



"For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease."
Job 14:7

November, 2019

Dear Friends and Partners,

It has been quite awhile since our last update and for that we apologize, but we do hope that you have been following with us on this journey through videos and posts on our Facebook page. It has been an exciting year with some huge blessings and yet we have endured some of our most difficult times as well.

Good News First!

ADOPTION: Since our last update we were able to unite one of our little girls with her forever family right here in the Philippines. We wish it were more than one, but for this one little girl and her new family it means everything! Please pray that *within the next 6 months* we can complete at least *10 more adoptions* currently under process.

FACILITIES: We were able to 'practically' finish the newest building project which houses the guest area, education center and Hope Baptist Church! There are still a few things that need to be done, but it is beautiful and very much usable.

HOPE EDUCATION: We currently have 4 students that are diligently working their way towards completion levels that will send them to regular school. AND, we have partnered up with the Department of Education as a host of ALS (Alternative Learning System). This program works with out-of-school youth to guide them in earning their diploma. It has been a great opportunity to share Jesus and His gospel with about 30 people from the surrounding community.

HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH: Our new little church is budding like a beautiful flower...slowly but surely. We are averaging around 40 in our adult worship and loads of kids. There is so much emotion and excitement in seeing a new church get started; building relationships and setting a foundation for our future as a lighthouse and resting place for those around us. This Sunday will be our 20th service and we know that God has great and miraculous things planned for the little village church.

In Other News...

FAMILY MOVE: As you know, our family has been living in the boys residence since January of 2018. This was a temporary solution to a need for house parents and in transition to our move to the property once our own home is built there. However, because of the demands on our limited time and the needs of our own family, we made the difficult decision of moving our family to the new building's guest rooms area, temporarily. Please pray that we can sell our own family home in order to have the finances needed to complete the house located on Bahay Sibol property. The transition and shuffling of staff and kids between the two houses has gone quite smoothly with just a few bumps that we are ironing out. Please pray for continued wisdom, patience and dedication for those who have given their lives to care for the children of Bahay Sibol.

FINANCES: While the building project is 'practically' finished it was not accomplished easily. After a devastating encounter with an unexpected tax issue on the land and another unforeseen situation with an expected large donation that was delayed, we found ourselves in a position where the set budget was completely depleted. In our excitement to see the building finished and church started, we gradually started to use personal money from our own housing fund to meet the need. Unfortunately, that money was soon depleted as well. We eventually found ourselves in extremely tight, day to day living, in terms of finances. While we do not regret the use of the money and are thrilled that the building is finished, we have had to take a step back and reassess our budgeting skills and decision making when it comes to monthly income and big projects.

We are currently working at increasing our regular monthly support in order to meet the regular, day-to-day needs of the home. With 24 children at the present time we need to have at least \$4000 every month just to meet the needs of groceries, household items, baby needs, education, transportation, medical, staff salaries, utilities, and similar needs that all families encounter. This also includes the many expenses that go into processings a child's paperwork for adoption: documentations, testings, tons of paperwork, pictures and interviews. Of the needed \$4000, we are only averaging about \$2000. We are so thankful for Calvary Baptist Church in San Jose del Monte and how they have come through time and again to help our family to make up the difference in the needed funds. However, we cannot simply continue at this rate of expense compared to our monthly income. Please pray that God would make ways, speak to hearts and use His people in order to see our regular monthly support increase to at least \$4500. This will cover our monthly budget with a \$500 cushion to put into savings for emergencies or special projects such as buildings, needed vehicles, large medical needs, etc. Please pray with us that God would grant great wisdom in the area of finances, specifically in gaining more regular supporters to maintain the needs of the home and finding ways to budget and cut corners to make the finances stretch as needed.

God has been good to us and we know that these times of struggles and trials and for our good, for our learning, to increase of faith and trust in God. We are thankful for how He has met every single need, ever single time. Not always when we wanted it or thought we needed, but He has never left us destitute or wanting. We love and thank God for each of you. If you would like to talk with us more about becoming a regular supporter of Bahay Sibol, please reach out through our contacts below.

A Children's Home Ministry of:

Calvary Baptist Church

9-10 Genesis Ave. Sarmiento Townville
Poblacion I, City of SJDM 3023 Philippines

SUPPORT ADDRESS, send donations to:
BEMA
4744 Winchester Pike,
Columbus, OH 43232, USA

Phone: +63-922-423-2138
Phone: +63-44-815-4959
E-mail: gormleys@live.com
FACEBOOK: Bahay Sibol - Home of Hope