



"Building lives with strong foundations"

NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2009

October marks **Tiwala's** second year in the Bicol region. While **Tiwala** was officially founded in March 2007, we began operating in Bicol Albay in October 2007.

Educational Tour

As a way of celebrating **Tiwala's** second year anniversary in Bicol, **Tiwala** staff & volunteers took our Alternative Learning System (ALS) students on an out-of-town Educational Tour ('Lakbay Aral') on October 30. The group travelled to Camarines Sur, a neighbouring province, to visit the Bicol Science Centrum, the Naga Ecology Park and the CamSur Watersports Complex (CWC). Most of our students have never ventured out of their home province (Albay) and have yet to experience visiting such places, exploring various educational exhibits etc. All in all, the field trip was a great way to celebrate another productive year and a good opportunity for the children to broaden their knowledge. The ALS students have made a lot of progress since the start of their ALS course and are starting to grow in confidence, taking pride in their achievements.



Outreaches in City Slums

Tiwala holds most of our street child programs at our **Kalye Tiwala Centre**. We have recently started running Saturday outreach programs in the slums in Legazpi City. These outreaches give an opportunity for other children to be involved in our programs, catering to street children as well as to children who are living with their families amongst squalor in the slums. The main purpose of these outreach programs is to convey God's love and hope to the children by way of conducting various music, art and drama workshops with a Biblical theme.

Umbrella Charity/Banking Changes

Tiwala is now under the umbrella of LINKS INTERNATIONAL. Links International is a well-established registered UK charity (No. 327000). Based in the UK and holding offices in several other countries, Links International is a mission network established in 1985 and works by serving the vision of key nationals, providing practical and spiritual resources, as well as serving as an umbrella charity for many grassroots charities such as **Tiwala**. Link's vision is to 'change lives and transform communities'.

Links International is now processing **Tiwala's** UK banking and Gift Aid. Therefore, should individuals or groups wish to make a donation to **Tiwala**, donations can be made to **Tiwala** via Links International. Links transfers **Tiwala's** finances to our Philippine bank account as and when we are in need of the finances for our projects and programs.

As **Tiwala** is now operating under this new and effective system, our current UK banking system with HSBC bank will be phased out. As from January 2010 **Tiwala** will NO LONGER bank with HSBC UK. Should you currently have a standing order or direct debit set up with **Tiwala's** HSBC UK account, we kindly request that the transfer be made to our new banking system via Links International and we sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Please visit **Tiwala's** website www.tiwala.org and navigate to our GET INVOLVED page for the exact new banking details. On this page you will also find that it is now possible to make donations to **Tiwala** ONLINE via a link to the Links International Paypal page. Please READ the instructions CAREFULLY, as it is important to note that reference must always be made to specify that the donations made via Links International are for **Tiwala!**

Tiwala continues to hold its Philippine bank account, therefore as an alternative donations in other currencies can be made directly to our Philippine account.

Tiwala is very privileged to be under the Links International umbrella - please check out their website to learn more about the amazing work they are doing across the globe (www.linksinternational.org.uk).

Thank you for continuing to be a part of **Tiwala's** ministry to the poor. God bless you!

Gail Narramore
Founder