



FTMW
Filipino Tribe
Mission
Welfare



NEWSLETTER

Nr 2 2010

NEWS IN THIS NEWSLETTER

1. Annual meeting FTMS
2. The development of the Diabetes project
3. New and continuous concentrations during 2010

PREFACE

It is time for the organizations annual meeting, and this time we will gather in the former Swedish Salvation Army's facilities at Friisgatan 18 in Malmö. The church facilities are now run by the Baltimore founded mission GGWO, Greater Grace World Outreach, in Sweden called Nådens Mission.

We will also take the opportunity to recall to the cooperation which is initiated together with Dr Pasaporte, and Novo Nordisk A/S, with the purpose to start up clinics within the Philippines for treatment of diabetes. A project that we see should do great impact also in our area.

Our work with the godchildren is going on and it is important to find even more sponsors, so that we can reach out and help even more children. The need of the children in the Philippines, and especially in areas outside the bigger cities, is to see to that the child get nourishment, education, adequate and pain-free care in case of disease, and also allowed to be a child and to play with other children.

Criteria which are shown and demanded by the Convention on the Child, but criteria, which are not fully understood in all places of the country. Much which is depending on its multi-faceted culture and poor infrastructure. Not even the regular schools are updated enough and old manners and customs is still alive. Thus in spite that the Philippine government has implemented a row of new reforms and laws, this to facilitate, not only for the children, but for all citizens.

Annual meeting FTMS March 3, 2010

You are welcome to the organizations annual meeting, **Wednesday March 3.**

Time: 7pm

Place: Nådens Mission

Friisgatan 18, Malmö

OBSERVE! *Notification to come to the annual meeting is mandatory* as we might be in need of bigger facilities if participants decrease. Child sponsor is automatically member in the organization with rights to vote.

Notification can be done both through phone/e-mail or mail to addresses shown at the last page.

MEMBERSHIP

Each person that submits himself to the organizations purpose and mission has the right to sign membership in the organization.

Each parent/guardian who is registered with a godchild, or person who gives frequently money or work within an ongoing project is counted as a member as long as the engagement as a godchild, giver or volunteer lasting.

AGENDA:

1. Election of presiding officials
2. Fixing of the agenda
3. Fixing of electoral register
4. Question of the meetings properly advertising
5. The board and executors annual reports
6. Auditor
7. Decision of accountability of the board
8. Election of board
9. Election of auditors
10. Election of election committee
11. Treatment of commissions from the board
12. Treatment of proposals
13. Other queries

WHAT IS FTMS?

FTMS, Filipino Tribe Mission Sweden is a Christian help organization which executes and coordinates mission work within the Philippines.

The help work contains:

1. Godchild work
2. School education in the local tribe's
3. Development of local schools in cooperation with local departments
4. Livelihood program
5. Orphanage, foster homes work for street children

The Christian mission work contains:

1. Help for Bible studies to local assemblies
2. Help with evangelization for pastors
3. Developmental work based on the foundation of the bible

2. The development of the Diabetes project



Dr Arce Lomanta and Thor Klaveness

During 2009 we have reported about the work of Thor trying to get along with a cooperation together with Dr. Francis Pasaporte and the ALEAD team for the possibility to start up diabetes clinics in Adlay, Carrascal, Surigao del Sur, and Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur.

Since Thor came back to Sweden, he has had a renewed contact with Novo Nordisk A/S to see what can be done in common in the future. We shall now look some on what have happen and which goals we hopes to reach within this project that Novo Nordisk calls 'Take action'.

Background

In connection with that Thor spoke with Hans Berglund, a friend who work in Novo Nordisk, Hans told that it was plausible to suggest this project for their Take action program within the company. Hans booked a meeting with his boss, Rolf Danielsson, and they sat down with Thor, who made a presentation about the FTMS/FTMW work.

Since diabetes is a usual but, to most Filipinos, unknown cause to many diseases, and even deaths, it felt right to do something together to ease the disease for those that has got it. Rolf Danielsson recommended Thor to contact Dr Francis Pasaporte in connection with his visit in the Philippines during the period of June 2008 to May 2009.

June 12, 2008, Thor met Dr Pasaporte in Iloilo, who, together with his project leader within ALEAD team, nurse Alvin Nano showed how they work to found diabetes clinics.

The work was still young. One clinic was running in Pototan Municipality at the island of Iloilo, and there are diabetes clubs established in the cities of Ozamiz and Kidapawan on Mindanao.

Dr Pasaporte told that they were overwhelmed by the huge amount of people that shown positive tests for risk zone diabetes as they started up. In Sweden, but also worldwide, is an average of approximate 4% of the population that has any type of diabetes. In the Philippines 51% by the tested population showed dangerously high values in their blood sugar or already developed diabetes of any kind.

It was also found that people suffers and are treated for symptoms to diabetes, as eye diseases, skin problem, incontinence, liver/kidney problems, tuberculoses etc. This, depending on the low knowledge of the treating doctors, and in many cases, lack of experiences on diseases related to diabetes.

Dr Pasaporte recommended Thor to visit Dr Arce Lomanta, who already received his clinic, but still was in time of establishment. The thought is that Dr Lomanta can guide doctors Thor cooperate with within the CARAGA-region about how to start up diabetes treatment through building diabetes clubs with patients and other interested to support such a project.

The winter 2009 - 2010

In December, Rolf Danielsson, Novo Nordisk, presented Thor to Mr Bengt Avodin, former manager at Novo Nordisk office in Manila. They had a first meeting in which they spoke through about their experiences of how to run projects within the Philippines, and how cooperation would look like to make the thought clinics work successfully.

The meeting was a success, Thor and Bengt understood each other and it was decided that they together should cooperate to ease for involved partners within the Philippines to come forward in this project. Thor and Bengt work presently on a plan how to move forward next. Bengt has made contact to Novo Nordisk in Manila, and Thor has got the authority to keep in contact to interested doctors and the ALEAD team. Hans Berglund has been helpful in the communication between Thor, Bengt and Rolf.

In connection with that the work has taken some years in claim, it can be considered if this really needs to take such time. We ask some queries to Thor in this newsletter regarding this.

It sounds very large, can it be made?

Absolutely! One cannot stare blind on the size of the population and the large number of people that seemingly has diabetes, but take small steps together with the doctors that have a genuine interest.

Why is it so hard to cure diabetes in the Philippines?

I cannot answer for the Philippines overall, but by the doctors I have spoken with, and who has started up diabetes clubs on Mindanao, Dr Chen Chua in Kidapawan City and Dr Arce Lomanta in Ozamiz City, it is shown that not enough resources is given both when it comes to economy as to knowledge.

In the Philippines, it is a part of the culture to eat sweet. Sugar products are blended into almost everything that is eatable. People are not reached with the same flow of information about how sugar impact bodily organs as in Europe, and since it are also a cultural habit; it is very difficult to find a hearing. Approximately as it was when it was found that smoking kills.

Why is there not enough knowledge?

Some doctors have explained that the local and provincial government units not always have the fact needed to see the connection between diabetes and how it impact people. Since the economical resources are not enough, the doctors cannot either do research as needed and wanted.

Dr Chen Chua explained to me that he is trying to examine the connection between diabetes and huge amounts of deaths, probably related to diabetes, which can show the importance to maintain ones diet and have sustainability in exercise in connection with high volumes of sugar. He also tells that it is very difficult to motivate province and municipal, to invest in this, since the evidence is not enough.

On this grounds, people will continuously be mistreated, thus since the patients are treated for what they complain for and think they suffer from. Not from where the effects comes. Neither will one pay a doctor to let know that one shall abandon his dear consummation of sweet!

On which basis is FTMS/FTMW involved?

In the village Adlay, belonging to the municipal of Carrascal, is an existing cooperation with the municipal doctor, Dr Joseph Ague. He is very interested, and says that a diabetes clinic can solve many of the problems he sees within his profession. He also point on the fact that the basis is too poor at the moment, and therefore asks for further education to himself as well, but underlines that he have very much on his responsibility.

In the small municipals, out in the provinces, a doctor can be alone to have responsibility for whole towns, and populations on 10,000 or more. Private alternatives are not always available in all towns but only in those that are richer.

Placement of a clinic in Adlay could therefore be strategic and help to cover the whole province when it comes to the need of treatment. The division of the proposed clinics in Adlay and the provincial city Prosperidad is that they shall together cover the need of treatment for all the four provinces within the CARAGA-region.

It is however only a proposal at the moment and FTMW shall therefore initially aim on information to the local population, recruit personnel in need of further education and establishment of diabetes clubs.

What is your plan if you will not get started right away?

The most urgent right now is that ALEAD team gets their already started clinics at run, and that we see that the logistic works. As the clinics run successfully and the logistic works, we can take step by step. However, the run order can't be neglected, which is: responsible doctor, working diabetes club and an appointed place with electric and water, before order of new container.

What can I do to help but living in Sweden and cannot be practical in the Philippines?

Donations of money are always welcome and are really needed. These projects are not provided by Novo Nordisk or any other, but the point is that the local population, through the diabetes clubs, shall be self financed. To make it possible, each help in the direction one can.

Novo Nordisk has worked to gather some allowances and other donors, for instance, the container is donated by Maersk Air in Denmark and Novo Nordisk gives local education and availability to medicine.

If you are Filipino abroad, or knows any who is, it is good if you order information material from us and gives to your Filipino friends and/or contacts, so that they will know more about diabetes and why it is dangerous for the immune defence, eyes, skin etc. Many in the Philippines recognise this and other symptoms but do not relate them to diabetes.

Do you accept volunteers?

At the moment there is no need, but as I previously said, are we aiming to the local population in the area where we are active. But of course, we can always discuss the plausibility from case to case. We have, however, no economy for such volunteers at the moment.

For how long is this project?

This project is newly started, and as I previously told, it is meant that the clinics will be independent, which in such case points to be ongoing. It is at least our hope.

3. New and continuous concentrations during 2010

During the current year we will continue our work with education and information to parents, about their abilities to receive care for their family and their children.

We have also the experience that many people that lives in tribes or clans, has developed a leadership that means that the chieftain/leader takes all decisions considering members lives. Even decisions about what the individual family is allowed about, what and how to eat, live, and care, for their children.

It is difficult to Philippine departments to reach out to these with advices about how to improve their living conditions, without forcing them to bigger towns or so called 'luxury traps.' It's why we must invest more on education to those leaders, but also on an increased cooperation between local offices and chieftains living within the community/area.



Rafiel, before and after surgery for hare lips by Operation SMILE, Cagayan De Oro.

The Child Health care project is running on, which gives that children can be brought to doctors for health check-up, dentist or other care of necessity. We are also in need to found an emergency fund.

Within the frame of this project, we are also collecting money to help a 12-year old Mamanwa girl who is in need of cornea transplantation. Until today we have saved app. SEK4,000 but are in need of a total of app. SEK10,000 before possible. The girl's project name is **CYP1101**.

Thank you for your contribution to our work.

I ask our deepest and warmest thanks from me and our co-operators for your engagement. Please, talk with a friend about the possibility to be a sponsor to a child or to any of our many projects in the Philippines.

God's peace

Thor Klaveness

FTMW

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FTMS

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Sponsorship fee

The monthly fee for a godchild is
€20/SEK200 or €15/SEK150 for group sponsor
and can be paid as follows:

1. By autogiro
2. By payment card/bill which can be paid monthly, quarterly, half year or own choice.

When paid within Sweden, payment can be done
to account shown lowest this page.

Payment outside Sweden but within
Europe, pay to: NORDEA Sweden

IBAN: **SE31 9500 0099 6042 0418 2960**

SWIFT: **NDEASESS**

Internet pages:

Homepage for the network:

www.tribemission.com

Filipino Tribe Mission Sweden's homepage:

Se FTMS in task bar

Filipino Tribe Mission Welfare's homepage:

Se FTMW or Philippines in task bar

Godchildren:

Se Child sponsor in task bar

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NOTE

This Newsletter is written to reach people not common with the Filipino culture. To tell about the way Filipino's lives and give an opportunity to help where help is needed.

We are in no way participating in any political movements, but are involved to lift the knowledge to have patient and ability to live side by side with one another. Notwithstanding if it belongs to be to Filipino's or other.

If you want to contribute with your own experiences and/or knowledge, please feel welcome. News in our newsletters is solely based on facts from Filipino's and experiences from other within the Philippines itself. We belongs to different cultures, therefore it is sometimes different viewpoints on the news.