

## WORLD: Stouffville Road organizations in Philippines Missions at work in flood zone

Tropical storm Washi's flash floods have killed more than 1,000 people in the Philippines and left thousands of families homeless, according to Emmanuel International.

The Whitchurch-Stouffville-based organization has responded by providing food, water, shelter and necessary supplies to families suffering from this disaster.

There is also the concern of possible outbreaks of disease among the thousands living in evacuation centres as homes, businesses and possessions have washed away, according to Richard McGowan, director of Emmanuel International Canada.

Emmanuel International is an interdenominational, evangelical agency that assists communities worldwide through the agency of their local churches to meet the needs of the poor from its Stouffville Road headquarters.

The organization has been working in the Philippines for more than 30 years in relief, rehabilitation, sustainable development and Christian ministries.

cbm Canada, which is located across the road from Emmanuel International, is also at work in the area.

For more information, go to [www.eicana](http://www.eicana)

### Need 'overwhelming', cbm says

Another Whitchurch-Stouffville mission is asking for your prayers as it helps South East Asia recover from its latest natural disaster.

"The scale of the need in the Philippines is overwhelming," said Ed Epp, cbm Canada's executive director. "More than 674,000 people have been affected and thousands are at risk of disease that can cause disability or death."

Hundreds of thousands of Filipinos urgently need humanitarian aid after Tropical Storm Washi swept through Mindanao Island.

As people slept, more than a month's worth of rain fell in less than 12 hours.

Flash floods and landslides have left more than 1,000 dead, another missing and more than 327,000 displaced.

Philippines' President Benigno Aquino III declared a state of national calamity last week after visiting the hardest hit cities of Cagayan de Oro and Iligan at the north end of the island.

cbm's local partner, Philippine Service of Mercy Foundation, is based in Cagayan de Oro. It says hundreds of bodies have been fished out from the rivers and many people with disabilities have been swept away.

Medical relief supplies should contain items such as catheters, epilepsy and hypertension medication, hearing aids, glasses, crutches and walkers.

Thousands of Filipinos are crammed into overcrowded evacuation centres. Priority needs include clean water, sanitation and hygiene, temporary shelters and food.

Blankets, tarpaulins, water-purifiers and clothing are also urgently needed.

"cbm works to help prevent disabilities wherever possible and save, sustain and rebuild the lives of people with disabilities," Mr. Epp said. "Please pray for the thousands of people affected in the Philippines, for the rescue workers and cbm's partners."

To learn more, go to [www.cbmcanada.org/emergency](http://www.cbmcanada.org/emergency)

*with files from Sandra Bolan and Jim Mason*

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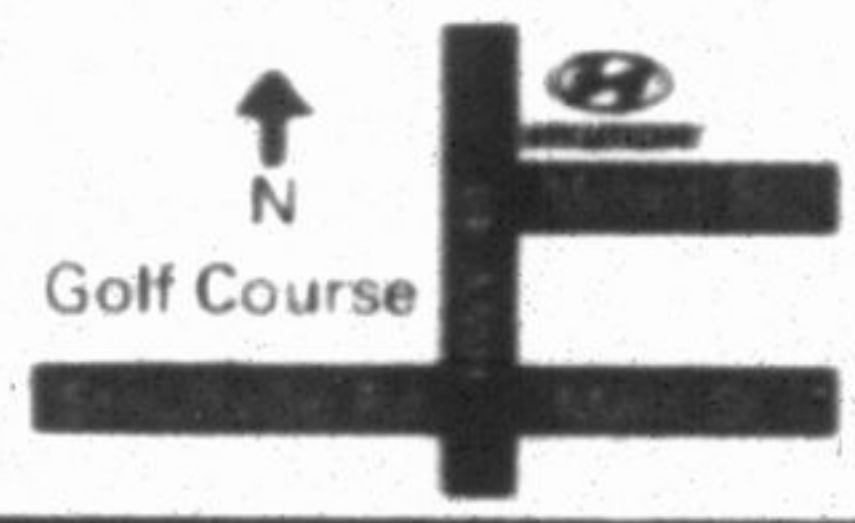
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