



MEMORANDUM FOR:

Members, PONDO NG PINOY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, INC.

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| Most Rev. Fidelis B. Layog, D.D. | - Diocese of Alaminos |
| Most Rev. Francisco M. de Leon, D.D. | - Diocese of Antipolo |
| Most Rev. Marcelino Antonio M. Maralit Jr., D.D. | - Diocese of Boac |
| Most Rev. Isabelo C. Abarquez, D.D. | - Diocese of Calbayog |
| Most Rev. Honesto F. Ongtioco, D.D. | - Diocese of Cubao |
| Most Rev. Rex Andrew C. Alarcon, D.D. | - Diocese of Daet |
| Most Rev. Victor C. Ocampo, D.D. | - Diocese of Gumaca |
| Most Rev. Bartolome G. Santos Jr., D.D. | - Diocese of Iba |
| Most Rev. David William V. Antonio, D.D. | - Diocese of Ilagan |
| Most Rev. Reynaldo G. Evangelista, D.D. | - Diocese of Imus |
| Most Rev. Jose R. Rojas Jr., D.D. | - Diocese of Libmanan |
| Most Rev. Mel Rey M. Uy, D.D. | - Diocese of Lucena |
| Most Rev. Noel P. Pedregosa, D.D. | - Diocese of Malaybalay |
| Most Rev. Dennis C. Villarajo, D.D. | - Diocese of Malolos |
| Most Rev. Rex C. Ramirez, D.D. | - Diocese of Naval |
| Most Rev. Roberto O. Gaa, D.D. | - Diocese of Novaliches |
| Most Rev. Marlo M. Peralta, D.D. | - Archdiocese of Nueva Segovia |
| Most Rev. Martin S. Jumoad, D.D. | - Archdiocese of Ozamis |
| Most Rev. John F. Du, D.D. | - Archdiocese of Palo |
| Most Rev. Jesse E. Mercado, D.D. | - Diocese of Parañaque |
| Most Rev. Mylo Hubert C. Vergara, D.D. | - Diocese of Pasig |
| Most Rev. Socrates C. Mesiona, MSP, D.D. | - Apostolic Vicariate of Puerto Princesa |
| Most Rev. Gerardo A. Alminaza, D.D. | - Diocese of San Carlos, Negros Occidental |
| Most Rev. Roberto C. Mallari, D.D. | - Diocese of San Jose, Nueva Ecija |
| Most Rev. Buenaventura M. Famadico, D.D. | - Diocese of San Pablo |
| Most Rev. Broderick S. Pabillo, D.D. | - Apostolic Vicariate of Taytay |
| Most Rev. Manolo A. de los Santos, D.D. | - Diocese of Virac |
| Most Rev. Oscar Jaime L. Florencio, D.D. | - Military Ordinariate of the Philippines |
| Most Rev. Jacinto A. Jose, JCL, D.D. | - Diocese of Urdaneta |

Subject: FAST2FEED Fund Campaign 2023

Date : February 2023

Dear Brothers,

Greetings of Peace and Hope!

The 2022 State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World Report warned that world hunger rose further in 2022. The report captured data and pictures of the worsening state of children's malnutrition around the world. It emphasized that the world is facing the triple burden of malnutrition - undernutrition manifested in stunting and wasting; hidden hunger or deficiencies of vitamins and minerals; and overweight, a rising issue in children in the Philippines. These scenarios hinder the growth and development of an estimated 4 million undernourished Filipino.

But a long-term crisis is unfolding with this report with potentially sobering developmental implications for our country. A recently released article by Mr. Cielito Habito¹ indicates that malnutrition works in a cycle that repeats itself. For instance, babies born with low birth weight (typically from malnourished mothers who exhibit low weight gain during pregnancy) have higher infant mortality rates than regular-weight babies, impaired mental development, and inadequate growth. Without some nutritional intervention, they could grow to become stunted children and adolescents with reduced mental capacity. They then could grow into malnourished adults—who may repeat the cycle by giving birth to low-birth-weight babies—and elderly malnourished who themselves need care and are unable to help in the household.

Pondo ng Pinoy envisions fullness of life especially of children from poor and marginalized communities so they may have a chance for better health and growth, and full participation in our society. That is why Pondo ng Pinoy supports the feeding of hungry and malnourished children all throughout the country through the Hapag-Asa Integrated Feeding Program.

While the program is relentlessly being promoted so that more Dioceses continuously join in this movement of feeding the children's future, there is also a need for the program to pursue fundraising activities to be able to provide the food subsidy to participating Dioceses to be used in feeding the hungry and malnourished children, one meal a day for 120 days.

For this purpose, may we humbly enjoin you again to urge the faithful to help feed hungry and malnourished children through the FAST2FEED Campaign in the coming Ash Wednesday on February 22, 2023? This year, we hope that the FAST2FEED will be able to raise the needed amount to provide nutritious meals to about *27,000 children to be fed* by Pondo ng Pinoy member Dioceses.

Collections for the FAST2FEED 2023 will be remitted to Pondo ng Pinoy using any of the following Pondo ng Pinoy - HAPAG-ASA bank accounts:

- Metrobank C/A No. 175-7175-50963-8
- Banco de Oro C/A No. 2638-00407-0
- BPI C/A No. 3061-0858-22
- China Bank C/A No. 103-57972-19
- Security Bank C/A No. 141-026133-002

¹ Mr. Cielito Habito is a Filipino economist, professor, and columnist. He served as the Director-General of the National Economic and Development Authority and Socio-Economic Planning Secretary during the Ramos administration.

To promote the FAST2FEED 2023 Fund Campaign before Ash Wednesday, Pondo ng Pinoy's National Management Office will prepare promotional materials and the FAST2FEED 2023 Fund Campaign envelopes to be distributed before Ash Wednesday. We humbly ask you to encourage the faithful to offer the FAST2FEED 2023 envelope with their donation during the mass on Ash Wednesday or to turn it over to the parish office any day.

We are attaching a draft pastoral letter that you may sign and ask parish priests to read during masses on Ash Wednesday. We also enclose a letter for parish priests, enjoining them to actively promote the FAST2FEED 2023 Fund Campaign before Ash Wednesday, have the envelopes distributed and collected, and the donations counted and remitted immediately as much as possible, not later than the following week after Ash Wednesday. Kindly remind, too, our brother priests to remit past FAST2FEED collections to Pondo ng Pinoy, if they have not yet done so.

Thank you very much, Your Excellencies, and may this New Year bring good tidings to all.

Sincerely in Christ,


+ Jose F. Cardinal Advincula, D.D.
Chairman, Pondo ng Pinoy Community Foundation, Inc.