

Christmas 2022

Dear Friends,

As we come to the end of another year we wish to thank you for all your support of our mission here in Manila. It has been a lively year as the restrictions imposed by the pandemic gradually lifted and we were able to extend our activities and have more face to face contact with people than had been possible during the past two years. We are most grateful for your generous donations and would like to share with you the ways in which the money you sent has been used to support people as they strive to make a better life for themselves and their families.

FCJ Learning and Development Center

The FCJ Center has run a variety of programs this year:



Vegetable and Vertical Gardens and Poultry Raising: 10 men and 2 boys have been involved in the vegetable gardens and poultry raising and have been able to generate income from this. 39 women were very enthusiastic in creating **Vertical Gardens** using recycled materials for the containers. This enabled them to grow vegetables even though they have no land.

Skills Training and Income Generating Projects: 25 women and 3 girls were involved in Food Processing, 14 women in Sewing and 8 women in Baking and Chocolate Making.

Alternative Learning Systems: 41 students enrolled and followed the course either on line or face to face. 15 students graduated Junior High School through the Alternative Learning System and most of them have gone on to Senior High School.

TESDA Courses and Computer Classes: 7 students obtained their TESDA certificate in Visual Graphics Design. 10 students are still waiting to take the TESDA Computer Systems Servicing exam which has been delayed until January 2023 because of the pandemic. During the year 15 students followed basic computer courses.

Youth Activities: Many activities took place on line and 50 young people participated. Since May it has been possible to have face to face activities.

College Scholarships: 32 College students received a scholarship. 12 of them graduated this year in Entrepreneurship (2), Bachelor of Education, major in English, Computer Science, Culinary Arts, Elementary Education, Customs Administration, Accountancy (2) and Information Technology (3).

Elementary and High School Scholars: 36 children from poor families received a scholarship. There were regular monthly meetings with their mothers. Since May it has been possible to offer weekly tutoring and approximately 60 children attend the sessions.

Clinic: 1,174 people attended the weekly clinic. 14 women took part in a 3-day Red Cross Training in First Aid and Basic Life Support CPR. They are now continuing their training and helping out in the clinic. 158 people took part in health education sessions.

5 Community Health Workers assist in the clinic and also run a simple pharmacy where the people can buy generic over the counter and herbal remedies at low cost.



Support for people with disability: 15 children and 6 adults are supported on a regular basis and the parents of the children attend regular meetings.

Women's Development and Leadership Training: 45 women took part in the group activities and in some cases individual counselling was given

Senior Citizens: 17 senior citizens take part in the groups. They have various activities including income generating projects.

House Renovation: This year 19 houses were renovated and 3 toilets were constructed. In all this year 155 people benefitted from these renovations.

Care for the Environment & Upcycling: Input on Care for the Environment was given both face to face and online and 31 women were involved in the upcycling of waste products to make things that could be used in the home or sold.

FCJ Community

Support for families in need: During the year we were grateful to receive donations of money, rice, food items and clothing. We were able to distribute these to 300 people. In addition 5 families and 5 individuals received medical support and support for funeral expenses.



College Scholarship: There were 17 scholars in the school year 2021-22. 8 graduated in June 2022 in Social Work, Hospitality Management (2), Bachelor of Education major in Filipino, Information Technology Entrepreneurship (2) and Tourism. In June we accepted 11 new scholars. Every month there is a meeting with the scholars where they receive input and support for their studies and their spiritual and personal

development. Sometimes during the pandemic these sessions took place online but now they are face to face. The FCJ sisters give input to the scholars on various topics such as prayer, the life of Marie Madeleine, and the safeguarding of children. They also offer recollections during Advent and Lent.

Tutoring: Every Saturday and Sunday the scholars tutor the local children in Filipino, Mathematics and English. They also offer them a variety of other activities including catechism, storytelling, art and crafts.

On behalf of all the people we have been supported by your kindness, we thank you most sincerely. As we prepare to celebrate the wonderful feast of Christmas we assure you of our prayers for you and your families. We wish you much Joy and Hope. May 2023 bring you many blessings.

In companionship,
FCJ Sisters, Manila

