



## We Are Thankful For Our Talented Filipino Staff

by Paul Healy, CSC Field Director

Thanksgiving is a great time to take stock of the blessings that God pours out on CSC. Our talented and hardworking Filipino staff members are a great place to start. Among our more than 80 employees are engineers, social workers, accountants, lawyers, nurses, teachers, child care workers and those who cook, clean and do the

Jerry is an engineer and uses his knowledge to manage all the maintenance and transportation needs at CSC. He is strong when that is needed but is kind and understanding with the children. Praise God that he is on our staff.

Joanna is both an accountant and a lawyer. She makes sure that all our funds are properly accounted for and files the reports



Jerry Salgo



Carmelita Baya



Joanna Aballe



Warlita Manlun



Cris

*Among our more than 80 Filipino employees are engineers, social workers, accountants, lawyers, nurses, teachers, counselors, house parents, child care workers and those who cook, clean and do the laundry.*



Laarni

laundry. Professional workers handle the case management of the children, attend to their emotional, medical, educational and spiritual needs, and help with the financial management of the ministry.

Carmelita is our Supervising Social Worker, and is one of the most knowledgeable people in the Philippines concerning the case management of dependent children. In addition to professionalism and knowledge, she has a huge heart for the children that get referred to CSC. For the past 25 years she has represented our children in court and other governmental agencies, written reports and worked to acquire birth certificates and other documentation needed for the children. She is a first-rate social worker and we are thankful to God that she works at CSC.

necessary for our status as a nonprofit ministry in the Philippines. When necessary, she represents our children in court for abandonment proceedings. She is bright, gifted and deeply committed to the ministry. We are very thankful for Joanna.

Warlita Manlun is an experienced and knowledgeable nurse. She has a deep love for God and a spiritual maturity that overflows to the workers and children. Her loving hands provide the best in care to our kids. We are filled with gratitude for Warlita.

And there are many more. Like Cris, a talented classroom teacher who accepted the challenge to be our Children of Hope School principal. And Laarni, who became our head counselor earlier this year and who lovingly helps our children deal with difficult issues

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Every  
child  
deserves  
a family.



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It's been over three years since our kids completed our family, and my favorite time of the day has become supper time. We work hard to have us all at the table consistently.

One benefit of this time together is how much fun we have. The kids were being especially goofy last night and at one point were giving some good-natured teasing to one sibling in particular. Our 13 year-old Mark made a comment and then leaned over and asked "get it" to this sibling who decided to ignore him. A few seconds of silence passed before he leaned back and said "nope, I guess not." It was good comedy and he had us all laughing hard.

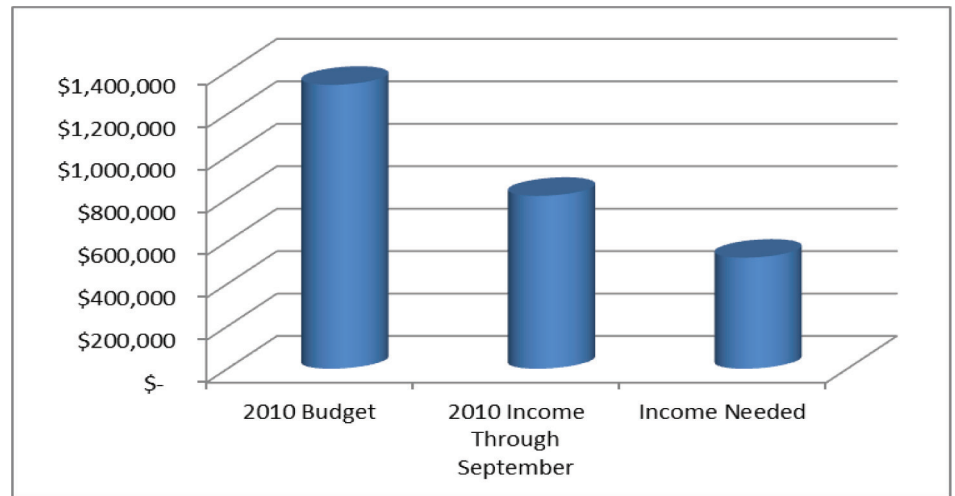
I don't know where he gets this stuff, but I can't take much credit. If we shared all the DNA in the world, I still couldn't take credit for his wit. Yet, we've come to find Mark and I have lots in common, as each of our four do with the two of us.

In older child adoption things take time, and much has changed in three years. Most importantly, they are increasingly becoming ours. It is happening more as the weeks pass. My definition of "ours" is growing; it is becoming more full as we grow closer as a family.

I'm not certain if our kids know in their hearts that we will never leave them. I hope they do, deep inside. I hope they know they are ours in ways that none of us could have dreamed possible three years ago. All because of this place called Children's Shelter of Cebu. And, in part, because of your support. So, from our family to yours, thank you! Really, we wouldn't be here without many of you.

## FINANCIAL REPORT: *We Need You!*

Many things don't change a lot around CSC. Every day we take care of kids the best we can, and there is a lot of routine involved: changing diapers, reading stories, and sharing the love of God. Days, weeks and months don't need to be much different from each other. This is not the case when it comes to CSC's finances. Our fourth quarter has a tremendous impact on the year as a whole, and what we're able to do entering 2011. In fact, nearly 22% of our yearly income generally comes in during December.



This year we feel the weight of financial needs as much as ever. It has not been a year without celebration. God has sustained us with a great increase

in income from something called the Combined Federal Campaign. We've needed it as many supporters just have not been able to give as much as they have in past years. This has resulted in us "owing" our Cebu operations \$80,000 in funds that have not been sent

per the budget plan. This also means we have had to draw our entire US reserves to support the ministry expenses. We need to do well in December to stay on good footing in 2011. We need to finish strong in order to take in more kids. We need God, and we need his people for another strong finish. Please pray for us, and, if you are able, please give to this work. We need you.

**\$527,000**

Amounted needed in 4th quarter.

**\$133,000**

Amount drawn out of reserves in 2009.

**\$80,000**

Amount withheld in Cebu sendings.

*Filipino Staff, continued from page 1*

in their lives. She reaches out to them with love and acceptance, and shares the hope of renewal in Christ. And our eight house parents, Patrick, Lourdes, Tarex, Purerza, Ondoy, Edyth, Dondon and Ivy, who live with the children and serve as loving substitute parents in our various residences.

A visitor asked me recently about CSC's "formula for success." He was wondering why we had been able to keep going and flourish over 31 years, when many other ministries have failed. I thought about the faithfulness of our supporters, the vision and commitment of our U.S. staff and the contribution of adoptive families. But the first answer that I gave him was that we had such great Filipino workers in all the important roles of the ministry. They do their jobs well, they love the children and they join the rest of us in honoring God by helping provide a loving home to his children. At this Thanksgiving season I want to remember these fine people and how they enrich the ministry of CSC.





As Marilyn walked across the stage at the University of Cebu to receive her college diploma, only a few people in the auditorium understood just how significant an achievement it was. Only her siblings, house parents, and the CSC staff knew how hard she had worked and how badly she had wanted to finish college. They knew just how much she deserved the diploma being handed to her.

Marilyn's march really began back in 1997 when she and her two younger siblings were admitted to CSC. Although she was 12 years old, she had only been able to finish the third grade, due to extreme poverty in her family and the responsibility of caring for her siblings.



With a late start to her education the road ahead promised to be a long and difficult one for Marilyn. It meant that she would be attending classes with students much younger than herself. To make it she would need to work harder than her classmates, and keep at it until she would be 25 years old.

Marilyn worked hard! She burned the midnight oil and sacrificed for 13 years as she

navigated through elementary, high school and college. In all, she attended six different schools including our Children of Hope School in 1998. Through difficult times when it would have been easy to give up, she kept her eyes on God and believed in herself. When other kids would go on outings or special activities, Marilyn would opt to stay home and study.

With the encouragement of the CSC staff and the house parents and teachers, Marilyn made the most of the opportunity that she was given. On October 15 she marched across the stage at the Cebu Coliseum to receive her diploma for a degree in Office Technology from the University of Cebu.

Marilyn's academic life is a symbol of the challenges that many of our children face in education, and in life. Life has robbed them of normal opportunities. But because of the people who love them, and who give generously to the ministry, they are given a second chance at going to school and reaching their potential.

Congratulations to Marilyn, and thanks to all who supported her.



*I am proud of Marilyn because she used the opportunities that God gave her to achieve something that she hadn't dreamed possible when she arrived at CSC. She came to CSC as a painfully shy young lady who had endured much trauma and neglect. She saw a way out of the poverty that she had thought was her life. Education became her goal. She knows that there are still more goals to achieve!*

Auntie Sandy Swanson



## Marilyn's Path Towards Her Diploma

**1997** - Marilyn and her siblings were admitted at CSC. She began attending Banawa Elementary School with other CSC kids.

**1998** - Marilyn started attending the brand new Children of Hope School.

**1999** - Marilyn transferred to the school at Immanuel Bible College to finish her elementary grades.

**2001** - Marilyn attended MZED Christian School for high school.



**2006** - Marilyn took her first year of college at Silliman University in Dumanague City on the island of Negros.

**2007** - Marilyn finished up her college work at the University of Cebu in Cebu City, getting a Bachelor of Arts with a concentration in Office Technology.

**2010** - Marilyn joined 811 graduates on October 15 as she received her diploma.

The exodus begins. Fifteen kids have been matched with adoptive families! Our group of nine siblings has a family, if the USA Adoption Simplification bill passes. If it does not pass, only seven will be able to go. Pray with us that Jeneviev (18) and Nino (16) will be approved to join siblings Riza Mae (15), Leheca (13), Charydyn (12), Charryto (10), June (8), Barto (6) and Jashly (5) to travel to their new home. Brothers Rael (16), Weeno (14), and Melrod (12) were blessed and overjoyed to learn four days before Rael's 16th birthday that they have a family as well! Angillo (8), Rhoella (6), and Charles (4) are the proud owners of a photo album of their family to be.



**Mary Nila (two months)** is a beautiful baby girl who was born on September 8 and arrived at CSC when she was



about 48 hours old. She is growing fast and loves to drink her bottle. When she is finished drinking she has only a little time to give us a few smiles before falling back into a peaceful sleep.

Lovely is 20 months old and has been at CSC since she was six weeks old. Clifford is talkative, active, and mischievous! The report from his first day in pre-school was that he took all of two minutes to "get with the program."

He really moves fast and makes a great CSC kid!

**Clifford (6)** has been reunited with his little sister, **Lovely**, here at CSC. We are excited to have a Clifford!



(Marlys Healy's father, Clifford Danielson, was CSC's first Stateside Director.)

**Wilmar (9)** has lived at CSC since he was seven months old. He is



our champion shooter in basketball. Wilmar has some special needs but he makes us smile with his antics every day. Wilmar loves life and we love Wilmar.

**Argei Kem (16), Ardian (14), Adelyn (13), and Janice (10)** have lived with us for over four years. All four struggle but they work hard and have a desire to achieve. Kem loves to talk and is interested in many things. His questions often make us laugh but it is wonderful to see his curious mind at work. Ardian enjoys welcoming visitors to our home, especially if they are girls his age. Writing letters to his newfound friends keeps his writing hand in good form. Adelyn has recently started paying lots of attention to her hair and clothes. She keeps her closet the neatest of anyone at CSC. She needs to give some lessons, especially to Janice, who is still hoping to keep little sister status while claiming to be "one of the big girls." One of these days she will believe us that she cannot have it both ways!

## Wally Johnson Teen Home



Roselyn is 22 and has lived with us since she was nine years old. After graduating from our school a few years ago, Roselyn spent some time in a program training her to do manicures and pedicures. After a year or so of that she decided she wanted to go back to school. She really stuck with it and finished High School. She amazed us with her determination! She is now in her first year of college and is still amazing us.



Arleen is 27 years old and has lived with us for 22 of those years! Arleen is blind because of complications with measles when she was only two years old. Arleen loves to sing, play piano and wants to find the time to learn to play guitar better, as well. She has worked hard in school. There are few adaptations made for blind students in the school system here, but we are able to have her lessons translated to Braille in our office. Arleen is on track to graduate from college in 2012. She hopes to teach music to blind children for her life's work.



Juliato is 20 years old. He came to live with us when he was 9 ½ years old. Juliato spent 2-3 years doing gardening and construction work but then decided that he wanted to return to school. He is now in his first year of High School and is doing well! We are proud of Juliato. Academics have always been a challenge for him, but he is putting forth his best effort.



## 2011 Banquet Set for April 16

Circle April 16 on your calendar and plan to attend the 2011 CSC banquet at Bethel University. It will be another exciting evening of fun and



fellowship, with great music and updates on the ministry. Come and bring friends. Check the CSC web site in the coming months for more information. Invitations will be sent out in February. Registration will be available online.

## Our Mission Statement

*We exist to glorify God by demonstrating His love to the Philippines as we provide a loving, Christ-centered home with comprehensive medical, educational and placement services for homeless Filipino children.*

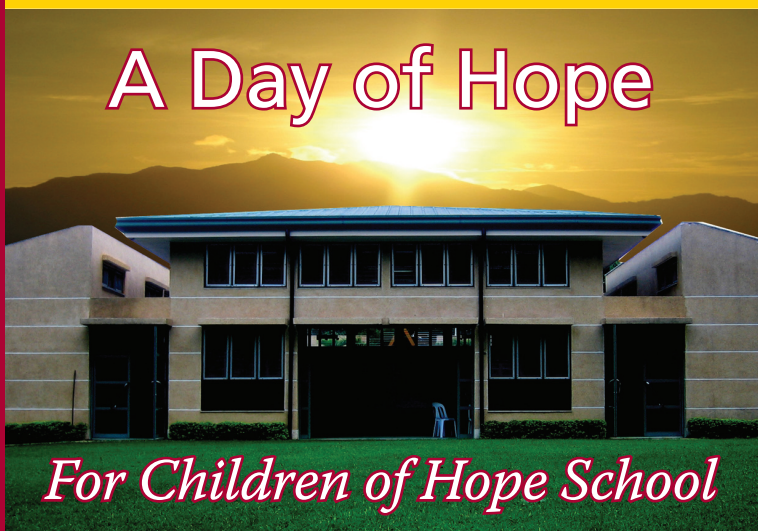


GiveMN.org is an online resource that is seeking to help create a stronger nonprofit community for Minnesota. They sponsor a yearly campaign called Give to the Max Day. This year's GMD is November 16. Last year, more than

38,000 donors logged on to GiveMN. The result: more than \$14 million for 3,434 Minnesota nonprofits, whose missions range from feeding the hungry, to protecting the environment, to promoting the arts. This year's goal is to engage more than 40,000 donors to give to their favorite Minnesota charities in just 24 hours. Customized profiles of Minnesota charities detail their individual missions, programs and events.

As an approved 501(c)(3) charity, CSC is a participant in this fund raising event. Go to giveMN.org for more information or to give to CSC. Online gifts are transferred without any processing fees. You don't have to be a Minnesotan to take advantage of that!

## A Day of Hope



Children of Hope School has been an important part of the ministry of CSC since 1998. We provide quality education to our children and others from the community. To help us fund this amazing school we are offering our friends an opportunity to underwrite a day of school operations - a program we are calling **A Day of Hope**.

For a gift of \$350, individuals, families, church groups, civic organizations or former CHS students can support the school program for a day, paying the salaries for our teachers and therapists, electricity and other utilities, and school materials. We will announce the sponsorships on the CSC web site, and will send a certificate to the person being honored by the gift, should the donor choose to recognize a significant person with their sponsorship. We will also send the sponsor a special recognition from Cebu.

Check out the CSC web site in the coming weeks for more information or to make a Day of Hope gift, or call the CSC office at 763-689-6558. The donor(s) may specify a particular day for the sponsorship, on a first come first served basis.

## Prayer

## Our CSC Circle of Prayer

## Praises

1. Pray for Marilyn as she joins the thousands of graduates entering the job market in Cebu. Pray that she would find a good job and that her transition to life outside of CSC would be smooth.
2. Pray for legislation that needs to pass the US House of Representatives that would allow our sibling group of nine to go together to their adoptive family.
3. Pray for CSC's income during the last two months of the year. A big finish to the year is needed for us to fulfill our commitments to the children in Cebu.



1. For our faithful and talented Filipino workers who contribute so much towards the ministry and show their love for the CSC kids.
2. For opportunities to share the ministry with individuals and churches and for the many faithful people who support this ministry.
3. Praise the Lord for the children, including those in sibling groups, who have recently been matched with families.
4. For our new board members, Gordy, Kirsten and Chuck, and their enthusiasm for providing leadership for CSC.



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**Change Service Requested**

#### Cebu Staff

Field Director: *Paul Healy*  
Executive Director: *Mitch Ohlendorf*  
Medical Director: *Marlys Healy*  
Outreach Director: *Ruth Ohlendorf*  
Child Development Director: *Sandy Swanson*  
School Consultant: *Shari Reasoner*  
Teacher: *Amy Luck*  
Teacher: *Tammy Vosika*  
Asst. Director: *Joel Reasoner*

#### Stateside

U.S. Director: *Matthew Buley*  
Office Manager: *Roger Anderson*  
Administrative Assistant: *Brenda Leaf*  
Editor: *Paul Healy*

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# FOSTER FRIENDS

**F**or the modest sum of \$25 a month, you can be a Foster Friend. You will be assigned a child and will be given a picture and background information on how your child came to live at CSC. You will receive regular updates with pictures so you can chart your child's development. If your child is old enough, he or she will send you an occasional letter. Since it costs much more than \$25 a month to provide for the many needs of a child, your gift will be combined with those of others to form an extended family of support for your child.

Yes, I would like to sponsor a child through the Foster Friends Program. I will support this child at an amount of \_\_\_\_\_\$25 U.S. a month \_\_\_\_\_\$25 Canadian a month

Enclosed find my first payment of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover \_\_\_\_\_ months.

☐ I cannot become a Foster Friend at this time, but I would like to make a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

☐ Please send me more information about CSC.

☐ Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: *Children's Shelter of Cebu.*

U.S. donors mail to: Foster Friends, c/o CSC, Box 247  
Cambridge, MN 55008

Canadian donors mail to: Foster Friends, c/o CCSSC, P.O. Box 141  
Abbotsford, BC V2T 6Z5

*Contributions to CSC are tax-deductible*

