

# Aesculapius Ex



Plano, Texas, U.S.A.

Newsletter of the UERMMMCA Alumni Foundation USA, Inc.

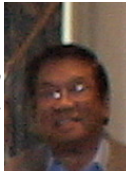
Special Bulletin, November 20, 2009

## Post-Ondoy, AFUSA creates Disaster Relief Fund



### Querubin appeals for alumni donation

*Typhoon Ondoy has caused a tremendous deluge in our country leaving thousands of Filipinos homeless. Four more Typhoons hit our country, particularly Luzon, in a span of five weeks causing catastrophic damages along its trail. These events did not spare the UERMMMCA and the Hospital. The structural damages of the hospital allowed it not to service indigent patients for a while due to the closure of the OPD, ER and several outreach clinics.*



*In behalf of the UERMMMCA Alumni Foundation USA, Inc. I appeal to all of you to extend your monetary assistance or whatever resources you have to support the ongoing UERM Disaster Relief Fund. This is the time that we can make ourselves relevant to the lives of those who are in pain and are suffering. Help us bring back hope in their time of need and their utter sense of loss.*

*You may send your contributions to:*

1. UERMMMCA Alumni Foundation, USA, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2154  
Bedford Park, IL 60499-2154
2. Elmer Gilo, MD  
Treasurer, UERM Alumni Foundation, USA, Inc.  
2 Deer Run  
Sparta, NJ 07871
3. Online through the foundation website  
<http://www.uermfusa.com>

*Thank you very much!*

*Renato Querubin, M.D.  
Chairman, UERMMMCA FUSA, Inc.*

# More pictures



*Defending against the Dario river at its crest often is futile. It cries out for a long-term solution!*



*Water mark on the wall shows depth of floodwater, submerging the entire 1st floor of the hospital & psych ward.*



*The ER dries up to begin again to serve the public just like the out-patient and community services across the street, doing much with so little.*



*Dr. Benjamin Policarpio's office shingle brought down but not washed away, indeed, like he has always been: resilient, undaunted, ever loyal!*

## Divinagracia lists Center's response to calamity

UERMMM President and Executive Director Dr. Romeo Divinagracia in a report to alumni early last month detailed the damages sustained by the Center from last September's typhoon Ondoy. The ground floors at both the south and north campuses took in massive amount of water putting out of commission the ER, GI lab, dietary services, infirmary and interns and residents' quarters in the former and the OPD gymnasium, administrative offices, nursing skills lab, amphitheater and PT training center in the latter. Classes and hospital services were suspended for 10 days as cleanup efforts were underway with the help of local fire departments and community volunteers. Fortunately, the Center sustained no fatalities.

Despite all these, on October 1-3, faculty, medical and nursing students including interns and residents participated in an emergency medical and humanitarian mission dubbed "Libreng Gamutan sa UERM" serving some 400 patients from the nearby Barangay Imelda.

Classes resumed last October 5 and out-patient services on October 12. A thanksgiving mass was held on October 2 and a general assembly convened on the 21st to return the school to its normal operations.

## Alumni donate \$21,000

UERMM alumni responded generously to pleas for help from the medical center beginning with a donation of about \$11,000 in early October by the alumni association and individual alumni followed by the alumni foundation's contribution of \$10,000. These would be used primarily for medical and humanitarian relief and some for restoration of facilities directly affecting the education of students. Some classes are reportedly doing their own fundraising efforts for directed emergency needs. Late last month, the alumni foundation created a Disaster Relief Fund under its community service program so far raising about \$40,000 for this and future disaster needs.