

Dear friends,

As you very well know, metro manila and the nearby provinces was hit by a typhoon beginning saturday. This cause a lot of flooding which basically affected 80% of metro manila and some of them up to now have been submerged in flood waters. For six hours of heavy rain, the amount of rainfall that was generated is equivalent to a month of rainfall already according the weather bureau and to think that it is only signal number 1. This is unprecedented, the first time that it happen like this was way back in 1967. Official report from the National Disaster Coordinating Council put the death toll at around 100, but they themselves admit that there are a lot more deaths that have yet been officially recorded and furthermore hundreds are still missing. The whole of metro manila and 23 other provinces are declared in a state of calamity and around 300,000 families were affected.

Some of our members including that of the APL, have been affected by the typhoon, in areas in San Mateo Rizal, Marikina City, Valenzuela and Bagong Silangan in Quezon City. To those who have been in the daycare center in Bagong Silangan, the daycare center was not spared and the floodwater came to the level of the window of the daycare center. Fortunately in that area, no one from among our members were killed but most of them have lost their belongings. However, in that area 26 were confirmed dead and 40 were still missing as of yesterday (sunday)

However, KAMAO and TESEF members are not as fortunate since 7 of them are dead and 29 are still missing in the area of San Mateo Rizal, Valenzuela and Marikina City.

Yesterday and today we have been giving relief goods such as food and dry clothing. Akbayan is also doing relief work in Malabon, Rizal, Marikina, Pasig, Antipolo and Muntinlupa City.

Thank you very much.

In solidarity,

Rey Rasing  
LEARN Director