

We arrived in the evening of 27 January 2015 in Sebaste after a short stay in Manila. We were very lucky that we could hitch a ride from Kalibo with people that were going back to Sebaste. After we arrived, we inspected the 3 boxes which we sent by container in September 2014. We are happy to report that they arrived unscathed. Unpacking them, sorting contents, e.g. clothing, school materials etc, took up the first 2 days.

Taking into account the budget that we had available, we started planning for the most efficient approach. We considered what cases would be eligible for aid, what contacts to establish for donations to 2 schools and the local hospital, selection and distribution of the school materials and clothing.

Sebaste hosts a local festival the first 3 days of February that attracts many visitors from surrounding localities. The visitors are often fed and given shelter by the Sebaste inhabitants. Apart from sheltering and feeding those visitors, no foundation activities could be undertaken.

On the 6th of February we spoke with a number of Sebaste inhabitants that had been informed of our Foundation about the possibilities for financial aid in order to repair their houses. Taking into consideration each family's situation, we decided that 3 families were eligible for aid and they received bags of cement, reinforcement bars, bricks, corrugated iron roof panels and wood.

On the 12th of February, we were invited by the director of the local hospital, Dr. Uldarico Babayan-on, to visit them so that we could explain the purpose of our Foundation. During the visit we presented an amount of PHP 10,000, 2 crutches and a folding bed with mattress and pillow that met with enthusiasm and gratitude. The envelope with our donation and the folding bed can be seen in the pictures.

On 20th February we had a meeting with the principal of St. Blaise High School, Mr. Valencia and we also explained the purpose of our Foundation to him. Mr. Valencia received a donation of PHP 10,000 which will be spent on hard and software. This will be money well spent since the current materials are very outdated. Next year, St. Blaise High School will celebrate its 50th Anniversary after it was built by the missionary Fr. Eugenio Daberto. It is with his help that many Filipinas found employment in Europe to support their families back home.

On 23rd February we paid Mr. Alberto J. Bingo, principal of Sebaste Central Primary School, a visit. During the last major storm in 2013 the school suffered tremendous damage and the complete covering of the school square was blown away. Children often play sports or rehearse on the square for various activities and this covering protected them from the sun or rain storms during the wet season. For the repair of the covering we donated PHP 10,000 to the school.

27th February we bought building materials for another 3 families so they could repair their houses: 10 bags of cement, 300 bricks, 10 reinforcement bars, 6 corrugated iron roof panels, wooden panels and many nails.

Finally, we selected a number of children whose parents are finding it very difficult to buy school materials. So we distributed both our materials as well as clothing to them and we finished our activity with a nice meal of bread.

We are planning another visit to Sebaste in January 2016 and last September we shipped another 3 boxes with clothing, school materials and other useful items. Hopefully everything will arrive in one piece. So far we've been fortunate enough not to have suffered any damage.

We would like to thank everyone that has supported Librada Foundation by means of a donation or by buying our Philippine lumpias and we sincerely hope for your continued support.

On 11th May 2015 our foundation received the Dutch "ANBI" status, so we are now a registered charity and your donations are tax deductible from that date onwards.

Thank you very much on behalf of the inhabitants of Sebaste, Antique, Philippines.

Pictures of our visit to Sebaste in 2015 can be found on our web site.