



FRANCISCAN SISTERS of the POOR FOUNDATION

Summer 2016

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An Amazing Journey

Each year, the summer edition of the Franciscan Sisters of the Poor Foundation newsletter focuses on a special need for one of our ministries.

- ➔ 2013: **Your donations** helped build a school in Senegal, Mame Elisabeth Kindergarten, which we are happy to report opened successfully in October 2015.
- ➔ 2014: **Your gifts** renovated a playground at a daycare center in Brazil.
- ➔ 2015: **You supported** the purchase of new sewing machines for our women's training center in Senegal.

In 2016 we are asking your help for the children and young people served by our ministries in the Philippines. In this newsletter we give you a peek into the wonderful service being performed by our Sisters in the Philippines.

Dear Friends,

*On August 25, 2009, I traveled with Sr. Cristina Di Nocco and Sr. Maria Atorino as we began our journey to Dumaguete City in the Philippines. In that year the **Franciscan Sisters of the Poor Shelter of Hope** was born. Our hope was to provide food, medical support, and educational assistance to local individuals living in poverty with special emphasis on the local "street children".*

*The **Shelter of Hope** has grown to provide meals five days each week not only to the children on the street, but to numerous homeless and physically disabled individuals. Medical aid is offered to indigent families and education assistance is given to children with a high risk of dropping out of school. With kindness and tenderness, the Sisters help these impoverished children recognize their potential through constructive discipline, education and life-skills training including income-generating programs and projects. Collaboration with local social agencies, parishes and volunteers, enable the Sisters to make strides to fight the effects of poverty and provide hope to those living in our little corner of the world.*

We are grateful to the generous benefactors and Board of Governors of the Foundation who continue to support our mission. The gifts received from this newsletter will benefit the educational needs of the children we serve and provide scholarship aid to the young people seeking to continue their education.

*Peace and All Good,
Sr. Armida Sison, SFP*



**Your donations will support the educational needs
of the young people served by our Sisters in Dumaguete City, Philippines.**

**For more information about the Franciscan Sisters of the Poor Foundation
visit our website at**

www.franciscanfoundation.org

“A journey of 1,000 miles begins with one single step”

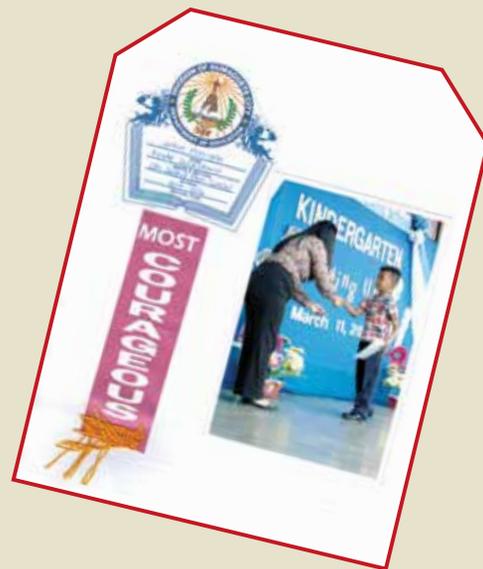
Lao Tzu

A special kind of **COURAGE**



JULIUS PANIGON, a child of the Shelter, has just achieved a major milestone on his journey—he graduated from kindergarten. He was presented with a special award from his school, **MOST COURAGEOUS**. It takes a special kind of courage to be age five and living on the streets with one’s mother. Thanks to the Sisters at the Shelter of Hope, he was able to complete the kindergarten curriculum. The Sisters have also helped Julius and his mom Rosalie find a room to rent--shelter and education are giant steps on Julius’ road out of poverty.

Well done, Julius! Continue to be Courageous!!!



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Franciscan Sisters of the Poor Scholarship Program is offered to poor, deserving high school graduates who are not able to attend college because their parents cannot afford the tuition and expenses. The program also gives aid to those already in college who cannot continue without financial help. Students must be the first members of their families to attend college. We are striving to help families improve their economic life situations and secure a better future.

Presently there are 15 students in this program for the 2015-16 school year. One of our recent graduates received a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education, cum laude, with seven additional non-academic awards. He comes from a poor family and worked his way through school. The scholarship program enabled him to complete his education while he did his required student teaching.



Let us journey beyond our comfort zones

In the course of seven years, the *Shelter of Hope* mission has seen many of our Sisters journey from all over the world to lend a helping and healing hand to those in need in the Philippines. Either for a visit or an extended stay, the Franciscan Sisters of the Poor bring hope to the people of Dumaguete.



“Through their efforts in religious life, the Sisters communicate the sacrifice of their strengths and resources to the Lord through service to their brothers and sisters in the world.”

Blessed Frances Schervier
1850



In January 2016, Sr. Karen Hartman began weekly visits to the Dumaguete City Jail with Associates Sol and Glenda. The program, Faith and Moral Formation, involves the women prisoners in discussions of Bible topics, group activities and moments of sharing. They tell their stories, say daily prayers as a group, and welcome the visits.



We welcome Sr. Thalyta Pereira Lima from Brazil as she joins Sr. Armida and Sr. Francesca in Dumaguete City!



*Join the Franciscan Sisters of the Poor on our journey in the Philippines.
Your donation to the Foundation will help support
education and scholarships to those in need.*



Please visit our website at www.franciscanfoundation.org

*OR TO MAKE A DONATION ONLINE,
For more information on the Sisters and ALL their Missions*

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