



Community and Family Services International NewsBrief

March 2014

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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.

Viet Nam: Landmark agreement strengthens social work sector in Viet Nam



Community and Family Services International is continuing to support the development of Viet Nam's social-work sector with the signing of a ground-breaking Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on March 12, 2014, that will enable 200 planning and management officials to receive master's degrees in social work by 2017. Read the full story at www.cfsi.ph/swep-viet-nam-mou/

Philippines: CFSI receives Plaque of Appreciation from Zamboanga City Mayor



Zamboanga City Mayor Ma. Isabelle "Beng" Climaco presented CFSI with a special "Plaque of Appreciation" on March 18 in recognition of the organisation's ongoing response to the crisis in Zamboanga. Read the full story at www.cfsi.ph/plaque-of-appreciation/

Philippines: CFSI staff take part in Solidarity Fun Run in Guiuan



As dawn broke over the typhoon-hit town of Guiuan on March 8, CFSI staff lined up at the starting line for the 6km "Solidarity Fun Run" to commemorate International Women's Day. Also participating in the fun run were representatives from other NGOs, government agencies and others involved in the Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) response, as well as members of the public. See photos from the fun run at <http://fb.me/2N0cL3ADN>

Philippines: Toys brighten the lives of children in typhoon-hit Guiuan



Members of CFSI's Child Rights Project in the Visayas distributed hundreds of toys sent from the US to children in typhoon-hit Guiuan. A total of 310 toys, collected by the Girl Scouts of Green Oakes in Liberty, Illinois, were shipped to the Philippines and distributed to children attending CFSI Child-Friendly Spaces in eight barangays. Read the full story at www.cfsi.ph/guiuan-toys/



A day to celebrate, a day to remember

Today is a day to celebrate, a day to remember. Mark this day in your calendar, mark this day in your heart.

At 16:00 this afternoon, 27 March 2014, the Peace Panels of the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GPH) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) will sign the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB) at Malacanang Palace in Manila – the long sought comprehensive peace agreement required to establish a just and lasting peace in the conflict-affected areas of Mindanao. The signing will be witnessed by Philippine President Benigno S. Aquino, MILF Chairman Al Haj Murad Ebrahim, and a host of dignitaries, diplomats, Government officials, MILF officials, peace advocates, and others. Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak will represent the Government of Malaysia, which brokered the peace talks that took place over a seventeen-year period.

Read the full blog post from CFSI Executive Director Steven Muncy at www.cfsi.ph/celebrate-remember/