



PROJECT UPDATE: THE SHECHEM CHILDREN’S HOME

You Are Helping Children Heal After Human Trafficking

There has been a lot to celebrate at the Shechem Children’s Home. The home, which is a partner of Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, serves child survivors of human trafficking in the Philippines. There, the children continually experience the restorative love of Christ, a vital piece of Shechem’s assessment and care of those who have survived sexual exploitation. Over the past year, the house staff has witnessed both their growth in the love of Christ as well as their joy when safely reunited with family members.

There have also been challenges: the children have experienced significant trauma as a result of being trafficked. Many of the children, some of whom are toddlers and young children, struggle to process it. Along with therapy and meetings with social workers, they are told again and again: *you are a beloved child of God.*

In the last year at the Shechem Children’s Home:



Five children have gone to live with supportive, caring relatives, which is the most favorable outcome. They will continue to receive support from Shechem.



During a Christmas celebration, one three-year-old child opened his gift to find exactly what he asked for: a truck with wheels. When he opened the gift, he shared a rare, delighted grin.



Children participated in regular jiu jitsu training, which helps with coping and healing by providing an outlet and a sense of control.



The staff working in the home were given many opportunities to process their work through regular counseling, retreats, and bonding activities.



Children experience spiritual, social, educational, and trauma-informed care at Shechem.

Stories of Hope

Doraemon* considers herself to be shy. When she first arrived at Shechem with her siblings, she was hesitant to join into any activities. “When I came here to Shechem, many things changed in me...” she explains.

After some time building relationships with the house parents, Doraemon shared some of her dreams. She hopes to become an engineer, but more importantly, she says she wants to give back to Shechem. “I would also like to help the children who were abused,” she says.

The siblings recently left Shechem to live with family members, where they would be safe and loved. Though she says the reintegration was, “...the thing we waited for most,” the children were still sad to leave the place that had become their home. Because of the love and care they experienced, they encountered Christ and were changed.

“I am also thankful to Shechem for all the love and happiness, because you are my second family,” she says.

*Name is changed to protect privacy.

Learn more at ncm.org/Shechem