



KAISAHANG BUHAY FOUNDATION, INC.

No. 56, 10th Avenue, Cubao, Quezon City, Philippines

2007 ANNUAL REPORT

I. INTRODUCTION:

The agency's thrust for 2007 were:

- 1) Recruit, assess and develop 45 local adoptive families and match them to adoptive children.
- 2) Continuing recruitment of ten (10) foster families to be licensed by the DSWD to provide family environment for abandoned, neglected & surrendered children while their permanent placement either return to birth families or adoption are being processed.
- 3) Increase by 70% single mothers bringing home their babies and not leave them for foster care or adoption.
- 4) Give hope to 16 youth who are abandoned, institutionalized not returned to birth families or were not adopted to obtain an education, become self-reliant and an asset to nation building.
- 5) Organize 800 families at risk of dysfunctioning and provide them livelihood skills, capital assistance, seminars on parent effectiveness, responsible parenthood and empowerment and reaffirmation of paternal abilities.
- 6) Limit to 10% dropout of day care children from our six (6) day care centers with 300 enrollees
- 7) Liason for four (4) Inter-country Adoption Board (ICAB) accredited foreign adoptive agencies for thirty six (36) inter-country adoptive families to be matched to Filipino adoptive children.
- 8) Advocate for more NGO to implement domestic adoption and foster care.

Highlights for this year's accomplishments are the following:

- a) Of the sixty (60) mothers in our Home for Single Mothers, 38 brought home their babies and not leave them for foster care or adoption.
- b) Organized more than 800 families at risk of dysfunctioning provided with livelihood skills, capital assistance and seminars on Parent Effectiveness, Responsible Parenthood and Empowerment and Reaffirmation of Paternal Abilities.
- c) Limited to 10% dropout of day care children from our six (6) day care centers with 300 enrolments.
- d) Through our liason service to four (4) ICAB accredited foreign adoptive agencies, fifty three (53) inter-country adoptive families (33 HOLT USA & 20 Europe) were matched to Filipino adoptive children.
- e) The initial encouraging report submitted by KBF to DSWD on its pilot test of Adoption. Recovery Cost has encouraged NORFIL Foundation to consider implementing Domestic Adoption.
- f) The KBF Home for Single Mothers – Birthing Room inaugurated in September 2006 is accredited by the Department of Health as a Newborn Screening (NBS) Facility. Its implementation is in support to the Government's law making it compulsory for newborn babies to undergo NBS to determine mental and congenital diseases for early interventions.

g) In support to the Zero Waste Management law of the Philippines, KBF through the Terre Des Hommes-Germany grant inaugurated its Material Recovery Facility (MRF) on December 10, 2007 at Brgy. Escopa III, Quezon City.

However, we were not able to meet all our targets due to the following reasons:

- The resignation of one of the social workers handling domestic adoption thus only thirty six (36) adoptive families were developed and matched to adoptive children. The new social worker hired on September 16 took sometime to adjust in her new responsibility.
- The two (2) social workers for foster care were able to recruit and licensed only three (3) foster families.

II. 2007 STATISTICAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND 2008 TARGETS:

SERVICES	2007 TARGET	ACCOMPLISHMENTS	2008 TARGET
1) Domestic Adoption	45	36 <i>a) Regular Placements - 23</i> <i>b) Foster Adoption - 1</i> <i>c) Relative Adoption - 2</i> <i>d) Independent Placement - 10</i>	45
2) Inter-country Adoption	36	53 <i>a) Holt, USA - 33</i> <i>b) Europe - 20</i>	42
3) Foster Care Admissions	60	62 <i>a) KBF - 45</i> <i>b) Partner Child Caring Agencies* - 17</i>	60
4) Single Mothers Admissions	60	79	60
5) Day Care	250	300 <i>(A day care center in Olandes, Marikina Cit was opened in June, 2007 in cooperation with Barangay Olandes)</i>	300
6) Independent Living & Educational Assistance (ILEA)	16	16	16
7) Family & Community Outreach	800	1,300	800
8) Family Reunification	60	52 <i>a) KBF - 26</i> <i>b) Partner Child caring Agencies** - 26</i>	60
9) Family Preservation	115	113	115
TOTAL	1,437	1,975	1,498

- * DSWD Field Office V & X – given grant by HOLT to expand implementation of foster care.
- ** Government & non-government child caring agencies given grant by HOLT to improve quality care for children in-care and fast track reunification to birth families or permanency planning for the children.

HOLT BUDGET FOR KBF:

Program/Service	Funding	
	2007	2008
Day Care	\$ 6,352.00	\$ 6,987.00
Foster Care	36,633.00	40,296.00
Unwed Parent Services	20,767.00	22,844.00
Family Preservation Services	5,998.00	6,598.00
Adoption (International)	48,000.00	66,892.00
Adoption (Local)	7,500.00	8,250.00
Admin (Executive & Deputy Director)	24,523.00	26,975.00
Capital	1,800.00	1,980.00
Outreach Child Caring Agency	28,680.00	28,680.00
RSCC Legaspi FC	5,250.00	5,250.00
Cagayan de Oro FC	5,500.00	5,500.00
Child Care Fees International Adoption	8,000.00	20,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 199,903.00	\$ 240,253.00

III. SERVICES:

A. PERMANENT PLACEMENTS

1. DOMESTIC ADOPTION:

Highlight

This year, 36 children were placed to adoptive families: 23 regular adoption, 10 independent placements, 1 foster care adopt and, 2 relative adoption.

Notable Activities:

- Conducted Pre-adoption Forum every 2nd Friday of the month at KBF Conference Room. Attendance to Pre-adoption Forum is a requirement for adoptive families applicants.
- Regular attendance to the Department of Social Welfare & development (DSWD) Local Matching Conference (LMC) held every 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month at the DSWD-NCR.
- Regular participation in the celebration of Adoption Consciousness Week held every 2nd week of February.
- Adoptive Families Foundation (AFF) in cooperation with KBF, organized a Christmas Party held at Ms. Mousy Faustino's residence (AFF current president). KBF new adoptive

families become members of AFF. The party was successful and attended by 27 families and their adopted children & birth children.

Challenges

- Families who signified to pursue adoption of independently placed children in their care failed to submit one (1) or two (2) required documents thus the adoption process did not continue and the children remain unprotected.
- Social Workers are prepared to handle possible disruptions.

2. INTER-COUNTRY ADOPTION:

Highlight

Fifty-three (53) children were placed to permanent homes through foreign adoption.

HOLT, USA	-	33
Europe	-	20 (Belgium, France & Netherlands)

Notable Activities:

- The social worker in-charge of USA accompanied Ms. Ruben Mauney, Holt, Senior Executive for Southeast Asia and Mike Noah, Director of Holt Services, Philippines for their visits to different child caring agencies in Manila and Visayas area. They also met with the ICA-Board. Concerns discussed were about pre-identified cases, increased in adoption fees, updates of cases and, re-accreditation of HOLT by the Inter-country Adoption Board (ICAB).
- Close coordination with the child caring agencies regarding possible matching of their children to Les Amis Des Enfants Du Monde (AEM), Sourires D' Enfants (SDE) and Wereldkinderen, Netherlands.
- Susan Cox, Vice President of Holt, presented a paper on "Collaborative Endeavors in Adoption" at the 9th Global Conference on Child Welfare at Tagaytay City on September 17-20, 2007. In her speech she challenged ICAB to appoint in their Board an adoptive child.

Challenges

- The sudden increased of ICAB adoption fees from \$1,000.00 to \$2,200.00 somehow affects the number of foreign adoptive applicants. Accordingly, the Philippines has now the most expensive fees compared to other sending countries such as China, Korea, Thailand, Ecuador, Vietnam, India etc.

3. FAMILY REUNIFICATION (Children Returned to Birth Families):

Fifty-two (52) children from KBF foster homes and children from government and non-government agencies under the HOLT Sponsorship were reunited to their biological parents.

Through the efforts done by the social workers, the biological parents sustained their jobs and reconciled with their families enabling them to get back their children.

4. FAMILY PRESERVATION:

One Hundred Thirteen (113) Families were enabled to remain together and did not give up their children to child caring agencies. These families came from our Nazareth Home for Single Mothers, Day Care Services and Family and Community Outreach. Families were strengthened through livelihood assistance, parent effectiveness, responsible parenthood, spiritual enhancement and empowerment of mothers & fathers seminars.

B. OTHER SERVICES TO CHILDREN

1. FOSTER CARE SERVICE:

Highlight

KBF has 3 additional licensed foster families; all subsidized. The service offers a temporary care in a family atmosphere for newborn to 2 years old children, with few exception for older special children who were not adopted nor returned to birth families. Admissions were 45 for the year aside from the 51 carry-over cases from 2006. There were 19 who were reunited to birth families, 11 were adopted locally and 19 were adopted internationally.

Notable Activities

- Foster Care and Domestic Adoption social workers together with Dir. Rosario B. Dela Rosa attended the National Consultation on Alternative Parental Care on February 1-3, 2007. This aimed to elicit from various stakeholders information of the current situation and trends on alternative parental care, and identify suggestions/recommendations to improve on the areas of policy and program implementation. It aimed also to strengthen its relationship with the family court social workers and judges to speed up legalization of adoption cases and the declaration of abandonment for children.
- Quarterly upgrading on parenting skills of foster families.
- A movie entitled "Foster Child" was based on the experiences of KBF Foster Care Service.
- KBF is actively participating in the review group discussion under the Technical Working Group of Council for the Welfare of Children for the passage of the Foster Care Bill. The main feature of the Foster Care Bill is the subsidy to be given by the government to Child Caring Agencies implementing foster care.

Challenge

- To recruit volunteer families to cut the cost of subsidy and child care supplies. Volunteer families support all the needs of the foster child. We have 29 subsidized foster families and only 10 volunteer foster families. Nine (9) of our volunteer foster families in eight (8) years adopted their foster children so they stopped fostering.

2. DAY CARE SERVICE:

Highlight

For 2007, three hundred (300) children were served in 6 Day Care Centers:

Escopa 1, Quezon City	-	50 children
Escopa 2, Quezon City	-	50 children
Escopa 3A, Quezon City	-	50 children
Escopa 3B, Quezon City	-	50 children
Duyan-duyan, Quezon City	-	50 children
Olandes, Marikina	-	50 children
Total	-	300 children

- On June 18, 2007, the day care center in Barangay Olandes, Marikina City was opened with 50 enrollees/new beneficiaries for school year 2007.
- Supplemental feeding is provided to the 300 day care children Monday to Friday throughout the school year thus malnutrition is reduced by 20%.

Notable Activities

- Regular educational tour for all day care children in order to enhance their social consciousness and to widen their knowledge about the environment.
- The children had their Mid-Year and Final Evaluations. These were done to evaluate learning of children in terms of language, mathematics, health and science. The results were shared with their parents. Ninety (90%) percent of the children passed and those that did not pass were given additional attention.
- In June 2007, there were one hundred eleven (111) senior day care children who entered formal schooling of Grade 1.
- All day care workers attended the Arts and Craft/ Visual Seminar to upgrade their knowledge and skills.
- All day care workers and five (5) teacher aides had a workshop to upgrade the visual aids, teaching devices and program materials for the daily lesson plans, evaluation and other activities for the children.
- Regular parents meetings/orientations to discuss the parents' responsibilities, counterpart and different committees for preparing the food, cleaning the center, marketing, washing the dishes and teacher aids.
- The Barangay health workers of Quezon City and Marikina City gave all the children (both junior and senior) deworming tablets and an anti-measles booster.
- All Day Care Centers celebrated the Children's Month in October by conducting Quiz Bee. The junior and senior day care children participated and demonstrated their skills and talents. The Christian Service Program 2nd year students of Ateneo de Manila University also joined in the activity. This year's theme is "Karapatan Nasayo, Isigaw sa Buong Mundo" ("Tell the Whole World, The Rights that You Have").

- Several Christmas Parties and Gift Givings were shared by corporations, associations and individuals to the day care children. They enjoyed the gifts, food and games provided by the various sponsors.

Challenges

- Many 3-6 years old in the six barangays we are covering cannot be accommodated in our six (6) day care centers.
- There are no government day care centers in the said barangays.

3. INDEPENDENT LIVING & EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

Highlights

- There were twenty-seven (27) scholars served from January to December 2007. In March we started to recruit replacements of those who graduated from two year vocational course and those who dropped out. We maintain eight (8) boy scholars and eight (8) girl scholars. Eight (8) girls share an apartment named “Genesis Home for Girls and 8 boys share an apartment named “Genesis Home for the Boys”. Genesis stands for “a new beginning” for them.
- Out of 16, eleven (11) are in high school, two (2) are taking vocational courses, three (3) are in college taking up 4-year courses (social work, nursing and teaching).
- Three (3) high school students are included in the class honor roll namely: Precy (4th Honor), Marlon (9th Honor) and Edna (7th Honor). They received incentives as reward for doing well in school.
- Five (5) male scholars attended “Character Building Seminar” for two (2) months, four (4) in the USA and one (1) in the Philippines. The four who attended the seminar in the USA arrived in November 2007. This was sponsored by Institute of Basic Life Principle, Chicago, USA.

Notable Activities

- Monthly meetings of the scholars were conducted every 1st Sunday of the month to discuss issues and concerns regarding school activities, academic subjects and psychosocial relationship.
- Regular casework with Social Worker and counseling with counselors from the Center of Family Ministries
- Tutorial every Saturday for Math and English.
- The scholars participated in the KBF 32nd Anniversary held at Riverbend Hotel in Marikina City on December 10, 2007. They shared their talents through drama presentation.
- The scholars joined the Theater Festival participated by other children from different institutions. This activity was held at the Dela Salle-College of Saint Benilde last December 15-16, 2007. The main objective was to advocate the rights of the children against child abuse, child trafficking and exploitation.

- Last December 4, 2007, the Holt Gift Team came and gave to the scholars and foster children Christmas gifts. They had the chance to interact with the scholars regarding their school performance and the experiences of some of the boys who attended the training for Character Building in the USA.

Challenges

- Employment for the graduate scholars.
- Looking for additional sponsors to support the ever increasing tuition fees of the scholars.
- Construction of two (2) apartments for the scholars
- Continuous follow-up on their school performances and instilling home life skills.

4. SPONSORSHIP SERVICE (Outreach & Family Rehabilitation)

Highlights

- A total of 247 children were served for the year 2007. This would include the DSWDs 6 RSCCs, (Regions 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11), DSWD's Foster Care (Region V & X, 8) NGOs Child Caring Agencies (Asilo dela Milagrosa in Cebu, Bethany in Cagayan de Oro, Concordia in Manila, Rainbow in Dumaguete, White Cross in San Juan, Bethany in Bulacan, Hayag in Ormoc, Cribs in Marikina), KBF Day Care Center in Escopa II and KBF Foster Care.
- Out of 247 children served for 2007, One Hundred Eleven (111) children were served by the partner agencies: 19 children were adopted locally, 48 children were placed thru inter-country adoption, 16 children were returned to birth families, 27 children were transferred to other facilities due to incapability/limitations of the agency to provide needs of these special needs children and 1 died due to Hepa A complication.

Notable Activity

- KBF social workers are assigned to visit partner agencies thrice (3) a year in February, June & October. The main objective of the monitoring visits are the movement of the cases of children towards permanency planning.

Challenges

- There were 136 children five (5) years old and above waiting for permanent placement. Additional number of children, perhaps of the same number of 136 with inadequate prospective adoptive parents would leave more children with no loving and permanent families.
- Limited number of prospective adoptive parents are willing to parent child/ren with special needs.

C. OTHER SERVICES TO FAMILIES

1. SERVICE TO SINGLE MOTHERS

Highlight

A total of 79 expectant mothers were admitted at KBF Nazareth Home for Single Mothers. Of 79, 60 gave birth, 27 in the hospital & 33 in the KBF birthing room. Of those placed in foster homes, nineteen (19) mothers were returned and brought home their babies.

Out of 60 children born, including 1 set of twins, 22 babies were placed in the foster homes, 38 mothers kept their babies, 3 babies died due to hyaline membrane, asphyxia neonatous disease and diaphragmatic hernia.

Thirteen (13) mothers are still in care at the end of the year.

Notable Activities

- Pre-natal and post natal check up every Thursday is conducted at the Birthing Room by Ms. Bernadette Nolasco, on call Registered Midwife for Nazareth Home.
- Regular sessions of Tuesday Volunteers with the mothers on values, communication, parenting, proper etiquette and manners. They also treat the girls for once a-month swimming as part of their recreation.
- The Center for Family Ministries (CEFAM) of Ateneo de Manila University started their counseling sessions with the girls at two hour session per girl during Mondays and Fridays.
- Casework conducted by social worker focused on psycho-social healing.
- Bible Study during Mondays with John 10:11 Mission Ministry facilitated by Bro. Ramon Manahan.
- The Solo Parents of the Bukas Loob Sa Diyos Covenant Community conducts Bible Study every Friday with Bro. Felipe Diman as the leader.
- Ms. Jo Ann Larrazabal, Childbirth Educator conduct Childbirth Education to the girls every Thursday.
- All babies were baptized at the Our Lady of the Miraculous Parish in Project 4, Quezon City.
- On September 25, 2007, KBF Nazareth Home Birthing Room celebrated its 1st year anniversary. A Holy mass and blessing of the Birthing Room were part of the celebration. It was attended by KBF Chairman of the Board, Carlos C. Torres and the Vice Chairman, Justice Leonor Ines-Luciano.

Challenges

- Eight cases of sexual abused survivors, four of them were minors, were referred to Nazareth Home for immediate intervention. Clients who are sexually abused need more psycho-social and emotional healing.
- All the sexually abused cases are taken care of by the Philippine General Hospital Child Protection Unit and the Department of Justice for the filing of appropriate cases in court.

- Sustaining the advocacy for breastfeeding for the birthmothers.

2. FAMILY AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH SERVICE

Coverage/ Clientele

a)	Street Urban Working Children	-	362 children
b)	Self-Employment Assistance Kaunlaran (SEA-K)	-	26 members
c)	Social Credit Revolving Fund (SCRF)	-	25 members
d)	Out of School Youth	-	93 members
e)	Community Core Volunteers	-	238 members
f)	Family Home Evening	-	135 families
g)	Fire victims of Barangay Tagumpay, Proj. 4, QC	-	421 families

Notable Activities

- Street Urban Working Children beneficiaries attended the Training on Life Skills, Community Organizing and Planning which was conducted by Lunduyan Foundation.
- The Sleeping Children Around the World (SCAW) Foundation of Canada through the help of SCAW Philippines and Kiwanis Club distributed 350 bedkits to needy children ages 6-10 years old, from the 11 barangays in Quezon City including Escopa 3A & B, Duyan-duyan, Claro, Tagumpay, San Roque, Bagumbuhay in Project 4 and Botokan in Project 3.
- Twenty (20) core volunteers of the KBF's five (5) covered barangays attended the session on "Enhancing Family Life and Family Cohesiveness on May 22-23, 2007 at the Philippine Women's University (PWU) Manila. The Family Enrichment Program helps families to have strong family bonding and closer to God. The said activity were already echoed to 70 family beneficiaries.
- The Kaisahang Buhay Foundation received a Plaque of Appreciation from the Quezon City government for the implementation of solid waste management in Brgy. Escopa, Quezon City. This project is funded by Terre Des Hommes (TDH)-Germany
- KBF submitted project proposal to the Rotary Club re; establishment of a water station as micro-enterprise for mothers and out of school youths in the five barangays.
- Twenty-four (24) out of school youth attended a seminar on Juvenile Justice System. The topics were: Keeping Children safe and Proper Protection of Children in Conflict with the Law.
- Ten (10) core volunteers attended the Family Network (FAMNET) Quarterly Family Forum about Healthy Family Lifestyles.
- The social worker attended the orientation on Children in Need of Special protection (CNSP) cum Child Protection forum conducted by the Childhope Asia Philippines in partnership with Plan Philippines. It aims to prevent children from being exploited, abused and become street children.
- KBF in coordination with Childhope Asia in targeted three (3) pilot areas in Barangays Claro, Quirino 2C and Duyan-duyan organized Barangay Council for the Protection of Children (BCPC).

- The Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) was completed on December 7, 2007. It was formally opened on December 10, 2007. The MRF is to store recyclable waste before selling in bulk and to house the recyclable materials to process into organic fertilizer.

Said project provides hope to out of school youth to earn to help them go back to school.

This is in compliance with Republic Act 9003 otherwise known as Ecological Solid Waste Management Act.

- The Rotary Club of Murphy sponsored a medical/dental mission at barangay Escopa I-IV. There were 65 children and adults who availed of medicines, vitamins, toothbrush and tooth extraction.
- The fire victim of Barangay Tagumpay last December 23 & 26 received groceries, rice, clothing, utensils from the Rotary Club of Murphy and the District 3780. There were 421 families/beneficiaries.

Challenges

- Sustainability of the Material Recovery Facility (MRF)
- Sustainability of the organized community welfare structures in the seven (7) barangays to facilitate implementation of the plan of action to address the Minimum Basic Needs (MBN) identified in Barangay Escopa 1, 2, 3A & B, Duyan-duyan, Olandes, Claro and Quirino 2C.

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