the evaluations.

In addition, case studies, feasibility studies and impact assessments are tools that document learning in the implementation of holistic and integrated community programs and services.

Duration

September 2024 – August 2027