

NEWS FROM CEBU

— REPORTS PAVE THE WAY

Thanks to my age, I'm viewed as a veteran in the field. My veteran status brings opportunities to consult with people who are thinking of starting a ministry like ours. I always try to be gracious in these situations, remembering how overwhelmed we felt at first and how much we appreciated any words of wisdom from people who were doing work similar to what we envisioned doing.

One of the things that I always mention is that there are essentially two kinds of orphanages or children's homes in the world: those that place their children for adoption and those that do not. I mention this because the types of facilities and services offered in these two kinds of programs are quite different. Preparing children for adoption, like we do

at CSC, has a big impact on the types of facilities we provide, the number and skills of staff that we hire, the record keeping we do and the quality of medical and psychological care given to our children.

At CSC, everything we do is influenced by a goal to see our children join adoptive families.

We keep scrupulous records for each child, including medical and developmental histories, behavioral summaries and school records. Every doctor's visit, medical test or medicine administered is recorded. Developmental milestones are chronicled. School progress is carefully documented. All of these will eventually be used in preparing the papers needed for adoption for our children.

by Paul Healy, Field Director

The most important document in this paperwork is the child study report written by our social workers. This report includes the circumstances of the referral of the child to CSC, his or her condition on admission, family history (if known), a summary of the developmental and medical history of the child, his or her current functioning, an explanation of the child's legal status and qualifications to be

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Just a

-Matt Buley, President

THOUGHT...

I was out speaking at a Kiwanis Club the other day. It used to be when I spoke about CSC I would try to squeeze as much information as I could in the time-frame I was given. Sometime in the course of these 12 years I learned that it was a lot more effective to share a few stories and let folks ask questions at the end to get more details.

After this Kiwanis program had ended, and a lot of good group questions were asked, someone approached me to dig in a little deeper one-on-one. In the course of his questions, he asked one I've heard before: "What's your full time job?" It's tempting to defend my workload, but I understand why

people ask. There's something about CSC that feels mom-and-pop. We talk about our kids like those who actually know them as individuals, because we do. I wouldn't change that.

Though we may feel small, there's a lot of sophistication that has happened at CSC over the years. We have been intentional about getting better at serving our children. We've also been intentional about serving donors who care for the children with their giving.

With that in mind, I want to remind you that CSC can handle giving options that you might not first think of when you imagine a child shelter on a little island far away.

We have a comfort level with arranging planned gifts. Those who have given to us in their will have made a tremendous impact on the work.

In addition, we have an endowment. It's \$500,000 and the more we grow it the more we help secure this ministry's future. We rejoice over gifts to that as we do those to our operating programs.

Perhaps one of those things is on your mind, and you could see yourself giving in a new way. We'd love to help you do so. We'll keep being a personal ministry and can help you keep it that way for years to come. ■

Leave a legacy through **PLANNED GIVING**

You can use planned giving to impact the lives of children in Cebu, while enjoying financial and tax benefits for you and your family. Through your estate or retirement plan, you can provide general support to the shelter or fund a project that is important to you. If CSC is in your will, please let us know!

To find out more about planned giving options, and which ones might be best for your situation, contact Jill in the US office at **651.493.1551** or **jill.grasley@cebushelter.org**.



The Luke Fund Endowment was created so one day we can rely on the interest to support part of our ministry. The Luke Fund is named after a special CSC resident. Luke needed full-time care during the 23 years his life blessed us. His life touched all of ours and helped us understand how much God loves each child.

In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil, but a foolish man devours all he has.

- Proverbs 21:20

adopted, and a recommendation concerning the placement of the child in an adoptive home. These child study reports are comprehensive and can be rather lengthy, especially when they include the cases of siblings.

Completed Child Study Reports are the result of the teamwork of many people at CSC. Our social workers incorporate a variety of reports in their work. Our nurses offer the medical records of doctors' visits, medications and immunizations given,

included. Lindsay Abong and Jinkee Reasoner of our CD team draw from the reports of house parents and child care workers as well as counselors and teachers regarding the behavior and development of the children. Lots of meetings, consultation, and exchange of information goes into preparing these essential reports. Our Social Work Director, Klaris Cabansal, edits the reports and, together with birth and surrender documents, pictures and other papers, they are sent to

comprehensive, accurate and well-written.

Teamwork is essential at CSC. Our staff consists of people with expertise and experience in many different areas. We have nurses, therapists, teachers, counselors, child care workers and social workers, all pooling their talents for the completion of these reports and for the care and benefit of the children that God brings into our homes.

It is a pleasure to be a part of this staff and to see the benefits of

It is a pleasure to be a part of this staff and to see the benefits of teamwork in the everyday work at the Shelter.

illnesses, hospitalizations, and tests administered. Our Child Development team provides the developmental reports for the child, which include developmental milestones and social, cognitive, and language progress. For older children, psychological tests and counseling summaries are also

the Department of Social Welfare and Development for review. Eventually they will be read by many people in government offices, foreign adoption agencies and embassies, and prospective adoptive parents. So it is very important that these child study reports be extremely

teamwork in the everyday work at the Shelter, and in the preparation of children and their paperwork for the adoption process that is at the heart of our ministry in Cebu. ■



— HIGHLIGHT: Office Staff

As is the case with many organizations and teams, CSC has a group of people whose work is done behind the scenes, but who are critically important to the success and efficient operation of the ministry. **In our Sun Valley facility in Cebu, among the social workers and administrators, is the hard working and talented office staff without whom nothing would happen at CSC.**

The first face you see when entering the CSC office is Vanjing, our multi-talented administrative assistant. She knows just about everything that goes on at CSC. She answers the phone, types reports, handles the immigration work for our expatriate staff, files papers with government offices and keeps track of appointments

for our administrative staff. She handles her duties with efficiency and enthusiasm and can multi-task as well as anyone at CSC.

As you enter the inner part of the office you will see Maribel at her computer. Maribel is responsible for paying CSC's bills. She calculates the payments, cuts the checks and sees that all our vendors are paid on time.

Across from her desk is Angie's. Angie is our cashier. She prepares the payroll for our 125 employees and handles disbursements and reimbursements for the many staff requesting money for their travels, case management and purchases. Her work is very detail oriented, and you can often see her counting money and working on payroll spreadsheets.

The last person you will see in the business area of our office is Ging. She is our accountant and office manager. She supervises the work of the other office personnel, does much of CSC's banking and creates the financial statements for the ministry. She frequently confers with staff concerning budgets and helps them with financial decisions that affect the day-to-day operations of the ministry.

CSC's financial office is an important part of the ministry. We are blessed to have these four women who are talented, reliable and honest, helping to manage the funds that God has provided for the smooth operation of CSC. ■

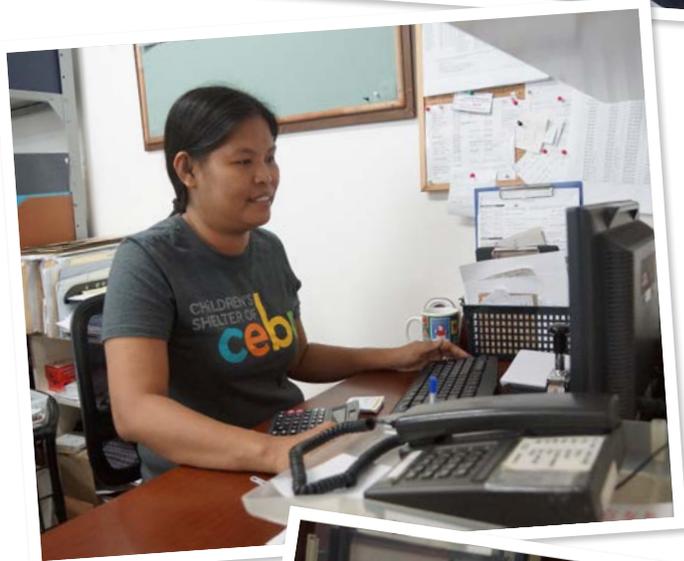




Angie
Cashier



Ging
Office
Manager



Maribel
Accounts
Payable



Vanjing
Administrative
Assistant

PRAYER REQUESTS and PRAISES

PRAISES

The CSC Board of Directors had a successful retreat in September. Thank you for your prayers. Important decisions were made, and the vision of the organization was discussed. CSC is blessed to have such an amazing group of God-fearing people leading this ministry.



Princess (6) has recovered from recent surgery and is ready to move out of the infirmary and back into Duterte! She is a sweet girl, and we are blessed to be able to care for her.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for our finances. We are rolling into the busiest and most important three months of fundraising for the organization and are tracking a little behind budget. Please pray for God to meet the need precisely as He knows it to be, and pray that we will trust in God to meet all of our needs.

Our new missionaries, Jake and Pam Schulz, and their three children, Isaac, Carter and Mady, are settling well into life in Cebu. Jake is hard at work at the Cebu office, and Pam is homeschooling the children. Please pray with us for their continued adjustment to living in the Philippines.

KIDS' KORNER

JEMARIE and **ANALISA** have been in our care since November, 2014. They came to us when another child-caring organization closed its doors. Any time a child comes from a situation of abandonment, there is certainly heartache for them to work through, but in the girls' case this was complicated by the added hurt of the previous shelter closing. They've made great progress in our care. Both have had to work through some fears, disengagement and overly emotional responses, but they are improving. They work hard at school and are a lot of fun to be around.



MOISES was adopted and left with his family in August. They are now settling at home in Norway. Moises was at the shelter for just over 3 years and he was a joy to have around. We have a cute story about Moises and his friend Thomas. Look for this in our November letter!

Our sibling group of five, **VENUS** (16), **SARAH** (14), **WILSON** (11), **MARKY** and **MARTY** (9), were just adopted! They recently joined their family in Utah. We saw these children grow so much in the five years they were at the shelter. They are all so excited! This is a huge adjustment for these children and their new adoptive family. Please pray with us for a smooth transition.



THREE OF OUR BOYS ARE RUNNING OUT OF TIME.

*Soon, they will be too old to have a chance for a family.
Will you help by praying for them or sharing their information with others?*

WILMAR 15 YEARS OLD; DUTERTE HOME

Wilmar has lived at CSC since he was seven months old. He is an amazing young man. Wilmar has medical issues and developmental delays, but he doesn't let that slow him down! He has a fun, infectious personality and likes to be the center of attention. He has lots of energy and spends a lot of time on the playground and enjoys playing basketball. Wilmar is known at CSC as the best free-throw shot around. He rarely misses!

Wilmar has been diagnosed with cerebral palsy with left hemiplegia, cognitive delay with possible autism spectrum disorder, hypothyroidism and mild hearing loss. He receives supportive services such as physical and speech therapy.

The best family for Wilmar is a home that is nurturing, structured and has a strong support system. Wilmar's family must be open to multiple appointments with medical specialists and community service providers, and they must be willing to follow through with recommendations to meet his needs. If Wilmar isn't placed in the next few months, he will lose his chance to be adopted.



MICHAEL 15 YEARS OLD; EICHER HOME

Michael came to CSC in 2012. He is a quiet, sweet child. He is loyal to others and a good friend. Caregivers have noted he is very considerate of others. When Michael arrived at the shelter, he was behind in school. Over the last few years, he has made significant improvements. He has gained more confidence, and we have seen progress in all areas. Science is his favorite subject this year. Michael also enjoys outdoor activities including soccer and basketball.

Michael has moderate or severe hearing loss. He currently wears hearing aides. He has clear speech and can easily communicate his needs. Michael could benefit from more appropriate hearing devices or even surgery in his future.

Our hope is that a family will step forward to adopt him that could offer this

help. Please pray with us for a forever family for Michael.

DANILO 12 YEARS OLD; CHERNE HOME

Danilo came to CSC in 2012 after living in a few different temporary homes. He had a cleft lip and palate and has undergone multiple surgeries to repair it. At CSC, Danilo has received speech therapy on a regular basis, and it has been wonderful to see the results. His speech is more understandable, and he is slowing down to pronounce his words. He is small for this age but otherwise in good health.

Danilo is an enthusiastic boy who can liven up an entire room. His teachers have described him as charming. Everything in the school and around the shelter is interesting and amazing in Danilo's eyes.

Danilo enjoys school. He has shown great improvement academically. He was an early reader and appreciates library time. Drawing in art class is his favorite. He is behind his peers academically but is making great progress. Danilo will be a bright light to any potential family. We pray for his future and what it might hold.



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Photos tell the CSC story

One of the big jobs at CSC is photography. Some might see this as an add-on to the "real work," but we need a lot of pictures to do our jobs well. We need to take admission photos of the children, we take photos to chart their progress and we take photos that will one day be given to their adoptive parents. In addition, we regularly post to Facebook and Twitter to introduce people to our work.

Thanks to some excellent photographers amongst our staff members, and the occasional volunteer, we are able to tell the story of CSC with the faces of our precious kids.

