

I am honored to extend greetings on behalf of the sponsored children and college students you support. We are tremendously grateful for your generosity and consider you a true blessing. As we celebrate 37 years of LCW's dedicated service to the children and youth in Dumaguete City, Philippines, we are truly amazed by God's goodness. Your willingness to act as a conduit for God's love enables LCW to positively impact lives daily. **Thank you for creating miracles every day in the lives of your sponsored children and college students, including in my own life.**

From initially rescuing 8 boys with just cardboard for shelter, we now sponsor 920 children-giving these children and youth a helping hand to escape poverty for themselves, their families, and the next generation. This summer, over 50 high school students and 19 college students celebrated their graduation milestones. Since 2001, 388 students have successfully graduated college and are making a positive impact in the world. LCW's services reach over 6000 individuals, and the name of Jesus Christ is proclaimed. All these successes would have been impossible without you. Your partnership, prayers, and support for this ministry are vital, and for that, we are eternally grateful.

I hope you will read about the ongoing fundraising initiatives like the Summer Giveaway and the Matching Funds Campaign in this issue, note the updates, and celebrate the successes. **Your gifts allow us to continue to be God's hands and feet. Finally, words fall short of expressing my deepest gratitude to you for investing in the life of these precious Filipino children.**

Daghang Salamat – Thank you very much! And God bless you always, Marie Lou Patrimonio Abbott, VP of Sponsorship



**Little Children of the World**  
P.O. Box 37  
Barnesville GA 30204  
Tel/Fax 770-358-2771  
www.littlechildren.org

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**Important Announcements & Reminders**

- Give online:** littlechildren.org
- Give by phone:** 770-358-2771
- Give by mail:** Use enclosed envelope
- Sponsorship:** \$35 per month



VP OF SPONSORSHIP

# HAND IN HAND

Volume 37 | 2024



## REUBEN MORENO JR., GEOLOGIST



"Life was not easy growing up in a poor family where I was raised by a carpenter father. We sometimes cannot eat 3 times a day. When I was four years old, my mom and I started coming to LCP. My mom hoped that I will get a sponsor and that it will help us with our day-to-day food. Because of LCP, I grew up hearing Bible stories during Sunday school and Bible studies. When I was in 1st grade, I got a sponsor. We were so happy! At last, my family would never struggle with where to find money. The monthly sponsorship and gifts given to me helps me to provide my everyday needs such as clothes to wear, food to eat, school supplies, and even the renovation of our house. For eighteen years, it was my pleasure to be part of this organization through the ups and downs in my life. I could not imagine my life without LCP.

Back then, I was a child who was blessed having a sponsor named Harold and Heather Goetsch. These two lovely and magnificent people have helped me get to where I am right now. They supported me for so many years. Being sponsored by them is such a treasure that I couldn't imagine, the love and support they share to me is like a diamond it is unbreakable, rare, and priceless. Thank you so much you both will be always treasured in my heart. We continued being active members until I got to college and was granted a scholarship. In 2019, I enrolled my dream course Bachelor of Science in Geology. Going to College is a dream for everyone, and I am no different. Taking a course that I dreamed since I was a child was so fulfilling, time went so fast and as graduation neared, I could sense I was already near working in my profession. The hard work and sleepless nights just to study and do the activities finally paid off. To overcome all the obstacles in order to complete my degree program was challenging.



Wearing the Geologist title in front of my name was a dream. I will always pursue my dream to work in Mining Industries, like the Mines and Geosciences Bureau and other jobs that fits my course. I graduated my Baccalaureate degree in the Year 2022 and now I am working at the NGC Mineral Resources Corporation in Manila as a Junior Geologist for 1 year and a half now. As a Junior Geologist, I supervise face sample and drilling operations. I also do rock identification and classification, conduct field mapping and exploration to determine whether the region can support mining. It is really a dream job for me. I am now enjoying the fruits of my labor. I support my family back in Dumaguete and I can say, they are living in a good life now. Forever grateful to LCW/LCP and to my sponsors for making my dream come to reality."

**Thank you for supporting individuals like Reuben and so many others whose lives are forever changed through sponsorship and college scholarship! You, the sponsors and college donors, are making a lasting impact for generations to come through education! Whether you've recently sponsored or your student is graduating, you are making a difference. None of this work would be possible without you!**

# TRANSFORMATIVE GENEROSITY



The sponsorship team is incredible! It takes great effort and coordination to keep tabs on over 900 sponsored children and all of you who support them! Marie Lou Patrimonio Abbott, our VP of Sponsorship does an excellent job of coordinating sponsor/donor communications but her work is made possible by our Filipino counterparts who are the boots on the ground providing services in the Philippines! Melanie Caducoy has been the Sponsorship Coordinator at LCP for 5 years, but she also grew up in the program and received her college degree through our scholarship Program. She leads an outstanding staff of social workers and program assistants. Amie Lou Epan has been College Scholarship Steward at LCP for 22 years. She was also be beneficiary of sponsorship and scholarship. She coordinates the entire college program as well as the students in 11th and 12th grade along with her staff. These team members are critical to the success of the organization! Every letter and update passes through their hands. They ensure outstanding implementation of services!



Melanie reflects, "Working in Sponsorship, I have the incredible privilege of witnessing firsthand the transformative power of generosity. Working closely with sponsored children and their families fills my heart with immense joy every day. It's incredibly rewarding to see how sponsorship not only provides essential resources for education but also fosters love for one another, hope, opportunities for a brighter future, and most importantly spiritual growth. Building relationships with these families and seeing the positive impact on their lives is truly fulfilling. Creating smiles, emphasizing education, and empowering communities brings me a profound sense of purpose. This role has enriched my life beyond measure, and I am grateful for the opportunity to make a difference in such a meaningful way. From the bottom of my heart, I want to extend my deep gratitude to our sponsors and donors for their unwavering love and support for their sponsored children. Their generosity has not only provided the educational needs of the children but has also sparked hope and transformed lives in remarkable ways. Thank you for creating opportunities for the kids to dream big and pursue their ambitions. The impact of your kindness is felt deeply in the smiles, laughter, and successes of our sponsored children. Your compassion and dedication inspire us all and remind us of the power of God's love and goodness."

**Every sponsored child is loved and cared for in many ways. Staff members like Melanie, Amie Lou, and Marie Lou make sure of that. Thank you to our outstanding team who make this transformative program possible. Thank you to all of you who generously invest in changing lives through sponsorship and scholarship. Together, we are changing the world, one child at a time!**

## MORE THAN MONTHLY SUPPORT

Sponsorship is so much more than \$35 of monthly support. Our sponsorship program is unique in its holistic model of changing lives. While funding for basic needs is a critical aspect of the assistance, the HELPS programs really take sponsorship to the next level by meeting physical and spiritual needs. Every sponsored child and their family members are entitled to HELPS Program services by virtue of being sponsored. HELPS is an acronym that stands for H: Health services received for all sponsored children and their family members, E: Educational assistance from preschool through college for all sponsored children, L: Livelihood income generating skills training for parents of sponsored children, Peace & Faith—Spiritual enrichment, values formation, and Christian pastoral care for all, and S: Sponsorship monthly assistance grants access to all these programs plus so much more.

**We believe these additional programs set our sponsorship program apart and make it so effective for changing lives! All of the HELPS Programs are in need of funding and all of the HELPS programs contribute directly to the wellbeing of your sponsored child and their family. Please consider a donation to one of the HELPS programs in honor of your sponsored child and their family.**



# 2024 SUMMER GIVEAWAY

Summer is here and it's time to get your tickets for the summer giveaway from now until August 9. We will go live on Facebook on August 10 to announce the winners. Get your tickets now to win! **Tickets are \$10 each or 5 for \$40!**

- 1st prize: Bonfire smokeless fire pit kit (\$400 value)**
- 2nd prize: \$250 Visa gift card**
- 3rd prize: Filipino snacks & treats box (\$75 value)**

We will pick 3 winners. Winner 1 picks from all 3 prizes, winner 2 selects from remaining 2, winner 3 receives the remaining prize. All proceeds to support LCW Urgent Needs! Scan the QR code for more info or to purchase tickets!

## FILIPINO SPONSORS IN ILLINOIS

Filipino communities are strong and supportive! Filipinos in the greater Peoria, Illinois area are giving back and supporting 15 sponsored children through LCW! Groups like the Filipino American Society of Central Illinois help us reach Filipinos in the US who want to give back to help children in the Philippines, but often they find, they are also blessed. Sponsors Mike and Ria Sombon-Therry from Legazpi, Philippines say, "Through Little Children of the World, Inc, sponsorship gave us an opportunity to be parents to Joey and Jewel Nil. We have our own little family because of them. Sponsoring children change our lives." The connection of sponsorship is so much more than monthly support and goes beyond a financial transaction and creates a lasting impact across the world. **Thank you for sponsoring and changing lives!**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

**Summer 2024 is here! We have so much happening throughout the rest of this year. Thank you sponsors and college donors for all you do to change lives! Please keep an eye on our social media and website for more updates throughout the year!**

-The multi-program \$30,000 matching funds campaign is still ongoing! All gifts to Preschools, Peace and Faith, and the Shelters will be MATCHED until July 31! Give what you can today to make twice the impact!



-Over 50 students completed high school and many of them qualified for a college scholarship. Congratulations, graduates! If your student is one of the graduates, you should have received a letter with the details of continuing support for a student in college. We appreciate your response to those inquiries and your continued sponsorship even if granting an additional scholarship is not possible. We will work to find donors for all 137 scholars to attend college! If you are interested in supporting a college student through the scholarship program, please email [glennawaller@littlechildren.org](mailto:glennawaller@littlechildren.org). We have many opportunities to help support these students' education. Thank you for breaking the cycle of poverty through education!

-The end of the year will be here before we know it. Child Annual Progress Reports will be sent in late October/early November. Optional yearly health insurance payments (\$142) and Christmas gifts are due by November 10 to ensure they will be processed in time for renewal and Christmas distribution. Christmas gifts can be sent in December, but may be distributed after the Christmas holiday due to the volume of gifts being processed.

-Please note the Filipino school schedule is shifting back to June-March due to the extreme heat in April and May. The upcoming school years will be July 29, 2024-April 15, 2025 and June 16, 2025-March 31, 2026.

-Mail in Georgia has been severely delayed! All mailed correspondence to and from our office has been affected. Inbound and outbound mail can take weeks to arrive. Please shift to digital correspondence and transactions where possible to prevent being affected by this issue.

-Carmenia Benosa, LCP Executive Director is visiting September 17- October 31. We will travel all over to share about the work being done and their lives being changed. Would you like her share at your civic group, church, or home? We'd love to schedule a visit to your area. Email [brittanyfoster@littlechildren.org](mailto:brittanyfoster@littlechildren.org) for more info or to set a date.

