

CAP – Crieff Aid Projects

Phillipines ~ 'Blessed Home',
Angelese City

Report 2015

From Dave Caukhill, ICC Australia, April 2015

About 15 months ago, ICC Australia's dream was to open a centre of excellence for survivors of sex trafficking and forced prostitution. This was also a project that Esther and I felt deeply drawn to as it had a personal tug at Esther's heart because of her experience as a victim and survivor of human trafficking. In a very short time after announcing our intentions, some very large donations were given that allowed us to make a substantial purchase and a property with a suitable home was bought for the purpose of offering crisis accommodation and a start up training centre.

Volunteers from across the world got behind this project and donated time, expertise, resources and money. The home took shape after a minor renovation and new fit out. Some of the CAP money was used at this stage for home renovations and purchase of furniture for the girls use.

The next phase was staffing and training which took a few months. Once the appropriately qualified staff were selected and employed, they needed to work in conjunction with Australian and international best practice codes of conduct, to write the training and integration manuals for when the girls arrive to ICC care. We engaged a volunteer Australian consultant to assist with this process who generously gave up her time to go to the Philippines for two months to complete this task at her own expense.

ICC Australia's partnership with International Justice Mission (IJM) allowed our credentials to be acknowledged and approved by all relevant government bodies and departments so we could get our registration. Once ICC received it's registration we were able to employ a social worker/psychologist who will care for some of the needs of the girls. Some of the CAP funds were used at this point.

While this legal and registration process was going forward, in the background we had employed a clever young SDA man who has had significant experience in sales and marketing clothing labels across stores in the Philippines. He was able to secure a number of contracts for the ICC Justice Sewing project ladies (vocational trainers) to begin manufacturing high quality clothing on a contract basis to big stores in trendy suburbs of Manila. This soon became a profitable social enterprise business that now generates about \$105 per day profit when contracts are being filled, currently at half time until the girls arrive and receive training. This will offer girls the opportunity to be trained on the job while receiving fair trade wages in a pleasant work environment, no longer exploited. The remaining CAP funds were added to other donations as capital investment into this social enterprise that creates its own recurring income.

It is anticipated that profits will be split between living costs for girls in crisis accommodation and the carer staff salaries. We aim to make this a semi to fully sustainable project in the next 4-5 years, like our other social enterprise businesses in Asia.

The girls will be arriving any day soon, and we welcome the opportunity to be able to share love, hope and Jesus with them as they journey with us through their recovery program. We also welcome further funds from CAP to be pooled with other donor money for the initial care and medical treatment, clothing, food etc and staff salaries that are needed until such time as we can grow our Blessed Project to sustainability, anticipated to be 4-5 years from now.

ICC has received significant interest for business growth for the Blessed Project and we do hope (and pray) that this will rapidly grow to another stellar program where people help themselves out of poverty and vulnerability with the "building blocks" we share with them. Many thanks to the kind folk of Crieff Aid Projects and your generous sacrifice on behalf of others in need.



Building a brighter future for destitute children

Blessed Project for survivors of human trafficking, Philippines



Our hearts are touched.
Their pain so real



This entrepreneurial social
enterprise is now producing
an income



Angeles City - Hub for
sex-trafficking in the
Philippines

The Blessed Project Launch

This is rescue at the coalface! Trafficked girls being set free! Very soon the first survivors will be arriving at Blessed Project and be available to sponsor. As well as meeting their social and psychological needs through appropriate counseling and education, Blessed Project will equip and enable the girls with the skills that allow them to generate an income, and ultimately achieve a sustainable life transformation. Blessed Project allows girls to walk free from sexual exploitation, and to make a new life for themselves. The girls are supported with schooling, training and employment - with fair trade wages in a social enterprise business.

CAP has made a generous and measurable contribution to the Blessed Project. ICC Australia would like to thank the members of CAP for their compassion extended towards these beautiful girls that have been robbed of their dignity and self-worth. CAP funds have been used towards the expenses of preparing the home where the girls will be provided short term crisis accommodation. For more info about this program, go to the Blessed Project FaceBook page: www.facebook.com/the.blessed.project



Rescue: Offer a child
protection from harm



Volunteer: Work with
awesome children



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