Datu Wali Mission Foundation 2010 Annual Report

Datu Wali Mission

Wali, Maitum Sarangani Province

President's Introduction

We are completing four years in the field. In some respects it seems like we arrived yesterday. At other times it seems like a lifetime. The latter may be because I feel I've aged a great deal since we started. But, we didn't come here seeking the fountain of youth. Our objective is to finish our lives sacrificially serving God.

In 2010, we continued feeding students at Kipalkuda Elementary School in the village of New La Union. However, opposition to our work by the school's teachers forced us to curtail transportation and other support for the school in July. Expanded details are in subsequent pages of this report.

We provided free school transportation for high school students from New La Union, plus indigent and indigenous children in the villages of Wali and Pangi. Our transportation program is less demanding with the curtailment of Kipalkuda transportation, plus decreased attendance in other schools. This was a year of increased elementary and high school dropouts, early marriages, and illegal logging and mining that drafted student labor. We sold our second truck and returned those proceeds to the general fund. That also relieved us of a perpetual problem of finding drivers (I am now the sole driver).

We distributed Bibles, assisted with medical expenses for the extremely poor, provided food to those without any means of growing or purchasing their own, spoke and ministered in music in churches and at other public events, taught in a remote tribal Bible school, mentored and sponsored a youth organization, funded the high school education of eleven tribal students, and sponsored an evangelistic Christmas outreach. In addition, we started the mission farm in experimental mode. Plus, we distributed 2,000 books donated and shipped from the U.S., to local school and public libraries.

I am grateful to Dave Hill and Carolyn Seely who continue to serve as officers of the Datu Wali Mission Foundation. Many individuals and churches stood with us in prayer and financially. This partnership is the most essential component of our support network. We thank God for sending us people who bathe us in prayer, encourage us with their e-mails, and contribute to the expense of this work. We constantly tell people we help that our ability to do so is due to God and our friends.

We faced numerous fresh challenges in 2010, including deaths of children we attempted to help due to parental neglect. And, most of Aurea's time is now devoted to the care of her invalid mother, who lives in our home. Please review this report for more details.

Dan Evans

Dan Evans President and Director Datu Wali Mission Foundation, and Datu Wali Mission of the Philippines

DWM Fast Facts for 2010

- An average of 220 children fed a hot lunch every school day (at a cost of about \$2 per child, per month)
- 90 kilometers driven daily to transport students to/from local schools
- 150+ children transported daily to school (combined AM/PM routes)
- 11 tribal students sponsored in High School (down from 19 due to drop outs and marriage)
- Nearly 80 indigent people provided medical aid (prescriptions, clinic transportation, and fees)
- 2,000 donated books distributed to local school and public libraries
- 1,000 people fed through a Christmas evangelistic outreach
- Approximately 200 Bibles distributed
- DWM Foundation overhead: 0.4%; 99.6 cents of every dollar contributed goes to ministry

Datu Wali Mission Objectives

NUTRITION EDUCATION HEALTH

SPIRITUAL

Nutrition

Feeding 240+ tribal school children at Kipalkuda Elementary School remained our principle thrust for improving nutrition. For some, it is their only meal in a day. The village health worker testifies to the general improvement in health and welfare of children receiving this benefit. We expanded the program in 2010 to include Kindergarten students. The cost of rice and other ingredients increased in 2010, nearly doubling the cost of the program. But, generous contributors accounted for full support.

We supplied rice to impoverished elderly and children as needed. At Christmas we distributed bags of rice and Sardines sufficient to feed approximately 1,000 persons two meals each. We have observed an increase in home gardens since we began to encourage that practice.

This was the year we developed plots for the mission vegetable farm and experimentally planted seeds. We also received a donation of seeds from a non-profit organization called Seed and Light. We will begin planting them, as locally procured seeds have proven very poor. When the farm is in production it will be operated as a work-for-food program. We believe this will contribute to improving nutrition in local villages and we will deliver vegetables to our own school lunch program.

Education

We experienced increased opposition this year from administrators and teachers of government-run schools. We first sponsored Kipalkuda Elementary School in 2003, but that ended in July 2010 when the school's staff defied a memorandum of agreement required of us by the Dept. of Education. Teachers were supposed to release students at a specific time each afternoon so children could take advantage of our free transportation back to their villages (sparing many of them a several kilometer walk). However, teachers prefer to leave school early in the afternoon (contrary to Dept. of Education policy), so they also release students early. After several costly trips to the mountains in which we found the school abandoned, we surrendered and terminated the service.

There was also evidence that teachers were squandering and misappropriating school supplies we provided for the children. So, we will not provide further supplies or support until the Dept. of Education corrects these problems.

The daily lunch program continues because it has become a critical life-safety net for at-risk children. Although there is no evidence that their performance in school has benefited from the feeding, it is saving lives and making children healthier. The meal we provide these children at school, is often the only meal some children will receive in a day, and more nutritious and filling than what their parents can provide.

We still provide school transportation for indigent and indigenous children in other villages and we sponsor 11 tribal children in high school. That number has continually dropped from a high of 23 as girls are sold into marriage and boys are sent to work in the forest. We provide their fees, books, transportation, required uniforms, and school supplies. These kids could not attend high school without this help. The school is a private Christian school in which students also receive spiritual training.

Although last year's report noted increased attention to education by local and provincial elected officials, they too face opposition by the Department of Education. There is a culture of racial bias against indigenous persons, inducements to keep the poor impoverished, and other factors that make the Dept. of Education often the enemy of education among the poorest of the poor. While we struggle to believe that nothing is truly hopeless, this is an issue that is formidable and needs a dramatic breakthrough, or many indigent and most indigenous children will find education an elusive goal.

Ministry friends in the U.S. collected and shipped 2,000 used books to us in 2010. We distributed those to schools that did not have libraries, plus to the new Maitum public library (which had few books). The public library serves four schools. In the past, some children graduated elementary school without ever holding a book, making our Books for Schools program an exciting extension of our ministry.

Health

As in years past, we assisted poor and tribal people in obtaining medications, access to doctors, and by providing advice. We have learned much about habits and customs, and regulate this to ensure the help is not misused.

Although our help has on several occasions saved lives, we experienced two tragic events this year despite our intervention. In separate incidents in the same village, treatable health crises took the lives of two tribal boys because their parents declined life-saving help for them. We have learned from direct involvement, dialogue, and observation that many among the tribal community place very little value on human life, even their own. Their rationale is that the death of a child means more food for the remaining members of the household. They also know they can easily create a replacement child. We find few senior citizens among the tribe because adult children simply reach a point where they are no longer willing to feed their aged or ill parents.

We counsel people about alcohol, smoking, and nutrition. However, we believe that until they come to a knowledge of Christ, they will consider life of little value and will remain content to die (and let their children die) at an early age.

Spiritual

Dan accepted several speaking engagements at local churches in 2010, including area-wide pastors conferences. He also spoke at a retreat sponsored by the provincial vice-governor's wife. Before Christmas Dan taught at a remote tribal Bible School, and has been asked to return in 2011. He also accepted several invitations to minister in music at churches and joint services in Maitum, including the community-wide Easter Sunrise service.

Previous reports have noted the poor training and lack of Bible knowledge of local pastors. Some American high school youth are better equipped to preach than many pastors here. So, when Dan speaks at a church or event, pastors take notes and ask for outlines. We see this as a growing opportunity to influence and help deepen the capabilities of local pastors.

Our Christmas outreach at the mountain village of New La Union, was a first. We partnered with three tribal pastors (Wesleyan, Baptist, and Christian and Missionary Alliance). Their congregations led worship and one of the pastors brought the Christmas message. Datu Wali Mission provided the sound system and distributed food to all attendees. The pastors said it was the first time they had ever conducted an evangelistic effort in the village. Although that's a sad commentary on their past neglect of the community, the excitement they experienced in presenting the Gospel this time is motivating them to talk about doing it again, and we will assist if possible.

We continue to distribute Bibles purchased with donated funds in 2008. For those who have a little income we request a small contribution. Many people, though, have virtually no cash and we provide them with Bibles or New Testaments as we feel led by the Holy Spirit. In 2010, we partnered with a Christian school and some pastors to help distribute Bibles.

An exciting development in 2010 was the creation of a youth organization within our village of Wali – by the youth themselves. It was not our idea! A dozen or more teenagers gathered together one day in May and decided that someone had to take the lead in dissuading other young people from developing bad habits and vices. So, they appointed themselves to become the moral conscience of the village and asked my wife to be their advisor. They wrote by-laws, elected officers, collected dues and fines, conducted several community assistance projects (road cleanups and riverbank tree plantings), and held a non-alcoholic Christmas party.

Financial Summary

Financial records are held by our Treasurer who resides in Chandler, Arizona. Records are available for review, as required by the IRS, and you can call 480-786-3365 to make an appointment. The chart below is an abbreviated summary. Publishing more information could result in security problems for the Evans family, who reside in a terrorist-active region. A more extensive summary is available, but is limited to U.S. citizens residing in the U.S.. Request one by sending an e-mail to: *datuwalimission@gmail.com* or by calling the Treasurer.

No directors or foundation officers receive salaries or compensation from DWM. Dan and Aurea Evans are self-supporting; all of their living and personal expenses come from their own retirement savings. In fact, the only real overhead is represented by bank fees, postage, and stationery for mailing receipts to donors. Therefore, we are pleased to report that 2010 ministry overhead was less than one percent (0.4 %). That means that 99.6 cents of every dollar contributed went directly to ministry.

Gross Foundation income from U.S. contributions	\$ 13,778.00
Gross income in the Philippines from local contributions or recovery	\$ 3,924.32
Foundation funds expended for foundation operation and overhead *	\$ 86.36
Dollar value of DWM Philippines expenditures (approximate due to variable exchange rates)	\$ 7,228.58

Abbreviated 2010 Foundation Financial Summary

* Overhead expenses consist mostly of banking fees, printing costs, and postage. Some additional foundation expenses were paid by directors at no charge to the foundation to ensure the highest possible utilization of contributions for ministry.

Challenges in 2010

We continued to face opposition to our work by the Department of Education, and local school administrators and teachers. Because of that, we now look for ways to help children that do not require the cooperation of these parties, or agreements with them.

Last year's report noted ongoing opposition from among non-tribal people who resent us for assisting a minority group of indigenous people they despise. This is simple racial bias and discrimination. Though they continue to mock and criticize our efforts, we encountered no direct threats this year.

We continued to receive criticism from within the tribe. Elders and chieftains compete for attention and oppose us for helping other tribal groups.

The decline in the sanctity of human life is appalling. Parents are willing to let children die of treatable ailments to ease their burdens. And, the elderly are either neglected until they die, or ushered into the jungle to die. It is difficult to minister to people who have little desire to live. It's a challenge to convince them that an eternity with God will be an improvement over their current predicament.

Men who operate motorbikes and motor-trikes as taxis around Maitum, resent our free school transportation. But, we did not experience violence and only two incidents of ice-picked tires in 2010 from this population.

Abuse of alcohol seems to be increasing. We experienced vandalism of our property and the community well by drunks. Several people were injured in fights and at least two killed in our own village because of the influence of alcohol.

Muslim rebels were quiet for most of 2010 in our immediate area. However, with the election of a new President in May, the rebels are threatening to renew their attacks. Communist rebels that have primarily operated in the Eastern and Northeastern parts of the island, are expanding operations and increasing their attacks and extortion programs.

Dan continued driving the school truck an average of 4.5 hours a day. In his remaining time he works the farm, maintains/repairs machinery and vehicles, takes care of foundation business, prepares sermons, and performs other routine ministry tasks. Aurea has limited time for ministry efforts, due to the needs of her invalid mother. We have always needed, and will continue to pray for help.

Prospects for 2011

We see no change in our daily feeding program at Kipalkuda school, as it has become critical to the life and health of many children who otherwise would be malnourished. Our free school transportation will continue for at least another year. Continuation is dependent on Dan's stamina.

We hope and pray that more friends in the U.S. will take up the challenge of collecting and shipping used books for distribution to Philippine schools and libraries. A Philippine shipping company (LBC) provides free shipping from key U.S. cities, making this program a zero-cost effort for many of our friends, while the benefits to poor Filipino children are immeasurable. Guidelines for this program, as well as a downloadable poster are available on our Website (www.datuwalimission.org).

Eleven tribal high school students remain in our scholarship program. We intend to see them through graduation, if they will only remain in school. Every year we lose some to marriage.

We will continue to develop our mission farm. The seeds sent to us by Seed and Light are not hybrids, so we will be able to harvest our own seeds to make the program perpetual. Weather, pests, disease, and thievery affect the success of our (or any) farming operation.

We will continue circulating among local churches and Dan will continue accepting invitations to speak. He has been asked to preach at the 2011 Easter Sunrise service, plus to teach again at the tribal Bible School. We hope to once again sponsor an evening of praise and worship for the town of Maitum sometime in 2011. We see an increased spiritual emphasis in our work here, and pray for more opportunities to train existing pastors.

We have a remaining supply of Bibles to distribute.

Our encouragement and role-modeling for the youth of our village in organizing to wage war on alcohol, drugs, gambling, and other vices, will continue. We hope to build a community center on our property this year, and let the youth use it for supervised gatherings. Although the Greenfield Active Youth Movement organization was not instigated by us, it's clear that it came about due, in part, to our influence here over the past four years. They look to us for leadership and advice, and we are thrilled to support them. My wife hopes to start a Bible study this year with the kids. Though the kids come from different churches or none at all, they are interested in studying the Bible.

Needs for 2011

Your prayers are our first line of defense against the barbs of the enemy. They also keep us afloat spiritually and mentally. Please continue your support of us through prayer.

Our ministry projects (feeding, medical aid, school sponsorship, transportation, high school scholars, mission farm) are costly. As God leads you we are thankful for your generosity. Please do not send us your tithes; they belong in your own church. What you give to DWMF should be in excess of your church tithe.

We hope to build a Datu Wali Mission community center here in Wali. It will be used as a supervised meeting and recreational facility for the youth of our village. It can also be used for nutrition seminars, Bible studies, and perhaps a prescription dispensary. Funds to assist with this project are welcomed. We estimate we will need about \$10,000.

Please don't forget to write to us. Your friendly greetings and news from home elevates our spirits and keeps us connected to friends and family back home. We need to hear from you as often as you can spare the time to write.

Legal Information

The Datu Wali Mission Foundation is an IRS-recognized, non-profit corporation registered in the state of Wyoming. Donations sent to DWMF are tax-deductible and acknowledged by receipts, if sent to:

Treasurer Datu Wali Mission Foundation 2202 W. Palomino Dr. Chandler, Arizona 85224

Checks should be made out to: *Datu Wali Mission Foundation*. If contributions are sent to the corporation's Wyoming address, the mail forwarding service will send them to the Evans in the Philippines who must then return them by mail to Arizona for deposit. The total delay is at least two months and risk of loss is high.

Thank you ...

... for remembering us in your prayers, your communications, and your giving. We cannot do this alone.

Dan Evans

Dan Evans President and Director