

# Precious

Jewels

Ministry

"LIKE THE JEWELS OF A CROWN, THEY SHALL SHINE ON HIS LAND" ZECHARIAH 9: 16

Dear Friends of Precious Jewels Ministry,

Blessings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! 😂

Attached, please find the **Annual Report for Precious Jewels Ministry for 2024**. It provides an excellent overview of the many programs and services that PJM offers in the **Philippines and Uganda**, made possible by your prayers and financial support.

We pray that you will be encouraged as you read it, realizing that your prayers truly make a difference in the lives of children and families living in difficult circumstances.

We know that **fervent prayer changes us**, and opens doors that only God can open.

## LOOKING AHEAD

"Approaching new assignments and seasons must be done with hearts fully tuned to the Lord and the sense of peace that surpasses earthly wisdom."

(Mark Anderson, Call2All)

In Precious Jewels Ministry, we have observed that God seems to have 2 speeds: 'Wait... and Whoosh!' Our years of building relationships, working with vulnerable communities and equipping young leaders is bearing fruit - hence the 'whoosh-mode'. The programmes and services of PJM as described in this report are a mere fraction of the day-to-day life we encounter as we walk with vulnerable children; as we stand with families who long for a better life for their children; as we enter communities broken by poverty.

We are witnesses to the miracle of God moving amongst us: Children are healing. Leaders are learning. Families are discovering hope.

During the forty years of wilderness-wandering, Joshua, was being prepared for an assignment from God that was not for the faint-hearted. No wonder the Lord's instructions were so direct - '**You**, Joshua, must be bold, strong and courageous'.

We have a growing number of young professionals who volunteer when we hold day camps, youth trainings and art workshops for children and youth. We have university students who want to understand the impact on families living with HIV and AIDS. We have nations crying out to bring the message of healing and reconciliation through Ang Tulay.

Offering hope in the places of darkness will require PJM to carry a vision for our children, families and communities that is bold. Developing new strategies to reach across nations, will demand strong conviction that rises out of our faith in God. Responding to the Lord's invitation will involve courageous action.

Looking ahead, we anticipate challenges that PJM will face. Globally, the world is shaking and we can no longer rely on what was reliable in the past. Entering into the uncertainty of the future is always a little unsettling. In PJM, we are standing before an open door that God is inviting us to enter... truly not for the faint-hearted.

Looking ahead, we will need to prepare well ...move with urgency ... and pray for the release of resources.

Looking ahead, may PJM, together with the Board of Trustees, staff, volunteers and members at large, agree, "Yes Lord! Help us to be bold, strong and full of courage." What an adventure the Lord is calling us to enter - truly not for the faint-hearted!

Prepared by, Lorraine Anderson Johanna Bergink Founding Directors March 22, 2025

## **Precious Jewels Ministry**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT JANUARY - DECEMBER 2024

Joined together in perfect unity – with one heart, one passion, and united in one love.

Philippians 2:2 (TPT)

As the Country Director, I have been privileged to witness firsthand the transformative power of God at work through our collective efforts. Your generosity and kindness have touched and uplifted the lives of countless children and families.

My heart is filled with gratitude—gratitude to the Lord for His faithfulness and gratitude to each of you for your unwavering support. To our dear friends, partners, supporters, volunteers, donors, and the esteemed members of our Board of Trustees and PJM Team, I extend my deepest appreciation.

To our friends and partners—you have journeyed with us through challenges and victories, offering your expertise, resources, and encouragement every step of the way. Your steadfast support fuels our passion and strengthens our mission.

To our valued supporters and donors—your contributions have left a lasting impact on the lives we serve. Your generosity has provided crucial support, ensuring that our programs and services continue to reach those in need.

To our esteemed Board of Trustees—your wisdom, guidance, and unwavering commitment inspire us daily to serve with excellence and faithfulness. Your leadership is a beacon that lights our path forward.

To our founding directors, Lorraine Anderson and Johanna Bergink --- thank you for your life and selfless love. You engraved in the hearts of young leaders what it means to follow the Jesus way.

As we look ahead, may we remain united in our mission, standing together with one heart, one passion, and one love, as Philippians 2:2 reminds us.

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

Evelyn Villanueva Country Director, Philippines March 22, 2025

## **CARE AND SUPPORT**

### To develop mutually supportive partnership

- Reaching out to children and youth in crisis
- Becoming a bridge of healing, reconciliation, and restoration for families
- Connecting families to support each other, clustering, and learning together

**Treatment Partners Workshop (TP)** is conducted each semester to selected families to discuss issues related to medical treatments, access to medicine and preparation for disclosure of one's health status. On August 31, 2024, six (6) TP families had **Treatment Partners' Time** in Silungan, Morong, Rizal. This is where everybody learned many things about the beauty of life and the goodness of God. The activity focuses on the characteristics that makes a home and the roles and responsibilities of each member. The role play that the group made about "Ang Tahanan" showed the reality that everybody must do their part in order for the family to thrive.

PJM has conducted Fam at the Park last February 10, 2024 with the purpose to have kamustahan session with the families, to identify issues and concerns related to disclosure, and to discover ways to overcome these challenges. Families are gathered in small groups. Children were encouraged to process their emotions through an activity entitled "Ang Aking Damdamin". The small group leaders of youth helped them to address the challenges that they are facing in their lives. Adults were also participating in an activity in which they will list down all their plans for the family.

**Bereavement Support.** This 2024, the ministry offered bereavement support for the 4 families who were grieving for the passing of their loved ones. The PJM will always reach out to provide not only the immediate needs of their physical bodies, but an emotional support in tough times.

**Hospital and Home Visitations.** PJM targets to visit each family at least twice or thrice a year. The interactions with the whole family within their own living environment enabled PJM staff to identify possible vulnerabilities as well as monitor the health status of the children. In year 2024, 33 families were visited. The community team also schedules meet up with them when they are refilling their medicines in the hospital.

**Family Day** is an activity of the ministry that happens twice to thrice a year. This activity involves all PJM families regardless of their health/medical status. In 2024, the ministry was able to conduct 2 Family Day activities.

The first Family Day was held on October 12 with the theme

"Pamilyang Nagkakaisa" in which we highlighted the effects of the generational gaps in parent-child relationship. The purpose of this activity is to promote harmony among the members of the family and find ways to relate with one another by providing safe space for them to express their feelings and to process or reflect on how they express themselves to their loved ones. The second Family Day had happened last December 14. It is conducted to celebrate Christmas in a creative way. The activities allow everyone to showcase their talents, creativity, uniqueness, and abilities to build their confidence. The team planned to create four (4) stations/booths for the children to enjoy: Arts and Crafts, Fishing Booth, Photo Booth, and Game Booth. The parents decorated cookies for their children and the youth participants made their personalized scrapbooks. After all the activities in each cluster, some of the families had their special presentation on stage.

**Children's Festival.** PJM conducted this activity on July 27, 2024. Its purpose is to impart to them the value of life, to help them express themselves, explore their interests and talents, and learning by interacting with others.

The children were also educated about their rights and responsibilities. It is to inculcate that while they have the privileges to exercise their rights, they also have responsibilities at home as part of the family, at school as a student, and on themselves as an individual.

**Youth Arts Camp** was held at Translator Association of the Philippines on June 27 to 29, 2024. This activity is embedded with its overall purpose and goal which is to provide safe space for the youth to express their thoughts and feelings through different forms of arts, emphasizing their uniqueness as well as the importance of having a support group

## **ADVOCACY & EDUCATION**

### To establish effective and dynamic networks

- Teaching youth about the impact of personal choices in their lives and future direction
- Raising awareness with partners regarding youth culture, sexuality, and health
- Advocating for policies that protect and uplift the welfare of children at risk

**Youth Leadership Development.** The process of growing young leaders begins while they are children participating in the activities of PJM and extends over many years into their adolescence and young adult stage of life. In year 2024, they have undergone Youth Leadership Development Training quarterly. They have also applied the knowledge and the skills that they have gained during the Youth Arts Camp wherein they are provided with the opportunity to facilitate the camp and to be in small group sessions wherein they can interact with the youth participants.

**Sound The Alarm.** PJM, in partnership with the OSCI Director of Ateneo De Manila, conducted this activity to spread awareness about Human Immunodeficiency Virus to the students through informative and interactive discussion. For the past few years, the HIV transmission has drastically increased in an alarming number of cases. HIV testing hesitancy is fueled by the stigma and fear of being rejected in the society which leads to more cases of this disease spreading vertically (from mother to child) and horizontally (from an individual to his/her sexual partners).

# Precious Jewels Ministry Team and Volunteer Development Session

**Team Time.** The ministry conducted 4 team time this year 2024. It aims to (1) allow staff to reflect on God's word focused on the mission and calling of God; (2) provide knowledge and skills through workshops and trainings to staffs; (3) collaboratively and interactive discussions of relevant and pressing concerns in the ministry and (4) to have fellowship with each staff.

The PJM Team was invited in **Mental Health Seminar** at Amparo Church held on the 13th day of September, year 2024, conducted by Dr. Olive Bating. It is entitled "The Church and Mental Health" stressing the point that everyone can experience depression, even the pastors. Some of the cases of mental health disorders are undetected and untreated, however, it poses a threat such as self-harm and suicide. The speakers provided ways on how to communicate with someone who is suffering from mental health disorders. Furthermore, there are studies which proved that religion and faith can help to promote good physical and mental health.

**Volunteers' Fellowship** is conducted to recognize and express gratitude and appreciation for their contribution and their continuous effort in reaching out to the children and their families who are in difficult situations through volunteering. It was held at Tramway Tea House, Scout Alcaraz.

## **EQUIPPING AND TRAINING**

## To strengthen capacities of direct service providers and community organizations

- Training teachers, social workers and community leaders
- Providing leadership training and skill development for youth
- Offering practical tools in grief, trauma, healing and reconciliation

# Ang Tulay was a bridge for me... offering a path out of confusion toward new life.

(Ang Tulay participant)

### A Journey With Children in Grief

We welcomed new partnerships with organizations caring for children struggling with multiple losses and trauma caused by abuse, war and displacement.

- January northern Uganda 80 refugee and internally displaced children
- August camp in Soroti with 180 youth

### Ang Tulay Kid's Club

PJM reached out to the Masese slum community located behind our home. We gave school supplies and other assistance to 25 youth who have attended our weekly Kid's Club since 2019. We rejoice that ALL of them were promoted to the next grade level. Many are youth leaders in our activities.

- January October bi-monthly General Assembly of Masese students
- March October Weekly Tutorials and discipleship classes
- April children's camp for 85 pre-teens
- May youth camp with Scripture Union for 140 youth
- January, August Children's Festivals Imagine 1,200 children dancing, singing, acting bible stories and memorizing God's word?

It was glorious chaos! Nothing is ever small in Africa!

This year, we felt the Lord leading us in a new direction to develop a life-skills program for elementary and high school graduates called 'Twevumbule' (Let's Discover Together). Our goal is to Equip-Disciple-Send Ugandan youth. Our plan was to start small with 15 youth; we were amazed when 70 youth arrived on the first day! From November through December, they learned basic computer, money matters, scripture search and one practical skill in hairdressing, sandal-making, baking or tailoring.

### Leadership Development and Trainings

We enjoyed vibrant relationships with our partner organizations who care for children as we work together, share resources and train other leaders. What JOY to live and work together in harmony!

- January, September 135 Sunday School teachers from 32 churches
- June, July, September 6 seminars for pastors, teachers and social workers
- Every Tuesday with 22 leaders from six organizations
- Leaders retreat at Prayer Mountain

### **Pastoral Care**

We are blessed to assist families in need.

- The Ang Tulay home provides a safe place for leaders to rest and recover from serious illness
- Food distribution, school assistance and medical assistance to 24 families caring for orphans & widows

### Volunteers

We are so grateful for Sharon Pryor who came three times to encourage and equip leaders! It was also a joy to welcome Len Aritao & Amy Allen in January to train Sunday School teachers as well Doris Maddaford & Emily Rintoul in September.

## *"When JOY is a habit… LOVE is a reflex"*

-Bob Goff



Treatment Partners Workshop (TP)



Children's Festival



Fam at the Park



Youth Arts Camp



Family Day



Sending out PJM staff to Uganda



Volunteers' Fellowship



multigenerational/cultural leaders



A Journey With Children in Grief



Twevumbule graduates



Volunteers



Irene Kisolo, AngTulay Coordinator

### **CONTACT US**

PHILIPPINES P.O. Box 3356 1099 Metro Manila Tel: 632-82886696 CANADA P.O. Box 5528 STN. 9 Victoria, BC V8R 6S4 PJM Canada President, Kevin McGrath: +1 250-888-0382 UNITED STATES MEANS (Mission East Asian National Support) P.O. Box 8434 Bartlett, Il. 60103