



Mga Kaibigan ng Kuya

KUYA CENTER ... a new start for kids from the streets

Dear Friends of Kuya. Greetings.

JOHN GILFOYLE: It is my sad duty to inform you of the death of **Mr John Gilfoyle**. John was the key author, editor and sales force behind his book **"You'd Better Bloody Believe It!"** Despite his serious illness John threw himself wholeheartedly into this final work which he sold on behalf of Kuya Center. John was a dedicated selfless Kuya supporter. On behalf of all 'Friends of Kuya' I offer condolences to Lurelle his wife, their children and extended family. John was a man in a million. He will be so sadly missed. Thank you John. **Rest in Peace.**

FAMILY RECONCILIATIONS: Recently about half of the resident Kuya children were either **reconciled with their families** or prepared for **specialized long term care**. This is great news. A safe and loving family is the best environment to ensure healthy child formation. Well done.

IMMIGRATION SOLUTIONS AUSTRALIA (ISA): The two Kuya lads undergoing training with the **ISA group** continue their studies. They are currently undergoing driver training. These scholarships have been 'game changers' in the lives and families of these scholars. Thanks ISA

MEDICAL SUPPORT: Br Luc says Kuya has just set up an agreement with the **Medical Faculty** at the Jesuit University Ateneo de Manila to assist with the medical concerns of individuals and families in **Kuya's Community Projects**.

INTERNATIONAL CHILD MANIFESTO: Mr Kym Derriman has just completed filming with De La Salle Manila students and our Kuya Kids a **Child Rights Manifesto**. This will have **local and international exposure** and involves children talking to children from all around the world.

SAVINGS AND LOANS: Srs Kate/Claudia RNDM have been conducting courses for many low-income families explaining **Savings and loans** based on the Grameen Model. Kuya's Community based families are elated to learn how to save and obtain small loans to set up & develop supervised, self-sustaining income projects.

AUSTRALIAN DONATIONS (ATO receipts)

James Hodge, MAPS Mission,
C/- PO Box 536, PADDINGTON. Qld 4036
Tel: (07) 3137 1960

Cheques made out to: **MAPS MISSION**
Email: james.hodge@marists.org.au
Credit Card donations contact James

Thank you for your kind support - always

Bro. Paul Murphy fms
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Remember: "You'd Better Bloody Believe It!" books still available - great for gifts - email me directly (email address above).

UNIVERSITY OF THE SUNSHINE COAST (USC): For a second year a team of staff, students and selected professionals headed by Ms Selina Tomasic from the University of the Sunshine Coast (USC) will return to Kuya mid July. They will train parents and older siblings in Kuya's Community Outreach Programs in Hair Styling and Make up. The USC staff will also provide a follow up on last year's sewing project. The team's enthusiasm and fund raising are astonishing. They will bring all required materials to teach and support these skills training programs. I know they are very excited by these projects. I am astounded at their wholehearted professional approach. Thank you all at USC for providing self esteem & new opportunities to our battling families.

KUYA'S PROGRAMS: Kuya's staff continue their daily foray to the streets to recover children and invite them to reside at Kuya. They continue to review and reconcile these children with their families or prepare them for long term support. Values



training and schooling continues to be another important step. Once the kids return, the families are counselled and assisted with their education. Parents also gain training in various life and self employment skills including micro-finance.

NEW KUYA EXTENSIONS: This building extension was mentioned in my last newsletter and it is now realized. It consists of a covered area outside the kitchen, washing up and laundry facilities.



It will free up the covered basketball area on the top floor. It will also protect the underground drinking and fire fighting water tanks from pollution. It will also provide a DRY area outside the kitchen itself and allow the children to wash their clothes and dry them in any weather.

Br Luc writes: This is the new roof over the laundry and sinks. A security "grill" and a door to access the area is to be installed. Thanks a lot for the money raised for this project.

I hope this summary of Kuya events brings you joy. It is evident that all your prayers and financial investment in the 2007 "Kuya Shares" promotion are paying dividends for many vulnerable kids/families. Pls maintain your support. **A Book Order accompanies this newsletter.** To buy contact me by post, email, text or call **Thanks again.**

Bro. Paul