



## Recent Updates and Achievements

### Tondo site Manila, The Philippines



Chalice has partnered with BYSMP Bless the Children Foundation Inc. since 2014. The sponsor site's central office --known as the "Centro"-- sits within the impoverished region of Manila, where densely-packed homes are constructed of makeshift materials and there are few or no services, utilities or sanitation. Families earn incomes doing casual, low-wage work such as peeling garlic and recycling scrap metal. The "Centro" is a hive of activity, providing a daily hot lunch, workshops, tutoring, an on-site medical and dental clinic, music lessons, and a tailoring workshop for mothers of sponsored children. Parents involved with family circles have access to livelihood skills programs such as bookkeeping certification, tile-setting and house painting. The sponsorship program runs through the school year and has summer activities for the children.



- The Tondo site staff led webinars for the children on topics such as stress management and growth mindset.
- Staff trained youth leaders to teach other sponsored children about effective emotional health strategies.
- The site formed youth family circles as a social network of support for the older sponsored children. During their meetings, the children spoke up about their difficulties and they were given advice, tips and coping strategies to manage stress and other issues.
- The rate of malnutrition in children fell by 13.8% from 2019.



- 1332 families used 50% of their Chalice sponsorship funds for nutrition, 16% for health & hygiene, 7% for educational needs, and the rest for urgent needs.
- Chalice family circle members received monthly sessions related to parenting and other social issues, led by parent facilitators.
- Site staff have observed that many family relationships have improved significantly.
- Social workers provide counselling and other services to families on a case-by-case basis.
- The site has 81 Chalice family circles, who altogether saved 2,008,428.45 pesos (\$46, 572 CAD).



- The site began sponsorship in the Baseco neighbourhood of Manila.
- There, the Chalice Nutrition Program fed 635 children in 3 areas daily.
- 98.5% (626) of the children have shown quite an improvement in their health.
- Many family circles did community outreach projects such as collecting rice and grocery items to distribute to the most vulnerable community members.

