

# About HTO

Since 2015 the HTO foundation with the support of HTO Switzerland provides full residential care to street children and other vulnerable children in Zamboanga City (Southern Philippines). We give hope and a future to our beneficiary children, by caring for their physical, educational, spiritual, social and emotional needs.



Our kids smile - thanks to you!

## Mindanao Island



● A big **THANK YOU** to all the volunteers and supporters who participated at our «Souper de soutien» in Estavayer-le-Lac on April 28. We managed to raise about 4000 CHF. We hope to welcome you in spring 2020!



**Thank you for your support!**

HTO Switzerland - Route d'Arnier 22, 1092 Belmont

**Compte IBAN:** CH95 8013 9000 0113 7589 7

(Bank Raiffeisen, 1470 Estavayer-le-Lac) Holy Trinity Orphanage Philippines

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Summer 2019

# MABUHAY HTO!

[www.htozamboanga.org](http://www.htozamboanga.org)

Facebook: [holytrinityopenhouse](https://www.facebook.com/holytrinityopenhouse)

## What your gift can do

- **CHF 50** provides healthy and nutritious food for 1 child for the whole month
- **CHF 100** provides maintenance (light, water, electricity, repairs) of the house for the whole month

More information on our website [www.htozamboanga.org](http://www.htozamboanga.org)  
There you can also find our annual report 2018.

## The fruit of generosity

It is good to remind ourselves, that Holy Trinity Open House (HTO) serves children who otherwise would roam the streets of Zamboanga. The city has been a refuge for victims of armed conflicts and natural disasters. The influx of refugees can be overwhelming to the city administration and social services.

But with Beng Climaco Zamboanga has a courageous mayor. Last year she was awarded among top 5



mayors worldwide. Mayor Climaco was honoured for her crisis management of the Zamboanga siege in 2013 and the subsequent focus on rebuilding the City and installing a sense of security to civil society. While she is determined

to ensure unity in a religiously diverse City, other challenges include poverty, drug trafficking and terrorism.

Zamboanga is the 6<sup>th</sup> most populous city of the Philippines with 860'000 inhab-

itants (2015). Private institutions like HTO are very much needed to become a little safe haven for the neglected and forgotten.

Typically Swiss, proud of our humanitarian tradition, the HTO team has a special concern for the poor and the vulnerable. We are sure you do too. We see the same in Mayor Climaco, and this gives us hope. Last year she visited HTO and was very touched by what she saw. She thanks all those who help Zamboanga's most vulnerable children and that includes **you**.

We pray that you are encouraged to read those short testimonies of some of our children. You will know that your generosity bears a lot of fruit in their lives.

Thank you so much for standing alongside us by being generous! We need you.

David Amstutz and the whole team of HTO

[htozamboanga@gmail.com](mailto:htozamboanga@gmail.com)

**«The HTO Foundation is serving the street children and orphans of Zamboanga. Thank you Lorna Haas and to all the people behind this mission, thank you for the work you do, for helping and nurturing these vulnerable children like they are your own.»**

Beng Climaco, Mayor of Zamboanga City  
(right in the photo, with Lorna)



## Listen to the children

«My life here was quite difficult because I had to adapt to the rules and policies of this institution but after staying here in HTO for more than two years I really learned a lot. I learned how to love others, to respect the people around me. And now I'm graduating in grade ten! I learned to be patient and appreciate things in life, especially God giving me this family.» (Katriz, 18)



«When I was transferred to HTO, I was so thankful that they provided me with all that I need. I learned how to respect others here and I learned how to play guitar and beat-box and how to

read and write and especially how to stand with courage. Thank you so much!» (Ledimier, 16)



«When I came here to HTO my life changed. I learned to love them as my real family and I learned to pray. Nanay Lorna and the staff taught us how to respect others and to love others. And they discipline us so we can learn from our mistakes.» (Meryyam, 11)

«Here I learned how to be honest, respectful and how to obey my caretakers. I also learned how to worship God everyday thanks to the staff here at HTO. And I learned how to dance!» (Vanity, 12)



Lyndie (24) could finish her studies thanks to HTO, and works as a houseparent since 2016 to our fullest satisfaction.

**«I learned at HTO how to be a strong person, how to motivate myself to achieve my goal in life, how to socialize with other people and how to clean the house. As a staff, I became more mature and I learned how to handle great responsibility. I'm also happy to serve the kids. Thank you for giving me a chance.»**

## News brief from the operational team

As per May 2019 we take care of 20 children, eleven boys and nine girls, aged 11-18.

● In early 2019, the accreditation of HTO was renewed by DSWD Manila, giving proof to the excellent services we provide to our beneficiary children.

● In 2018 we built a solid fence to provide security to the whole compound. The fence is nearly completed. (Photo below)

● Early 2019 we could buy a new computer. The team is very thankful for that!

