

Kuya Center

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kuyacente
FOR STREET CHILDREN



KUYA CENTER

reuniting children with their families



The new Kuya 'half-way' home

Dear Friends of Kuya, Greetings. My apologies for so few newsletters this year but I was fortunate to be offered the opportunity of a sabbatical and the chance to meet and thank many of Kuya's fabulous overseas donors. I visited Kuya for a few days on my way home. It is so satisfying to see the staff ensuring that vulnerable children are restored to their families and they provided training and life-skills options.

Welcome Jorge Villegas. Jorge has been Kuya's street and social educator for many years. The Parishes of Geelong have invited him to be with them for their fundraising activities this October. Jorge will also be in Sydney for a few days too.



Kuya's thanks go to the **Geelong parishioners, the parish staff and Fr Gerard Keith.** Gerard led a group of parishioners to Kuya a few years ago and they have been an incredible part of the Kuya story over the past years. Thank you Geelong you are truly remarkable.

I met another great Kuya supporter in **Judge Cezar Peralejo.** The Judge, once a judge of the Philippines Family Court has been instrumental, along with parishioners in Geelong, in financing the development of Kuya's version of the Gremeen Bank under the care of Srs. Kate & Claudia RNDM. The bank enables parents to begin small business ventures. The education and supervision of these ventures are maintained by Kuya. The Judge has been an outstanding friend of Kuya over many years.



AUSTRALIAN DONATIONS (ATO receipts)

Nicolas Nunez (Finance Officer)
Australia Marist Solidarity, (AMS)
PO Box 272,
ASHGROVE. Qld 4060
Tel: (07) 3354 0600
Cheques to: **Australia Marist Solidarity**
Email: al.sherry@marists.org.au or
brian.kinsella@marists.org.au
Credit Card donors contact Nicolas Nunez
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AIUTARE I BAMBINI. During my trekking around I was also very privileged to meet Mr. Goffredo Modena the President of **Aiutare I Bambini (AIB)** and **Stefano Oltolini** in Milan. This foundation gives amazing support to low income and disadvantaged children all around the world. AIB has been a massive Kuya supporter for the past ten years and their assistance gives Kuya the ability to support the education programs of our kids and families. I was privileged to meet Serena and Gioia AIB staff who so loyally provide all the behind the scenes work in Milan. It was great to meet Stefano again too as he had visited Kuya in 2001. Thank you for your kindness and for taking time to see and meet me.



TRINITY COLLEGE AUBURN. Trinity College Auburn is a very multicultural Marist College situated in the western suburbs of Sydney. During Lent and under the enthusiasm of Brother Ray Arthur and staff, the students raised almost \$7,000 for Kuya. Kuya was one project of three that the students supported. Kuya thanks and congratulates the students and staff for their fabulous fundraising for Kuya. I hope Kuya can host some of the students as volunteers one day.



Sisters of Charity of BVM DUBUQUE IOWA USA. The sisters have been at the forefront of so much wonderful Church work in the USA. Despite an aging group they still continue so much good work in schools and parishes. The older sisters chose Kuya as one of their projects. Each year they fund a food program which helps Kuya give nourishing meal support to children on the streets. Jorge manages this program. It is such a big help. Thank you sisters Mary, Thea and your wonderful community in Dubuque.



I still have a number of other Kuya supporters to acknowledge and will do so in the next newsletter. I thank you readers for your continuing support. I am aware many sent donations to Brisbane over the past months. Thank you. In **February 2016 Kuya** will celebrate its **Silver Jubilee** - more about that later! I am due for a hip replacement in November so I may be a bit 'leg-roped' for a while! Good wishes. **PAUL.**

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Mga Kaibigan ng Kuya