



More than 2 million Filipino children, or 1 in 20, are abandoned, neglected or orphaned.

Children who have lost parental care are more likely subjected to abuse. The best and proven way to protect and uphold their rights is to give them a loving home and caring family who will consider them as their own, respect them as they are, and help them reach their full potential. This is what SOS Children's Village do to help children who have lost parental care.

SOS Children's Villages is not an orphanage or an institution where a child is put up for adoption. SOS Children's Villages is the home that provides a normal family environment for abandoned, neglected and orphaned children. Like any other children, they live with brothers and sisters in a house where they receive love and care from a mother and other members of the SOS family, until such a time that the children become adults and fully independent. In the communities near the children's villages, we also provide support and intervention to families who are at risk of breaking up.



SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES INTERNATIONAL

In 1949, Hermann Gmeiner founded the first SOS Children's Village in Tyrol, Austria. He was a child welfare worker and he served in the army during World War II. He saw how children suffered and were left orphaned as a result of the war. He pioneered the family-based philosophy to helping children who have lost parental care. After almost 70 years, SOS Children's Village has become the #1 global organization dedicated to providing a loving home for orphaned, abandoned, and neglected children.

136 Countries &
Territories

517 SOS Children's
Villages

51,813
SOS Children &
Young Adults

332,928
Families in the
Communities



SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES PHILIPPINES

In the 1960s, the Austrian Ambassador to the Philippines, Dr. George Winternitz and his wife Susie Winternitz, thought of founding an SOS Children's Village in the Philippines. As strong supporters of SOS Children's Village in their home country in Austria, they knew first-hand how vital the work of the organization for children who lost parental care.

The couple had been living in the Philippines for more than 30 years and they knew that the country needed SOS Children's Villages to help the many Filipino children who needed parental care.

The couple sought the help of the Bishop of Lipa, Batangas, Alejandro Olalia, who then reached out to Don Fidel Reyes to donate a large piece of land on which the SOS Children's Village was soon to rise.

Construction began on May 1, 1967. After a year, three SOS homes were opened to 24 children. Now after 50 years, the number of SOS Children's Villages in the Philippines have grown to eight.



SEC Registration No. A199601777
DSWD-SB-SP-000128-2020

LOCATION	OPERATIONAL FAMILY HOME	CHILDREN IN THE VILLAGES	PARTICIPANTS IN THE COMMUNITIES
Lipa	12	137	899
Tacloban	10	107	1735
Calbayog	11	120	2109
Cebu	12	140	1187
Davao	13	159	679
Manila	8	109	-
Iloilo	11	115	1293
Bataan	10	127	509
TOTAL	87	1014	8411

Data extracted on March 2021



SOS Children's Villages Philippines

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