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To Our Dear Sweet Friends and Supporters,

Could You Turn Her Away?



Last week, Joy was at a local Jollibee restaurant when a little girl, no more than four years old, approached her begging for something to eat. Her mother was there beside her. It was one of those moments that is difficult to walk away from.

Joy did what comes naturally to her. She asked the mother if she could bring the little girl to our safehouse, where we could give her a meal, a bath, and some clean clothes. That's just how Joy is. She has a heart of gold, and when she sees a child in need, her first instinct is to help.

But then reality set in.

As much as Joy wanted to help this little girl, we had to face a heartbreaking truth: we simply do not have the resources to take on another child for ongoing support. We are already stretching our donations to care for the women and children entrusted to us.

Think about that for a moment. A little girl, barely four years old, was already hungry enough to beg strangers for food. And there are other children just like her who need someone to step in.

We never want a lack of resources to be the reason we have to turn away a child in need.

This is why our annual Christmas Food Drive matters so much. It is not simply about putting food on a table. It is about making sure the children already in our care are fed, while helping us build the resources to reach others who desperately need help.

Rescued to Self-Reliant: A Plan for the Future

We have developed a long-term plan called **Rescued to Self-Reliant**, outlining the steps we believe are necessary to help women move from crisis toward independence.

This plan focuses on more than immediate assistance. It includes providing safety and stability, addressing physical and emotional needs, developing practical skills, creating opportunities for income, and helping women build a sustainable future.

We have published this plan on our website because we want our supporters to understand not only what we are doing today, but also where we are going and how we intend to get there. You can check that out on our website here: Self-Sufficiency Plan



Building a More Sustainable Future: A Small Chicken Farm

We are also moving forward with plans to establish a small chicken farm at our first safe house in Angeles City.

One of the most important nutritional needs for the children is a consistent supply of protein. Eggs are an excellent source of nutrition, but purchasing them week after week creates a significant ongoing expense.

Our goal is to begin producing our own eggs, providing the children with a dependable source of nutrition while reducing some of the safehouse's recurring food costs. This is also an excellent way for children to learn how to raise chickens and learn how to provide for their own nutrition needs someday when they grow up.

This is one small but meaningful step toward greater self-sufficiency. We don't simply want to keep meeting the same needs year after year. We want to build resources that help us meet those needs more sustainably.

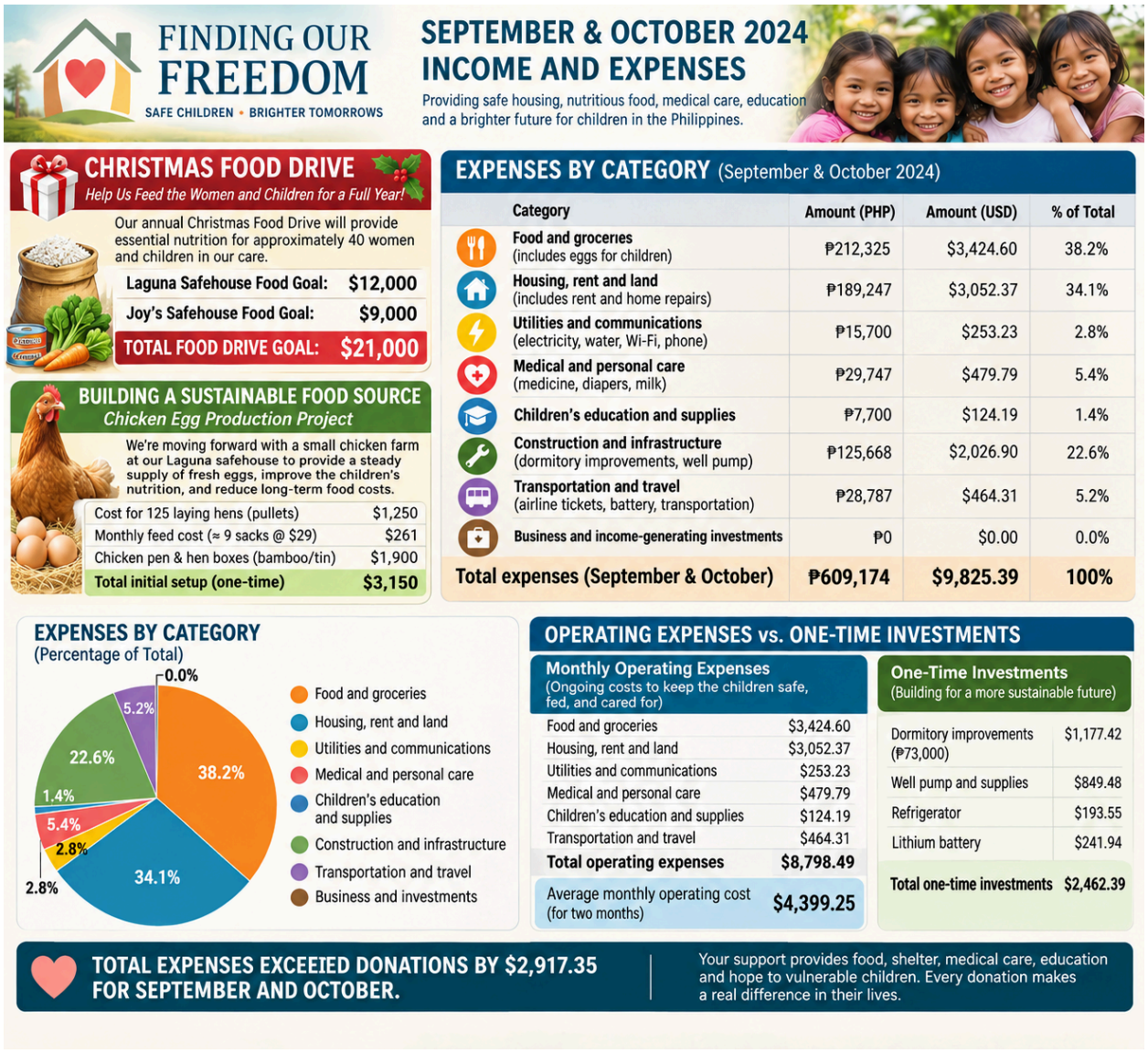


This Christmas, Help Us Put Food on the Table

As we look toward the coming year, one of our greatest immediate needs remains food.

Our annual Christmas Food Drive is an opportunity to help provide the nourishment these women and children need throughout the year. We are working toward a combined annual food goal of **$21,000** for our two safehouses:

- **Laguna safehouse:** $12,000 annually
- **Joy's safehouse:** $9,000 annually

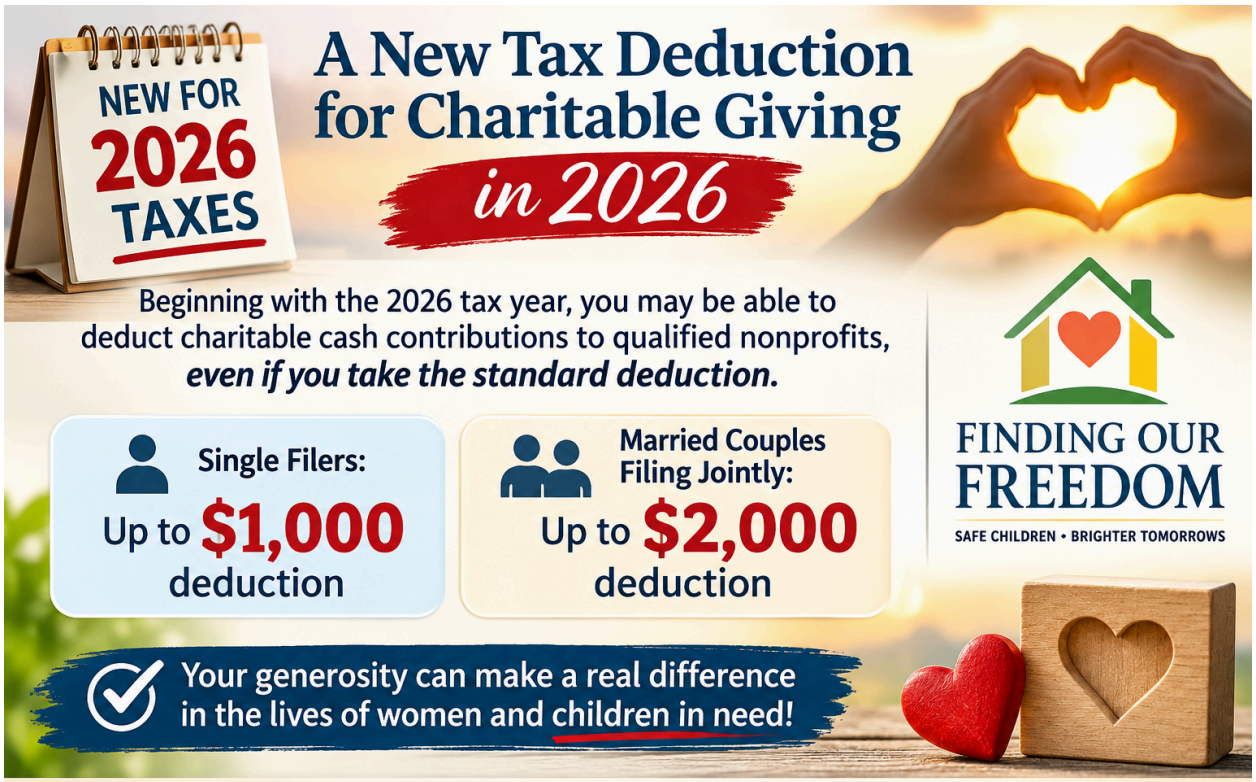


These funds will help provide essential foods, including eggs, sardines, and vegetables. Our goal is to ensure that the people entrusted to our care have consistent access to nutritious meals. Every contribution, regardless of its size, brings us one step closer to our goal. Perhaps you are in a position to give a significant gift that would make a tremendous difference. Or perhaps you are like many others who are carefully stretching every dollar just to put food on your own table. We understand that, and we never want anyone to give beyond what they can afford.

But if you are able, would you consider committing to an automatic monthly gift through the giving portal on our website? Even a small, consistent contribution can make a tremendous difference when people come together with one heart and one purpose.

Proverbs 22:9 (NIV). speaks directly to the responsibility and blessing of sharing food with those in need.

“The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.”



I keep thinking about that little girl who approached Joy at Jollibee. I wonder how many other children are going to bed hungry tonight, simply because there is no one available to help. We cannot reach every child, but together we can reach more than we ever could alone.

Thank you for standing with us. Your generosity helps make rescue possible, but more importantly, it helps make restoration, dignity, and a future of hope possible. Our prayer is that one day, when another hungry child comes to us, we will have the resources to say,

"Yes. Bring her in. We have food for her, too."

With gratitude,

David Ast