



# Community and Family Services International NewsBrief

July 2013

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Welcome to Community and Family Services International's "NewsBrief" e-newsletter, providing information on the latest CFSI activities, events and programme highlights.

## Philippines: CFSI annual report released



"... 2012 was another busy year for CFSI and its partners. A lot of good work was done by the Board and Staff - none of it possible were it not for the contributions of donors, partners, supporters and hundreds of volunteers, for which we are deeply grateful." (*Executive Statement: CFSI Board of Trustees Chairperson Bayani H. Agabin and CFSI Executive Director Steven Muncy*) CFSI's Annual Report for 2012 provides a comprehensive overview of the organization's programmes, projects and activities in the three countries in which CFSI works: Philippines, Myanmar and Viet Nam. Copies can be downloaded at [www.cfsi.ph/cfsi-2012-annual-report/](http://www.cfsi.ph/cfsi-2012-annual-report/)

## Philippines: PAI photo story exhibit



The issues and challenges facing children and youth in one of Manila's poorest areas have been captured in colorful photo-stories as part of a unique community-led project undertaken by CFSI's Park Avenue Initiative (PAI). The project targeted eight barangays in Pasay City - a crowded inner-city area beset with high levels of poverty and unemployment, where many youth do not attend school and are at risk of violence, exploitation, prostitution, trafficking and the drug trade. The overall aim of the project was to raise community awareness about the challenges facing youth in Pasay City and children's rights, and to educate youth about the dangers and potential pitfalls they faced. Read the full story at [www.cfsi.ph/empowering-youth-through-art/](http://www.cfsi.ph/empowering-youth-through-art/)

## Philippines: CFSI mid-term review workshop



Members of CFSI's Office of the Executive Director, Senior Management Team. Finance and Administration Team and Country Programme Teams (Philippines, Myanmar and Viet Nam) gathered for three days at the Angels Hills Convention Center in Tagaytay City from 23-35 July to review the progress that has been made in the implementation of CFSI's Plan of Action for 2013 and to identify emerging issues that should be factored into organizational planning for 2014. The Consultation and Planning Workshop/Mid-Term Review, involving 22 CFSI staff, was both participatory and interactive and resulted in the development of an updated Plan of Action for 2013 that identified achievements, gaps, priorities and addressed issues that may arise which have the potential to impact on CFSI's operations.



## Staff tour Mindanao project sites

Staff from CFSI's Office of the Executive Director spent a week touring project sites throughout eastern, central and northern Mindanao from 1-8 July.

The purpose of the visit was to document the work CFSI and its staff are doing to rebuild lives affected by conflict and natural disasters, from which feature stories and videos are being developed.

Among the sites visited was this pre-primary school in Barangay Campong Sabela in the municipality of Ganassi in Lanao Del Sur province, which CFSI - in collaboration with BRAC and with support from the Philippine Department of Education - has constructed in order to provide early-childhood education for youngsters in this remote part of the country.