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1998

PRESIDENTIAL AWARDEE

MISSION

To uplift the spirit and well-being of the poorest of the poor, the abused and the desolate through feeding, community and economic development, education, gift-giving, calamity and medical emergency relief

WHERE HOPES AND DREAMS BEGIN

April 11, 2014

Dear Friends of Feed the Hungry,

“Life changing” is how I describe your donation to Feed the Hungry, Inc. (FtH). Your generous donation made it possible for me and other FtH volunteers to directly assist families and communities devastated by Super typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda.

In January and February of this year, we were in Tacloban City, Pastrana, Palo, Tanauan, Atipolo, Barugo, Candahug, Cappaocan, Manlurip, Maribi, San Joaquin, San Roque, Sto. Niño, Naval, Tabontabon, Talolara. There, we provided to more than 2,000 families emergency relief, medicines, clothing, and food. We gave 3,000 children school supplies and raincoats. We helped the Missionary Benedictine Sisters continue their operation of Divine Word Hospital by donating funds for medicine and hospital equipment. We secured temporary housing for hospital staff, furnished them with new uniforms, and assisted them with transportation to and from their homes.

Thank you for partnering with us. We couldn't have done it without you!

Now, we are focused on livelihood projects. The typhoon decimated the two major sources of income for the island of Leyte: coconut and fisheries. More than 33 million trees were destroyed and more than one million families who were once part of the thriving coconut industry are without any source of income. Newly planted trees will take six to eight years to grow back. As for the fishermen and women who rely on the sea to earn a living, more than 30,000 boats were annihilated leaving the fishing community stranded ashore unable to produce income.

Together with TINDOG TANAUAN, a nonprofit organization based in Tanauan, we are providing seedlings to farmers to replant coconut trees. We are promoting intercropping by also giving farmers fruit and vegetable seeds so they can plant in between the coconut trees, have other sources of income, and move to a more sustainable agriculture. We gave the fishermen four motor boats and fish nets. Another four motor boats are on the way.

We established a sewing cooperative, Samahang Mananahi ng Tanauan (SAMATA) and provided 120 seamstress and tailors with 20 sewing machines, threads, and bolts of fabric. We arranged with the Divine Word Hospital to order hospital uniforms from the cooperative. We are assisting the cooperative with business planning and marketing and have made some progress in expanding product lines to include school uniforms and accessory items for the home such as placemats, potholders and kitchen towels.

It will take millions of dollars, effective government, and collaboration among aid agencies, to name a few, to rebuild Leyte. Know, however, that when the need was the greatest, you were there. Thank you again for your generous donation.

With gratitude,

Gloria T. Caoile
FtH Gift Giving, Marketing and Public Relations Director

Enclosures