



Former Sponsored Child Pays it Forward

Every sponsored child's greatest dream is to meet their sponsor to personally express their gratitude and show how sponsorship has helped them in achieving their dreams – and for some of them, this opportunity becomes reality. One of the many blessed sponsored children served by Pearl S. Buck Foundation Philippines is Nicole, a 3rd-year college criminology student from Olongapo City who has been a child sponsorship beneficiary since 2008. Her sponsor, Will, was a former sponsored child himself for more than 10 years in the 1970s in the Philippines. Like other former sponsored children who go on to lead successful lives, he showed his gratitude by paying it forward, sponsoring another child in need. When the opportunity presented itself, Will flew all the way from the United States to the Philippines to personally meet his long-time sponsored child for the first time. Nicole and Will had only known each other through the letters and pictures they had exchanged over the years.

Pearl S. Buck Foundation Philippines staff successfully kept the visit a surprise for Nicole at the request of Will. It was a touching, heartwarming moment for both sponsor and sponsored child. Will embraced Nicole as though she was his long-lost child.



It was indeed a moving encounter between sponsor and sponsored child along with their families. It was a meeting of genuine love for each other and of hope for Nicole's future, made possible by Pearl S. Buck Foundation Philippines and her sponsor.

Not all child sponsors will have the opportunity to meet their sponsored children or help them go to school in the United States, but every child sponsor makes a difference in the life of their child. Every child sponsor, like Will, helps to put their child through school, giving them the opportunity to do well, go to college, and lift themselves and their families out of poverty. There is no gift that is too small to help set these children on the path to success and we are so grateful for all our child sponsors and donors who bridge cultures and change lives every day.

While Will brought many gifts to Nicole, the best gift he gave her was the chance to study in the U.S. and continue the law enforcement courses she had started in the Philippines. Nicole is now processing her documents to secure a student visa to be eligible to study in the United States in America.



Working with Lost Coin Ministries Foundation in the Philippines

Helping Victims of Sexual Exploitation

Pearl S. Buck Foundation Philippines works closely with Lost Coin Ministries Foundation, a shelter that provides psychological and healing counseling, therapy, and care to young girls living in the Philippines who are survivors of online sexual abuse and exploitation. A team of psychotherapists works with the girls to identify the interventions that can help them based on the varying levels of trauma each has experienced. Different approaches are used to help personally guide and care for these children, including cognitive behavioral therapies, stress management, trauma informed care, play therapy, art and music therapy, movement and dance therapy, and a process to help the girls re-integrate with their families.



Lost Coin Ministries Foundation helps the girls deal with the adverse effects of the traumatic events on their psychological well-being and self-understanding. The healing process facilitated by Lost Coin Ministries Foundation helps each child accept and embrace herself despite their adverse childhood experiences. This will help her regain her confidence and self-worth that has been destroyed by the hostility of the people around her. This will help her to view her sexuality in a positive light. This work does not happen overnight, but through the dedication of Lost Coin Ministries Foundation, these girls begin and hopefully successfully complete their journey toward healing.



Pearl S. Buck Foundation Philippines currently has an active project open to help these girls living and working with Lost Coin Ministries Foundation. The generosity and kindness of donors can help these girls heal and grow up to know their self-worth. To find out more and make a donation, go to <https://pearlsbuck.org/projects/psychological-intervention-for-girls-who-have-been-victims-of-sexual-abuse-philippines/>.

We are so grateful for your support of this project – your generosity will make a real and deep difference in the lives of these girls.

