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ChildFund responds to Philippines typhoon

RICHMOND, Va. (Dec. 7, 2014) – ChildFund International is on the ground in the Philippines assessing the damage and impact from Typhoon Hagupit, which hit areas yet to recover from Haiyan, the most powerful storm at landfall ever recorded, just over a year ago.

"Let's prepare for everything," President Benigno Aquino told a nationally televised meeting of disaster agency chiefs after hearing warnings of giant storm surges and house-destroying winds. In Tacloban, one of the cities worst-hit by Haiyan, some residents began evacuating from vulnerable coastal areas well ahead of Hagupit's expected arrival, while others emptied supermarket shelves of essential supplies.

"Our teams are on the ground to conduct assessments of the damage," said Katherine Manik, country director for ChildFund Philippines. "It's challenging because of the communications outage in many of the hardest-hit areas, but we know there is a great need for support."

The short-term goal is to provide for the immediate needs of those impacted. "Our local partner organizations will get food, water and basic household items to those in need," Manik said. "We're also providing child protection, including psychosocial support and safe spaces for children."

ChildFund, which has worked in the Philippines for more than 40 years and was a key responder in the aftermath of Haiyan, is working closely with its local partners and the government to respond and support those in need, especially children. To make a donation to our emergency fund, which keeps us ready to respond to disasters like Hagupit, please visit

<http://www.childfund.org/emergencydonations/>

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About ChildFund

ChildFund International is a global child development and protection agency serving more than 18.2 million children and family members in 30 countries. For 76 years, we have helped the world's deprived, excluded and vulnerable children survive and thrive to reach their full potential and become leaders of enduring change. As a member of ChildFund Alliance, we create supportive environments in which children can flourish. For more information about ChildFund, visit www.ChildFund.org.