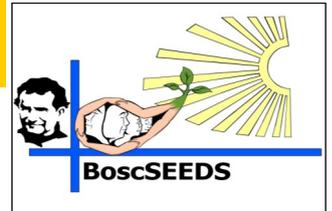




The Salesians of Don Bosco

Don Bosco Calauan

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Bosc Sustainable Enterprise and
Economic Development Services, Inc.

Creative and Created Ministries

I am currently assigned at the Southville 7 (SV-7) in Calauan, Laguna, a 107-hectare community owned by the National Housing Authority (NHA) Office of the President. This is a resettlement site of more than 6,400 families as of June 2011 who came from various parts of Metro Manila slums and a big bulk of informal settlers along the River Pasig. The place is projected with a population of 10,000 families or 50,000 to 80,000 relocatees at the end of the year 2011. This indeed is a social volcano where various crimes, vices and other social issues and concerns can move stealthily, if without proper education and evangelization programs.

On a positive note, three (3) Salesians of Don Bosco (SDB), Fr. Salvador Pablo, Br. Ramon dela Cruz, and yours truly Fr. Pat Villasanta have started the Salesian presence and work here last May of 2010. With us are other stakeholders: *Diocese of San Pablo, Caritas, LGU, ABS-CBN Foundation, Kapit-Bisig sa Ilog Pasig, SMC Foundation, Aboitiz Transport System, Bahrain, DMCI Homes, Ayala Group of Companies, Habitat for Humanity, Manila Water, Rockwell Land and other CSR stakes and construction companies* who have pooled efforts in organizing and in undertaking the said new community at Brgy. Dayap & Sto. Tomas in Calauan, Laguna.

The project is intended to make this SV-7 a sustainable community with adequate shelter, clean water, sanitation, education, and venues for community empowerment. However, observably, the following need immediate attention:

1. Drinking Water Supply: What the SV-7 community needs is clean and safe water. Water from the company Manila Water provides potable water from the well and spring gate, yet the negotiations and approval seem to go eternal with the LGU and the Laguna Water.

2. Electricity: As former Mayor Lito Atienza once commented in an informal dialogue, "If you want to obtain discipline and order in a place, put lights around the place and illumine the whole place." In the case of SV-7 in Calauan, this is still farfetched in reality. We wonder, is it the same vicious circle of finger pointing by the powers that be? Are we doomed to perpetual infernal darkness and heat?

3. Proper hygiene and health care: Breeding multi-viral and parasitic diseases have brought death to an infant born and sadly the child only lived for three days. The mosaic plaque of flies and mosquitoes and 'basura' around the place has made this God forsaken place become a garbage of humanity and worst still an in-breeding of social restlessness that could spark a mass revolt when patience run dry.

4. No Work: This concentrated Camp of projected 80,000 settlers is a comparatively veritable den of hungry and undernourished rats, where cursing and stealing are a daily grind. Some are going back to the urban streets to be 'kariton' or cart-dwellers to work.

In a situation like this, with an enormous clamor for job placing, house-electrification, health-care and sanitation, the Salesians have expressed help in the following needs & concerns:

1. Nutri-Feeding Program for Children and Physically-Challenged Young & Old
2. Scholarship or Educational Subsidies for College/ Technical Vocational Courses
3. Medicines and Health Care
4. Job Placements and Entrepreneurial Opportunities
5. Donations for the up-coming Church & School Constructions

On the other hand, we the Salesians envision the place and people to be an empowered, sustainable community within the next 3-5 years. We are currently setting-up a company that may generate jobs and livelihood for our people. The company is named “BoscSeeds” which refers to *Bosc Sustainable Enterprise and Economic Development Services, Inc.* We are convinced that part of our socio-pastoral care for the community/people, we have to device livelihood programs, too that may bring about work, food at table and most especially ‘dignity’ of their own, pegged with human & spiritual values and integrated with our Salesian Culture and Spirituality. Under this BoscSeeds are the following livelihood projects that are on-going now:

1. **Rinaldi Builders** (Construction Work),
2. **Caravario Agricultural Development** (Piggery & Farming),
3. **Zeferin Shoes** (Shoe-making),
4. **Savio Fun** (Children’s Party & Accessories),
5. **Caqliero Fudz** (Finger Foods),
6. **Michael Rua Trade** (Job Placement/ Hiring Office)
7. **Securo di Magone** (Security Agency),
8. **Pan di Orione** (Bread & Pastry).

Soon to take place and open are the **Zatti Meds** (Pharmacy), **Mama Margarete’s Café** (Coffee & Souvenir Shop) and **Plana Paints** (House Painting Job).

All these initiatives are in view of bringing hope to our relocate-families as we plot-out programs that are not only socio-pastoral in nature but inclusive are the economic needs of the people as well. In setting up this company then, we provide jobs for the people, hope for the future, and unity for the family. Thus, in establishing these various livelihood projects, we find an opportune time to intersperse in all these income generating activities, human and spiritual formation plus Salesian Educational, Spiritual life and culture.

In addition, the following are some socio-demographics of the relocation site:

Figure 1

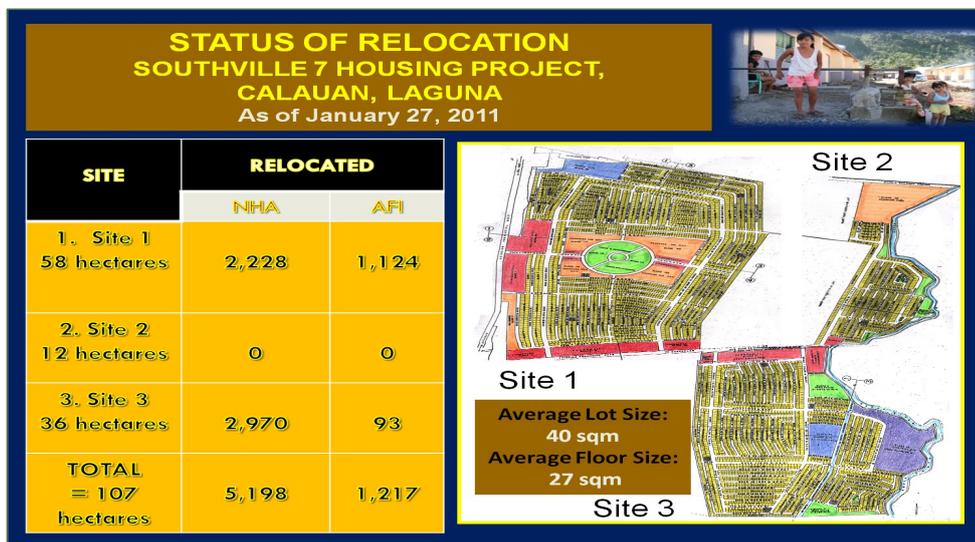


Figure 2

Informal Settlers along the Pasig River

Area	No. of Families
Quezon City	1,006
Mandaluyong	45
Manila	2,891
Tondo	274
Makati – Guadalupe Viejo	120
Pasig	176
Napindan, Taguig	79
Total No. of Families	4,591

As of June 2010

Source: ABS CBN Foundation

Today April 2011: more than 6000 families as relocatees

Figure 3

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

LEVEL	FREQUENCY	%
1. primary (current)	319	2.15
2. elementary level (current)	2152	14.51
3. HS level (current)	1068	7.20
4. college level (current)	254	1.71
5. vocational course (current)	27	0.18
6. post-graduate (current)	7	0.05
TOTAL	14830	100

JUNE 2010

Bayanijuan sa Southville 7– Community Profile

Figure 4

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

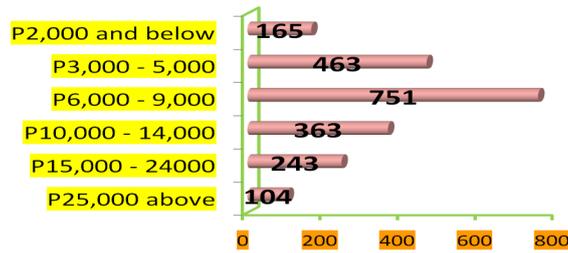
STATUS	FREQUENCY	%
employed / working	3955	30.54
unemployed	3801	29.35
dependents	7,072	47.69
TOTAL	12949	100.00

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Bayanijuan sa Southville 7– Community Profile

Figure 5

TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME



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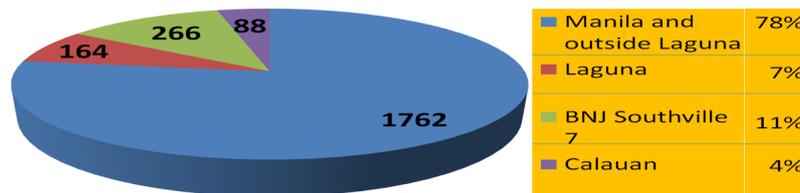
Bayanijuan sa Southville 7 – Community Profile

Figure 6

Table 4. Skills		
Skills	Frequency	Percentage
cooking / baking	167	17%
carpentry	97	10%
construction helper	97	10%
driving	81	8%
others	89	9%

Figure 7

LOCATION OF EMPLOYMENT / WORK



JUNE 2010

Bayanijuan sa Southville 7 – Community Profile

As Divine Providence would allow and commensurate with our human and Salesian toil, the SDB's include in the Developmental Plan the following: a Diocesan Shrine under the tutelage of St. John Bosco, a gymnasium, a Technical Vocational Training Center with the following courses: *Machine Shop, Construction Building Maintenance, Electronics, Agri-Marine Technology, Automotive, Computer, Alternative Learning Entrepreneurship*. In addition, we intend to set up also a Hotel & Hospitality Course, sports facilities: soccer field, swimming pool, multi-purpose hall, and of course, the Convent.

As we celebrate the 2011 Year of the Youth in the Philippine Church, we would like to offer and give St. John Bosco to the youth and families of Calauan as model, friend and teacher of the young. Indeed, we are fast-tracking our Socio-Pastoral-Economic programs in favor of these poor relocatee-families for their upliftment and empowerment. May we, the SDB's be bearers and communicators of hope to our people and glorify God in our lives and witnessing as or initial proclamation of Christ our way, truth and life.