



Registered association for the promotion
of medical care and social support in
Northern Samar, Philippines

Bugko, August 2008

Dear members, dear friends, and supporters of Mabuhay!

As announced in April, I'd like to first let my three visitors have their say so they can share their experiences here with you.

When the rains finally stopped, the farmers were finally able to harvest and dry their rice. The rice harvest wasn't as bountiful, so there will be a rice shortage in the Philippines in the coming months, especially since rice is the main, and sometimes the only, food source here. Fortunately, we were able to secure enough rice for our children, so our feeding program isn't jeopardized.



In April, Claire G came to stay with us for two months. Claire is 23 years old and studying International Cooperation in Grenoble. She came on behalf of an Australian company to observe and document our program so that it can potentially be replicated in the region, improve the health situation in the wider area, and provide even more people with access to medical care.



Claire Garnier



At the end of April, we received the good news that the German Dental Association, under the leadership of Dr. Winter, would be funding a complete dental examination unit for Bugko. This will enable us to address the next major emergency here. In addition to the medical emergency and the nutritional problem, the people here have virtually no dental care because they can't afford to see a dentist. For toothache, they take two penicillin tablets, and if that doesn't help, the tooth is extracted. The result is that many very young people here no longer have any teeth at all. They have no idea what regular dental hygiene is. We were able to recruit two dentists as volunteers for our work here, and their focus will be on prophylaxis and tooth preservation.



From May 4-7, five of our volunteers participated in a seminar on alternative medicine organized by Integrative Medicine for Alternative Healthcare Systems (INAM)-Philippines. They shared their newfound experiences with the other volunteers at one of the regular meetings. They received information about various medicinal plants and different clinical pictures, and were tasked with evaluating Bugko regarding common illnesses, ways to prevent illness, family structure, etc.

With best wishes for a wonderful summer Yours





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Sabine Korth

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