



**The Philippine American Life and
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MEDIA RELEASE



**Philam Paaralan partners with Give2Asia
to build more classrooms in Yolanda-hit areas**

Philam Foundation's "Philam Paaralan" program is building four more classrooms in Yolanda-hit areas after international non-profit organization Give2Asia gave US\$45,000 from donations for Yolanda victims channeled through the organization. The amount was matched by Philam Foundation with an equivalent amount for a total of US\$90,000 new funding for Philam Paaralan. In photo taken during the Philam Paaralan groundbreaking in San Jose Elementary School in Tacloban City are Philam Foundation Executive Director Max Ventura (4th from left) and Give2Asia President Birger Stamperdahl (rightmost), with (left to right) Give2Asia's Philippines Field Advisor Alexie Ferrena, Vice Chair Teresa Orr, Director of Advisory Services Uyen Tran and San Jose Elementary school principal Monina Gabrino.



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With schools in Typhoon Yolanda-affected areas still lacking classrooms after the storm surge destroyed thousands of school facilities late last year, Philam Foundation, through its flagship program “Philam Paaralan,” announced plans to build more classrooms in these calamity areas.

This is after Give2Asia, an international non-profit organization that drives philanthropic investment in Asia, chose Philam Paaralan as the program where it will put donations for Yolanda victims channeled through its organization.

Give2Asia and its partners entrusted to Philam Paaralan US\$45,000 (Php1.97 million) which Philam Foundation matched with an equivalent amount of donation for a total of US\$90,000 (Php3.94 million). The new funding will go to the construction of four new classrooms in San Jose Central Elementary School in Tacloban City and Cantahay Elementary School in Guiuan, Eastern Samar.

Max Ventura, Philam Foundation Executive Director, said, “We thank like-minded organizations like Give2Asia for choosing to support *Philam Paaralan*. Together, we can do more in helping disenfranchised people, especially the youth, in calamity-stricken areas get back to their feet and go on with their lives.”

In partnership with the Department of Education (DepEd), Philam Foundation, the Philam Group of Companies’ CSR arm, launched *Philam Paaralan* in 2012 to empower more Filipino youth through a healthy education. Philam Paaralan is building classrooms in existing schools located in calamity-stricken areas, and deemed by DepEd to have a high need for a “healthy education.”

Each *Philam Paaralan* classroom comes complete with chairs, blackboards, fans, and lighting equipment. As part of its vision to give students a “healthy education,” Philam Foundation also integrates the WASH (Water Sanitation and Hygiene) program in each

Philam Paaralan. Under this program, a Philam Paaralan classroom comes with a toilet room dubbed the WASH room.



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With construction commencing early this year, 29 “Philam Paaralan” classrooms in Yolanda-hit areas are targeted for completion within the first quarter of the school year. The initial batch of *Philam Paaralan* recipients include the following elementary schools: Loon, Santa Fe, Medellin, Pastrana, Manalili, San Jose and Marasbaras. Philam Paaralan also allocated resources to damaged schools in Negros and Panay Island.

“The education sector is a crucial component of progress and social mobility, *Philam Paaralan* will be here to ensure that more Filipinos are able to study in an environment that is conducive to learning,” said Ventura.

To date, 18 Philam Paaralan classrooms have been built since 2011, and 40 classrooms including the 29 in Yolanda-hit areas are being built nationwide.

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About Philam Life

The Philippine American Life and General Insurance Company (Philam Life) is the country's premier life insurance company. Established on June 21, 1947, Philam Life offers an extensive line of products in the industry that provides solutions to various financial needs including life protection, health insurance, savings, education, retirement, investment, group and credit life insurance.

Philam Life is a member of AIA Group Limited, the largest independent publicly listed pan-Asian life insurance group.

About AIA

AIA Group Limited and its subsidiaries (collectively "AIA" or "the Group") comprise the largest independent publicly listed pan-Asian life insurance group. It has operations in 17 markets in Asia-Pacific – wholly-owned branches and subsidiaries in Hong Kong, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, China, Korea, the Philippines, Australia, Indonesia, Taiwan, Vietnam, New Zealand, Macau, Brunei, a 97 per cent subsidiary in Sri Lanka, a 26 per cent joint venture in India and a representative office in Myanmar.

The business that is now AIA was first established in Shanghai over 90 years ago. It is a market leader in the Asia-Pacific region (ex-Japan) based on life insurance premiums and holds leading positions across the majority of its markets. It had total assets of US\$147 billion as of 30 November 2013.

AIA meets the savings and protection needs of individuals by offering a range of products and services including life insurance, accidental and health insurance and savings plans. The Group also provides employee benefits, credit life and pension services to corporate clients. Through an extensive network of agents and employees across Asia-Pacific, AIA serves the holders of more than 28 million individual policies and over 16 million participating members of group insurance schemes.

AIA Group Limited is listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited under the stock code "1299" with American Depositary Receipts (Level 1) traded on the over-the-counter market (ticker symbol: "AAGIY").

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