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Web solution for the Philippines?

On a visit to the Philippines Jay Plaza, who works for a teaching hospital in the United States, was struck by the poverty and social degradation he saw around him in the streets. [...] He set up HotCity Wireless, a non-profit organisation that supplies communities and schools with computers and free wireless internet connection. His goal is to provide underprivileged citizens in the Philippines with the information they need to make better decisions about their lives.

«The first time I arrived in Manila I saw a 10-year-old child scavenging for food in a dustbin. I was really surprised. Since then I’ve seen a lot of poverty and unrest in the Philippines. There is a huge lack of education. I read up on the problem and found that 45% of the country is living below the poverty line. [...]»

I began to believe that what underpinned all the social problems I could see in the Philippines was the lack of any meaningful education. [...]»

When I went back to the US, [...] I knocked on doors and asked friends to donate their used computers. Amazingly, a lot of people did. Laptops and old desktops were sent en masse to the Philippines where they were installed in learning centres, schools and even in some family homes. Of course, there’s still a need for more. So far only four schools have been awarded computers. One of the schools has 20 computers, another school has five. It’s not very much, but it’s better than nothing. [...]»

While poverty is still a problem, there is now more hope. I believe there is a transformation taking place: vulnerable minorities are turning into informed citizens capable of making decisions about their own lives.»