

Brief Description of the Project

Here is the situation in one of the peripheries of Mactan Island, known as Soong Dumpsite. The pictures below enable us to see a glimpse of the situation of the 80 informal settlers residing here.



Homes are often constructed from scavenged materials like wood, metal sheets, and plastic. Their homes made from scrap materials offer little protection from rain, heat, or intruders. The constant stench of rotting waste affects sleep, appetite, and overall well-being. Residents face high risks of disease, injury, and malnutrition due to unsanitary conditions, lack of clean water, and exposure to rotting waste.



Residents of Soong live in extreme poverty and rely on scavenging as a livelihood. Their form of income basically came through informal recycling labor in the Soong dumpsite, even though their health and safety are at risk. Skin infections, respiratory problems, and intestinal worms are common due to contact with waste and lack of sanitation. Dumpsites are often the only place where they can live without rent. They also have limited opportunities. Without education or formal employment, leaving the dumpsite is nearly impossible for most families. Residents spend most of their day rummaging through trash to find recyclable materials. This is their primary source of income, often yielding less than PHP150(one hundred fifty pesos) per day.

The **education** and the **welfare** particularly for **children** is at risk. Many children work alongside their parents instead of attending school, perpetuating the cycle of poverty. Many children skip school to help their families earn money, limiting their future opportunities. Poor diet and exposure to parasites lead to developmental issues, both physically and cognitively.

As we visit, emerge ourselves in this place, and accompany them, we believe that **social transformation** can be done through **basic education** to uplift poverty. But the **basic education of children** can be more affective and effective if they have water for proper sanitation and **food to feed their hungry stomach....** There are times that we had feeding in the area. But we can only operate based on our limited resources.



We help 50 children to have a basic education (1) by supporting their minimal monthly allowance; and (2) by tutorial sessions. Soon, the possibility that some **out of school youth** who are willing to study through **Alternative Learning Education**. We are planning to have a **regular monthly feeding** to all the children in this area.



Tutorial sessions



Parents getting the monthly allowance of their child

Hence, we want to apply for a **Regular Monthly Feeding of Children**. The duration of this proposed project will be three years, while we are also helping their basic education. We look forward that in our shared efforts, each child we support becomes a flame that can light others, particularly to their respect families, to uplift poverty.

We look forward for your favorable consideration.

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