

Drop off points across the US for donations to Typhoon Ondoy victims

NEW YORK
NAFCON (Nat'l Alliance for Filipino Concerns)/SANDIWA Nat'l Alliance of Fil-Am Youth are now receiving relief donations (clothes, blankets, medical supplies, monetary). NY drop-off @ BAYANIHAN Filipino Community Center, 40-21 69th St. Woodside, NY 11377. Call (516)901-1832 or email sandiwa.national@gmail.com if you would like to help.

New Jersey
Drop-Off Points:
1) Sinugba Cafe – 561 Westside Ave. Jersey City, NJ 07304

2) Casa Victoria – 691 Newark Ave. Jersey City, NJ 07306-2803 You can send CASH through Metro Bank acct. 3 189 14540 1 For BAYAN's "BALSA" (Bayanihan Alay sa Sambayanan)

For donations in New Jersey please contact: (201)621-3156-Yves Nibungco (917)476-7855- Nick Cordero

Los Angeles
In Los Angeles area please contact Kuu Hilo (818)395-9207. You can send CASH through Metro Bank acct. 3 189 14540 1 For BAYAN's "BALSA" (Bayanihan Alay sa Sambayanan)

San Francisco/Bay Area
For donations in San Francisco/Bay Area, please contact Ryan Leano (626)534-4971. Monetary donations can also be dropped off at these sites.

Checks can be made out to "Lakasdiwa," a non-profit organization that will send the funds directly to MIGRANTE International in the Philippines, a workers' organization directly helping the victims in the disaster relief efforts. Please put "Typhoon Ondoy Relief" on the check's note.

Filipino Community Center
4681 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94112

Liwanag Cultural Center
Hillside Park Clubhouse
222 Lausanne Ave.
Daly City, CA 94014

Mondays 3:30-6:00
Tuesdays 3:30-6:00
Wednesdays 3:30-8:00
Thursdays 3:30-6:00

Asian Pacific Islander Youth Promoting Advocacy & Leadership

Attn: Armael Malinis, AnakBayan-East Bay
310 8th Street, Suite 215
Oakland, CA 94710

Stanford's Pilipino American Student Union (PASU) is also collecting donations to be sent to the Philippines to help victims of Typhoon Ondoy (international name Ketsana). If you would like to make a donation, please contact AV David at avh david@stanford.edu or (650) 491-4561. ■

NEWS FROM THE CONSULATE

Typhoon 'Ondoy' update

LOS ANGELES – The Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles wishes to inform that voluntary cash donations for the victims of Typhoon Ondoy may be remitted to the bank accounts listed below:

National Disaster Coordinating Center (NDCC)
NDCC Donated Funds
Current Account (Philippine Peso) #0-00149-435-3
(Swift Code: DBPPHMM Account #36002016)

Development Bank of the Philippines
Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo Branch

Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Philippines

NDCC updates can be accessed via www.ndcc.gov.ph

Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)

Contact Imee Rose Castillo / Rey Martija at +(632) 931-8101 loc. 506-507 / 951-7119

US Dollar
DSWD Foreign Donations
Account No. 3124-0055-81
ZIP Address: TLBPPHMMXXX
LBP Batasan Branch
Constitution Hills, Quezon City, Philippines

Philippine Peso
DSWD Donation
Account No. 3122-1011-84
LBP Batasan Branch
Constitution Hills, Quezon City, Philippines

Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC)

For donations to be acknowledged, please fax bank transaction slips to +(632) 525-5654 or 404-0979 with donor's name, address

and contact numbers. Guidelines for on-line donations may be accessed via www.redcross.org.ph.

US Dollar
-The Philippine National Red Cross
Account No. 151-2-151-00218-2

Swift Code: MBTC PH MM
Metrobank Port Area Branch
Anda Circle, Post Area, Manila, Philippines

-The Philippine National Red Cross
Account No. 81140030-94
Swift Code. BOPIPHMM
BPI United Nations Branch
Ermita, Manila, Philippines

Philippine Peso
-The Philippine National Red Cross
Account No. 151-3-041-63122-8-MBTC

Metrobank Port Area Branch
Anda Circle, Port Area, Manila, Philippines

-The Philippine National Red Cross
Account No. 4991-0010-99
BPI United Nations Branch
Ermita, Manila, Philippines

Other queries and donations may be referred to the following agencies:

NDCC (Relief Goods / Rehabilitation Equipment)
Maj. General Glenn J. Rabonza
NDCC Administrator
Attn: Engr. Florentino Sison,
Deputy Chief, Operations Division
Tel: +(632) 912-5979, 912-2665
Fax: +(632) 911-1873, 911-1406, 912-5668, 912-0984

Department of Health (Medi-

cines and/or Medical and Humanitarian Missions)

Dr. Virginia Ala
Chief, Bureau of International Health Cooperation
Department of Health
Attn: Ms. Noni Balbino, Chief, Technical Division
Tel: +(632) 781-2843
Fax: +(632) 781-8843
DSWD (Relief Good)
DSWD Donation Drop Off Points

Pasay Area
National Resource Operation Center
Chapel Road, Pasay City
Attn: Mrs. Francia Fabian
+(632)852-8081 / +(63918) 930-2356

Quezon City Area
Disaster Resource Operations Monitoring and Information Center (DROMIC)
DSWD Central Office
Attn: Rey Martiga or Imee Rose Castillo
+(632) 951-7119 / 951-7435

Assistant Secretary Vilma Cabrera
+(63918) 934-5625

Manila Area
DSWD-NCR
San Rafael corner Legarda St., Quiapo, Manila
Attn: Director Delia Bawan
+(632) 734-8622 / 734-8642

Philippine Consulate General, Los Angeles, CA
Vice Consul John G. Reyes
Attn: Mr. Edwin Caraos
Tel: 1(213) 637-3010
Cell: 1(213) 268-9990 (Duty Officer)
Fax: 1(213) 639-0990
Email: losangelespcg@earthlink.net

You can also course your donations through CBCP Caritas Filipinas Foundation Inc.

Consulate and Fil-Am groups synergize efforts . . .

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hours, according to the Associated Press.

Consul General Aragon said more than 90,000 families or about 450,000 people have been affected by the deadly typhoon. Hundreds of thousands are in evacuation centers and many homes are flooded in waist high water. About one million people have no electricity.

Authorities said the typhoon has already claimed the lives of at least 240 people while several more are missing.

Aragon said President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo has declared a "state of calamity" in parts of Metro Manila and 25 nearby provinces.

The Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles has directed kababayans wanting to help with relief efforts to the Philippine Emergency Disaster Relief Organization (PEDRO) in Los Angeles.

Consulate officials said the best way Fil-Ams can help the typhoon victims is to send money donations.

"Cash provides immediate relief," said Bing De La Vera of PEDRO. "The reason for this is because it is not clear what is the people's immediate need right

now that are suffering. Aragon warns kababayans, who do want to help and send donations, of "unscrupulous organizations trying to take advantage of this calamity."

"Always make sure the organization you are donating to is legitimate," she said.

Frustration
During the emergency meeting held at the Philippine Consulate General office in Los Angeles on September 28, several community members let out their frustration regarding the sending of aid.

The Consul advises those wanting to help the typhoon victims to send cash but with many Filipinos and Fil-Ams affected by the economic recession, some can't afford to do so.

A concerned community member asked why he can't send over rice, medical supplies or used clothing.

Consul officials said the sending of used clothing, medical supplies and food are all subject to customs checks in the US and the Philippines and those goods might take up to 30 to 60 days before they can be released to the typhoon victims.

"By that time those goods

might not be needed," said a Consul official.

"All we're asking is for the consul here in Los Angeles to ask the Philippine government to relax the rules especially in a time of crisis like this," said a member of the Philippine Bar Association.

Donations
A few hours after the storm hit, many Filipino and US companies have stepped up to help the victims of the typhoon.

Xoom.com, a money transfer service, will waive their fee for money transfers to the Philippines.

PEDRO has collected \$3,000 from its members. Island Pacific Supermarket has collected \$2,000 and set up drop off points to collect goods and supplies.

According to Inquirer.net, Philippine Airlines (PAL) will be airlifting relief donations from the provinces to Manila in its domestic flights in the Philippines.

The Manny Pacquiao foundation has also set up Operation: Metro Manila, a project to help raise funds and awareness for the destruction caused by Typhoon Ondoy.

The foundation will hold a fundraiser to benefit the victims this weekend. ■

A message to La Sallians in the US

OUR cheers and good will evident during the PasikLaban Friendship Games with Ateno on Sep. 26 were tempered by the tragic news from the Phils. of the storm Ondoy (Ketsana) & flooding that afflicted many in the National Capital Region (See photos below from ANC/ABS-CBN sent through DLSAA Manila).

Let's show the same commitment & teamwork in responding to our Metro New York alumni chapter in support of the DLSAA/ La Salle Phils. and the Phil. Consulate New York's calls for help.

For Metro Manila storm/flood relief donations:
1. From the US: Monetary Contributions: <http://www.dlsaa-metronewyork.com/rescueManila.html>
As the De La Salle Alumni Assn. in the metro NY area has announced, per president Tess Canlas Mojica, our Chapter will send the pooled funds directly to Manila.

(Note: Donations of goods are difficult to coordinate & ship to the Philippines in a timely and cost-effective manner, but if we hear of specific mechanisms for these, we will let you know.)

(ADVISORY: As per DSWD advisories, used clothing donations have unfortunately been diverted in prior relief efforts from the intended beneficiaries to the commercial market, so please do not send those.)

2. Additional info from the Phil. Consulate in New York:
"Updated information on relief and rehabilitation efforts in communities devastated by Typhoon Ondoy well as status reports on recovery operations for the victims are available on the website of the NDCC at www.ndcc.gov.ph." (Robert P. De Tagle)



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