

# Rehoboth Sampaloc Ministries – Philippines

“... For now the Lord has made room for us ...” Genesis 26:22

*I believe that it's important to remind Siloam friends and ministry investors, of the importance of supporting Rehoboth Sampaloc Ministries in the Philippines. But, before you read the heart-warming account of 20-year-old Lea Walters, a former rescued child, I would like Siloam's 537 Rehoboth investors to look back and reflect on what their former commitment for Siloam's project: 006 has actually achieved. Lea Walters is only one of many such previous children helped.*

*The Rehoboth Children's Home at Tanay was the original inspiration and vision of Mr & Mrs Morriss, an Australian couple who founded this children's rescue centre back in 2001. Siloam has partnered with Rehoboth since 2012 and in the last four years alone has invested more than £52,000 in the vulnerable children this home provides a safe environment for. Read on, if you want to be encouraged by Lea Walter's account of her remarkable upbringing for which Rehoboth and its partners, including Siloam's investors, played a pivotal role. Please open your heart ... I want you to be inspired and feel a vital part of this ongoing young life-saving ministry.*

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*Dear Siloam friends*

Summer 2024

## LEA'S STORY OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Many of us are familiar with TV programmes such as 'Long Lost Family' who seek to reunite children who have been adopted, with their birth parents. As someone who has had the experience of being adopted 'in part', I can understand from a personal point of view those who seek to know more about their birth parents. So, the following is an account which I feel I have to share with you after learning from a letter sent by Lea Walters, a young lady in her 20s now living a fulfilled life in Australia. This account really underscores the value of caring for children when they have seemingly been cast aside by their biological parents and then rescued by those who welcome them into their homes, bring them up and try to equip them to become useful citizens and fulfilled individuals.

Lea was rescued at the age of 3 / 4 months by the Social Services in the Philippines and brought to Rehoboth Children's Home where she was cared for by 'Mamas' who made sure that she was properly fed and looked after in every way. Her name and profile was put on a special list and her adoptive parents were screened by the Social Services before allowing her to be taken from Rehoboth. She was just 3 years old when she was actually adopted but Lea doesn't really remember much of what happened, it's very much a blur and she wishes she could remember more. She does however recall the kindness of all the 'Mamas' that cared for her and made her feel that she really belonged. Lea is really grateful to all the staff at Rehoboth whom she feels played a major part in her life today.

When Lea came to Australia, she thought initially that it was just an exciting new trip with just different people who were going to look after her. She remembered she really wanted to have a sister rather than a brother but instead she ended up with 2 brothers who definitely showed her who was boss! But, Lea loved playing with them and later she realised how valuable these dear brothers were and she enjoyed becoming the best little sister she could ever be! But, growing up and knowing that she was adopted made Lea feel like she didn't really belong and she would often come alongside her

Lea Walters when she first went to live with her 'forever family' in Australia.



Growing up with two active brothers was challenging at times but they all came to love each other as time went on.

*Read more over the page* ➡



## Siloam Christian Ministries

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*Now in her early 20s, Lea is confident in who she is and has found a fulfilling role in life caring for young children.*



reflected in the continuing financial support Siloam provides for children like Lea at Rehoboth every month. Please continue to support us so that we in turn can empower the Rehoboth Children's Home in the Philippines to rescue more babies and provide 'forever homes' where children can continue to thrive and develop into useful and positive members of society who will go on to rescue others from an uncertain fate.

Thank you for caring.

Richard Norton  
Director-Siloam UK



**P.S. Before you put this account to one side, I want to challenge you to consider what you could do to help another desperate young life that will surely be rescued by Rehoboth in the coming days. So, our response form will provide space for you to tell us should you wish to make an investment in a rescued child by enclosing your valued contribution in our 'Freepost' envelope (enclosed) or, request a Bank Mandate Standing Order form so you could invest in this ministry, monthly, quarterly or whenever you feel you could share with Siloam to empower Rehoboth Sampaloc Ministries to continue to rescue vulnerable children in the Philippines.**

adoptive mother and give her a big hug who would in turn provide her with the reassurance of who she was and Lea later acknowledged that she was different but not so different! Lea began to read books by Todd Parr called 'The Family Book' which made her feel more confident in who she was and Lea also accepted that God had a definite plan for her life. As Lea entered adulthood, she chose to start her life working in early childhood education, here she could teach, help and develop the children in her care with real personal empathy.

Seeing and meeting other children who were adopted made her feel like she 'belonged' somewhere and the adoption family camps that her adoptive family would go on made her feel much more connected and this helped her to understand that there are many other people just like her. Sadly, Lea doesn't remember any of her native language (Tagalog) but she is working on this and trying to learn.

Lea knows that some people reading this may have also been adopted and possibly struggling with learning to feel 'belonged' so sharing this story will no doubt be an encouragement to them. Lea believes that it's important that you realise you are not alone on this journey of life and thanks to the wonderful 'Mamas' who cared for Lea and other children for a time at Rehoboth, will each come to love them and respect them for all the wonderful things that they taught the children when they were growing up. Lea says, "All our amazing adoptive parents who chose us and loved us more than we could ever possibly imagine, we love you so much even though we don't say it so often. We do thank you for holding us when we felt alone and we thank you too for the reassurance of knowing who we are and telling us that God loves us as a Father more than any of us could ever possibly know."

Lea was actually rescued from her desperate plight when her biological mother was only 14 years old when she gave birth to her. So there was no way that Lea's biological mother could have ever cared for her. It's only because of the quick thinking of the caring staff in the Filipino Social Services that Lea had the opportunity to flourish and thrive with Rehoboth before being matched with appropriate adoptive parents who welcomed Lea into their family.

As a footnote, we are also pleased to advise you that Lea's biological mother is currently 'a friend' through Social Media with Lea's adoptive parents so maybe one day, Lea will have the opportunity of meeting her biological mother in the flesh.

This story is positive because there are organisations like Rehoboth Children's Home in the Philippines who strive to rescue young babies and provide the initial support they deserve to live and thrive. For those that donate to Rehoboth through Siloam Christian Ministries you will no doubt be encouraged by this positive story which is

Rehoboth is currently caring for 21 children in Tanay,  
about a two-hour's drive away from the capital Manila.



To find out more about Rehoboth Sampaloc Ministries, please go to our website: [www.siloam.org.uk](http://www.siloam.org.uk) and scroll down to project: 006 to see what your one-off or your regular investment could really achieve.

And / or, if you would like to receive a copy of Ailyn M Canlas' 7-page latest accomplishment report then tick the ☐ on our response form before you return it to Siloam together with your initial investment or your BMSO request. – Thank you so much.

**Please make all your donations payable to 'Siloam Christian Ministries'**

**Please consider donating your investment via a simple bank transfer – email us for details at [info@siloam.org.uk](mailto:info@siloam.org.uk)**

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