

RNDM INTERNATIONAL MISSION NEWSLETTER

FOR RNDMS
ASSOCIATES
FRIENDS
SPONSORS &
PARTNERS

RNDM INTERNATIONAL MISSION
DEVELOPMENT - ROME
PROMOTES MISSION THROUGH
COMMUNICATIONS AND FUNDING FOR THE
SISTERS OF OUR LADY OF THE MISSIONS
IN 22 COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE



April 2022

Dear Friends,

At this Easter season, we are reminded of the joy and love of the Risen Lord and we continue to believe that "God so loved the world that He gave his only Son..." (Jn 3:16). This love is what underpins all our mission and ministry across the world and to be witnesses of His Resurrection.

We extend our thanks to all our sisters, mission partners, benefactors, associates and well-wishers, who have generously contributed towards the Christmas Catalogue and Solidarity projects of the Congregation. We have received US\$ 117,321.50 to support the Solidarity projects and US\$ 61,448.39 for the Christmas Projects. We truly appreciate your generous support that enables us to continue our mission and improve the lives of many children, women and their families.

This newsletter brings some of the activities and projects that have been significantly life-changing and

growth-promoting experiences for the people we are missioned to work with. Your generosity has made it possible and we are grateful.

On behalf of all the people, we express our gratitude to you for making a difference in their lives. May God bless you always.

Wishing you and your families the Joy and peace of the Risen Christ!



Smitha Thomas RNDM

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GRATITUDE TO THE BENEFACTORS, Vinh Trang, Vietnam

"My name is Y Mung, I am 19 years old.

I am writing this letter to express my gratitude to the Sisters and benefactors who have given me the opportunity to attend school.



to high school, but considering my family situation, I gave up

Due to difficult living conditions, my parents are often sick, so their ability to work is also affected.

This makes them unable to take care of their children's education.

When I finished secondary school, I had the desire to go

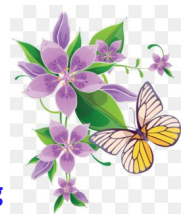
on that idea. At that time, I was lucky to be accepted in the boarding school of the sisters of Our Lady of the Missions and had the opportunity to continue my studies. I have stayed at the Sisters' boarding house for 3 years and in 2020 I graduated from high school. Thanks to the sisters and their benefactors I can continue my studies at the college.

At present, I am a first year student of "Pham Ngoc Thach Medical College" specializing in "Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation".

Thanks for your generosity dear benefactors; I have found a good environment to study, to pursue my favorite school subject and fulfil my dream. I would like to thank and wish you a healthy and successful life!

You are always in my prayers.

With deep gratitude



Y Mung

TIME TO STUDY, GROW AND PLAY, Gournadi, Bangladesh

Dear friends,

At St Joseph's home for boys in Gournadi we care for the most disadvantaged and malnourished children who attend junior school.

Thanks to the solidarity funds received, we were able to provide healthy food and the necessary medicines to improve their health conditions. We were also able to financially



support 23 less fortunate children with their ongoing formal education at St. Josephs' Junior School. Our goal is to increase the number of children in education so that in the future they will be able to make a valuable contribution for the development of their own communities. Unfortunately, the number of children who can not attend primary school due to financial reasons is increasing. That is why we are grateful to our donors who are enabling us to reach



out to as many disadvantaged children as possible and support them in many ways.

We are also prioritizing on health issues and we conduct lessons to make children aware of proper hygienic practises. The Solidarity funds enabled us to provide nutritious food, medicines, school materials but also games for the boys at St. Josephs' home.

We are doing our best to make them live a better life and we could not accomplish all this without your generosity. Thank you!



Shiuly Catherine Gomes RNDM

IMPROVING LIVES OF TRIBAL FAMILIES, Odisha, India Central



Dear friends,

In 2010, the Congregation decided to establish a permanent Social Work Centre in Kuchinda, Odisha, focused on empowering tribal groups (particularly women and children) through formal and non-formal education, formation of Self Help Groups and training for women for sustainable development. At present we run 10 Supplementary Education Centres in Kuchinda block with 220 children in 7 villages. Our main focus is to impart quality education to the tribal and dalit children in the remote villages as well as conduct capacity building training for women who are the most

deprived and marginalized members of our society. We also aim at making people aware and providing information about the government benefits and all women and children's rights for them to be able to claim their entitlements.

We thank all our donors who are enabling us, with their ongoing support, to continue our mission of education and empowerment among the most disadvantaged and marginalized communities. Wishing you all a Happy Easter.

Sr. Jayaseeli Sadhanandham, RNDM



A WOMAN IS GOD'S GREATER GIFT, Madurampattu — India South

"If you educate a man you educate an individual, but if you educate a woman you educate a family".



It is a great opportunity to set up an empowerment programme to improve the lives of women and children. Our goal is to impart knowledge, create awareness, awake

all the potentials that are specifically innate to women but are not acknowledged, such as accept oneself as a woman, value women's skills and celebrate the gift of life as a woman. In our patriarchal society, women are considered inferior to men and good only for the household work and for taking care of children, husband and family.

Very often young girls do not mingle with other gender or take part spontaneously in social activities because of their physical changes. Our main objective is to empower young women and help them appreciate themselves and accept womanhood as a greater gift from God. We conduct

educational programmes related to girls' growth and physical development and on hygiene. We also encourage these women and young girls to understand the importance of education and avail opportunities for it.

We are grateful to all our donors and benefactors who helped and supported us financially and enabled us to carry out these life giving programs for the most vulnerable and neglected young girls and future women of our society.



Sr. Gloria Joseph RNDM

VOICE TO THE PHYSIOTHERAPIST, Tei Wa Ngai — Kenya

"This is a programme for children living with different forms of disabilities, different vulnerable groups, the young people and also for educating caregivers, mothers and families who live with the disabled.

The programme serves the Matuu area in Kenya and its parishes. In all these areas treatment is being done at the nearest health center. Home visits also occur. The treatment is done by a Physiotherapist, or an Occupational therapist, accompanied by the Coordinators and the health worker.



I have been working in Tei Wa Ngai Programme for the past 7 months. During this time, with the guidance of the coordinators, I've been able to attend to many children, with different levels of disability, stretching a hand of mercy to the least fortunate and giving out health education to the caregivers and to the children.

Let me express my sincere gratitude to God for all this; a lot has been achieved. May God bless abundantly our caring and supporting donors whom we will never forget to mention in our daily prayers. To the Sisters of our Lady of the Mission, to our able coordinators, thank you for your endless love for this programme. To my colleague, Mary, our occupational therapist, a lot is achieved through your dedication in caring for the young ones. To all the health workers, thank you for reaching our clients at their homes. To all the caregivers may you forever be strengthened in caring for the little angels.

Thank you".

Anthony I. Mutunga
Physiotherapist, Tei Wa Ngai.



SUSTAINABLE PROJECTS, Kulaman, Philippines

Dear friends and benefactors,

As part of our mission with the Manobo tribe, Delesan Kailawan focuses on the empowerment of women so that they have the skills and confidence to work side by side with men. The skills training provided culturally respectful, simple program for Manobo women in Kulaman. Bead handicraft and basic sewing/tailoring offered the opportunity for the women to boost their family income in order to support their basic needs at the same time, preserving a very important craft in the Manobo culture. The women participants were able to learn to make their traditional puso and square keychains, ID holders, necklaces and bracelets. Marketing strategies and identifying culturally inclined product designs were also part of their education. Due to the pandemic quarantine situation, there was difficulty in marketing their products and thus at the same time affects the procuring of bead products from the women. This prompted us to provide them with some bead materials to encourage them to con-



continue to practice this skill and sell their products locally. The women expressed their joy for having learned the skill in bead-work-making. This is very visible during our home visits to the villages where the trained Manobo women proudly wore their bead products they themselves made. We also saw some children now wearing beads lovingly crafted by their mothers. The bead products made them appreciate and value more their own identity as Manobo Dulangan and are able to pass it on to their children. It helped them discover and enhance their innate creativity and patience as they piece together the colorful beads to make their intricate Manobo patterns. The groups of women became more confident that through this skill they are able to earn extra alternative income for their family. Moreover, we have noticed that it didn't only teach them the skill but it created a closer and stronger bond among the group therefore it was

easier for them to start organizing themselves. In their simple way, they were able to form a support group within their community. Delesan Kailawan continue to trained women in basic sewing and tailoring with an expert Trainor. The women participants were carefully supervised until they



were able to sew their traditional costumes and ecological bags using recycled materials. The eco bag is part of our environmental advocacy. It aims to recycle used clothes and rice sacks in making eco-friendly bags. Through this effort, the women learned the importance of recycling and its impact on the environment.

We are grateful for the continued support of friends, mission partners, RNDM solidarity through the effort of the sisters across the congregation for the Manobo Dulangan Tribe in Kulaman, Sultan Kudarat. With your help, we managed to continue reaching out to the tribe who needs assistance in education, health and livelihood. **Delma Barrientos, RNDM**



RNDM INTERNATIONAL MISSION DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, ROME

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