

# **GIVE LIFE FOUNDATION SEEKS U.S. SUPPORT FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF MARAWI**

**April 26, 2018**

Washington, D.C.—The Give Life Foundation announced today that it has joined with the Women’s Institute for Social Entrepreneurship (WISE), based in Manila, Philippines, to pursue U.S. support for the reconstruction of Marawi, which was destroyed by ISIS and regional Islamist terrorists.

Marawi, located on the island of Mindanao in the Philippines, was liberated by the Philippine government security forces in October, 2017, with the assistance of U.S. military forces, after a five-month siege, which left over one million persons displaced and vast sections of Marawi destroyed.

“We are delighted to join forces with the Give Life Foundation to launch the Marawi Peace Building Initiative as a community-based strategy for the rebuilding of Marawi,” said Natalie Lim Miranda, President of WISE. “We seek more than physical reconstruction. We seek a combination of national, regional, and local government and Maranao people working together to rebuild Marawi, to reduce marginalization and social alienation,” said Maria Lourdes A. Arcenas, the Chairperson Emirita of WISE.

“The Give Life Foundation, a Washington, D.C.-based non-profit organization, will seek major funding grants from the U.S. Government and other sources to support the reconstruction of Marawi,” said Bart S. Fisher, Chairman of the Give Life Foundation. “The Philippines is a vital strategic partner of the United States, and Give Life will do its best to alleviate the suffering of the people of the Philippines. We will develop a plan to rebuild Marawi with the University of the Philippines under the leadership of its President Danilo L. Concepcion and the Lanao del Sur local government. A particular focus will be affordable housing, which we will work on with our partner Omni Housing,” he said.

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