

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

JERRAMIAH T. HEALY
MAYOR



CITY HALL
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302
TEL:(201) 547-5200
FAX:(201) 547-4288

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Contact: Jennifer Morrill
Press Secretary
201-547-4836
201-376-0699

Mayor Healy & City Council Appeal to the Generosity of Jersey City Residents to Assist in Relief Efforts for Victims of Typhoon Washi in the Philippines

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy in conjunction with **At-Large Councilman Rolando Lavarro, Jr.** are reaching out to the Jersey City public to donate to the relief effort for the Philippines where the **Typhoon Washi** and **ensuing flash floods** have claimed the lives of more than 1,000 people in the island nation.

“We have a large and strong Filipino community in Jersey City and we know that this community, as well as the community at large, will come to the assistance of this greatly devastated area that is in dire need of our help,” said **Mayor Healy**. “The best way to help the people of the Philippines is to donate directly to an aid organization whose volunteers assess the needs on the grounds and purchase relief items in the affected region, thereby supporting the local economy.”

According to news reports, more than 338,000 people in 13 provinces were affected by the disaster and more than 10,000 houses were damaged by the typhoon and the flash floods. Many schools, roads and bridges were also badly damaged. Additionally, severe damage was done to the local crops, predominantly rice and corn.

“There are not enough words to express the sorrow that I and the entire community are feeling for the tragedy that has befallen our brothers and sisters in the Philippines,” said **Councilman Lavarro**. “Our thoughts and prayers go out to all those who perished and who are suffering from the devastation brought on by Sendong. I appeal for everyone’s compassion and generosity to donate whatever you can to help the victims who have lost everything and bring a ray of hope in their greatest hour of need.”

Checks can be made payable to American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. In order for these donations to directly benefit the Filipino people, **all memo lines on checks must include: “Philippines Typhoon Washi Relief 12/11.”**

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In addition to the American Red Cross, the Consulate General of the Philippines (New York) has provided the following information:

Handang Tumulong Foundation, Inc. (HTFI), New York

Contact person: Mrs. Nelsie Parrado, Chairperson

Handang Tumulong is a 501 c-3 charity (Tax ID: 27-1805860) and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by the law. You can make your donation payable to Handang Tumulong Foundation, and send to P.O. Box 2743 Fair Lawn, NJ 07410. HTFI is preparing to send its monetary help this week, and any new addition received will be forwarded to the appropriate group or charity in the Philippines. The HTFI is in touch with Xavier University in Cagayan de Oro City.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///