



Family Circus Children's Ministry Update
Volume 506 No.6 February 10, 2012
by Darrell Blatchley - Missionary to Asia's Little Ones
"Can you see me smile?"

Hello again, friends,



What fun! This week we're adding one more segment to our Aquaponics garden. A 30' long vertical growing area for 375 Pii Chay or Pak Choy plants, which are delicious and rich in iron. In about 40 days or less, these vegetables should be ready for harvest and gratefully received as a supplement for often skimpy meals of poor people attending Family Circus. Last week we harvested 500+ catfish from the fish pond, and distributed them to

our grateful families.

Note: Convoy of Hope just sent us a container of food with 142,542 packaged meals designated for the Family Circus feeding program. That's enough food to provide one meal a day to our 1,000 registered and qualifying malnourished children, widows, pregnant and nursing mothers.



142,000 meals should last us until May, providing we add no new malnourished kids or widows to the list. It's

hard to say "No" to the malnourished hungry kids.

We pray even now, asking the Lord to supply more food. While we pray, we work, planting and expanding our Aquaponics garden. Clearing customs for the container cost over \$5,000, about \$.02 cents for each meal. The meals were donated and shipped to us from the US. If we received another full container of meals added to what we just received, it would give us 427,662 meals for the year. That would be so much better. *Can you see*

me smiling? ;-) We'd also like to be able to respond to disasters and perhaps even give our extra needy children more than one meal per day... Some of our children, with what we currently give them, are able to eat two small meals a day. At that amount, it's a slow process to rescue them from the negative impact of malnutrition. We want so badly to put extra weight on their thin bodies. *Can you see His tears...?*



In 2011, we gave an average of one meal a day for a total of over 320,000 meals. I pray we do way more than that this year.

Another long story short: We've historically had a favored status with the local custom officials due to their knowledge about what Family Circus ministry does for the children. We've been in Davao for 16+ years and they have seen what we do for their children. The Filipino government recently made some changes in combating corruption. As a result the Manila Customs office would not approve a lesser fee recommended by the local officials, and the custom fees had to be sent directly via bank wire to Manila, delaying the release of the container & increasing fees once they approved the charges. We're now working with our attorney to meet the criteria for NGO status with Manila and will hopefully, by the time



the next shipment is ready, have our non-profit status recognized here in Davao and in Manila.

A wonderful testimony occurred when the local Food and Drug person came to certify that the food was proper and not past expiration date, and took a tour of the Family Circus campus, dental lab, food distribution, gardens, etc. The Food and Drug certification lady

marveled at all we do weekly for the thousands of kids, and wiping tears from her eyes, she said, *"I've never seen anyone helping the children like you are."*

For the King and His kids,
Darrell & Sandy Blatchley



Darrell & Sandy Blatchley

Family Circus Children's Ministries
PO Box 80542
8000 Davao City, **PHILIPPINES**

For Secure Online Donations:

<https://secure1.ag.org/contributions/detail.cfm?LedgerID=f495cf9f-3252-472c-801d-6dc9836640a7>

Email: familycircus@agmd.org

Telephone: (63)(82)305-1529

Cell Phone: USA: 808-341-1017 Philippines: +63.919.830.0949

Web site: www.familycircus.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/darrell.blatchley



Please Note:

Enjoy a visit to our web site - www.familycircus.org.

If you would like to share this information with friends, please forward this message or encourage them to email us at familycircus@agmd.org to join the list. We enjoy hearing from all our friends.

Click on the following link if you can help us financially in ministering to the King's Kids:

<http://www.familycircus.org/html/donations.html>

Darrell & Sandy Blatchley

Family Circus Children's Ministries
PO Box 80542
8000 Davao City, **PHILIPPINES**

- OR -

Family Circus Children's Ministry
1007 1st Ave South
Payette, ID 83661

For Secure Online Donations:

<https://secure1.ag.org/contributions/detail.cfm?LedgerID=f495cf9f-3252-472c-801d-6dc9836640a7>