

OASIS

FAMILY MINISTRY

Student Sponsorship Davao Philippines

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NEWSLETTER - ISSUE NO. 24

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Report from Directors

Phil writes - We had the privilege of visiting the project together this April. My teaching career is great in that it allows me to use school breaks to come over here. We get really busy as we usually only have 10 days in Davao.



A typical kitchen in a 10x8 foot house for 7. The house's lighting system is in the foreground (the candle).

There are many highlights on such a trip but one of the most humbling experiences is when we visit new families eligible for sponsorship, their children having already shown commitment to regularly attending Oasis tutorials after school.



Three large families live in this shack, one had 7 children. Judy is on the left taking notes.

The houses are often shabby shacks about 10' x 8' that don't have electricity - really just a floor and a roof where an often large family live like sardines in a can. Sometimes we are able to bring the fantastic news that one of their children can be sponsored. Often, you can see a glimmer of hope return to the tired despondent face of a solo mum or a father without work.

Introducing our new Office Manager, Grace Terante

After 4 years of faithful and fruitful service with Oasis, Gina has decided to leave and move back into the province to be with her mother who is not well. We will miss her and Ken.

We are pleased to welcome **Grace** to replace Gina's position. Grace is enthusiastic and has demonstrated commitment to community ministry through her local church. We are excited about the personal strengths she brings to Oasis.



Youth Work

We have a very committed core group of young people who have grown so much in so many ways over the last years. They are stepping forward into leadership roles and are taking initiatives on their own.

Recently, Jennalyn Gulferic, one of our outstanding students came up with the idea of having an Oasis T-Shirt. The young people raised some money and offer these shirts at a heavily subsidized price to Oasis youth. It is our hope that as our youth continue to grow, they will always be willing to give something back and invest in others.



Phil sharing and encouraging the youth group

In May they will go on a camp entitled "The Amazing Race", which will see them discover landmarks in their own city. We were surprised to learn that they didn't know many of these, as they only travel to where they need to go to, school and home.

Guitar lessons



This is Lucky, a German friend who is teaching guitar at Oasis. The guitars were donated from his friends in Germany. He has been impressed with the

enthusiasm of the students and is enjoying great relationships with our young people. Oasis is pleased to have him around and the young people are enjoying him immensely.

Tutorial Project Update

It's so rewarding to see students getting so much benefit from the tutorials in English and Mathematics. This is making a significant



difference to their confidence at school. Jenny, our tutor, is doing a great job and maintains well disciplined and focused classes.

It is a highlight for me to see the kids getting satisfaction out of solving mathematical problems. You can almost see their personal confidence growing as you watch. If a family is referred to us we ask them to send their students to the tutorials, which is a great opportunity for us to determine the interest and commitment of a student before we would consider looking for a sponsor for them. Almost all of our students regularly attend the tutorial classes.

This aspect of Oasis could be further extended if we had funding to employ another teacher. The potential here is great.

*God bless you all for your caring support and commitment to this ministry.
With much appreciation,*

From Phil and Judy McLean (Directors)

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