



PRESS RELEASE

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SAN MIGUEL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES VOLUNTEER IN THE PHILIPPINES

TUCSON, ARIZONA, FEBRUARY 1 – Three graduates from the San Miguel High School Class of 2009, Jose Herrera, Adonis Trujillo and Luis Vanegas, along with Biology teacher, Br. Dan Fenton, will travel this summer to Bacolod City, on the island of Negros, in the Philippines, to volunteer their services at the Bahay Pag-asa Youth Center. This residential facility, established by the De La Salle Christian Brothers, was designed to provide a safe haven for troubled youth who have found themselves in conflict with the law. The volunteers will teach English, Math and Science to the boys at Bahay Pag-asa, most of who have spent time in jails and police lock-ups where they have suffered significant trauma and abuse.

In order to support this effort, San Miguel students have formed a group called *Club Pag-asa*, which is holding a *Penny Wars* competition during Lent to provide educational materials and scholarships for the Bahay Pag-asa residents. During *Penny Wars*, San Miguel students compete by bringing in their loose change. This year, fans of *Club Pag-asa* on Facebook will be able to join in the competition.

In addition to teaching at Bahay Pag-asa, the volunteers will set up a weather station at the new Bahay Pag-asa Youth Center in Dasmariñas, on the island of Luzon. For most of their five-week stay, the volunteers will live at the youth center and share meals with the residents, which will provide them with an opportunity to learn more about the Filipino culture and the native language of the residents, Ilonggo.

Perfecto's Mexican Restaurant, on South 12th Avenue, is donating 10% of the meal price with a *Club Pag-asa* coupon, available on the Community page of the San Miguel website at www.sanmiguelhigh.org.

Jose Herrera, one of the volunteers, says, "I hope to bring joy, good character and a huge smile to the kids at Bahay Pag-asa."

San Miguel is a private, Catholic high school that provides a quality, college preparatory education to students from families of limited financial means. Students take a full course load, while at the same time working in entry level positions at local businesses, earning approximately 60% of their school tuition. Since its inception in 2004, 100% of the students in San Miguel's first two senior classes have graduated, 100% have been accepted to college, and they've been awarded over \$6 million in scholarships and grants.

San Miguel High School.....The School That Works!

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