



Prasanthi Council

P.O. Box 660995, Arcadia, CA 91066-0995, USA.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Om Sri Sai Ram.

Philippines Disaster

As you may know, in early November 2013, Typhoon Haiyan devastated the coastal areas of Philippines. This is the strongest storm ever recorded in modern history, with winds up to 275 kilometres per hour and ocean surges up to 6 meters in height, which devastated an area 400 kilometres in width. By the latest count, the Government of the Philippines has reported that over 4 million people have lost their homes due to Typhoon Haiyan. Of these, only 325,000 people have been housed in tents. Others have found shelter in evacuation centres or with relatives, or are rebuilding shacks from scrap materials left behind by the storm. There are many injured people still to be evacuated or treated, and many children orphaned by the storm.

Relief Efforts

The Sathya Sai International Organisation (SSIO) has vast experience in disaster relief operations, which it has successfully conducted in several countries. A Disaster Relief Committee has been formed and has been in communication with the local Sai Organisation. They are assessing the local needs and how help can be rendered to our impacted brothers and sisters. The SSIO sees an immediate need for medical attention to the affected individuals including attending to expectant mothers, and new mothers with small children. We believe that Sai doctors who have served in many disasters to date are fully capable of meeting this challenge. In conjunction with setting up a medical camp, Sai volunteers can also cook and distribute food to the hungry refugees in camps or shelters. Clean, uncontaminated drinking water is also a priority and we have identified a water purification device that can be provided to the refugees. With the guidance of the Sai devotees in Manila who are helping to establish contacts and locate our Sai camp(s), we hope to provide humanitarian relief, including medical care, psychological assistance, and cooking facilities.

How Can We Help

Many Sathya Sai devotees and SSIO officers have already expressed a desire to help in the ongoing relief efforts and actively participate in this noble work.

Our doctors and volunteers will be travelling at their own expense to Philippines to participate in the relief efforts. All doctors and paramedical professionals, who are interested in being part of the medical mission, are requested to contact the Disaster Relief medical team at medical@sssio.org. All non-medical volunteers who are

interested in participating in the relief efforts are requested to contact the Disaster Relief coordinating committee at relief@sssio.org. We will also develop a website to post the updates of the disaster relief activities.

The Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation (SSSWF) is a registered non-profit charitable organization in the U.S.A., which directly supports the work of the SSIO throughout the world. Those wishing to contribute to the relief efforts in Philippines may kindly send their checks to the SSSWF, which will go directly towards helping the needy.

For wire transfer to SSSWF, please see the instructions given below.

Wire Transfer Instructions in USA

ABA/Routing#: 026009593
To: Bank of America, N.A.
100 West 33rd Street
New York, NY 10001
Account: 6550113516
Name: Merrill Lynch
Merrill Lynch Account: 6LX04058

International Wire Transfer Instructions

SWIFT-BIC: BOFAUS3N
Credit to: MERRILL LYNCH
Bank of America N.A.
100 West 33rd Street
New York, NY
ABA/Routing#: 026009593
Account: 6550113516
Name: Merrill Lynch
Further credit to name of: Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation, Account#: 6LX04058
225 S. Lake Ave
Pasadena, California 91101
(626) 356-2013

For contributions by wire transfers to SSSWF, kindly provide detailed address and email of the donor.

For contributions by check, please make the check payable to “Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation” (‘Philippines Relief Effort’ may be added in the memo section), and send to the following address:

P.O. Box 660995
Arcadia, California 91066-0995
USA

This is the time for us to come together to help our brothers, sisters and young children in the Philippines devastated by this tragedy.

We will continue to keep you informed of the progress of relief efforts. Let us all pray for Bhagawan's grace to be showered upon all those who are suffering from this natural disaster and to bless us with the wisdom and strength to serve those in need.

Jai Sai Ram.

With loving regards,

Narendranath Reddy, M.D.
Chairman, Prasanthi Council