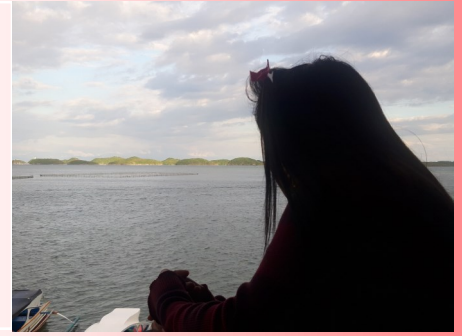




Sav(f)e Hope Identity New life Empowerment

Feed the hungry and help those in trouble,
then your light will SHINE out from the
darkness, and the darkness around you will
be as bright as noon (Isaiah 58:10)



Nr. 5 December 2022

In this edition:

An extraordinary story	1
A child has been given to us	2
Outreaches	3
Experiences, news and prayer points	4

An extraordinary story (continued)

In the last Newsletter, we told you that we took a 16-year-old girl, who was pregnant by her 15-year-old boyfriend, off the Walking street. In a special way, God had let Jan Willem know the baby's name, a girl, in advance. No wonder we became more involved with her and the 2 families.

As a result, we are regularly in neighborhoods where you don't see any foreigners and where many Filipinos are also afraid to go. A lot of poverty and ties to alcohol, drugs and street prostitution. Underage girls cannot yet enter bars, so they offer themselves on the street. A girl recently offered herself on the street for 50 pesos / 85 Eurocents.

Laura (not her real name) was used to hanging around the prostitution area and living alternately on the streets, with her aunt or the grandmother of her baby's 15-year-old father. Both families live in poverty; the family where Laura grew up already has 6 children of her own,

We have gradually gained the trust of both families and Laura by visiting them regularly and to sometimes bring rice, medicine, a mattress and an electric fan.



This is where Laura grew up, with an aunt. Given away as a baby by her addicted mother who still works in street prostitution. A life among garbage, only a water pump to wash yourself or do the dishes and small wooden houses with lots of children.

The Western sex tourist then seems like an easy solution for a "better" life.

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A child has been given to us.....



Watching the ultrasound. The birth in a public hospital where you don't see any foreigners either. Visiting for 4 days.

A special feeling to walk with Laura from the hospital with her new born baby.

But the step to our home was still too big for her. God said in prayer "WAIT & SEE".



We kept visiting the families but saw that Laura was not really doing well. Until we got a call: "Laura wants to take the baby to you." With 9 people in our car we went to the government office, a kind of youth care in the neighborhood. Her aunt, also guardian, Laura herself, and the father's family all signed. While signing, we were told that we can not force Laura to stay with us against her will and when she wants to leave that we cannot give the baby to her because she is a minor.



With families on our way to sign. We already purchased baby outfits etc.

And there we were in our house with a 16 year old mom and her baby.



A very special time arrived, suddenly you have another daughter and grandchild..... They already had a big place in our hearts. But we also saw the struggle in her, the life she was used to on the streets, what she calls "Freedom". From place to place, wandering around, earning money.



After a week she couldn't hold it any longer and wanted to go back to the street. She gave outside the baby in my arms and said, "Kuya Jan you take good care of my baby he". The tears streamed down my cheeks, "please stay here with us and your baby!". But she went back out into the street with a shopping bag with some clothes. She now visits occasionally to see her baby. We hope and pray that she can make the move to us again. At least the baby is now safe because God has spoken. Away from an environment of poverty, prostitution and addiction.

OUTREACHES



In addition to outreaches to the bars and streets, we also visit women or families. We experience that you need to have a "long breath" with this target group. We establish relationships, look at family ties and their situation. Or we pick them up for a visit at our home. In this case, teenagers with high risk for prostitution because their mother works on the street.



In this little wooden blue house of 2 by 2 meters with 1 floor they live. We asked the oldest, 19 years old, to come live with us and help us with the baby and the household, In return, SHINE offers a scholarship so she can get a job and break out of poverty. She wants to learn for nurse. To be continued...

The 2nd daughter turned 18, quite a happening in the Philippines! Money is often borrowed to celebrate this somewhere. Dancing with 18 boys, 18 roses, 18 candles with wishes, a gala dress etc. We also asked this daughter to think about moving to SHINE, to experience a new life....

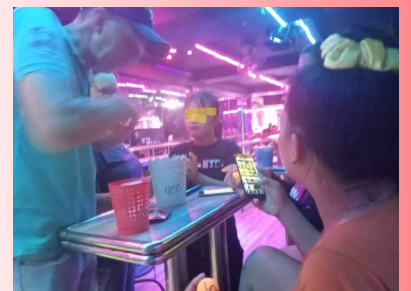


Outreach with our church to a local drug shelter. I met this 12 year old boy, was addicted to rugby (glue), has no parents and was living on the streets. He said to me "You are my regalo sa Pasko" (you are my Christmas present). You receive often more than you can give to them.....



← Margareth in conversation with a 15-year-old girl. In a street where girls are picked up by customers with cars.

Jan reaching out to a young girl in a bar.



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Experiences



Visiting a woman who lived with us for 2.5 months. She is now going through a one-year rehab program in Manila, She is doing well! In 9 months we hope to have her back in SHINE! To be continued...



Fellowship afternoon at partner Samaritana. Networking with organizations "from the field".






Jan's 61st birthday. Treat at a school for disabled children.

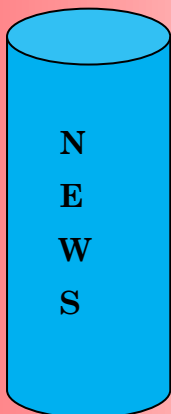


Cake at church before going on outreach.

PRAYER POINTS

-  Thanksgiving that "our woman" is doing well in rehab and that we can offer a baby a safe place away from an environment of poverty and prostitution.
-  Prayer that also her 16-year-old mother is going to come to us and girls who are going to help us and so can get a scholarship with a chance for another life.
-  The necessary signatures for the shelter are not there yet, please pray that we still get this location for the shelter or another good location.

News



- Our new website is online!
www.shineph.org
- SHINE Philippines is officially registered and now a formal organization!
- Our home will remain open for shelter until we find a good alternative.

Donations:

Hilaros (our donation admin.)

NL04 RABO 0157 0385 21

Prescription SHINE project

BIC RABONL2U



We wish everyone blessed Christmas and a wonderful new year!

Thank you so much for your support and involvement in 2022!

Jan and Margareth

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