



The John D.V. Salvador
foundation

John D.V. Salvador
September 10, 1968–February 20, 1983

The First Days



Letter From the Chairman



DEAR FRIENDS: This first year of the John D.V. Salvador Foundation (JDVSF) has been an exciting and remarkable one. For this I have only you to thank. I am deeply humbled by your support for our mission to help at-risk children in the memory of my brother John D.V. Salvador, who was tragically taken from us at the age of 14. Your contributions to the JDVSF have helped get our first project, the expansion of the St. Martin de Porres (SMDP) home for street children in the Philippines, off to a meaningful start. As a first-generation Filipina-American born into a prosperous, loving family, I—like so many others of Filipino descent—want to do my part to help the most vulnerable of the many living in poverty in the Philippines. With your support, the JDVSF can now do just that by helping to save children who, for lack of good parenting, a secure home, and enough food to eat, may have life snatched from them before experiencing its full promise, like my brother.

Since its inception in November 2005, the JDVSF has raised more than \$232,000 to finance the transformation of the SMDP home, which, since 2004, has sheltered children as they have recovered from the trauma of the streets and gone on to excel academically, spiritually, and artistically. The JDVSF has seen to their daily needs by equipping them with school clothes, supplies, and musical instruments for the SMDP orchestra. It also seeks to play a major role in their future by raising the funds necessary to drastically expand their current quarters, a single two-room building, to include girls' dormitories, a school, a dining hall, and a greenhouse complex among other facilities. On February 20, 2006, ground was broken for the boys' dormitory, which now stands completed.

The Foundation's work on behalf of St. Martin de Porres has garnered much attention among a growing network of friends, corporate sponsors, and citizens from around the world who keep up with the progress at our website, www.jdvsfoundation.org. Gratifying to us are the spontaneous new acts of kindness the strong word of mouth has engendered. Established donors like Deutsche Bank Asia, the Japanese Embassy in the Philippines, and KPMG have pledged time and money. But so have such ad hoc groups as a community of teen musicians from New York City and concert promoters at Tambayan Productions in New Jersey who, unsolicitedly, pledged proceeds from benefit concerts they each organized. This organic groundswell of support tells us that there is a font of generosity in the world just waiting to be tapped on behalf of those who need it most. By keeping overhead low and adopting procedures to ensure full transparency, the JDVSF aims to deliver the financial support its donors have proved so willing to give in the most efficient, cost-effective manner. It is our great privilege to serve as one channel for your generosity. We look forward to working with you in the coming years.

With my best regards,

M. Lizelle Salvador Bänziger, *Founding Chairman*

One Year for JDVSF



The John D.V. Salvador Foundation

A commitment to give at-risk children the opportunity to thrive.

The Mission

As children grow, they enrich the lives of those around them, and once they mature they have the chance to make a difference. But in order to fully develop this potential, children need and deserve a healthy, secure, and supportive environment. The John D.V. Salvador Foundation (JDVSF) works to establish, fund, and support programs to benefit children who, without the consistent care of loving parents, might fall victim to the poverty, disability, and abuse that could thwart development of their innate, unique gifts.



Letter From Father Boyet

DEAR FRIENDS OF THE POOR,

It is said that showing charity to the poor is the rent we pay for our earthly sojourn. And God expects prompt remittance, inspiring us to love him by serving them. In the Philippines, our search for God takes us to the poorest children, dependents who call the street home, a garbage dump their pantry. For their benefit—and for those who seek to know God by exercising mercy, compassion, and love—God orchestrates our lives on this earth and even after death. His ingenious design is all around us. But in Bustos Bulacan, it is writ large in the work of the John D.V. Salvador Foundation, named for a young boy who, despite his untimely demise, still inspires charitable works. Thanks to those who give in his memory, he and they pave the way for hope and love to blossom.

On November 11, we celebrated John's life-after-life with a ceremony marking the completion of a dormitory for the boys of Saint

Martin de Porres. The first building contributed by the JDVSF to the Children's Village compound the JDVSF is building, it offers many happy boys safety and shelter after surviving the street's harsh reality. It also stands as a testament to the wonder that God's love can inspire, projecting hope one finds beaming in the happy, peaceful faces of all Saint Martin's young residents. I see John's compassionate face etched in each one of them. Unless a grain of wheat falls and dies it will not bear much fruit (John 12:24). After life, John has become a missionary, committing us all to God's earthly business. What a wonderful privilege. God Bless us.

FATHER BOYET



The First Year of the Rest of Their Lives

Life drastically changes once children abandon the streets for the comforts of St. Martin de Porres. Here, the tales of four who are thriving in their new home.

TEA

TEA, 13, LOVES A GOOD LAUGH and is often found giggling with a friend over a joke, usually her own! But before she came to SMDP, her smiles were a rarity. Her family, once happy, fell upon hard times when her father died and a fire destroyed their home. Penniless and homeless, the family splintered, with her mother working around the clock, leaving Tea and her siblings to roam the streets. Tea began sniffing glue and seemed destined for tragedy until one day she and her siblings visited the SMDP soup kitchen in Manila, where they lodged temporarily until Father Boyet opened the SMDP residential facility in Bustos Bulacan. There, Tea beat her addiction and has become a diligent student, learning skills that each day distance her further from a painful past.



JENNIE

A 14-YEAR-OLD FULL OF AMBITION, Jennie, thanks to her new home at St. Martin, has



put her childhood trauma behind her. When her parents' separation and her mother's serious illness ruptured her family, she used drugs to dull the pain of an uncle's abuse and the exploitation she met working for 20 pesos a day to help pay for her mother's medical care. She tried to stay straight even as ill fortune assailed her, but, like so many other children of the streets, was in grave danger of losing the battle. Until one day, she met Myrna Del Rosario, house mother at SMDP, who ultimately secured her a place at St. Martin. Once she settled in, she shook her addictions completely. Today she is a happy freshman in high school, with dreams of becoming a social worker and nurse so she can help those less fortunate and give back some of the kindness extended to her.

DEE

JUST LIKE MANY CHILDREN forced on to the streets, Dee, 8, faced a difficult choice at a young age: attend school or work to help support the family. Either way, she'd lose, as her mother, a vegetable vendor, wanted her to work, but her father beat her for skipping school. The pressure of being caught between

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her parents, forced to make untenable choices, only made Dee act out more. Life became far simpler, however, once she began visiting the St. Martin soup kitchen in Manila and made connections that ultimately brought her to the SMDP residence in Bustos Bulacan. There the consequences of going to school are only good, which is a great relief to a girl hoping to one day be a doctor.

DOROTHY

EXTREME POVERTY forces cruel decisions upon many a parent as well. In the case of Dorothy, 9, economic hardship brought on by her father's abandonment forced her mother to entrust her and her siblings to the care of the SMDP residence because she could not afford to care for them. Though losing her father, whose drinking left the family no money to buy food, was no hardship, being separated from her mother, even though it meant being well cared for and a chance to go to school, left her longing to have her family reunited. That dream recently came true when Dorothy's mother was offered the position of house parent. So now, she and her siblings are reunited in a safe place where their family bonds can heal.



PLANNED PERSPECTIVE of THE CHILDREN'S VILLAGE



Phase 1: Boys' dormitory
Phase 2: Girls' dormitory
Phase 3: School building
Phase 4: Common mess hall
Phase 5: Greenhouse-poultry complex

The Children's Village will consist of the following key buildings:

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| 1. Garden chapel | 8. Hermitage cottage |
| 2. Administration Building | 9. Common dining hall and utility building |
| 3. School | 10. Multi-use activity center |
| 4. Women's dorm | 11. Greenhouse and poultry complex |
| 5. Boys' dorm | |
| 6. Girls' dorm | |
| 7. Caretakers' accommodations | |

2007 Goals

PROPELLED BY THE MOMENTUM that the completion of the boys' dormitory has created, we at the JDVSF are energized by the work that lies ahead. Sufficient funds have been raised by the JDVSF to complete Phase Two, a girls' dormitory, construction of which is slated to begin in early 2007. Fundraising will continue in an effort to cover the cost of the remaining buildings, including the Children's Village school, mess hall, and a greenhouse and poultry complex where the SMDP residents can help raise their own food. With the project well underway, the JDVSF is working to identify new opportunities to help redress the hazards that poverty inflicts upon children living without champions in other parts of the world. Currently under review are potential partnerships with orphanages in Brazil, India, and South Africa. As the SMDP Children's Village steadily progresses and the network of JDVSF supporters galvanized by this worthy cause grows, the Foundation is empowered by every new contribution to find new ways to make a difference. For breaking news on new initiatives and construction of the Children's Village, log on to www.jdvsfoundation.org.

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