

# Christ for Asia International MISSIONSINFO

Newsletter | MAY 2023



## Uprooted...

The statistics are sterile - 1.5 million children live on the streets in the Philippines. But each street child has his or her own story, marked by the daily struggle for survival. Soon poverty is joined by the experience of abuse, lost hope and resignation. To numb the emotional pain, sniffing glue or using other drugs offer apparent help. Street children are constantly on the run from the police, but also from themselves. They are children who have been robbed of their childhood. Abuse, rejection, poverty as well as the breakup of their families are just some of the factors that uproot children and rob them of their identity.

He is like a tree planted by the rivers of water, which yields its fruit in its season, and its leaves do not wither. He will prosper in everything he does. Ps.1,3

As a result, street children lose all perspective for the future. Their days are marked by an inner emptiness. Some have the feeling that they are not living their lives, and so resignation and hopelessness become a daily companion.

Uprooted people become the spitball of circumstances. The trauma experienced and destroyed trust prevent street children from developing into healthy personalities.

Strong trees need strong roots. And for more than 30 years, it has been the vision of Christ for Asia International to provide holistic help to street children and to accompany them on the path to recovery.



Harald Rauch  
Gründer CFAI

# UPDATE from the CFAI FARM

At the CFAI farm, work is running at full speed. Exams are now approaching for our eight boys as the final weeks of the school year are here. One of our boys will finish his 12th grade in May and then start his studies in civil engineering in August. In addition to the final sprint in school, the dry season officially began in the Philippines in April. This means many weeks without rain, which is always a big challenge for a farm. In April, we had a team from a church in Germany with us, who also lent a hand on the farm. Our boys are also very active in the church - whether in the worship team, in the children's service or in the youth group, all eight of them work energetically. All eight boys have made great progress during their time on the farm. Therefore, we would like to welcome more boys to our farm starting in the new school year. The mixture of education and physical work on the farm in cooperation with the church seems to be a great and "fertile ground" for our boys and their development.



## International Ministry School

In March, seven students graduated from our 6-month International Ministry School (IMS). Lea, a Filipina from the southern Philippines, attended this year's IMS. She learned about and has firmly embraced CFAI's vision and has applied to join CFAI as a staff member. She will take special care of guests, teams and also students of the IMS and also works in the youth service of CFAI - what a gift!

Starting in September there will be another school like this in Cebu. For more information or to register, please contact the website or the German office.



## NEW FAMILY CENTER

After having made very positive experiences with our first Family Center the last years, we could now start a second Family Center in March 2023. The staff for this was already hired at the end of last year and now we have found a space in the center of the public market, which we are now renting. This market is one of the poorest neighborhoods of Cebu City, where CFAI started the very first feeding in 1992. Here we know many street children and families living in the streets through our presence during the feedings. With the opening of the second Family Center we want to reach whole families and lead them into an independent life, away from the streets and into a living relationship with God. The last few weeks our team has been hard at work preparing the space for the first children. Here we also had some help from teams and visitors from Germany. Now we are ready and the first children can benefit from our services.



# Hope Stories

## Marmar\*

Marmar\* is the 7th out of 10 children. Her father is a bad drug addict and alcoholic and doesn't care much about his family. Three of the ten children already passed away. The oldest siblings of Marmar already left the family and survive on their own as they see higher chances of survival that way. Marmar already has two older sisters living in our Project Nehemiah Homes and she is the third of their family. Marmar has been with us for 2 years. When she came to CFAI in 2021 she was very violent and aggressive to other kids. She even has multiple suicidal attempts already which are all signs of the brokenness within her. She had bad tantrums every time her older sister was giving attention to other kids than her. But in the past 2 years, Marmar experienced a lot of healing and restoration. She has no more suicide attempts nor any violent tantrums.



She is now even teaching the smaller and newer kids a lot like how to wash their own clothes, how to brush their teeth and other simple life skills. She is a good older sister to the younger ones. That is a big transformation compared to her beginning at CFAI.

## Niña Faith\*



Nina Faith\* is in her early 20s and has two children. They lived in a wooden hut in a slum with her partner. However, he was heavily addicted to drugs and alcohol and was therefore very violent. The children saw him beating and abusing their mother on a daily basis. Overnight, Niña Faith grabbed her children and fled into the street with a wooden ladder truck. They stayed at a 5-lane traffic circle where our first Family Center is located. Here she met our team and they invited them to the Family Center. There she told us about the cruel things she and her children went through in the street. It was red alert, and we temporarily took the two malnourished children into our children's homes (we reported on this in the April 2021 newsletter, "Life in the Wooden Ladder Truck"). While the children were being cared for in the children's homes, our team took care of Nina Faith. In the last two years, Nina Faith was able to complete 6 months of vocational preparation at our Family Center and has a permanent job now.

Nina Faith earns enough for herself and her children. They rent their own apartment and the two children can live with their mother again. In addition, Nina is able to use her own funds to send her two children to school - something Nina Faith herself never had the opportunity to experience. In our latest service at the Family Center, we can now offer mothers like Nina Faith an alternative way to finish school. We have been officially licensed to do this by the Ministry of Education since this year. Within 12 months, they can catch up on their studies here and get a diploma. In addition to the obvious successes, we are especially pleased that Nina Faith now attends a church and is a staff of the children's ministry there. Nina Faith is a living testimony that there are no hopeless cases with God.



**TEAM**

# Philippines

von Christ for Asia International

## Coming to Germany

Growing up on the streets of Cebu City, neglected, abused and starving, street children get the feeling of being 'worthless' every day. Eight young people and three staff members will be in Germany for four weeks. Through music, dance and theater, they will take us into the ministry of CFAI and share how God has brought change and hope into their lives.

### JUNE

**17**

**14:00 Schwabach Agabe Gemeinde**  
Dr.Ehlenstr. 31, 91126 Penzendorf

**17**

**20:00 Frommetsfelden GMS**  
Hübbeler Str. 10, 91578 Leutershausen

**18**

**9:15/10:30/11:45 Friedenskirche**  
John-F.-Kennedy-Str. 6, 89231 Neu-Ulm

**19**

**Friedrichshafen Baptisten**  
Rotkreuzstraße 1, 88046 Friedrichshafen

**21**

**Ulm Friedenskirche Jugend**  
John-F.-Kennedy-Str. 6, 89231 Neu-Ulm

**23**

**19:00 Stühlingen Evang. Kirchengem.**  
Gartenweg 2, 79780 Stühlingen

**24**

**Linz (A) Rhema Gem. Jugend**  
Angererhofweg 3, A-4030 Linz 🇦🇹

**25**

**9:30 Linz (A) Rhema Gemeinde**  
Angererhofweg 3, A-4030 Linz 🇦🇹

**27**

**9:00 Stühlingen Frauenfrühstück**  
Konradsaal Kalvarienbergstr.4 79780 Stühlingen

**28**

**Karlsruhe Gospeltripe**

**30**

**20:00 Nagold Christusgem.**  
Talstraße 23, 72202 Nagold

### JULY

**01**

**Schramberg Jesusgemeinde**  
Aichhalder Str. 42, 78713 Schramberg-Sulgen

**02**

**10:00 Weinstadt Missionsgemeinde**  
Bahnhofstraße 64, 71384 Weinstadt

**02**

**18:30 Wil (CH) Evang. Gemeindehaus**  
Toggenburgerstr.50, 9500 Wil SG 🇨🇭

**04**

**19:00 Meckenbeuren Evang. Kirchengem.**  
Lindberghstraße 16, 88074 Meckenbeuren

**05**

**20:00 Neuhütten ETG**  
Waldesruh 25, 71543 Wüstenrot

**07**

**19:00 Altensteig JMS**  
Bahnhofstr.45, 72213 Altensteig

**09**

**9:30 Altensteig JMS**  
Bahnhofstr.45, 72213 Altensteig

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