

CONSIDER THE LILY

2025

ANNUAL  
REPORT



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# A MESSAGE FROM THE **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

## **CHANGE BRINGS GROWTH**

Reflecting back on 2025 brings so many different thoughts. It was such a time of transition and growth. Change always brings growth.

For the first time in the history of CtL, we finally had a full-time fundraiser — and not just anyone, the best at that, Josie Gardner. Having her in that role helped us hone in on what really matters for the girls and the growth of our homes. The timing was perfect, as it always is. The non-profit world is changing, donor relations are shifting, and we are right in step with it. We have always had such a faithful family of donors supporting us through the years, and now we can finally give them the attention they deserve.

We also chose to focus on the girls we already had during the transition of Josie stepping back from the Philippines and new leaders rising up in the homes. Looking back, we know it was the right call. It kept the home family-focused and Christ-centered, which is exactly what it has always been about.

We had so many victories in 2025 watching girls graduate and move out into the community. Many of them have become pillars in their local churches and leaders in their jobs. Just like in our own families — you raise your kids, pour everything into them, and then watch them leave the nest and spread their wings. That is exactly what we are doing in Manila. All those years of healing and renewing their spirits have given them wings to fly, and they are soaring high.

Looking forward into 2026, we see new sisters joining our family, new stories to learn and new hearts to hold. We are ready and we are willing to continue to change exploitation in the Philippines one girl at a time.

Thank you for being part of this family. None of this happens without you.

Hope Without Worry of Tomorrow,



Kim Hommel





Having a pool is such a blessing! We can use it year around and teaching the girls how to swim is so important physically and for their mental health.

# A LETTER FROM OUR HEAD OF EDUCATION



The year 2025 has been a remarkable journey for Consider the Lily Education — one defined by perseverance, determination, and hope. It has been a privilege to reconnect with and deeply know each girl as they navigated their unique challenges. Having been with the foundation for nearly ten years, I found this past year to be perhaps the most significant of my tenure overseeing our educational services.

My days are filled with a diverse range of responsibilities: from facilitating academic advisements and conducting wellness check-ins for both students and teachers, to visiting schools to coordinate college testing logistics. Whether I am assisting the girls with their academic credentials or meeting with professors and academic chairs to advocate for their success, I see God's hand in every detail. Even in the simplest moments — offering a word of encouragement or praying for them — it is a profound joy to serve the Lord, who loves these girls unfailingly.

I am truly overjoyed by this calling. Alongside my two sons, Harris and Hunter, the girls of CtL are my greatest inspiration. Their ability to persevere and remain humble and grateful despite the odds motivates me to stay excellent in my own God-given calling.

Reflecting on all of this, I am deeply humbled. We recognize that apart from Him, we have no good thing. It is only by the grace and mercy of God that we are able to serve His purpose through CtL Education.

Prepared by: Mrs. Leorey A. Merlan, LPT,  
CMHA  
Head of Educational Services



# OUR VISION AND MISSION

## Vision

Focusing on recovery, education, and love, we help each survivor realize her divine worth, personal potential, and the promise of future independence. Our long-term approach equips girls with the ability to become the leaders and problem-solvers that their community needs in order to stop the cycle of exploitation in the Philippines. Worldwide, we seek to provide hope without worry of tomorrow for every individual placed in our path.

## Mission

At Consider the Lily Foundation Philippines Inc., we focus on putting an end to human trafficking one person at a time — through prevention homes, rescuing children at risk of being sold, providing aftercare education programs, and bringing prosecution to those responsible through the justice system. We are committed to the long-term flourishing of every girl, walking with her from rescue through education, healing, and ultimately into a life of independence, purpose, and joy.





Nutritious food helps the mind and body grow and to be able to have three meals a day is a blessing!

# YEAR AT A GLANCE

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CTL HOMES

34

ALPAS FAMILY

23

AMARIS FAMILY

20

ACTIVE COURT  
CASES

30

CTL TEAM MEMBERS

## WHAT IS OUR ADMITTANCE PROCESS

### Our Heart Behind Admission

- Coming into our home is always a last resort — we believe every girl belongs with her family when it's safe to do so.
- When a girl does come to us, our goal is simple: wrap her in love, meet her basic needs, and give her a safe and secure place to heal.
- We welcome girls ages 3 to 17, including all-girl sibling groups so sisters can stay together.

### How a Girl Is Referred to Us

- Girls are referred to us through a variety of caring people and organizations, including:
  - Government social workers (DSWD), local agencies, police officers, and concerned community members
  - Private organizations and NGOs working in child welfare
- If a concerned parent or citizen reaches out directly, we help them get the right referral paperwork from their local government office.
- We do our best to respond quickly after a referral — and in urgent situations, we can welcome a girl right away if she needs immediate safety.
- If a girl's needs are beyond what we can provide, we connect her with another trusted agency that can help.

### Getting Ready for Admission

- Before a girl arrives, our Social Worker meets with the referring party to learn about her story and make sure we're the right fit.
- A final decision is typically made within 2 to 3 days — though we move faster when safety is urgent.
- We ask referring parties to bring whatever documents they have, such as:
  - A referral letter and social case study report
  - Birth records and any available medical or school records
  - Police or court documents if a legal case has been filed
  - A recent photo, if available

### Welcoming Her In

- Before she arrives, we prepare the girls already living in our home so everyone feels ready for a new friend and sister.
- Once she's here, our team — including our Executive Director, caregivers, and Social Workers — takes time to walk her through:
  - The house guidelines and what daily life looks like
  - The programs and services available to her
  - Who she can come to with questions or when she needs support
- We go at her pace. Every girl's first days look a little different, and that's okay.

# WHAT A GAP YEAR CAN DO

## ANGELICA'S LIFE DURING HER GAP YEAR

In 2025, I turned 18 and took a gap year. It was mostly chill, I got to do things I don't usually have time for, like painting. It became my "me time" whenever I had nothing else to do, no pressure, just me and my thoughts. I also took a two-week AutoCAD workshop to get a feel for design. I've wanted to pursue architecture since Grade 10, so I wanted a glimpse of what designing is like. It was short, but it really helped me and further affirmed the path I want to take. I even had time with the Head of Educational Services of CtL, Mrs. Leorey, who helped me prepare for college. We also had short classes and academic advisements.

Overall, my gap year was great. There were moments of uncertainty, but it helped me grow at my own pace. This year also became part of my walk with God. There were a lot of ups and downs, times when I felt lost, pressured, or unsure, but I learned to trust Him more through it all. At the end of the day, He's always there because He never left.



## JM'S FAVOR COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

In my Gap Year season, I entered Favor College without an expectant heart. I am not ready at all. I believe that it was God who called me here and if you know me you would probably think, "Wow, this is not you Jem!" That's true. All I knew when I entered Favor College was I was scared but I followed.

Being a student, serving in the ministry and having personal agendas had me really shaken, especially in faith. One memorable teaching I heard in Favor College was that being in this class is my training ground for the start of the race. God really showed me how important it is to rely on Him. I know entering Favor College was not in my strength to do but God is walking with me.

Favor College really stretches me spiritually, physically and even emotionally. But being in this ministry class really helped me love people more than before, serving with joy and being passionate in every ministry I was in.



# FUNDRAISING

Throughout 2025, God continued to open new doors for Consider the Lily. We were honored to participate in several missions conferences, church events, and fundraising gatherings across the United States and into Canada. Josie had the opportunity to represent the ministry at impactful events throughout Texas, Kansas, California, New York, Maryland, Alaska, and Camrose, Canada. As we faithfully prayed for expanded opportunities to share the mission of Consider the Lily, the Lord graciously connected us with new communities, churches, and supporters who embraced the vision and heart behind the ministry. These opportunities not only broadened awareness of our work in the Philippines, but also helped establish new meaningful relationships that will continue to strengthen and sustain the mission for years to come.

In May 2025, Consider the Lily was deeply encouraged and inspired by the incredible dedication of one of our ambassadors, Shelle Cox. After visiting the Philippines in April 2024 and spending time with our girls firsthand, Shelle returned home with a renewed passion for the mission of Consider the Lily. Reflecting on her experience, she shared, "I fell in love with the girls and everything that Consider the Lily stands for. I left the home's knowing I wanted to stay connected and involved as much as possible. Being an ambassador was an easy decision." What followed was far more than simply "staying connected." In May, Shelle opened her home five different evenings, hosting intimate gatherings of 6–12 guests each night. Through beautifully prepared meals, meaningful fellowship, and heartfelt conversations, she created welcoming spaces for others to learn about the mission and heartbeat behind Consider the Lily. Josie and Colby Gardner attended each gathering, where Josie shared her personal story and the inspiring beginnings of the ministry. These evenings became more than informational events — they cultivated new prayer partners, financial supporters, and lasting relationships that continue to bear fruit today.

Adding to the excitement of the week, Shelle and her husband, Larry, organized a one-of-a-kind community fundraiser: Pizzas, Pitchers & Puzzles. Guests from across the Kansas City area and beyond gathered for an afternoon filled with laughter, competition, and connection. Teams of three competed to complete 300-piece puzzles while enjoying live music, delicious food and drinks, and shopping opportunities featuring Alam Ko Jewelry and Consider the Lily merchandise. The atmosphere was vibrant and joyful, with prizes awarded to the top teams, including Kansas City Royals tickets and gift certificates to local businesses. As the evening came to a close, Josie and Colby shared more about the mission of Consider the Lily and the direct impact these funds would have on the lives of vulnerable girls in the Philippines. Through the generosity, creativity, and hospitality of Larry and Shelle Cox, this week of events not only raised support for the ministry but also strengthened a growing community of advocates committed to bringing hope and lasting change.



# Highlights of 2025

Biological Family Visits



Children's Month



Summer Camp



Bali Art Seminar



Reunification



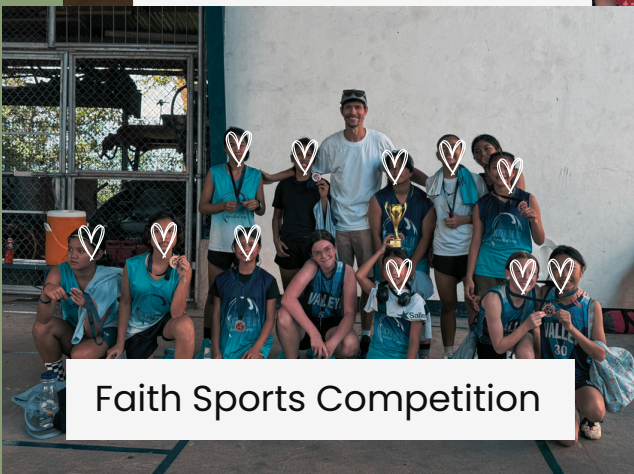
Board Member Meeting



Freedom Camp



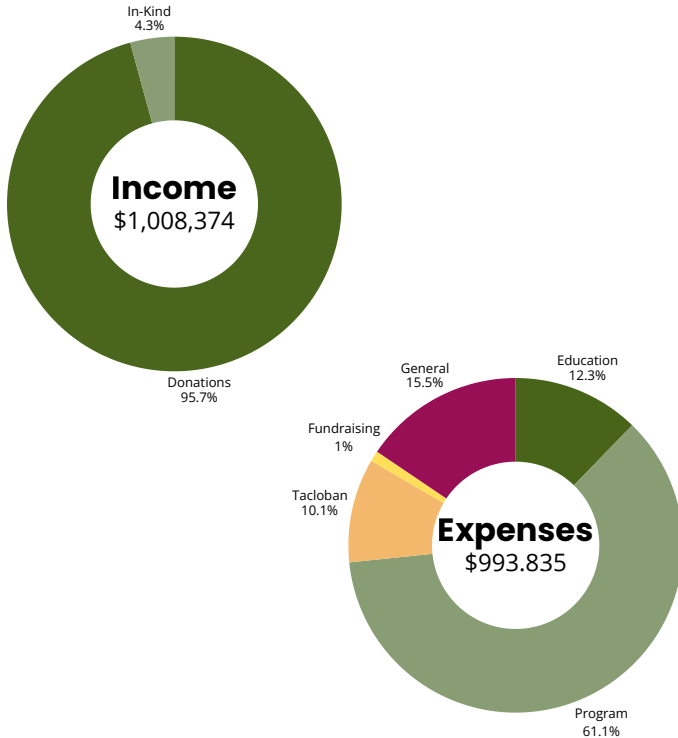
Faith Sports Competition



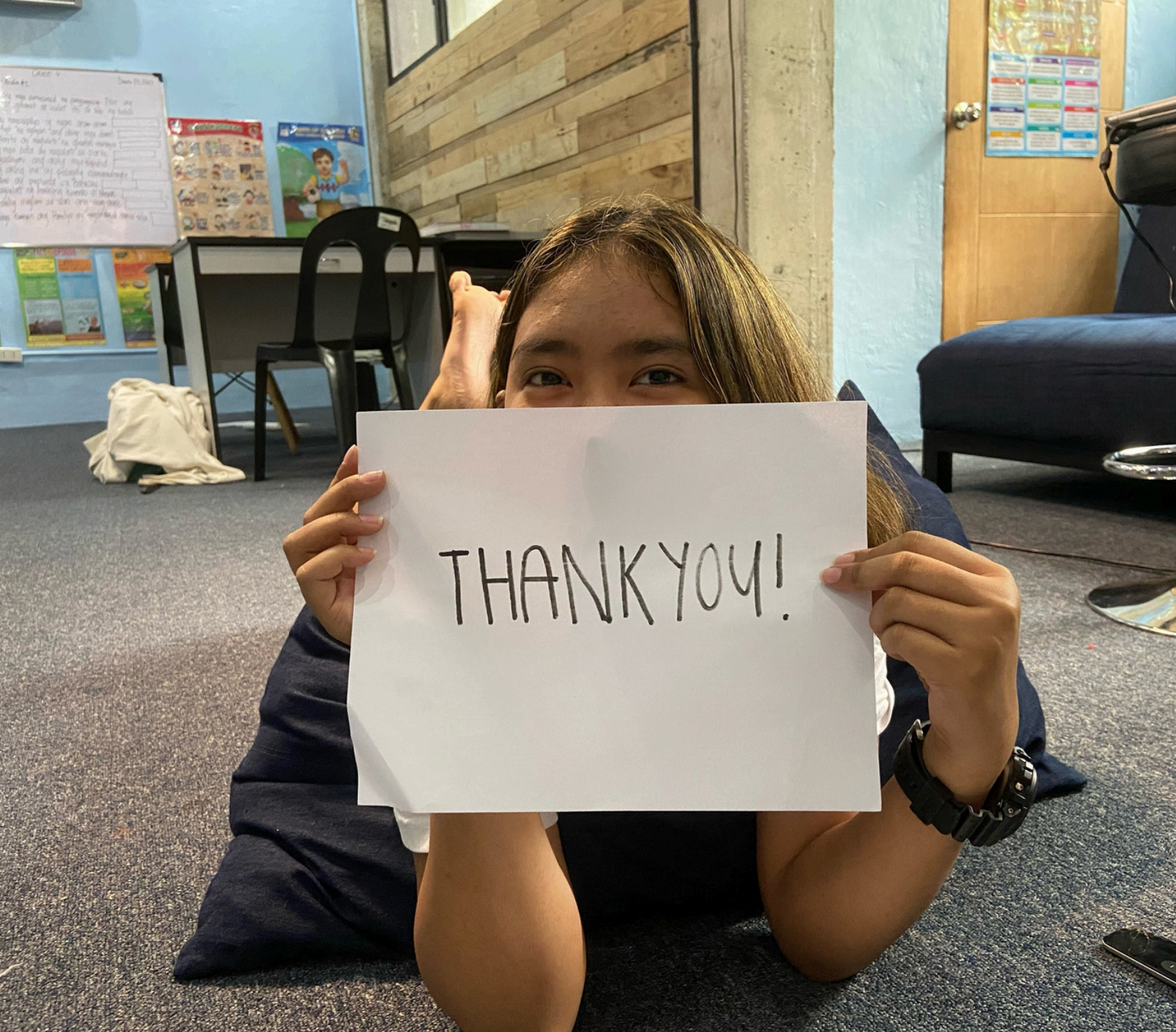
Homeschool Spiritual Retreat



# 2025 FINANCIALS



Donations and Revenue		2024 TOTAL	2025 TOTAL
	Donations	\$496,180	\$685,960
	Grants	\$271,036	\$159,529
	Alam Ko Jewelry	\$19,008	\$9,092
	Fundraisers	\$36,328	\$110,901
	In Kind Donations		\$42,892
<b>Donations and Revenue Total</b>		<b>\$822,552</b>	<b>\$1,008,374</b>
Expenses		2024 TOTAL	2025 TOTAL
<b>Program Services</b>			
	Training & Education	\$125,000	\$121,870
	Aftercare	\$654,180	\$607,330
	Payment to Tacloban		\$100,000
	<b>Program Serv Total</b>	<b>\$779,180</b>	<b>\$829,200</b>
<b>Supporting Activities</b>			
	Fundraising	\$13,405	\$10,172
	General & Admin	\$187,736	\$154,462
	<b>Supporting Act Total</b>	<b>\$201,141</b>	<b>\$164,643</b>
<b>Expenses Total</b>		<b>\$980,321</b>	<b>\$993,835</b>



## Consider the Lily, Inc

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