

Rotarian Initiative for Population & Development

A new Rotary Program being
implemented in RI District 3860 with The
ROTARY CLUB OF MANDAUE EAST
as lead club

Most cherished dreams of Filipino parents

- **78%-Improve family welfare**
 1. Provide better future
 2. Have happy, quiet family life
 3. See children finish schooling
 4. Longer life, better health for family
 5. Be a good spouse/parent/child
- **16%-Help the poor, the church, the country**

But there is A world of Difference between Dreams and Reality



Problems

- The basic problems of the Philippines is poverty:
 - High population growth rate, not enough employment
 - 60% of the population are young (0-24 years of age) dependent on parental support
 - 25% of people earn only US\$2 or less a day

No. 1 Goal : Save the children

1. **35 out of 1,000 children born will not live to celebrate their first birthday**
2. **50 out of 1,000 births will not reach their 5th birthday**



REASONS WHY

Their mothers' poor health

- **because mothers were too young to bear children**
- **or gave birth too often or were sickly and malnourished in childhood and so their offspring will carry the consequences**

Malnourished

- **3 out of 5 Filipino children are malnourished. Children up to 3 years of age are vulnerable to malnutrition.**

The Working Children



While 97 % of children enter elementary school- 1/3 drop out before 4th grade because of poverty.

3 out of 20 children or 3.7 million are working children

-of this number 2/3 are farm workers

-60% are exposed to cruel and hazardous working conditions

The Street children



Children in conflict with the law

- Usually male, ages 14-17
- From low income family
- Exposed to drugs and gang influence
- Charged with robbery and Theft

The number of street children is increasing at 10% per year as jobless migrants flock to the cities looking for employment.

Without parental support or guidance street children are left to exploitation by lawless elements

Girl-Children

Girls are usually disadvantaged in education, child labor, prostitution, cultural biases and socialization

96% of child abuse cases are girls.

Almost all sex abuse victims are girls

No 2 Goal :Save the Mother



172 out of 100,000 mothers die while giving birth

- Lack of access to reproductive health care and education.
- Teenage pregnancies pose high risk to both mother and child.
- Maternal malnutrition is major factor affecting unborn child's survival and fetal development.

6 out of 10 Filipino women are battered by their husbands or partners



- Kris Aquino is a daughter of a national hero and the first lady president of the Philippines
- By herself she has been a successful actress and popular TV personality

**But she also
became a victim
of domestic
violence**

Goal 3 : Save the Family

- **Over 5 million Filipinos work overseas.** For better work and bigger pay. **But while they're gone they leave behind a home and children without parents .**
- Among the poor, men's violence towards women are legitimized because of the culture of linking Masculinity with toughness , male honor and male dominance. The role of women are generally rigidly defined and enforced.

Proposals are pilot projects aimed to meet these goals- providing a formula for clubs in the district to follow.

- Porta Day Care Centers for pre-schoolers from the poor communities
- Reproductive Health Clinics in poor communities so there are less infant and maternal deaths
- Training of Reproductive Health Workers to provide support and reduce violence against women.
- Livelihood to empower women so they can upgrade their status within their family and their community