



COUPLES FOR CHRIST

Families In the Holy Spirit Renewing the Face of the Earth

May 22, 2009

Ref. No. 09-29

MEMO:

TO : The Global CFC Family

FROM: Joe Tale
Executive Director

RE : **CFC Work with the Poor**

In our statement of April 30, 2009 (Moving Forward and Letting Go) and the Q & A's that followed, we stated that CFC remains committed to the work with the poor as a fundamental element of the fullness of our life and mission. CFC's work with the poor will continue, with GK as a major component, but will include other areas as well.

We are now pleased to announce basic aspects and directions on the CFC work with the poor.

First, the name for CFC's work with the poor shall be **ANCOP**. ANCOP was the first name that we gave to our initial response to the work with the poor.

Second, we envision ANCOP to include the following areas:

1. *The Social Ministries*

We will further grow our work in the Social Ministries, the establishment of which represented our specific responses to help the poor, even before GK was established.

2. *Livelihood*

We shall expand our work in microfinance, cooperatives and livelihood programs of Tekton.

3. *Food for the Hungry*

We remain committed to the Bayan-Anihan program initiated by Mr. John Concepcion of Selecta. Bayan-Anihan as envisioned will help place food on the table for poor families in both GK and non-GK sites.

4. *Education*

We are revisiting our response in this area with the end in view of making a wider impact in helping provide education and moral values especially for the next generation.

5. *Health*

We shall pursue a health program that is more directed towards early detection and prevention of ailments.

To provide solid foundation for this work, we shall actively conduct:

- a. The pastoral formation program that we have been blessed with in CFC.
- b. A capability building program that will help empower the poor to develop their talents and God-given gifts that will serve them well in the transformative process to break through the poverty cycle.

Third, in terms of beneficiaries, we shall pursue this work among the poor wherever appropriate, as principally determined by the CFC area leadership. We will specially target those in prisons and their families, and migrant workers and their families. Moreover, we shall not neglect, and in fact, ensure that we also care for the poor among our CFC members.

As we pursue this more expansive work with the poor for CFC, we shall be guided by the following basic principles.

1. Christ, proclaimed in word and action, is the center and the mover of the work. Our commitment to love the poor flows out of our love for God and neighbor, and Christ's great love for the poor.
2. CFC ANCOP is moved by the Holy Spirit. Even as we offer our best time, talents, treasures, and plans to God, we obey and allow His Spirit to dictate the pace, determine the size, and bless the fruits of the work.
3. CFC ANCOP is one with the Catholic Church. This means helping out in the parishes, and pro-actively engaging the Bishops and Clergy in our common mission.
4. CFC ANCOP attracts and invites others primarily by the blessing of being witnesses, by example, to Christ's love and service. CFC ANCOP will draw others to help by the way CFC members live their mission, witnessing to the servanthood and humility of Christ and the wonders of God's extraordinary work through the hands of ordinary servants.
5. CFC ANCOP will be driven by a vision of communities where members are their brothers' keepers, and where brethren live and experience the fullness of God's love.

We look forward with excitement and hope to this more expansive work with the poor. It will be more expansive, not only in scope but also in the greater number of those who will be called to serve. We expect many more CFC members to respond to the work with the poor not only in GK but also in the other components of ANCOP.

We issue a special invitation to those who are serving in the Social Ministries, to share your ideas and insights as we flesh out in greater detail the different components of this work.

To God be the glory!



JOE TALE

For the CFC International Council