

Newsletter Kito ODV

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Want to find out how KITO is fighting malnutrition among children?



Dear friends of **KITO**!

Education and nutrition are closely linked, and the **School Feeding** project promoted by **KITO** on the island of **Mindoro** is proving how a healthy meal can make a difference in a child's life.

The Challenge of Child Malnutrition

Malnutrition is one of the main causes of physical and cognitive development delays among children in the Philippines. According to UNICEF, about **30%** of Filipino children under the age of five **suffer from malnutrition** due to a diet **lacking essential nutrients**.



A Step Forward for Child Nutrition

Launched in 2023 as an evolution of the **Kids Feeding** programme, the **School Feeding** project provides daily nutritious meals to approximately **350 Mangyan children** in rural schools in **Lantuyang** and **Adong**.

Each week, **more than 1,000 meals** are distributed, ensuring that children have the energy needed to face their school day.

School attendance has increased significantly:
In 2024, student participation rose from **30% in Adong** to **60% in Lantuyang**, improving their educational journey.



A Project That Supports the Community

The programme actively involves the local community. **Six mothers** are employed to prepare and distribute meals, receiving compensation for their work.



Why Good Nutrition Is Essential

Malnutrition does not only affect physical health but also has profound consequences on educational and social development. The benefits of adequate nutrition include:

- Improvement on **memory, concentration, and learning ability.**
- Greater classroom **attention**
- **Prevention** of learning disorders
- Strength of the **immune system**



The **School Feeding** project is made possible thanks to the collaboration of **KITO ODV**, with **teachers, parent-teacher associations, the Department of Education (DepEd)**, and the **village chief**. Moreover, the support received from **OPM Chiesa Valdese** has allowed this crucial initiative to continue for the future of Mangyan children.

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Thank you for your time,

Paola Vecchiato

*Founder and President of **Kito Odv***



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