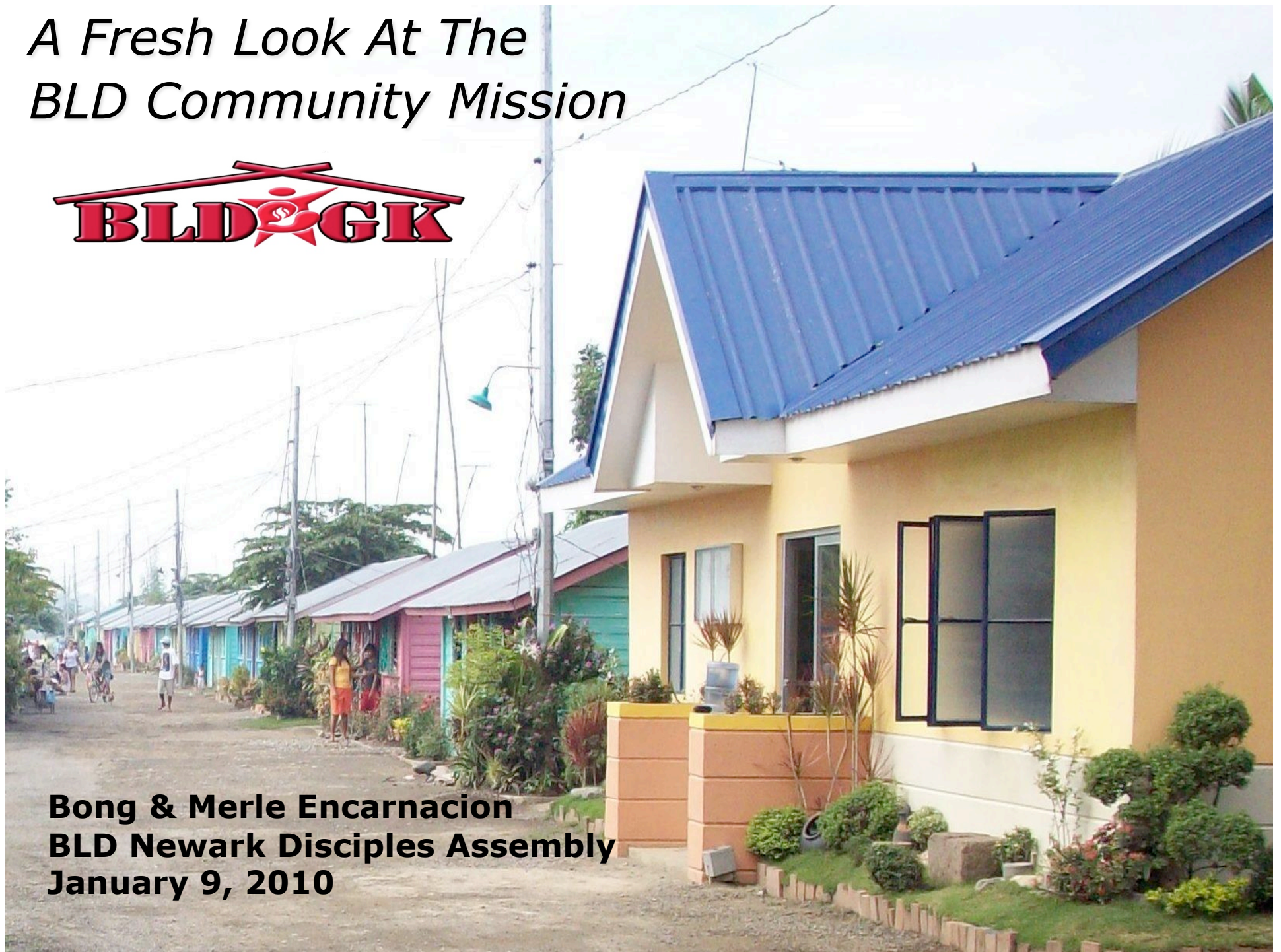


*A Fresh Look At The
BLD Community Mission*



**Bong & Merle Encarnacion
BLD Newark Disciples Assembly
January 9, 2010**

Scripture Foundation

Isaiah 58: 6-7

This, rather, is the fasting that I wish:
releasing those bound unjustly,
untying the thongs of the yoke;
Setting free the oppressed,
breaking every yoke;

Sharing your bread with the hungry,
sheltering the oppressed and the homeless;
Clothing the naked when you see them,
and not turning your back on your own.

BLD Community Mission

Statutes 2.3

As a communion of encountered individuals, couples, and families, we are called by the Lord:

- To build communities of disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, will renew and strengthen our Christian faithful;
- Through programs of Christian Encounters (Marriage Encounters, Family Encounters, Singles Encounters, Solo Parents Encounters, Youth Encounters), and Life in the Spirit Seminars;
- Through programs of Discipleship Formation, Spiritual Growth and Pastoral Care aimed at developing intercessors, worship leaders, shepherds, teachers, and witnesses;
- And through programs promoting servant leadership and **poverty alleviation** in society.



“In today’s rapidly changing world, our responsibility towards the poor emerges with greater clarity and urgency; indifference and self-centered isolation stand in stark contrast to the ‘gaze’ of Christ.”

How BLD Began Its Poverty Alleviation Mission Thru GK

The Holy Spirit used the 50th year sacerdotal anniversary of Fr. Paul Lehman to guide BLD to the mission of poverty alleviation through Gawad Kalinga.

When informed of plans to hold a banquet in his honor, Fr. Paul instead asked BLD to help the poor in a profound way.

The community celebrated a thanksgiving Mass and held a simple fellowship for Fr. Paul on June 19, 2004. From this event, BLD pledged to build a Fr. Paul Lehman GK village for the poor in the Philippines.



*You are invited to a
Community Thanksgiving for
The 50th Anniversary of the
Ordination to Priesthood of*

Fr. Paul J. Lehman - May 29, 1954

In the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Newark

June 19, 2004 • 1:00-6:00 PM
St. Leo's Parish of Irvington, NJ
103 Myrtle Avenue • Irvington, NJ 07111

Thanksgiving Program

1:00-2:15pm Eucharistic Celebration: St. Leo's Church

2:30-5:30pm Presentations, Testimonials & Fellowship

5:30- 6:00pm Closing Prayers/Adjournment

In lieu of gifts, Fr. Paul requests that donations be made to the
BLD Fund for Gawad Kalinga

Information about this Poverty Alleviation Program
will be presented during the celebration

This Thanksgiving is organized by the BLD Newark community in collaboration with its sister communities of BLD Long Island, Trenton, Albany & Washington DC.

How BLD Began Its Poverty Alleviation Mission Thru GK

That simple celebration of Fr. Paul's fruitful priesthood produced among BLD members a generous outpouring of love and kinship with the poor..



An outpouring of love that built a total of 60 homes for the Fr. Paul Lehman GK Village in Cabiao, Nueva Ecija and 10 Fr. Paul Lehman GK homes in Hapay-na-Mangga in Taytay, Rizal.



How BLD Began Its Poverty Alleviation Mission Thru GK

That Spirit of Love inspired several BLD members from the UST Medical Class of 1976 to advocate the cause of poverty alleviation thru GK among their classmates.

Touched by love, the UST Medical Class of 1976 responded by building 40 GK homes for the poor- right at the same site as the Fr. Paul Lehman Gk Village.



How BLD Began Its Poverty Alleviation Mission Thru GK

The ECSL saw how powerfully the Lord worked through the Fr. Paul Lehman & UST Medical Class of 1976 GK village projects. If the Lord can use a few BLD districts could to improve the lives of the poor, imagine if the global community is involved. Convinced that this is a direction of the Holy Spirit for BLD, the ECSL created the BLD GK Ministry on January 16, 2006.



RESOLVED, that the BLD Covenant Community hereby establishes with immediate effect a BLD Gawad Kalinga Ministry under the Executive Council of Servant Leaders... embracing a holistic approach covering spiritual, social, and economic aspects of mission work.

On May 30, 2006, BLD and the Gawad Kalinga Community Foundation signed a Memorandum of Agreement forming a poverty alleviation partnership through the Gawad Kalinga Program.

How BLD Began Its Poverty Alleviation Mission Thru GK

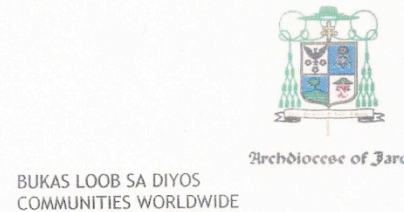
On Feb. 6, 2006,
Abp. Angel Lagdameo
sent a pastoral letter
To BLD communities
worldwide entitled...



"Forward with Gawad Kalinga"

"My beloved BLD members, sometimes in our own safe prayer communities, we are pulled towards individual interests. That is a temptation."

"It is time we refocus our sights on the Lord through our work with the poor and for the poor. Then, experience the miracles in our lives and in their lives. Let us set the Philippines on fire with GK love!"



Archdiocese of Jaro

BUKAS LOOB SA DIYOS
COMMUNITIES WORLDWIDE

FORWARD WITH GAWAD KALINGA

My dear brothers and sisters of beloved BLD:

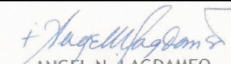
First, may I confer on you a bishop's blessing of love coming from our Lord Jesus Christ.

For too long, each of us has gone around looking for unique ways to fulfill the mission of Christ. Many of us are stumped into paralysis in the process. Through the GAWAD KALINGA PROGRAM, I have witnessed the many miracles of healing between social classes, miracles of transformation in the hearts of the poor whose daily concerns have been nourishment and a place they can call their home. We need not look for a unique mission project to make our mark because the Lord has providentially laid down before us this program. This is not to say that each BLD District abandon its mission fields. I encourage you to continue them, but I also encourage you to help the growing GK momentum to generate the force that will liberate our poor brothers and sisters from hopelessness and, for many, even Godlessness.

We see our country torn apart by greed, insensitivity, corruption, and political self-interests. And our poor brothers and sisters are caught right in the middle and therefore they are the most affected.

My beloved BLD members, sometimes in our own safe, little prayer communities, we are pulled towards individual interests. That is a temptation. It is time we refocus our sights on the Lord through our work with the poor and for the poor. Then, experience the miracles in our lives and in their lives. Let us set the Philippines on fire with GK Love!

God bless you!


ANGEL N. LAGDAMEO
Archbishop of Jaro &
BLD Spiritual Director
February 6, 2006

Where Are We In Our BLD-GK Poverty Alleviation Work?

Status as of November 2009

<u>BLD-GK Village Project</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TARGET</u>	<u>COMPLETED</u>	<u>Ongoing/ Pending</u>
BLD GK Long Island Village	San Idefonso, Bulacan	27	27	
Kawal Kalinga GK Village 7	Camp Aquino, Tarlac City, Tarlac	46	44	0
St. James GK Village	Taligra, Siruma, Camarines Sur	30	28	2
Barotac Viejo - St. Christopher GK Village	San Remejio, Baratoc Viejo, Iloilo	20	20	2
St. Mary's GK Village	Zone 5, Balatas, Naga City, Camarines Sur	30	28	2
Typical Hut Catering of NJ GK Village	Brgy. Liwayway, Mauban, Quezon	20	20	0
Fr. Paul Lehman GK Village	Brgy. Concepcion, Cabiao, Nueva Ecija	64	60	0
Cabiao USTMED Class '76 GK Village	Brgy. Concepcion, Cabiao, Nueva Ecija	38	38	
New Jersey & Friends GK Village	Brgy. Pinagbayanan, Pagbilao, Quezon	17	12	5
Hapay na Mangga (Fr. Paul Lehman)	Purok 8, Brgy. Dolores, Taytay, Rizal	10	10	
BLD Trenton GK Village	Mauban, Quezon	30	24	6
Angels of Hope GK Village	Lucena City, Quezon	30	20	10
UP BLD Washington GK Village	Site Maligaya, Brgy. Los Banos, Laguna	5	5	
Marinduque Donation		1	1	
BLD Manila- Villa Paraiso	Paranaque, Rizal	32	22	10
BLD Davao Village	Davao Medical Center, Bunawan, Dvo	14	0	10
TOTAL		414	359	47
Note: Awaiting report on 8 more houses				

More BLD Districts outside of Newark cluster involved

Partnerships among global districts forming, e.g. Toronto & Davao, Manila & Newark

Strong partnership with outside organizations formed, e.g. BLD & GK, BLD & ANCOP, BLD & UST Medical Class of 1976

About 400 homes for the poor in 15 GK villages

Where Are We In Our BLD-GK Poverty Alleviation Work?



Spiritual Formation Program:

Goal - Empower the BLD-GK residents as members of a basic ecclesial community to experience sharing on the word, fellowship, praying together & helping one another as one community.

Program Elements

- Basic Bible Study
- Growth in Prayer
- Catechism for Filipino Catholics
- ME & LSS

Also:

- Catechetical formation for first communion of ~50 children
- Marriage validation- mass wedding



Teaching Module	BBS (BLD modules)	Spiritual Formation for BLD-GK Villages					BEC pastoral orientation seminar	Catechism for Filipino Catholics
		GIP (BLD modules)	BLD ME	LSS (BLD-Parish)	Growth (BLD- Parish)			
Schedule	6-8 hrs Sat or Sunday	Old GIP Modules 3-4 hrs Including Practicum	Modified 1 day Me	Day 1 LSS orientation & shepherding Day2-LSS proper sat Day3 Sun-LSS proper 2	CMP I (8 topics 6 hrs) CMP 2 (8 topics 6 hrs) Shepherds (12 hrs) Total 24 hrs Sessions	In alliance/ partnership With parish/ Diocesan Coordinator	In alliance/ partnership With parish/ Diocesan Catechists	
	1 whole day 8am-5pm 2 half days 8am-12nn or 1pm-5pm Sat or sun.	1 half day 8am-12nn Or 1pm-5pm Sat. Or Sun.	8am-5pm Sat. Or Sunday	Day 1 LSS orientation & shepherding Day2-LSS proper sat Day3 Sun-LSS proper 2	4 whole days @ 6 hrs Or 8 half days @ 3 hrs Sat or Sunday	2 whole days 8am-5pm Or 4 half days 8am-12nn/ 1pm-5pm Sat. Or sun.	B1-monthly Or Monthly Half-day 9am-12nn/ 1pm-5pm	
Desired Outcome	Formation of Word sharing Circles	Identification, selection & training of Prayer leader	Stronger relationship through Couple power & marriage spirituality	Development of deeper personal Relationship With Jesus As Lord & Savior	Development of shepherds For their lss	Formation of BEC/ Ministries within a BLD -GK Village,ie, -Worship ministry -Social services -Youth Catechetics -Family & life	Development of informed Faith among Village residents Consistent With PCP 2	

Where Are We In Our BLD-GK Poverty Alleviation Work?



Livelihood Program:

- Wig-making (Cabiao)
- Vegetable self-sufficiency gardens – Bayan Anihan
- Poultry (Mauban)
- TSD training

Going forward:

- New building for Sibol and trade school in partnership with local government unit in Cabiao
- Develop BLD DIP for Diocese of Cabanatuan but initiated in Cabiao town proper. Vision: for DIP to eventually care for BLD-GK of Cabiao



**Paskuhan – Since 2006
Rice & groceries for Christmas
for each GK Cabiao family**

Where Are We In Our BLD-GK Poverty Alleviation Work?

SIBOL School, Cabiao – Shown here during Mark 10 sponsored Christmas educational outing at National Shrine & Christmas lunch at Jolibee's



Venue of SIBOL Classes

Where Are We In Our BLD-GK Poverty Alleviation Work?

Gawad Kalusugan

Medical Mission, Cabiao



**Periodic health clinics by
UST Medical Class 1976
members in the Philippines:**

- General Medicine
- Ophthalmological
- Dental



**Subsidy for cost of water pipe
connection for each own home**

**Medical & financial to resident
who lost arm (below assistance
the elbow) due to electrocution**

What Have We Learned From 4.5 Years of BLD-GK Work?

- This is the work of the Holy Spirit
 - The proof is its fruit, which has been good
 - The lives of the poor are being transformed for the better
 - Our own lives, our discipleship- has been changed for the better
 - BLD itself is being transformed as a community because of its increasing involvement in the mission to the poor
- Because it is the work of the Holy Spirit, there has been and will continue to be significant spiritual opposition, even controversies caused by man
- Regardless of the distractions and opposition we may confront, this work of the Holy Spirit will not be derailed as long as:
 - Christ remains our focus & our mission to the poor continues to be our priority
 - We stand firmly on our values as Christ's disciples and community
 - We arm ourselves with love & goodness. We will conquer evil not with evil, but with good- the goodness that comes from the only One Who Is Good

What Can We Expect From BLD-GK Going Forward?

Implement Mandates from ECSL:

- Form BLD-GK Caretaker Teams
 - First caretaker team formed in BLD Lucena
 - BLD Manila caretaker team undergoing GK formation
 - Other BLD districts in the Philippines encouraged to form caretaker teams for BLD-GK community development
- Provide spiritual formation in BLD-GK villages
 - BLD's spiritual formation program for BLD-GK Villages piloted in Cabiao and will be rolled out to the other villages
- "MY BROTHER'S KEEPER" – the BLD way
 - Forge a spiritual kinship with our brethren in BLD-GK villages, relating to them with the same covenantal love that we give to each other within our community

How Can You Help?

- Live up to the social teachings of the Catholic Church
 - Be authentic witnesses of our Christian values
 - Persevere in our advocacy for the dignity of human person
 - Model the Trinity's self-giving love in our community and in working for the common good
- Heed the Gospel call to put the needs of the poor first
 - We are all one human family. We must continue to build a community that empowers people to attain their full human potential
- Work for justice, build the Body of Christ
 - Our BLD mission allows us a fruitful avenue to liberate the poor from poverty through our BLD-GK ministry
 - Be advocates for the poor. We pray one of the ways you will do it is through BLD-GK!



Acknowledgements:

Fr Paul Lehman

2004 DCS and DSL BLD-Newark Clusters

BLD-Newark Clusters Disciples

ANCOP USA Northeast

UST Medicine Class of 1976

Mayors Gloria Crespo and Biding Garcia

CFC Caretaker Teams

BLD-GK Core Members

Frank Padilla and Tony Meloto

Tony Meloto



Ad maiorem Dei gloriam