

January 21, 2009

Non-profit paves way for locals to build homes for low-income housing community in the Philippines

VANCOUVER – Local non-profit, Enspire Foundation, will embark on their second overseas humanitarian trip this spring – building the first of 130 homes in a new low-income housing project in the Philippines. They are bringing 28 local ambassadors with them. You can help them raise funds by attending their annual lively choir event in Vancouver on February 21, 2009.

Enspire Foundation and 30 Canadian young adults comprised of working professionals and university students will travel to Norzagaray, Bulacan, Philippines in May 2009 to help construct the first 540 square foot, three bedroom home of a new low-income housing community.

“This initiative is the second part of a larger project Enspire is working on with affiliate charity, Pag-aalay ng Puso Foundation, to build a new community for 130 qualifying families relocating from slum-dwellings in Navotas, Metro Manila – about an hour away,” said Enspire’s co-founder Lorie Corcuera. “The first project was a two-story library we built in 2006, on the same property, and with 15 other local ambassadors. We’re ecstatic to know that since opening, the local kids line up at the library doors waiting for them to open!”

In May 2009, two teams of 15 ambassadors will help local contractors build the foundation of a home for seven days each. As part of the learning and interacting experience, the ambassadors will visit the shanty town of Navotas and participate in various activities with the local children and families.

“I was born in Sechelt, BC and raised in a small, rural community,” said Hannah Stark, a resident of North Vancouver and one of the ambassadors. “From preschool to graduation, I’ve been with the same group of people and friends and this drives my goals to be based on the small-community mentality I grew up with. I feel that in order to make a difference in the world, one can get involved in improving the life of those in simple but essential ways. By participating in a community project, I know that I am helping the best way I know how.”

The cost of each home is approximately \$12,000 (Cdn) all of which will be raised through various fundraising activities as well as through Enspire’s signature awareness event entitled **Resonance Choir Festival** which will be held on **Saturday, February 21, 2009 at 7 p.m.** at Broadway Church, 2700 East Broadway, Vancouver, BC. For tickets, please visit their web site at www.enspire-foundation.org or email resonance.choir@gmail.com.

Enspire Foundation plans to send volunteers to Bulacan annually. Over the past 10 years, it has raised more than \$50,000 (Cdn) to help the poor, including paying for tuition fees of indigent students in Navotas, Metro Manila, built the first stand alone library in Norzagaray, Bulacan, and will now build homes to enable those less fortunate an opportunity to a new and self sustaining community. Through this life changing experience, the foundation hopes to also inspire other Canadians to make a difference and continue their mission.

To support Enspire Foundation’s projects, please either visit their web site at www.enspire-foundation.org and click on DONATE NOW or please send an email to enspirefoundation@gmail.com

Enspire Foundation was established in 1999, in Vancouver, BC, Canada by five University of British Columbia graduates, who continue to make up the executive committee. Enspire’s mission is to help empower the youth of the Philippines through education and encouragement.

Pictures available.

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