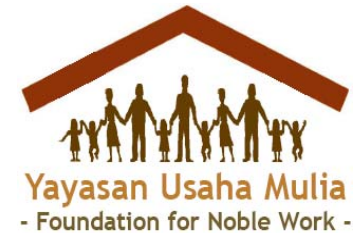


Beneficiary testimonials



Widow succeeds in putting children through school with YUM support

Cipanas, West Java – Linda, a mother of two, was widowed in 2008 after her husband's struggle with diabetes ended. She was suddenly the sole provider and caregiver for their two children, ages ten and thirteen. Linda opened a small shop in front of her home, in hopes of providing for her family. Earning about \$30 per month, Linda struggles to afford basic food needs for her family, often having to ask help from her own father who sells vegetables at the local market.

Linda dreams of a better life for her children. She believes an education is the gateway which will fulfill this dream. Linda did not know how she could afford to send her children to school, as uniform and education expenses far exceeded her income.

Linda was approached by the Project Manager of Cipanas YUM Village, a community center in West Java. Linda was offered a scholarship, which would cover uniform and educational expenses, for her 13-year-old son, Muhammad Rifky.

Today, three years later, Rifky is in 7th grade and has now been accepted to one of the best schools in the Cipanas area. He enjoys studying, especially math, and is one of the top students. "Rifky is so much more motivated now. He loves going to the Cipanas YUM Village every day to read books at the library and participate in the English and Computer classes at the YUM Vocational Training Center," Linda says.

Rifky's older sister will be graduating from high school in two years. She loves school and wishes to study chemistry at a national university in Bogor. "I am positive that if she works hard, she will also find a scholarship to go to university," says Linda.

YUM shares in the dreams of the Indonesian people: Good education for Linda's children.

Health

"In the name of the communities of Sub-District Bukit Batu, I would like to thank YUM for all the work it has done, especially for the Health projects. With the aid from YUM the community's health and wellbeing has dramatically improved. I hope that the communities will use and sustain the aid YUM has so kindly provided."

Dr. Joni Waria, District Head of Bukit Batu

Sanitation

"Before I did the health training with YUM, we would dispose of our [human] waste in the river. Now that I am aware of the health concerns, we immediately constructed this toilet."

Ibu Dedah, Harbaring Hurung village

Malaria Control

"I am very happy to use the mosquito nets that we received through our collaboration with YUM. The reduce the number of mosquitoes and prevent malaria. Everyone in the village received nets. It has been very useful to lower the number of mosquitoes."

Ibu Mgambun, Tangkiling village

Clean Water

"Before we had the clean water network installed by YUM, we had so much difficulties obtaining water!! Because there are a lot of stones in the ground, we couldn't get water. We had to constantly ask for water from our neighbors who had drilled wells."

Ibu Nurmiatun, Banturung village

Community Development

"During my internship at the YUM Village, I felt very happy because I was received so well by everyone. I really enjoyed my stay here because the place is clean and everyone here is very friendly. During my stay, I learned a lot especially in the field of organic agriculture, because this is new for me. I also learned a lot about discipline and how precious time is. In addition, I also acquired job seeking skills that I had previously never imagined receiving. All in all, there were many benefits that I got from the YUM Village and I think this place is different from the other internship places. Hopefully the YUM Village will further develop the organic farm because this method is still very rare in Cianjur."

Lulu Khoirul Anwar - 19 years old

High School trainee from the Farming Secondary School of Cianjur (SPMAN Cianjur)

"After the training with YUM, I will share my knowledge with my community."

Ibu Ratni and Ibu Eni, Tangkiling village

Microcredit

"My children have been invited and encouraged to participate in the many creative activities at the centre. This is great, as for so long my children did not play recreational games after the Tsunami. The Microcredit Program is by far, the most beneficial for me. With the capital lent, I have been able to re-start my sewing workshop!"

Mardiah, beneficiary of Microcredit for Women, Centre for Child and Family Welfare (CCFW), Aceh

Education

"I am the third of five children. My parents work as janitors in villas owned by residents of Jakarta. I stopped going to school for one year after graduating from junior high school because we did not have money and now I am feeling very happy, touched, proud, all mixed together because I am able to go to high school with the help of YUM. In my family, I am the only one who can attend high school. I am determined to keep my spirits high until I finish high school no matter what happens. Because for me this is a golden opportunity to be able to change the economic condition of my family. In the future, I want to be a teacher. Thank you YUM!"

Neneng Mulyanah - 16 years old

Recipient of the bridging program funded by the Indonesian Ministry of Social Affairs - SMA Cokroaminoto, Sukaresmi Cianjur

Vocational Training Centre

"I am proud and grateful to have the opportunity to study at the Vocational Training Centre in Cipanas. The classes and material given are extremely useful and have made me feel confident to go out and compete in the working world later. I salute the VTC for offering this to us children, who otherwise cannot afford to have such an opportunity."

Luthfia Nurul, Final-year student at Technical High School, West Java

About Yayasan Usaha Mulia (YUM)

Yayasan Usaha Mulia (YUM), "Foundation for Noble Work", has been working in Indonesia since 1975 to improve the quality of life for the country's poor, through its integrated, holistic programs in Health, Education, and Community Development. YUM is a registered charity in Indonesia and is a member of the Susila Dharma International Association, which has consultative status with the UN Economic Council and the UN Children's Fund. YUM is a pre-qualified NGO of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and YUM's annual reports are lodged at the US Library of Congress.

For a video on YUM's work in Central Kalimantan: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CHBz2YKqiFo>

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