

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



Dear Friends of Kuya. Greetings.

I am writing to you from Manila where I am winding up my time to get **Kuya's last building planned and underway** hopefully next year. It will be a place where the Religious Congregation directing Kuya can reside, have space for 8 or 9 small apartments for rent, plus shop(s) - one being a Hair Saloon for both training and income generation. All these aspects will generate a steady income to help support a portion of Kuya into the future.



Mia presentation from Luc

USC On this occasion too I was there to see first hand the work of **Salina** and her cohorts from **Uni Sunshine Coast (USC)** conduct training in Hair Styling and Sewing. They were given the opportunity to visit the small 'shanties' of their 'students' to better understand their background. I was so happy to see this aspect so well developed by the Kuya staff and coupled with the micro-financing (loans) provide a real means for our families to become a little more financially secure, to be able to care for their kids and not have them begging on the street as in the past.

23rd ANNIVERSARY: My visit was also in time to celebrate the 23rd Anniversary of the establishment of Kuya Center. It gave me cause to stop, think and wonder at the huge number of children (many of whom I remember) now well established in life who otherwise may not have made it at all. The Foundation Day was a nice low key event with many other Centers and supporters represented and in particular Mia Castro who spoke on behalf of the Consuelo Foundation. Consuelo supports Kuya by various staff training programs - Kuya is so fortunate. .

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AUSTRALIAN DONATIONS (ATO receipts)

Nicolas Nunez (Finance Officer)
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Credit Card donors contact **Nicolas Nunez**

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Remember: "You'd Better Bloody Believe It!" few books still available - great for gifts just email, call or txt me

THE NEW BUILDING DISCUSSION AND PLANNING



New Building Planning: Sr Kate, Bro Luc, Mr Severo Tuason, Bro Paul, Jean Loterena (enrg), Grace Lauzon (Architect) in offices of Mr Tuason Feb 24th 2014. The initial drawings were kindly developed by Lily & Allan Rielly (Brisbane) and were the basis of our discussions.



Some of the children performing a small action song on the occasion of the celebration of the 23rd Anniversary of Kuya Center. The actual day is Valentines Day but celebrations were held on Saturday 25th Feb 2014 to allow a bigger attendance.

Children and some of staff at the Anniversary celebrations



Bro Paul meets two past Kuya 'children' Andrew and Moise. Now successful as parents and businessmen.

A MORE PERSONAL NOTE: On my return from Manila I will embark on a sabbatical. It involves a two month 'Desert Retreat' in Arizona (w/out the rattlesnakes I hope), a short (150kms) of the Spanish Camino walking pilgrimage and other things. I leave on 17th March. I take you all in prayer and pilgrimage. I hope to meet /thank Kuya donors while o/s. Email me if you wish. All going to plan I return early September! **Note new 'add' of Australia Marist Solidarity.** Peace thanks. Paul

KUYA CENTER FOR STREET CHILDREN

Mga Kaibigan ng Kuya