



Tim Lee

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Location: Philippines



What I do: Improving the lives of families living in poverty in the Philippines by supporting Jigsaw Kids to become a sustainable organisation



Empowering people pushed to the edges of life to release their God-given potential

Dear friends,

Thank you so much for your ongoing love, prayers and support for me as a CMS mission partner and the work and ministry of Jigsaw. There is so much to tell you about as Jigsaw continues to share God's love through eight children and family centres, and it is our privilege to update you on what's happening at Jigsaw and in our family.

New literacy centre

Jigsaw has opened its second literacy centre, where children can learn to read and write from age four and gain solid literacy and numeracy skills, building independence and hope for the future. Our teachers love their work and are excited by the transformation learning brings.



I enjoyed spending time with the intermediate reading class

Jigsaw's kindergarten project – bringing Jesus and early years education to the edges

One of the most serious challenges facing kids in poverty is the lack of access to quality early childhood education (ages 3–6/kindergarten). In the poorest communities, not even one in 20 children has access to early years education.

Over the next year, our vision is to start eight kindergarten clubs in areas of extreme poverty in Metro Manila. We aim to reach 300 families over the next three years, providing opportunities for learning, safety and play for early years age children. Strong early years education gives children the foundation they need to grow, learn and access better opportunities in the future.

My wife, Kate, is an early years education specialist. We are planning for her to train Jigsaw staff, develop the curriculum and organise resources for the kindergarten clubs, and start the clubs in January 2026. Kate and I will travel to the Philippines to start the project in July/August this year.

CMS visit to Jigsaw April 2025

In April this year, Jigsaw was very happy to welcome CMS managers for a visit. It was such an encouraging and empowering time for the whole Jigsaw team: sharing about the work, being prayed for and building relationships with CMS.

Angeles building project: new children and family centre

Jigsaw's Angeles building project is one of the most important projects in Jigsaw's history. The project will see a new children's centre established in the heart of the red light district, sharing God's life-changing love and bringing light into this place of extreme darkness for generations to come. Please pray for straight paths as the project continues.

Support Tim Lee:
churchmissionsociety.org/timlee

**With Jesus
With each other
To the edges**



Everything was in place to begin Jigsaw's two-phase building project right after Easter: God had miraculously provided the land, funding for phase 1, building plans from a UK architect and an experienced builder. But shortly before the project was due to begin, the builder had to withdraw due to urgent family matters. In the Philippines, finding a skilled and reliable builder isn't easy, and we were left feeling disheartened. While visiting a local church, we prayed fervently for a solution, and God answered. The very next day, Jeannette (Jigsaw Philippines director) remembered two men who had been in an orphanage connected to Jigsaw as children. One had trained as an architect, the other as a builder, and now in their 30s, they had started their own construction company

together. Trusted contacts at the orphanage confirmed their excellent reputation. Since then, their company has completed a land survey and submitted an updated building plan. When I return to Manila in three weeks, we'll meet with the board, leadership team and builders to finalise details and pray for the project's swift start.

Amazingly, these men – whom Kate and I met years ago as children in the orphanage – are even better equipped for the job. How incredible is God's timing and provision!

Family updates

Thank you all so much for your prayers for our family. Our whole extended family and friends had a wonderful time at Rebekah's church wedding and reception in May, it was such a wonderful celebration and time of God. We are overjoyed too that Rebekah graduated her master's degree and is now looking for jobs, and that James is doing well and graduated his degree and masters with a first. He is starting a short internship over the summer with Norfolk Broads counting flora and fauna and looking for a longer term job after that. After Rebekah's wedding he enjoyed a two-week road trip to the Alps with friends. Praise God Grace enjoyed and passed her first year of uni and is looking forward to a holiday with friends at Spring Harvest France. Kate and I are doing well although Kate is finding her school quite challenging, so prayers for her job are much appreciated. Thank you again for all your powerful prayers for our family.

Thank you everyone for your support, and we praise God for all he is doing in his mission of love and new life for children and families living in extreme poverty in Metro Manila, Philippines.

Best wishes,

Tim and the Jigsaw team

Prayers

- Please pray for Tim and Kate's trip to Jigsaw 20 July–14 August. Please pray for safe travel, for wisdom, energy and guidance for Kate in leading the training and development of the new Jigsaw kindergarten project. Pray for wisdom, energy, guidance and strength for Tim in leading the new Jigsaw children's building project and the strategic development of Jigsaw.
- Please pray for new staff members needed in Jigsaw: for a new children with disabilities manager, an education programme manager, four Christian social workers and a much-needed manager for Jigsaw UK.
- Please pray for Jigsaw's new children and family building project in Angeles; for the two new builders and their team. For protection and straight paths that the building project will go ahead in strength and the new Jigsaw children centre will be completed well.



Photo: Jigsaw's kindergarten project: bringing Christ and child to the centre; my visitors and I received a warm welcome from the children at Accibal kids' club; worshipping and praising God with children; visiting children connected to Jigsaw's children with disabilities ministry



Empowering people pushed to the edges of life

I've been encouraged to hear recent mission stories from around my wider area of work. In Ukraine, families are being assured they are not alone amid the hardship of war, and my colleagues in Paraguay have seen a young man overcome challenges to learn academically and spiritually. Read more at churchmissionsociety.org/empower