

October, 2003

Hi,

I thought that I should update you on the status of things at the Lingap Center (in Cebu), since it has been a while since you have heard from me. Things are moving along well at this point. I received the revised engineering drawings from the Engineering Office in Toledo City (approved by the 1st engineer, the 2nd engineer, the 3rd engineer, the asst. engineer and the chief engineer as well as the mayor!). They made all of the changes that I requested and then some. It looks really very good. The cost estimates even include the cost of the paint rollers..... so it is very detailed and interestingly, the total project cost was estimated at only \$1,140 less than I had estimated!!!! (I had estimated \$300,000 for construction and 1st year operation.... the World Vision people who do these projects, and the city engineering office estimated \$298,860). Not too bad for someone who doesn't have a clue (me!).

World Vision is a truly remarkable organization. However, they are slow..... and slow..... and then slower. But, finally I have received all of the approvals up and down the line - from the Cebu office, the Manila office (the one that really controls it), the U.S. office and the international office. I have now been assigned project #3105. This means that we can actually begin doing things.... and accepting money. I have been meeting with my World Vision contact here evenings and we are putting together (this week) the various brochures and forms that can be used for fund raising. WV is having all of the work done out of their Federal Way Washington (state) office. I have sent them pictures and the "artists vision" that they can use. I am now working on a presentation. It is my goal to have this complete by October 27. Bill Knott (WV contact) and I are scheduling a practice presentation with a group of non-informed parties to see how the presentation will work - what questions it generates or where it is weak. Following this, WV is planning a major WV fund raiser in Detroit - which will focus on the Lingap Center. I believe that I can get one of the 1960's Motown singing groups (the Spinners) to provide entertainment.... since they do charity concerts these days..... and the daughter of one of them works for me!!! We also have another charity event in mind - for after the first of the year.

If everything goes as I anticipate, anytime after about November 1, I should be able to meet with interested parties or individuals.... anywhere. Bill Knott is willing to travel with me to any location if it is felt that we need a WV representative. October will be a very busy month for me. In addition to work issues, we have family coming in for an event at Hillsdale College and they plan to stay with us for a week or two..... Then, the following week, Judy and I are going to California for the annual World Vision Forum (we were invited).... which we are really looking forward to.

So, it is going to be a challenge for me to get this presentation ready - but as you all know, I am pretty committed to it.

Bottom line is, this thing has gone from an idea, to a dream, to a vision and it is now almost a reality. It shouldn't be long now. I am not certain how much of the total amount I need to raise before construction can begin. I will find that out later this week.

I will stop for now, but I wanted you to know where I was with things. I'm feeling pretty good about it all right now. Pretty soon, there will be 75 - 100 little Filipino kids who just might have a shot at a better life! I sure do hope so. Please keep me (and them) in your thoughts..... your support has been most appreciated.

In total, I would hope to be able to raise \$1 M, which would cover the \$300 K for construction and 1st year operation. The remaining hoped for \$700 K would be to keep it funded into the future - but as you know, now that WV has accepted it as one of their projects, they will continue it - even if something should happen to me.