

## Orphanage in the Philippines: Already 2 years

**The end of April marked two years since «Holy Trinity Orphanage» (HTO) opened its doors to the first street children in Zamboanga City, Philippines. It has been a rough ride for the little ONG, which was founded in Estavayer-le-Lac. But it was all worth it!**

Currently 19 kids live at HTO where all their needs are met. Surrounded by a competent team of five people, they can thrive and slowly regain hope in the safety of our home. Recently three boys of the Sama ethnic group (traditionally a tribe of sea-gypsies) joined HTO. Their

fishing village was destroyed during the Zamboanga Siege in 2013. In the hierarchy of tribes in the Southern Philippines, the Samas are considered to be the lowest and are generally neglected. Emerging from extreme poverty, these boys are delighted by their new home where they join other children, like Charity, who, against all odds, found the ability to laugh again. She was even recently awarded the title of best student in her class.

Founder Lorna Haas and the whole HTO team in Switzerland extend their heartfelt gratitude to all supporters who have contributed to this drop of

peace and humanity in one of the most unstable regions in the Philippines. We hope to continue walking this road together with you!



### THE GRADUATION OF APRIL



**On March 25 April Rose graduated from High school with flying colours, winning several awards. We are very proud of our eldest, who has earned a scholarship to study in China.**

«At HTO I found all the things that I need: a family, support, a home and financial support. And the most special is the "Love" that I was longing for almost 13 years. The Love of a friend, of a family... Thanks to all the people who made efforts for me, especially all the members of HTO in Switzerland.»



### MORE THAN A SERVICE VEHICLE

**Many HTO friends contributed in 2016 to fund our second hand Mitsubishi Pajero service vehicle.**

This car has been a blessing and a great help for our team to run errands, take the children on outings, and sometimes to school (especially during the rainy season). Thank you very much!

### IMPRESSIONS OF OUR SOCIAL WORKER

**Lichelle, our social worker, has been with us for over one and a half years.**

«With all the collaborative efforts of all the staffs and kids of HTO, I see clearly the very big changes on the kids' behaviour. A lot of my patience was measured and stretched to the fullest. My love and care was sometimes divided between the HTO kids, whom I treated as my own, and giving some attention to my own daughter... My work at HTO is a blessing from above, but also a way to enhance my own potential to become a better person, as I help and guide our kids to become happy and fruitful.»



### ACCREDITATION:

**HTO is a fully licenced NGO, but by pursuing accreditation from the government, we want to demonstrate our commitment to quality service for the children in our care.** As an independent social worker from Manila told us: «Why settle for being a good organisation if you have the capacity to make it a great organisation.» According to her it is a "good testimony" of a Christian organisation seeking long-term impact. If all goes well, we could be accredited by the end of 2017.

### SUPPORT HTO!

If you wish to participate in the development of our project, please donate on our account:

**CH95 8013 9000 0113 7589 7**

**(Raiffeisen Bank, Estavayer-le-Lac)**

**Holy Trinity Orphanage Philippines**



**Thank you for your support!**

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