



CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN AND AGING

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***A note from CFCFA:** We are always trying to reduce costs and improve efficiencies. To help with this, some projects are now sending annual photos in a digital format to CFCFA headquarters in Kansas City, Kan., for printing and mailing to sponsors. You are receiving this photo with a letter about your friend's project, written by the project coordinator. You will still receive a spring letter from your friend. If you have not received it already, it will come in the mail separately.*

To our beloved sponsors,

Sarong maogmang pagbati sa magayon na aldaw asin an katoninongan pirming mapasaindo! (One happy greeting in this beautiful day and may peace be with you always!)

Greetings from Ludigario A. Olavario, the project coordinator in Legazpi, Philippines.

We serve 8,790 children and 866 aging. The Legazpi team is geared toward:

- Promoting personal relationships between sponsors and beneficiaries.
- Fostering a friendly environment among its workforce and the community.
- Providing integrated and sustainable programs through education and skills training, values formation, health care, nutrition and clothing for our sponsored members.

The average income for CFCFA families here is \$60 to \$80 a month. The families earn their income by selling coconut, palay (rice), cassava and corn. Some families engage in farming, fishing, forest products harvesting, mining, and rice and corn milling. Others have small-scale manufacturing businesses, including food preservation, furniture making, woodcraft, loom weaving, fiber craft, shell craft, pottery, rattan craft and confectionery.

The majority of our families live in a 30- to 50-square meter house with at least three children in one family. Typical houses are made of wood and bamboo with palm leaf roofing.



### Programs and services

Year round, sponsored members enjoy the benefit of clothing, health, nutrition, recreation, assistance to families and values formation. Clothing includes Sunday dress and shoes, underwear, pants, shirts, skirts and blouses. Health care includes yearly medical check-ups, flu vaccines, Hepatitis B vaccination for children and exercise for the aging. Nutrition includes milk, oats, rice and groceries. Recreation provides socialization for sponsored members through scouting, sports fests, swimming, birthday or Christmas parties and foundation celebrations. We help families through house repair, and providing kitchenwares, cooking utensils, sleeping materials and more. Values formation teaches our members honesty, respect and love, and the impact of these values on daily life.

Education assistance is a major program that includes payment of any of the following: entrance fees, PTA fees, tuition fees, school supplies, transportation allowance and school uniforms.

Unfortunately, it is common for older students to leave school before they graduate. This usually happens because their families need them to generate income. We try to think of ways that the out-of-school youth can still continue their education in some form. The youth are given the option to take short-term technical courses, offered by a government agency for two months, ending with 10 months of on-the-job training.

Health care, another main service of Legazpi, is provided to our sponsored members in order to monitor and improve their health status. Last year, we completed the three-shot series of the Hepatitis B vaccine for 6,456 sponsored members. To complete their immunity to Hepatitis B virus, we have the on-going Hepatitis B booster shots. Our schoolchildren and elderly have received flu vaccinations.



The project also provides seminar workshops, leadership training, personality development classes and career guidance for sponsored members. Some parents also receive skills and livelihood training.

The scholarship program is an extension service that provides additional education benefits to sponsored members or, in some cases, to non-sponsored youth. The project has 142 sponsored scholar members and 88 non-sponsored youth. This program helps less fortunate but deserving students to continue their studies in college. These students have to maintain their grades and render at least 200 hours of community service every semester in the church or community.

The program has produced excellent scholars. For example, Donna M., a social work graduate (March 2007), passed the National Board Exam for Social Workers in second place. This year, Rowell P., a graduate of sanitary engineering, landed in ninth place in the National Board Examination for sanitary engineers. We also have a scholar who became a priest, and four of the regular employee/staff of Legazpi project are former sponsored members and service scholars.

Vital to the implementation of the programs and services of the project are the parents who help in many ways. These parents are the support personnel in each subproject unit. Their main functions include information dissemination, service as the contact person of their respective barangays (neighborhoods), monitoring and reporting on community activity, and assessing members' situations.

We also have an organized group of fathers and mothers who are sewers in the CFCA Mabuhay Sikap Garments Productions. This group sews the school uniforms of all the sponsored members. The members of this group are paid for the number of pieces they sew.

Challenges come with every sponsored member and to the CFCA family as a whole. But no matter how difficult these struggles are, you, our beloved sponsors, made each one of us stronger and created the CFCA community of compassion. We're very thankful for you and your undying support of the program. You give hope and make a difference in each sponsored member's life.

**Ludigario A. Olavario**  
*Legazpi Project Coordinator*