

Sally Low, 55 years

Location: Mission to Manado, North Sulawesi, Indonesia.

Mission: To help build transitional homes with CHARIS

Duration: 5 days

Takeaways

Before our trip, Manado was an unknown place and this feeling was well expressed by fellow member, Gaius Lee, who said, “I have never heard of Manado until this trip and God gave me the opportunity to visit another of His creations”.

The mission site was in the remote village which was an hour’s journey from our hotel. Despite our initial apprehension, we managed to complete the house construction quite quickly, working alongside our village host and neighbours. The local villagers were probably surprised that city-folk people like us had such difficulty in doing manual tasks!

Most of all, we were touched by the simplicity of the villagers’ lives in their “kampong” environment - the happy laughter of children playing in the mud and in the rain gave us a surreal feeling of being far, far away from the maddening crowds and din of city life.

The journey to Manado was an eye opener for all of us. For me personally, it was indeed a journey of self discovery, of knowing that God created each of us differently for His glory and of learning to accept one another, regardless of race or creed. Simplicity is ‘beauty’ and the world is indeed one Global Village after all.

