

Rodel

My name is Rodel. I live in Letre, Manila. There are 5 children in my family . We are very poor. At meal times, we would just share from one plate. I learnt to hang out with my friends and beg on the street. Sometimes I didn't listen to my parents, going out was more important to me and they always used to tell me off. I started to smoke and to fight with the other street children like me. After some time my clothes were really dirty and the way people looked at me changed. Then one day I met Kuya JR and he took me to Childhope. But then I was transferred to Bahay Tuluyan in San Antonio. My brother Francis, who I always used to fight with, was here. At Bahay Tuluyan I got to know the house parents and staff. Everything is good here. We eat at the proper time, can wear proper clothes, there are people to guide us and explain things to us. Most importantly I can go to school, have friends, develop new ideas and learn to respect people. Thanks to Bahay Tuluyan and to all the people who helped set up the center. I won't forget you because me and my brother have been given a new future, as have the other children here have. Thanks.