



ANNUAL REPORT 2017

DSWD: PARA SA MAMAMAYAN

Marangal at Makabuluhang
Paglilingkod sa Bayan, Handog
ng mga Manggagawang Panlipunan



THE COVER

Focuses on how the DSWD's services and programs are accessible not just to a few, but to everyone. We want to emphasize that the DSWD strives to make sure that everyone is included, and that no one is left behind.

VISION

The Department of Social Welfare and Development envisions all Filipinos free from hunger and poverty, have equal access to opportunities, enabled by a fair, just, and peaceful society.

MISSION

To lead in the formulation, implementation, and coordination of social welfare and development policies and programs for and with the poor.

CORE VALUES

The DSWD Core Values of Respect for Human Dignity, Integrity and Service Excellence:

*Maagap at Mapagkalingang Serbisyo
Serbisyong Walang Puwang sa Katiwalian
Patas na Pagtrato sa Komunidad*

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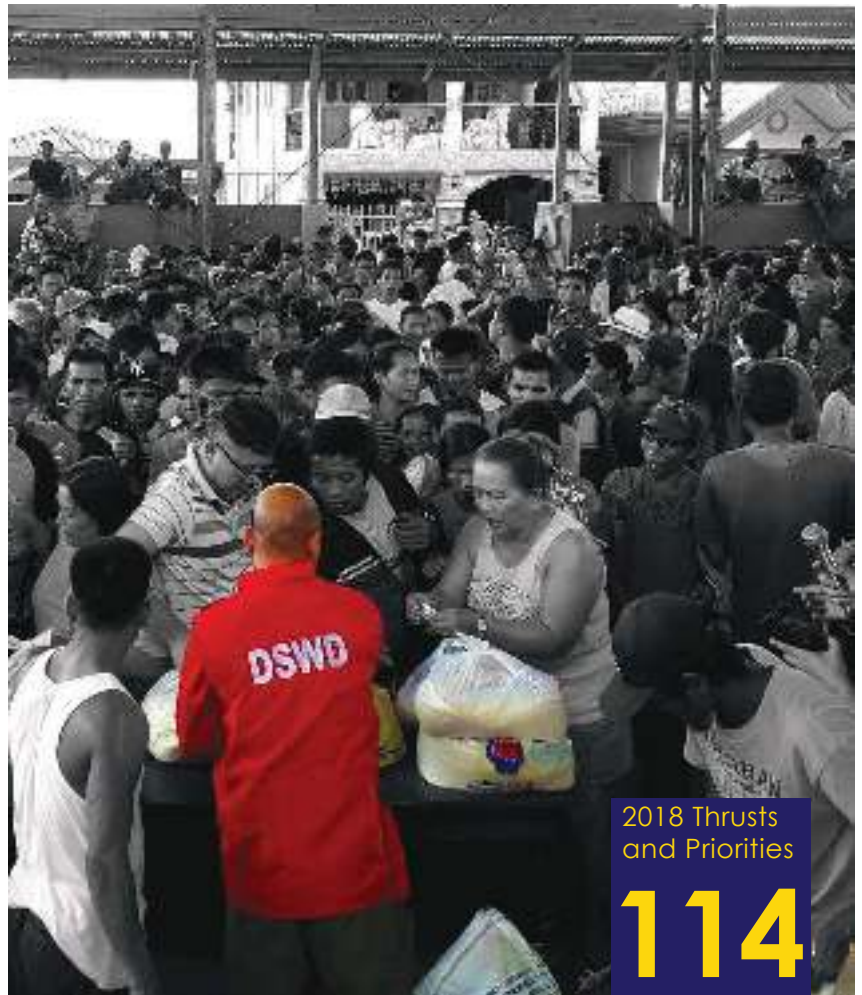
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MALACAÑAN PALACE

Manila

My warmest greetings to the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) as it publishes its 2017 Annual Report.

The Philippines has gone through immense transformation since the onset of our campaign for real and lasting change. Our efforts in establishing reforms are paying off because of diligent and active working arms of government such as the DSWD.

I admire the men and women of the department, including our social workers and volunteers, for a job well done. Your contributions to the success of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), the Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (KALAHI-CIDSS) and the Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan (P AMAN A) are truly remarkable.

I also note that the Disaster Response Operations, Social Pension and Supplemental Feeding Programs have uplifted thousands of Filipino families, especially during vulnerable times.

These are just a few of the many accomplishments of the department in the past years. We may have realized some of our goals, but there is still much work to be done. May this 2017 Annual Report inspire the men and women of the DSWD to continue serving our people with excellence, integrity and compassion. May you remain steadfast in promoting social welfare and development as we strive to free our institutions from the chains of dishonesty, greed and corruption.

I wish you more power in the years ahead.

Rodrigo Roa Duterte



Quezon City

To the Committed and Hardworking Women and Men of the DSWD,

It is with a measure of pride and honor that I present to you the 2017 Annual Report of our agency. The stories and reports included here are the result of the collective efforts of all our offices, bureaus, divisions, and field offices. They are narratives of hope and courage, and dedication to serve then poorest of the poor and those in need during times when they need help.

We live in a society wherein so much needs to be done to alleviate the poverty of millions. Daily, the DSWD does its share in helping Filipinos access much needed social welfare services, but we know all too well that what we do is far from being enough. As we help a hundred families, there are at least a thousand more in need of our assistance. It is a daily struggle for Filipinos to make ends meet and to fill the basic requirements of a decent and humane existence, and we have yet to make a more comprehensive impact by way of ensuring that the families we help become self-sufficient and independent.

We face many difficulties and challenges, and our limitations are also myriad; despite all these, however,

we should still take courage over the fact that we also remain committed to our duty to serve and to serve well. We will continue to utilize the resources of our agency for the good of the Filipino people, in service of their needs, and in furtherance of their goals to improve their lives and the lives of their vulnerable members. We will continue to respond as fast as we can during times of disaster and emergency, providing all assistance within our means and mandate to address the immediate needs of those affected.

And yes, we will continue to stand against corruption and irregularities in all their forms. We will remain true to the core values of DSWD: the Maagap at Mapagakalingang Serbisyo; Pantay na Pagtrato sa mga Komunidad; and Serbisyong Walang Puwang sa Katiwalian. We have made so much progress in our journey to strengthen the DSWD so it can be a better agency serving the Filipino people: we will not let anything get in the way of our commitment to serve.

Sincerely yours,

Emmanuel A. Leyco
EMMANUEL A. LEYCO
DSWD Officer in Charge

Continuing to Implement *Maagap at Mapagkalingang Serbisyo sa Mahihirap*

Under DSWD Officer-in-Charge Emmanuel A. Leyco, the department stayed loyal to the principles of *Maagap at Mapagkalingang Serbisyo*, and ensured that the DSWD services and programs were protected from corruption and against outside influence.

UCT Implementation

OIC Leyco led the agency's efforts to implement as quickly and as efficiently as possible the Duterte administration's Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT) scheme

which was intended to help the poor adjust to the new economic burdens that will be created by the imposition of the new Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) Law or Republic Act No 10963. OIC Leyco made sure that the mechanisms for the implementation of the UCT went smoothly, and that intended beneficiaries receive the P200 allocation without issue. The beneficiaries of the UCT were classified into three main categories: 4.4 million are members of the 4Ps program; 2.6 million are social pension senior citizen beneficiaries; and the remaining 3 million will be coming from the DSWD's *Listahanan*.

Marawi efforts

In November 2017 and onwards, DSWD ensured the provision of assistance for Filipino Muslims displaced by the government's war in Marawi. The DSWD adjusted its major welfare programs and their guidelines to meet the needs of Marawi people, primarily suspending the conditionalities of the 4Ps in Marawi City. The department continued its family development sessions in the war-torn city, but attendance to them was no longer a condition for the release of Pantawid Pamilya benefits to its members.

Conditionalities were also adjusted for the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP).

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Push for regularization

Among the most important actions that the DSWD did was to give full support for the campaign for the regularization of its contractual employees.

In OIC Leyco's speech in February 2018 during the 67th anniversary celebration of DSWD, he said that Contract-of-Service (COS) and Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) employees under projects should be regularized, as their work is not among "temporary interventions." He added that the projects of COS and MOA employees are not simply short-term interventions.

Poverty, disasters, and national emergencies, after all, always require the department's services.

The OIC emphasized that the DSWD's interventions are permanent – giving social protection and quick relief to Filipinos – and as such, the DSWD should always be ready to respond to their needs. Because of this, employees and officials of the DSWD should be regular employees.

The DSWD is among those with the most number of frontline workers who are under contractual employment arrangements. Only 10% of DSWD workers are permanent employees while 35% are casual

and contractual employees who have no job security but are given benefits like their regular employee counterparts.

In April, the DSWD submitted its 2019 budget proposal to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) with provisions for the creation of 12,000 plantilla positions.

In the said DSWD institutional budget proposal to the DBM, Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and Job Order (JO) workers' salaries shall be charged under Personnel Services instead of the usual Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE).

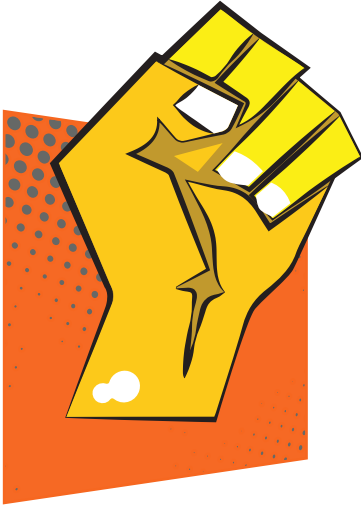
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Different faces
of workers



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Real compassion and service to the people

Raymond “Chen” dela Cruz, a budget officer of the Social Marketing Service (SMS) and a member of the Social Welfare Employees Association of the Philippines (SWEAP) has been with the DSWD for 16 years as a Contract of Service (COS) or under a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).

During the term of former Secretary Judy Taguiwalo, he witnessed the commitment of employees to the new leadership. His enthusiasm was then renewed and saw the importance of allegiance to the group of COS workers or the MOA Core Group within SWEAP members.

Dela Cruz believed in the sincerity of the new leadership to protect and promote the rights of the 30,000 DSWD employees. So, he actively took part in the Task Force MOA – a group formed as an improvement of the Collective Negotiations Agreement (CNA) between the management and SWEAP to address the pressing concerns of contractual employees: casual, MOA workers, and Job Orders (JO).

The creation of the Task Force MOA conforms to the breakthrough in the recent CNA where it recognizes the valuable contributions of MOA Workers, and JOs.

The Task Force MOA has greatly contributed in the improvement of the working conditions of the rank and file employees. *"Yung mga dating arawan ang sahod na JO na madalas matagpuan sa mga centers natin, ngayon MOA workers na. Ibig sabihin ang tatanggapin na nilang sahod ay naaayon na sa standard salary grade na mas mataas sa minimum. Hindi na rin sila magiging "no work, no pay" tuwing pyesta opisyal at makatatamasa sila kahit papaano ng mga*

benepisyong mula sa tagumpay ng pag-uunyon gaya ng pagtaas ng sahod, (Daily wage earners or JO employees who are mostly working in our centers have already been promoted to MOA workers status, which means their salaries are now based on the salary standardization law which is higher than the minimum wage. They are no longer subjected to "no work, no pay" on holidays, and will also be eligible to the benefits won by the union such as increase in salary)" Dela Cruz explained.

The said victory is just the start of their fight for JO workers. "It is only right just as most of them have been providing service to the department and its centers for more than five years now," SWEAP National President Manny Baclagon added.

The ten percent increase in salary or the Salary Standardization Law (SSL) of MOA workers was also released in January instead of October this year, an improvement appreciated by every MOA worker.

In an effort to recognize the valuable contributions of MOA and JO workers they took part in the 2017 PRAISE Awards along with regular employees, first time in the history of the agency who are mainly composed of MOA and JO workers.

Some of the other benefits earned by contractual employees this 2017 are the removal of the phrase, "No Employer-Employee Relationship" in the contracts of COS Workers, the Gratuity Pay, Petition on the BIR RMC130, and the P1000 Conditional Privileges and Year-End Incentive that was given in the second semester of 2017.

All benefits of employees stated on previous CNAs were also retained.

"These are meaningful reforms for contractual employees, yet they are still far from our goal to make every contractual employees into regular employees. However, this has helped us employees realize that meaningful change is achievable such as the right to a decent wage, job security and the right to organize, if we have solidarity in our actions," Baclagon said.

On April 23, 2018, the 2019 DSWD budget proposal was submitted by then Undersecretary Emmanuel Leyco to the Department of Budget and Management with provisions for the creation of 12,000 plantilla positions which will charge the salaries of MOA and JO workers under the Personnel Services instead of the usual Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses.

In the meantime, Dela Cruz continues his task at SWEAP in fighting for the needs of employees and in protecting the rights of both contractual and regular employees who make the delivery of service to the people possible.

Daily wage earners or JO employees who are mostly working in our centers have already been promoted to MOA workers status



Rosanel Pague: A social worker going above and beyond

Miss Rosanel Dingal Pague, 41 and a resident of Balulang, Cagayan de Oro City, brings a special mix of dedication, care, professionalism, and positive values in serving the clients of DSWD Field Office X.

Miss Pague, as the center head of the Regional Studies Center for Children of DSWD FO X, is the persona of an excellent performer, a person of integrity, and a committed worker striving to deliver prompt service to the disadvantaged sectors of society.

EXCELLENT PERFORMER

Miss Pague is able to bring out the best in the people she works with.

She has been working with DSWD Field Office X for 21 years. She was first employed as Social Welfare Aide in 1996, promoted as Social Welfare Assistant in 1997, and later became Social Welfare Officer 1 in 2002. Due to her meritorious performance, she earned the position of Social Welfare Officer 2 in 2003, and continues as such up to the present.

As a former Case Manager at the Home for Girls, she maintained an updated need-based intervention and system for the clients; this included listening to their various personal and family-related issues and concerns.

She was compassionate in her ways of helping abused and abandoned girls under her care. She was also firm in her ways of protecting young women. In one instance, she protected a girl victim of abuse and intimidation by her parents.

Along with the house parents, Miss Pague exerted efforts to make the center the standard in temporary shelters for abused women.

When she assumed office as head, the center was accredited by the DSWD Standards Bureau as Level 1. Through her initiatives and with the full support of the former Regional Director, Atty. Araceli F. Solamillo, the center became a Level 3 accredited establishment.

She also facilitated the building of the Early Childhood Center which caters to the educational needs of children who live with their mothers who are residents of the centers.

She helped clients who had stopped schooling through the Alternative Learning System of the Department of Education. She also coordinated with public hospitals for the regular check-up of the clients; tapped the expertise of DSWD co-workers during trainings; and led the holding of some events in the center on Gender and Development, effective parenting, social protection policies, and other relevant programs.

**We provide
the best
interventions
for children**



PASSION AND COMPASSION

Miss Pague strives to continually improve in her line of work. She listens to suggestions and recommendations from her co-workers, superiors, family, and churchmates.

Passion for work does not only define Miss Pague. She is also an active Church missionary in Bukidnon Province for almost six years now. Every Saturday afternoon, Miss Pague, along with her family, would travel to reach the hinterland barangay of Kawayan in Impasug-ong town.

By linking with the Estate Management Division and City Social Welfare and Development Office of Cagayan de Oro City,

Miss Pague was able to provide a free housing unit to a former client.

Instilling *bayanihan* spirit among the staff of the center, she headed the conduct of a clean-up activities inside the center on a bi-monthly period. This will help the residents to have a sense of ownership and responsibility. She wanted them to feel that the center is their second home.

She also provides free in-house training on gender and development, parenting, social protection policy to house parents and center staff. To build resiliency among staff and psycho-social development,

lectures are conducted on a regular basis. She continues to maintain the Level 3 accreditation of the center by providing the best interventions for the children.

Miss Pague said the missionary activity of her family is their way of giving back to God for making her and her family resilient to all the challenges.

Abducted by the armed group in 1995 when she was about to finish her degree in Social Work in Lanao del Sur, Miss Pague is the sole provider of the family's needs when she was hired by DSWD in 1996 until now.



DSWD steps up implementation of its livelihood program for poor Filipinos

As part of its reinforced commitment to help alleviate poverty and empower the disadvantaged sectors through the provision of appropriate interventions, the DSWD continues to implement the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP), a community-based capacity building program that aims to improve the socio-economic condition of poor Filipinos by facilitating opportunities

for development and management of resources viable for micro-enterprises and employment facilitation.

Under SLP, beneficiaries are given the option to register in either the micro-enterprise development track or the employment facilitation track after participating in social preparation and capacity-building activities.

EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION

Last year, SLP served a total of 134,923 households nationwide. Of this number, a total of 98,643 households were assisted under the micro-enterprise development track, consisting of 90,842 Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) households and 7,801 non-4Ps households.

Meanwhile, 36,280 households underwent the employment facilitation track, consisting of 32,655 4Ps households and 3,625 non-Pantawid households. The budget allotted for SLP projects in 2017 amounted to P9,112,556,000 while the budget for 2018 is P5,060,000,000.

Significantly, DSWD Field Office I through its SLP ranked first and 7th on the effective implementation

of Micro-enterprise Development (MD) and Employment Facilitation (EF) tracks, respectively, among the 17 regions in the country in 2017. DSWD FO I placed second in the over-all ranking on the implementation of both tracks.

The region continues to monitor and provide needed assistance to 23,618 beneficiaries since 2015. Meanwhile, 102 Sustainable Livelihood Program Associations (SLPAs) were accredited as CSO beneficiaries of DSWD in 2017, while 31 others are still in the process of accreditation.

Beneficiary CSOs are comprised of individuals bound by common interest and/ or are confronted

by a calamity, social condition, problem, issues or crisis and who organized themselves mainly to benefit from government projects or programs that they themselves will undertake.

The DSWD FO I and the Cooperative Development Authority Dagupan City Extension Office (CDA-DEO) has also sealed a P1,529,580 worth of partnership project for the implementation of various skills training on MD intervention in the region through DSWD's SLP. The total fund is broken down into P1,490,580 from the DSWD SLP GAA 2018 while the remaining P39,000 will be the counterpart of CDA-DEO.

Sustainable Livelihood Program beneficiaries from Davao City who have graduated from the program's Training on Bread and Pastry Production take pride in their thriving bakery business.





SUCCESS STORIES

Evelyn Real, 42, graduated from the Skills Training on Business Management leading to Food Cart Business in 2017.

The DSWD gave her a food cart business package in San Juan, La Union; she said that the grant given to her family will be very helpful to her efforts to ensure that her children continue attending school.

Another beneficiary, Glenn Mirabel, 36, from Sinait, Ilocos Sur, one of the Security Guard graduates last July 2017 expounded, "*Napalalo ti yamanko ta nairamanak nga nabeneplasioan.*

Barbareng no makabirokak ti napintas a pagtrabahoan tapno saan kamin (pamilyak) ton a maibilang a 4Ps (I'm very grateful to be included in the program).

Glenn was a farmer before enrolling in the program. He admitted that the money he earns from farming is not enough to sustain the needs of his growing family.

Likewise, in Davao City, a total of 65 beneficiaries of 4Ps who graduated from the Bread and Pastry Production training by the SLP have received capital assistance.

"Dako kaayo among kalipay nga kami nahatagan og dungag nga kapital sa among gamay nga bakery diri sa barangay. Kini usa ka hagit kanamo tanan nga palam-boon gayod ang gibubo sa amo nga grasya sa panggamhanan (We are overwhelmed with happiness with the additional capital we received for our small bakery. We are all inspired to make good of this blessing from government)," Gina Bisnar, one of the employees of the BBJ Bakery said.

MARKET OF OPPORTUNITIES

Despite the success of the program, the department still believes that it will not suffice to completely alleviate the living conditions of the Filipino people in the poverty quagmire. There is a need for the DSWD to create a market of opportunities to help the poor in their livelihood. This is one of the social development agenda spearheaded by former Officer-in-Charge Emmanuel Leyco.

The social development agenda is an inter-agency effort that is believed to clear the major obstacles in helping the poor be lifted out of poverty. These included land reform and industrialization, among others.

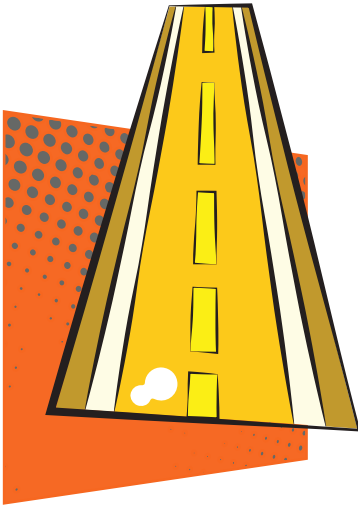
Meanwhile, in terms of program management in SLP, we saw that there are still a lot of room for improvement in terms of guidelines and processes to make the operations more efficient and avoid corruption and irregularities.

We have a number of reports on corruption and irregularities in different regions that have already been confirmed. That is why we have conducted internal auditing and stopped the use of cash assistance payroll scheme, provided stricter selection and accreditation processes for the CSOs, and began enhancing their operational guidelines.

We also saw problems in their reporting in terms of monitoring and evaluation. There are data yet to be assessed that will show if there is scientific basis on the improvements fostered by beneficiaries, such as income improvement, among others.

As DSWD OIC Emmanuel Leyco stated, *“Kasabay ng bagong taon ay ang paniniguro natin na maging maagap at patuloy na may malasakit ang ating paglilingkod. Makaka-asa ang publiko na ang mga programa at serbisyo ng DSWD, kasama na ang mga programang pangkabuhayan ay bukas para sa mga nangangailangan (As we usher in the new year, we also assure the public of our renewed commitment to serve. Rest assured that the programs and services of DSWD including our livelihood programs are open to all those in need).”*






Traversing Boundaries

The towns of Palanan, Maconacon, and Divilacan are found in the coastal area of the Province of Isabela.

They may be accessed either by plane or by crossing the mighty mountain range of Sierra Madre.

Behind the wonderful qualities of these towns lie the hidden face of poverty--families are struggling to eat daily, children are yearning for a better life, and parents are trying their best to give their children a better future. Age is not an issue for the elderly because they have to work for a living. Despite all these, their faces still glimmer with hope.

A photograph showing a person wearing a green shirt and blue pants walking across a narrow, rustic wooden bridge. The bridge is made of wooden planks and has a simple railing. It spans a river or stream. The surrounding area is a dense forest with many trees and green foliage. The lighting is natural, suggesting daytime.

NHTU staff crossing a narrow
make shift bridge in Palanan to
reach a group of household for
assessment

OPEN ACCESS

As the department intensifies its effort in poverty reduction, the use of an information management system to identify potential beneficiaries of social protection program is necessary.

The current system being used by national government agencies and other social protection stakeholders is called *Listahanan* or the National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR). The *Listahanan* is an information management system that identifies who and where the poor are in the country. The system makes available to national government agencies and other social protection stakeholders a database of poor families as reference in identifying potential beneficiaries of social protection program.

One feature of this program is the On-Demand Application (ODA) where households with complaints from the initial result of the assessment are assessed. The household assessment is part of the Validation Phase of *Listahanan* which secures the veracity of result of the whole round of assessment.

Two *Listahanan* staff, John Gerald Pagaling and Carlina Joy Narag, conducted the household assessment in the towns of Palanan, Maconacon, and Divilacan. The two flew separately in their assigned destinations. Carlina went to Palanan and Gerald to Maconacon and Divilacan.

“Nakakaawa sila. Hindi naman sila tamad pero talagang sobrang hirap ng buhay nila. Dun sa isang pamilya na napuntahan ko, kapag wala daw trabaho sa bukid at walang huli sa pangangisda ng tatlong araw, tatlong araw din silang hindi kakain. Itutulog na lang daw nila ang gutom (I feel pity for them.

They are not lazy; their lives are just really difficult. In one of the houses I visited, they said that if they don't get work from the farm and catch no fish from the sea for three days, then they wouldn't eat for three days. They said they would sleep off the hunger). Gerald explained.

As the *Listahanan* staff went on their journey, they were exposed to the harsh situation of our fellow Filipinos living in far-flung areas.

According to Gerald, new lessons are learned daily. Through this targeting system, the concern of the leakage or the inclusion of

non-poor and deprivation or the exclusion of poor on the social protection programs and services is addressed.

“Buti na lang at narating natin sila. At least mas may pag-asang matulungan sila. Kung makikita mo ang sitwasyon nila at maririnig mo ang mga hinaing nila, maiiyak ka talaga. Kasi kawawa talaga sila (It's good that we are able to reach them. At least there's the hope of helping them. If you could see their situation and hear their woes, you would definitely shed a tear. Because their situation is really pitiful), Gerald added.

A TOOL FOR IMPROVEMENT

Despite the criticisms on the project, *Listahanan* continues its main function: to identify who and where the poor are in this country. However, one cannot ignore the inherent exclusions of the targeting system of the program which many people complain about. For instance, in the Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT), if one is not in the

Listahanan, they will not be eligible to receive UCT. If we are to link social services to UCT, a lot will most likely be excluded – this veers away from the mandate of the department.

There are complaints that an identified poor was excluded to other social services. Truly, *Listahanan* is a tool of assessment that has its strengths and flaws.

But one thing is for sure: that DSWD always aims to improve its tools to reach more poor people and make its social services more accessible.

For a National Household Targeting Unit (NHTU) staff, everyday is a privilege not only to work but a chance to give the deserving a higher opportunity to be served by the government.



Powering Disaster Resilience

Found within the Pacific Ring of Fire, the Philippines is among the world's most disaster-prone countries. The country is constantly threatened by strong earthquakes, destructive volcanic eruptions, deadly typhoons, and other natural disasters.

As the lead national government agency in social protection, the DSWD is at the forefront of the government's response during disasters.

The department, through its Field Offices in the regions, extends relief assistance to the families and individuals affected by calamities and ensures the continuous provision of basic social services to them.

DSWD FOs play a key role in the relief operations of the department. They mobilize quick response teams, provide support to local government units (LGUs), and transmit information that are critical in the provision of relief aid to all affected families.

WALK THROUGH THE YEAR

Starting with Tropical Depression 'Auring' in January 2017, the Department was able to provide a total of P1,168,167 worth of relief assistance to the families affected in Regions VII and CARAGA; P2,233,283.98 worth of assistance mounded when the tail end of a cold front affected 131 barangays in Regions XI and CARAGA in February 2017; and P366,250 worth of assistance to the families affected by Tropical Depression 'Crising' which became a low pressure area (LPA) after its landfall in Region VII in April 2017.

Likewise, the Department also distributed P444,600 worth of assistance for Tropical Storm 'Maring'-affected areas, while P298,485.76 worth of assistance was provided to families affected by Severe Tropical Storm 'Odette' that devastated Regions CAR, II, and III in 2017.

The DSWD also conducted relief operations in the areas damaged by Tropical Depression 'Urduja' and Tropical Storm 'Vinta' in December 2017.

The Department was able to provide P155,386,921.38 worth of assistance in areas affected by Urduja,





and P30,838,603.85 worth of assistance in areas devastated by 'Vinta'.

Several earthquakes also hit different regions starting with a magnitude 6.7 earthquake in Surigao City, which damaged more than 10,000 houses in Surigao del Norte. The department was able to provide a total of P22,488,257.37 to help the families affected by the disaster and assist them to rebuild their homes.

Meanwhile, P5,636,714 worth of assistance was provided to the families affected by the magnitude 6.0 quake in Mabini, Batangas last April 8; P252,394.40 worth of assistance to barangays affected by another magnitude 6.0 earthquake that struck Wao, Lanao del Sur on April 12; and in July, a total of P18,785,757.44 worth of food and non-food items were provided to families affected by a 6.5 magnitude earthquake in Ormoc City and Kananga, Leyte.

The Department also monitored and provided assistance to 40 individuals affected by the fire incident in the Housing Technology Industries (HTI) Pte. Ltd. in EPZA, General Trias City, Cavite, through the provision of financial-medical assistance worth P5,000 to those in critical condition; P4,000 to those who sustained 60-80% burns, and P3,000 to those with minor injuries.

Apart from providing assistance to families and individuals affected by natural calamities and hazards, the DSWD also extended aid to communities affected by armed conflicts.

On April 11, an armed operation against alleged members of the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) and the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) by the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Philippine National Police (PNP) transpired in Inabanga, Bohol and affected 34 barangays in Region VII.

The DSWD was able to send a total of P1,710,000 worth of assistance to the affected families.

For the ongoing armed conflict in Marawi City, P432,236,604 worth of food and non-food items were provided by the DSWD to its responding Field Offices and P883,482,536.40 was augmented by the Department to its responding Field Offices and Response Centers.

As of the April 2018 report from the DSWD Disaster Response Assistance and Management Bureau (DReAMB), the affected families of the Marawi siege have received a total of P764,585,081.57 worth of relief assistance. Of the said amount, P596,648,242.10 was provided by DSWD; P51,480,815 was provided by DSWD- ARMM; P62,558,155.00 was provided by ARMM-HEART; P21,791,876.90 was provided by LGUs; and, P32,105,992.57 was provided by non-government organizations (NGOs).

STRENGTHENING RESPONSE

The DSWD, as the lead disaster response agency, continues to strengthen its monitoring and emergency response operations to immediately address the needs of localities affected by weather disturbances, armed conflicts, and hazards through the prepositioning of relief supplies which includes Family Food Packs (FFPs) in strategic locations around the country, mobilization of quick response teams (QRTs), and provision of augmentation support to concerned local LGUs.


In terms of human resource capacity, the department has trained QRT members including Social Welfare and Development (SWAD) Teams and Provincial/Municipal Action Teams.

It also has personnel who were trained in camp coordination and camp management, as well as in providing psychosocial support to families and individuals affected by calamities.

"When it comes to disaster response, Field Office VII has equipped us with the knowledge and skills through the provision of trainings on camp management, camp coordination and other disaster-related capability building trainings. Through capacity building and trainings, I am confident that we are efficient and effective enough to deliver disaster response services to affected families and individuals who are in dire situation and seriously need our swift response," said Tabogon, Cebu Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) Officer-In-Charge Roglin Sumayang.

Assistance from LGUs is necessary to build storage houses in each municipality in the region where family food packs can be prepositioned and stored, ready to be provided once a disaster strikes.

Even before a disaster strikes, the department ensures that family food packs and non-food items are already prepositioned in provincial warehouses as well as in strategic local government units so affected families, including those in far-flung areas, have access to their most basic needs.



The department has response centers (i.e., the National Resource Operations Center and the Visayas Disaster Response Center) that have mechanized systems that speed up the production of relief goods.

The mechanized production system has helped the field office facilitate quicker disaster response augmentation during times of calamities.

Meanwhile, one of the notable accomplishments of the DSWD in 2017 in terms of disaster preparedness was the successful conduct of simulation exercises for its Rapid Emergency Telecommunications Team (RETT), which utilized the different state-of-the-art satellite telecommunications equipment provided by the British mobile satellite company, Inmarsat, under the International Partnership Programme (IPP) of the United Kingdom Space Agency (UKSA).

The emergency telecommunications system includes the Global Xpress® terminal, the latest technology in mobile satellite broadband telecommunications; Automatic-Pointing Broadband Global Area Network (BGAN) terminals, Manual-Pointing BGANs terminals and the latest ISat2 mobile satellite telephones which can all be used anywhere in the Philippines.

02 BAYANIHAN

Unceasing efforts
toward a blissful
community



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Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program

Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) is only one of the poverty reduction strategies of the national government implemented by DSWD, which focuses on human capital investment through the provision of health and cash grants to eligible poor households with children 0-18 years old.

The 4Ps intends to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty. It is the role of the DSWD to provide effective, caring and immediate delivery of social protection services to the poor and the disadvantaged particularly the PWDs, senior citizens, children, women and other vulnerable sectors.

During the administration of Former Secretary Judy Taguiwalo, reports on the termination of 4Ps next year circulated. This means millions of beneficiaries will be cut-off from the support provided by the national government. Former Secretary Taguiwalo clarified the issue that only the counterpart financing

of the World Bank and Asian Development Bank will. "We have no plans to discontinue the 4Ps program by 2019, but the program itself continues to be subject to review and improvements. We are assessing the program based on experiences of inclusion/exclusion. We also want to impose protective measures that will safeguard from the political influence at the community and local government level," she said.

Even after Former Secretary Taguiwalo, the DSWD maintains its stand to recognize 4Ps as a temporary intervention.

It has been in implementation for the last 10 years, but the department under OIC Emmanuel Leyco considers the program as a temporary, stop-gap measure in aid of efforts to fight poverty, not the solution to the same.

"Dependence on Pantawid has already been disproven.

Pantawid benefits are not enough for families to depend on," OIC Leyco said. The DSWD maintains that it will continue to determine the length of social mobility of the poor, and how they are able to make both ends meet.

We are continuing our economic interventions because the situation faced by the poor—specifically 4Ps members—has not substantially changed, despite the growth rate in the last decades which is seven percent or more than six percent," OIC Leyco explained.



RESPICIO FAMILY

Life was difficult for Eliza and Panfilo who have seven kids.

The family was living in a small nipa hut near the rice field where Panfilo had been farming. During rainy season, they would struggle to keep their home dry and comfortable. Their kids would constantly complain of leaks from their cogon roof because they could not afford to have it repaired.

Opportunities started flowing when the couple was included in the 4Ps of the DSWD in 2011.

Eliza was able to buy each of her children a pair of shoes when she received her first cash grant from 4Ps.

She used the family's subsequent grants for the educational needs of her children. The same year, Panfilo received P10,000 from his aunt to help them repair their house. They bought construction materials and used the remaining money as capital for a small sari-sari store, starting with a few cans of sardines, packs of coffee, sugar, and rice.

"Noong wala pa ang Pantawid program, hirap dumating ang grasya. Pero noong naging parte kami nito, sunud-sunod naman ang pasok ng biyaya (Before being part of the Pantawid program, we rarely receive any blessing. But since we became part of 4Ps, opportunities started pouring in)," Eliza said.

CARD Incorporated, a micro-finance cooperative, encouraged Eliza to expand her sari-sari store with an initial loan of five thousand pesos.

The cooperative also provided her with technical assistance in proper bookkeeping and in managing her store's finances. Soon, Eliza was able to earn from the store and help her husband.

Panfilo, on the other hand, was among the many 4Ps beneficiaries in their town who received farm implements from the Department of Agriculture (DA). The DA also implemented a hog-dispersal program with 4Ps beneficiaries. Panfilo received piglets, which he was able to raise and sell. He used his earnings to complete the house repairs.





**Since
we became
part of 4Ps,
opportunities
started
pouring in** ”

The Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC) also provided insurance services to farmers who were members of the 4Ps. The insurance helped the family feel secure in case their crops get destroyed by drought or flooding.

Through the Department of Health (DOH), the Respicio family was also able to avail of PhilHealth membership. The DOH prioritizes Pantawid beneficiaries in its health programs including the provision of PhilHealth membership.

In addition to all these benefits, the family also received a P10,000 loan as capital from the DSWD Self-Employment Assistance- Kaunlaran (SEA-K) program, now Sustainable Livelihood Program. The loan has helped the couple purchase a second-hand side car and tricycle.

HELPING OTHERS TOWARD A BETTER LIFE

For a family who has been through a lot of hardships, the Respicio family makes it a point to always lend assistance to those who are in need. “*Pinagdaanan ko lahat ng hirap. Hindi ko makakalimutan yung pakiramdam na parang wala akong magawa para kay Joshua noong na-ospital siya, kaya kapag may mga kapitbahay kaming nangangailangan ng tulong, tutulungan namin hangga’t makakaya* (We have been through a lot. I will never forget the feeling of helplessness when Joshua was brought to the hospital. This is why we do not think twice when other people ask us for help),” Eliza shared.

Their second-hand tricycle has been their main source of transportation every day, as there is no public transport available in their barangay.

In cases of emergencies, neighbors would run to Eliza and Panfilo to ask help in bringing their sick to the hospital. Panfilo willingly grants their requests, asking for nothing in return, but the reimbursement of gas.



The motorcycle and sidecar were bought separately in 2012. Since then it has served the family with their daily activity

Since 2012, the Respicio family has been using their tricycle to provide transportation service to their neighbors. Because of this, members of their community have tagged the vehicle as the “barangay tri-ambulance.”

Aside from being helpful, Eliza and Panfilo have also been known as leaders and good counselors in their community. Being a parent leader for more than five years, Eliza has acquired the reputation of a good counselor.

Fellow 4Ps beneficiaries air out their grievances to Eliza, who has become so effective in providing advice that even non-4Ps beneficiaries and their Barangay chieftain would seek her counsel.

In fact, when the provincial government of Cagayan awarded Barangay Batu with funds for a health-related project, the Barangay heeded Eliza's advice to set up a water facility.

Eliza and Panfilo also encouraged the members of their community to establish water-sealed toilets for each household. To date, majority of homes in their barangay already have toilets installed.

The couple also served as adviser of the 4-H Club, a local organization that provides funds from the DA for livelihood opportunities and personality development seminars to out-of-school youth.

A HUWARANG PAMILYA

The efforts of the Respicio family and their being good example in their community did not go unnoticed. The family was picked as the nominee of the Province of Cagayan for the regional search for Huwarang Pantawid Pamilya. After the tedious deliberation, the family was declared as the regional winner and the contender for the national title.

The Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer of Enrile, Cagayan, Mrs. Erlinda Apostol, testified to the positive impact of the family to their community and to their fellow 4Ps beneficiaries.

She shared that the local government also recognized the commitment of the Respicios in public service—the reason why their daughter Elaine was immediately offered a position under the office of the Sangguniang Bayan after she graduated with a bachelor's degree in Human Resource Management from De La Salle College of St. Benilde.

Eliza and Panfilo have instilled the value of education to their children,



Panfilo cultivates the rice fields in Enrile, Cagayan owned by his father, uncle and aunt.

telling them that it is the greatest inheritance that they can leave them. Elaine, who finished her degree under full scholarship, is also an advocate of education. She is continuously encouraging her siblings to aim for higher education and to do well in their studies.

As a result, the younger kids are all studying hard. Paul Emmanuel, the second child of Eliza and Panfilo is now currently taking up Computer Engineering in Manila,

while Al Anthony, the third, is pursuing a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering, also in Manila.

The couple's four younger children are all in high school. John Michael, who dreams to be a chef, is in Grade 12, while John Christian, the family's future computer engineer and DOTA champion, is currently in tenth grade. Joshua Jandrey, who has an inclination to information technology, is in Grade 8. Lloyd Kristoffer, the youngest, likes to become a farmer like his father, according to Eliza.



Evangelista Family

One fateful day of November 2016, the son of Efren and Marilou Evangelista, residents of Barangay Potoson in the Municipality of Baleno in Masbate, died due to cardiac arrest.

According to the couple, their son, Cristiano, was a timid, caring, loving, and considerate person. He was loved by many of his classmates and their neighbors for his noble heart and sincere kindness to others.

The pain and emptiness that the family had been feeling seemed to increase each day. Marilou said it was unbearable and has never been easy. But they tried to face the difficult reality that someone they dearly loved is not coming back anymore.

“Napakasakit nang mawala ang anak namin. Walang salita na tutumbas upang ipaliwanag ang sakit na nadama namin noon. Pero, ang nangyari sa aming pamilya ay nagsilbing daan para mas kumapit kami sa Diyos - upang maging ilaw at kadamay na malagpasan ang kanyang pagkawala (Losing our son is so painful that no words can describe it. It was heartbreaking. But what happened made my family turn to God even more, to be our Light and Counsel, to help us cope with his loss),” she said.

The tragedy that happened to the Evangelista family made them closer, more bonded, and stronger. It may have turned their life upside down, but they were able to cope with the situation and continue their life, carrying with them the beautiful and unforgettable memories of their son.



MOVING FORWARD

The Evangelista family came from the distant barangay of Potoson in the town of Baleno which is considered as one of the poorest municipalities in Bicol as identified by the Department of Social Welfare and Development *Listahanan* second round assessment report.

The family is among the 373,107 households of the Department's Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) in Bicol who transcended from the steep obstacles of their lives towards an improved living condition. At present, Nanay Marilou and Tatay Efren, as fondly called by their neighbors, worked hard to make both ends meet.

Instead of focusing on the pain and hardships, they filled their lives with music and melodies, colors and arts, and green plants.

The couple earn and sustain their family's needs using their talents and acquired knowledge and skills to let three of their eight children finish vocational and college courses.

Tatay Efren makes backdrops and letterings for special occasions such as barangay fiestas and school events. He also engages in pot making, landscaping, carpentry, bonsai propagation and culture, and making boats to generate income.

Nanay Marilou, on the other hand, helps her husband from the honorarium she received from being a Barangay Health Worker (BHW) in their community and through the extra income she earns from being a massage therapist.

The family also works during occasions like weddings, funerals, and birthdays and earn profit from them.

"Madami po kami na trabaho, at nag-eeenjoy po kami, bonding kumbaga sa trabaho namin (We have many jobs, but we enjoyed them and they serve as our bonding activity)," Nanay Marilou shared.

ACHIEVING EXTRAORDINARY SUCCESS

The couple is also proud that their children were able to secure employment after graduation and help their younger siblings.

"Yung isang anak ko ay chef na ngayon sa Sky Kitchen Department sa Philippine Airlines. Yung isa po ay teacher na, at ang eldest namin ay may asawa na at massage therapist po siya (One of my children now works as a chef at Sky Kitchen Department of Philippine Airlines. The other one is a private school teacher, while my eldest daughter is already married and working as a massage therapist)," Nanay Marilou said.

Through the combined income of the whole family, they were able to slowly pay for their huge debt left from Crisanto's medication.

"Sipag at determinasyon ang aming puhunan para sila makapagtapos ng pag-aaral. Ginawa naming inspirasyon ang bawat isa para malagpasan ang aming kalagayan. Salamat po sa Diyos dahil tinulungan niya po kami (Hard work and determination served as our capital to let them finish education.

We consider each other as inspiration to overcome our circumstances. We thank God for helping us)," Tatay Efren said.

The younger children of Nanay Marilou and Tatay Efren also help the family by doing their best and excel in academic and extracurricular activities.

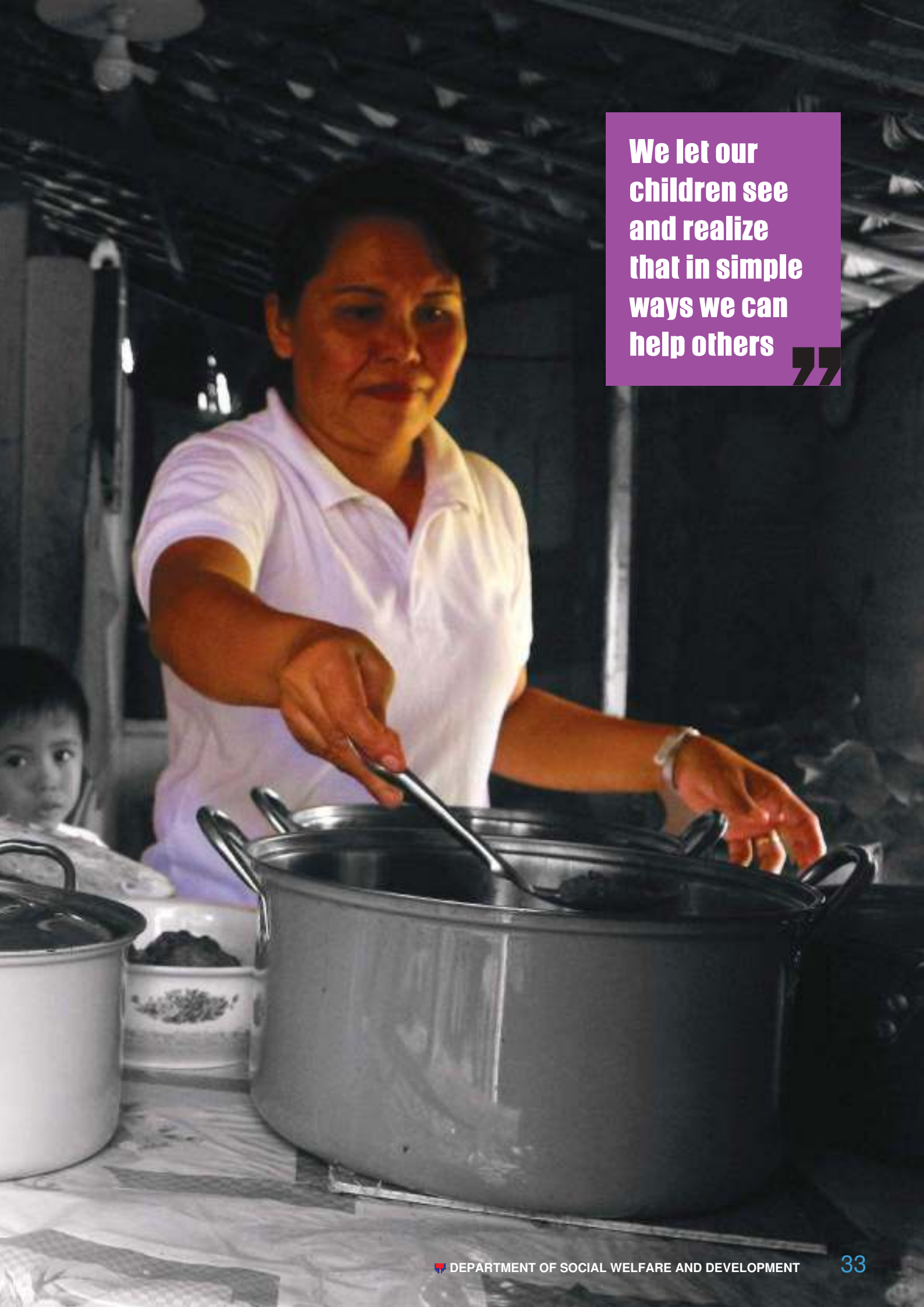
According to one of their children's school adviser Hilda De Real, the children are achievers in school and are very talented in singing, drawing, and arts.

"Makikita mo ang suporta ng mag-asawa sa kanilang mga anak. Sa katunayan, nung 2014, ang buong pamilya ay sumali sa Laro ng Lahi as Kab Scout Singing Family sa provincial level at nanalo sa contest (You will see the support of the couple to their children. In fact, last 2014, the whole family joined the Laro ng Lahi as Kab Scout singing Family at provincial level and won the competition)," she added.

More than that, the family was awarded as a Model Family in school. Efren was elected as School Governing Council President and, with the help of the members of the family, was able to lead school activities like "Brigada Eskwela" and initiatives like gardening which promotes health and nutrition.

With Marilou's acquired knowledge from attending Family Development Session (FDS) as a 4Ps parents leader and other trainings as BHW, she initiated the "gulayan sa paaralan" which addresses malnutrition among children in Baleno - which is one of the municipalities with the highest number of malnourished children in 2015.

"Ipinapakita namin sa aming mga anak na sa simpleng paraan ay makakatulong tayo sa atin kapwa. Gusto namin na lumaki sila na mabuting mga tao, may takot sa Diyos, may magandang asal, at may malasakit sa kapwa (We let our children see and realize that in simple ways we can help others. We want them to grow with good character, with fear in God, and have compassion to others)," Tatay Efren said.



We let our children see and realize that in simple ways we can help others ”

The unique talent of the Evangelistas brings inspiration to others and have reached other communities.

The family sets a good example in advocating the importance of maintaining a clean and green backyard with attractive and beautiful landscape design. They also encourage their neighbors to have affordable, fresh vegetables through bio-intensive garden and organic farming.

As for Tatay Efren, they maximize their available resources from gardening for the consumption, nutrition, and food security of the family. Also, he influences other families to do the same instead of engaging in vices and spending their leisure hours in drinking alcohol.

With his good standing in the community, manifesting passion in public service, Tatay Efren was able to serve as a Barangay Kagawad for three consecutive terms.

Currently, he is the president of their Barangay Senior Citizens Affairs, Municipal Secretary of Federated

Senior Citizens Association of the Philippines in Baleno Chapter, and President of Vegetable Growers Association.

Being a BHW, Nanay Marilou helps to improve the health condition of their community members. She helps in health and nutritional assessment immunization programs, and in health information and dissemination.

In 2006, Marilou was elected as the Federated President of the BHW Association. She had then served as the Federated Secretary of the association at the Provincial Level from 2010 to 2016.

With her dedication and community service, Marilou became the Provincial Federated President in 2016. Now, she is the Federated External Treasurer at the Regional Level. Her exemplary performance as BHW was recognized by the municipality by being awarded as one of the Most Outstanding BHWs in July 2017.

Marilou is also an active member of Municipal Local Health Board, Municipal Nutrition Council, and the Women's Health Team.

She campaigns for good health and nutrition in the community, serving as a resource person during FDS on Food and Nutrition Module: The Nutritional Care for Teenage Pregnant.

Her volunteer service also includes being a member of the Municipal Water and Sanitation Hygiene who monitor households who have complied for Zero Open Defecation (ZOD) campaign and encourages large number of households to construct their own toilet.

"Si Efren nag-volunteer na tumulong para gumawa ng toilet facilities. Para din makita na seryoso kami sa aming adbokasiya ay sinikap namin makapagpagawa ng dalawang water sealed sanitary toilet na matatagpuan sa loob at labas ng bahay (Efren volunteered to help in the construction of toilet facilities. And for the community to see that we are serious in our advocacy, we tried to have our own two water sealed sanitary toilets located inside and outside our house)," Marilou said.

Being appointed as the Violence Against Women (VAW) desk officer and formerly elected as the President of Baleno's Women Club, Marilou strongly advocates for the equal rights of men and women in their community.

Baleno Municipal Social Welfare Officer Elisa Manlapaz shared that the couple is known for their noble deeds - a family that can be easily relied on for help. "*Yung mag-asawa ay nagka-counsel sa ibang mga mag-asawang may problema o 'di nagkakaintindihan* (The couple does counseling among other couples with conflict)," she added.

The couple also sets a good example in the community which contributed to the increase of the number of 4Ps couples attending FDS. "*Pinapaintindi namin sa kanila na bukod sa tulong sa edukasyon at kalusugan, ay malaki ang naitutulong ng programa para sa pagpapalaki ng kanilang mga anak at pagkaroon ng tahimik at masayang pamilya* (We let them understand that aside

from the huge contribution of the program to education and health among children, it also contributes to have a peaceful and happy family)," Nanay Marilou said.

The couple also prioritizes good health at home, serving vegetables on the table during meals. They also maintain a clean environment, observing proper waste disposal and having a compost pit for biodegradable wastes, which serves as fertilizers to their organic farming.

For Nanay Marilou, the health of the family comes first. She said, "*Nung nagkasakit si Crisanto, halos pitong taon kaming pabalik-balik sa ospital, lagi kaming kumukonsulta kay Doc at lahat nilapitan namin. Kaya po napakahalaga ang kalusugan ng bawat isa* (When Crisanto was sick, we would go back and forth to the hospital for seven years. We would always consult a doctor and would approach everyone who could help us. That is why, the health of each member of the family is very important)," Nanay Marilou said.

As the couple tried their best to provide for the needs of the family, they instill in their children the importance of appreciating life beyond wealth and richness.

The family never forgets to go to their church as their way of paying back all the blessings they have received.

Tatay Efren and Nanay Marilou ensure that, as individuals, their children will learn to be more responsible for their actions.

The couple wants their children to understand the implication of their actions to other people and the difference a single act of help or kindness could do for others.

The Evangelista family proves that a united family can surpass all trials of life and can make a big difference in their community, to inspire others to live a better life.

** The Evangelista Family is the 2017 Huwarang Pantawid Pamilya of the DSWD Field Office V in the Bicol Region.*



Luzano Family

Dulce Amor Luzano, a resident of Paranaque City, is not just a typical beneficiary of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) of the DSWD.

A mother of two boys, Dulce is among the many parent leaders of the program in their community. As a parent leader, she is trained to speak during the conduct of Family Development Sessions, and help other 4Ps beneficiaries better understand the importance of family planning and responsible parenthood. She also guides and leads program members towards the right practices of a 4Ps beneficiary, and monitors their activities to ensure that their cash grants are used properly, particularly for the needs of their children.

Dulce has been responsibly performing her duties as 4Ps parent leader, while serving at a local church and tending to the needs of her family. In all that she does, she is supported by her husband, 43-year old Olimpio, who keeps the family afloat by working as a delivery driver.

To help her husband earn extra income for the family, Dulce makes doormats, cooks peanut butter, and sells food supplement products through the help of the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP), another program of the DSWD.

Being a member of the 4Ps program has also helped Dulce and Olimpio send their children to school.



The couple's eldest son, Mark Anthony, graduated with a degree of Bachelor of Science in Architecture at the Technological University of the Philippines through the Expanded Students Grants-in-aid Program for Poverty Alleviation (ESGP-PA), an educational assistance program by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the DSWD, which provides college scholarship grants to 4Ps children beneficiaries.

Mark Anthony now works as a call center agent to earn money in preparation for his board examination and for his future graduate studies. Aside from being an academic achiever, he is also an active officer in their parish church, serving as youth representative.

Meanwhile, the youngest son, Charles James, is a consistent honor student and is also highly active in church duties.

The Luzano family's strong and loving relationship at home, their leadership in their community, their active service in their local parish church, and the good performance of children at school are the reasons the family was hailed as the DSWD Field Office-National Capital Region's Huwarang Pantawid Pamilya 2017.

The family of four received the recognition in a ceremony held at the San Andres Sports Complex, Malate, Manila in September 2017.

The Luzanos bested 16 other nominees for the prestigious award from different Local Government Units in NCR.

The annual Search for Huwarang Pantawid Pamilya recognizes outstanding family beneficiaries who maintain strong family ties, demonstrate positive Filipino values, and have a positive impact in the community where they reside.

Through this search, Pantawid families also showcase the improvement in their lives as the fruits of their own hard work and inspire the whole country despite the challenges they face because of poverty.



Expanded LinGap sa Masa brings easier access to medical needs to indigent citizens

In line with its mandate to provide accessible social welfare assistance, the DSWD through the Office of the President's P1 billion free medicine program or the "LinGtap sa Masa" continues to serve the medical needs of indigent Filipinos.

After more than a year of its implementation, the DSWD amended the guidelines for the program and renamed it from "Libreng Gamot para sa Masa" to "Lingap at Gabay Para sa May Sakit" not only to extend free medicines, but also to provide funds for the

laboratory services and assistive devices needed by marginalized Filipinos needing medical assistance.

"We are happy to say that the expansion of the *LinGap sa Masa* program has benefited many of our indigent citizens. Not only have we provided free medicine, but also released funds for the laboratory services and assistive devices our marginalized kababayans needed," said DSWD Officer-in-Charge Emmanuel A. Leyco.

As of November 2017, the program has already served 38,407 clients in six government hospitals that implement the program, namely: The University of the Philippines-Philippine General Hospital (UP-PGH) in Manila; Jose B. Lingad Memorial Hospital (JBLMH) in San Fernando City, Pampanga; Western Visayas Medical Center (WVMC) in Iloilo City; Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center (VSMMC) in Cebu City; and the Southern Philippines Medical Center (SPMC) in Davao City and Davao Regional Hospital (DRH) in Tagum City.

This is a big help for me because if it is from other organization, it would just be limited and they cannot provide all the medicines needed ”

The total fund utilized amounted to P381,113,963.67 of the P1 billion fund. Under the guidelines, *LinGap sa Masa* is distinct from the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) program of the DSWD and can be easily accessed at the social service department of the identified hospitals.

Those who are qualified to avail of the program are:
1) Families or individuals who are indigent, vulnerable, or disadvantaged;

2) those in the informal sector and categorized as “poor” based on the DSWD Listahanan; 3) those who are in crisis situations based on the assessment of social workers; 4) government employees and contract of service workers working in the government; and 5) beneficiaries of soldiers and police who were killed or wounded in the line of duty.

“With the expansion of the *LinGap sa Masa*, more indigent citizens in need of immediate medical assistance can avail of the program. However, we also would like to clarify that

unless there is a valid justification or other factors determined and approved by our social workers, those who already received medical assistance through our AICS program are no longer eligible for the program and vice-versa,” reminded DSWD OIC Leyco.

Finally, he reminded everyone that availing of the *LinGap sa Masa* benefits does not require applications to show any endorsement letter from local government officials, but said letters will be acknowledged if presented.

FINDING HOPE

One of the program beneficiaries is Arnel Alemorin, a 33 year-old cancer patient seeking medical care at VSMMC. He discovered his illness in 2014 and had minor operations to correct it. However, the illness has recurred.



“Nagpa-opera ko niadtong August 2017 og after two months nagsugod naku sa akong chemotherapy (I had my major operation last August 2017 and after two months I underwent chemotherapy),” Alemorin emphasized that he spent his separation pay from work for his operation.

“Dili naman ko komportable nga motrabaho ato tungod sa akong sakit mao nga niundang nalang ko isip sales representative (I was no longer comfortable working at that time because of my illness so I just quit from my job as a sales representative),” Alemorin said as he was diagnosed with malignant eccrine poroma in his lower extremity, a rare type of skin cancer arising from sweat glands.

Alemorin was referred by his relative who is also a cancer patient to avail of the *LinGap sa Masa* of DSWD.

“Sa ikaduhang chemotherapy session nako mao sad ang una nga pag-avail nako aning programaha og mikabat to ug Php 28,000 tanang tambal nako (In my second chemotherapy session, it was my first time to avail this program and it totaled to Php 28,000.00 for all my medicines),” Alemorin added.

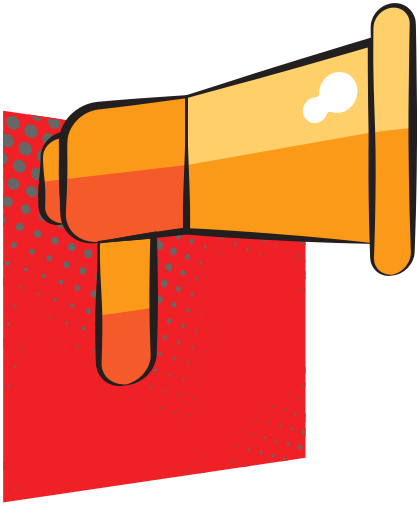
“Dako gyud niini nga tabanga sa ako kay kung sa laing organization limited rapud ang mahatag dili ang tanang medisina nga gikinahanglan (This is a big help for me because if it is from other organization, it would just be limited and they cannot provide all the medicines needed),” said Alemorin.

Despite his condition, Alemorin continues to maintain a positive mindset. *“Karon nga naa nay mga proyekto ang gobyerno sama niini nga maka-avail*

og libreng tambal labi na ang mga kabus murag aduna gyud tsansa nga maayo ko sa akong sakit (Now that the government has this program which poor people can avail of free medicines, there is a big chance that I can be healed of my illness),” he said with great hope.

Inspired by the government support through the *LinGap sa Masa* program, Alemorin vowed to finish his three remaining chemotherapy sessions.





DSWD continues to bring programs, services to poor communities through information caravans

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) maintains its delivery of “Maagap and Mapagkalingang Serbisyo” by conducting information caravans in some of the poorest barangays in the country.

The conduct of info caravans aims to educate poor Filipinos of the various programs and services that the DSWD provides. It is also a way to reach the poor and bring the Department's services closer to poor families.

In 2017, the DSWD Social Marketing Service (SMS), the communication arm of the Department, organized a total of eleven caravans in urban poor communities across Metro Manila.



The events were conducted at Barangays Happyland and Isla Puting Bato in Tondo, Navotas Fish Port in Navotas City, and at Divisoria Market in Manila. It also conducted caravans at Liwasang Bonifacio and Luneta Park in Manila to extend aid to homeless families and individuals who have made the parks their home.

During info drives, information officers from the DSWD conduct an orientation or dialogue with urban poor families to present the DSWD's Promotive Programs

such as the Pantawid Familyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan –Comprehensive Integrated Delivery of Social Service (KALAHI-CIDSS), and Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP), as well as its Protective Programs, including the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situations (AICS) and its Disaster Response Programs.

They also distribute information, education, and communication (IEC) materials about these programs to the residents of the barangay.

The DSWD also often partners with the Department of Health for the provision of free medicines and medical consultation to indigent families, and with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) for the provision of free services, such as haircut and massage services.

The Department's field offices have also been conducting info caravan in poor communities in their respective regions.

21ST KALIGUAN FESTIVAL IN SURIGAO DEL SUR

HIGHLIGHTS DSWD INFORMATION CARAVAN

The DSWD CARAGA, through its Social Marketing Unit (SMU) and in coordination with the Municipal Action Team (MAT) of the Municipality of Cagwait, successfully conducted an information caravan during the celebration of the 21st Kaliguan Festival on June 22-25, 2017.

DSWD FO CARAGA Regional Director Mita Chuchi Gupana-Lim expressed gratitude to the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Cagwait through Mayor Lilian Y. Lozada for accommodating the conduct of the activity. "Field Office CARAGA is very active in the conduct of different information dissemination activities in the region, so residents will be well-acquainted with the various programs and services that the DSWD provides," she explained.

During the caravan, the field office conducted an orientation of the core programs and services of the Department. It also set up an information booth.

"The SMU designed the information booth to be accessible for the general public, so that people can receive thorough explanations about the services that the Department offers. Information officers manned the booth, providing answers to queries from clients," Lim added.

The finale of the week-long festival was the beauty pageant *Perlas ng Kaliguan*. During the pageant, DSWD CARAGA gave out the #GandangDSWDMay Malasakit award, which was given to pageant candidate who best portrayed the image and actions of a true #GandangMayMalasakit Caraganon. The winner served as an ambassador of the DSWD in the promotion of its programs and services, as well as its other advocacies in the locality.

Field Office CARAGA is very active in the conduct of different information dissemination activities in the region, so residents will be well-acquainted with the various programs and services that the DSWD provides

”

Dir. Gupana-Lim



How a Leyte town champions community-driven development towards improved lives of its citizens

When the Municipality of Barugo was chosen as recipient of various poverty-alleviation projects through the Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (Kalahi-CIDSS) of the DSWD, the local government grabbed the opportunity by working hand-in-hand with the residents of the town to implement projects for the community.

In the implementation of the projects, Barugo embraced the community-driven development (CDD) approach—the strategy used by Kalahi-CIDSS to achieve service delivery, poverty reduction, and good governance outcomes—as well as the participatory governance and community empowerment principles of the program.

Seeing how effective CDD is, the municipality did not just adopt, but also institutionalized various CDD processes, making it an official strategy in implementing various development projects.

As a result of its efforts, Barugo was hailed in 2017 as the best municipality in the country in the implementation of Kalahi-CIDSS, besting 14 local government units from other regions.

THE BARUGO KALAHI-CIDSS STORY

The Kalahi-CIDSS story in Barugo started in April 2012. A fourth-class municipality with 37 barangays, the town was chosen to be a recipient of the Kalahi-CIDSS program through the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC).

In 2013, Barugo was among the towns hardest hit by Super Typhoon Yolanda, and sustained severe damage to its infrastructure and local economy. Despite this, the municipality and its people showed resilience, embracing CDD along with its community empowerment and participatory governance principles to rise from the devastation.

In the implementation of its development projects, every group and sector in the town recognizes their roles and values their shared responsibilities as guardians of CDD. This became the reason why Barugo is one of the municipalities in Eastern Visayas to replicate the CDD approach and to harmonize it with their local development processes.

Both the municipal and barangay local governments have intensified their provision

of technical, administrative, and management assistance in the implementation of Kalahi-CIDSS projects in various poor communities, especially during the project's construction. They have also ensured the conduct of monitoring schemes by strengthening their Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Plan and implementing O&M mechanisms. This was supported by the passage and enforcement of local ordinances and policies that provide efficient and effective O&M towards sustainability. The Barangay LGU has also allocated funds exclusively for O&M of all Kalahi-CIDSS sub-projects.

At present, the existing and accredited Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) formed through Kalahi-CIDSS initiative in the town are now part of the decision-making process at the barangay level. The CBOs regularly take part in the Barangay Development Council meetings under the Barangay Sub-Project committee.

In terms of the community empowerment objective of Kalahi-CIDSS,

the Barugo LGU has supported the participatory governance feature of the program through the institutionalization of community assemblies, an initiative embraced positively by Barugon-ons, the residents of the town.

It adopted the Participatory Situation Analysis (PSA) process of Kalahi-CIDSS: barangays were consulted on the state of their community, the problems that greatly affect them, and their proposed possible solutions to these problems. Priority needs of the barangays were then integrated to Barugo's Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) for CY 2010-2016 and the recently formulated CDP for CY 2017-2023.

Another innovation of the LGU, which was patterned from the CDD process, is the conduct of regular Barangay Consultation Dialogue, locally known as 'harampang.' The Sangguniang Bayan members regularly visit all 37 barangays to hold dialogues together with local department heads and the Local Chief Executive, and with the participation of some non-government organizations.

According to the LGU, the activity serves as a transparency and accountability mechanism where they present their development thrusts, status of LGU-funded projects, and updates from other agencies. It is also a venue to disseminate information on new programs, services, and initiatives of the LGU.

Apart from harampang, Barugo also conducts an annual “barangayan” dubbed as “Serbisyo ha Barangay” where all barangays are given

access to basic social services such as free medical and dental check-ups and feeding programs. It also included the conduct of trainings on disaster preparedness and safety.

After adopting the various processes of the CDD of Kalahi- CIDSS, the Municipality of Barugo has finally institutionalized the whole CDD mechanism through Municipal Resolution No. 4 of 2017 by the Municipal Development Council.

Similar to the objective of Kalahi-CIDSS, Barugo also aims for improved local governance. In fact, the town has made a back-to-back victory for being awarded by the Department of Interior and Local Government with the Seal of Good Housekeeping/Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) for year 2015, 2016 and 2017. The recognition proves Barugo’s good performance as a local government unit.

Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan- Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services


 **2,248,428**
household beneficiaries
 **5,214**
completed sub-projects
 **P9.42B**
utilized fund under Current Appropriations

BRIDGET'S BRIDGE

If there is one story that would reflect the perseverance of Barugon- ons, it would be the story about the construction of a bridge in Brgy Balud.

For decades, residents of the village have been praying for a bridge project that would connect them to the mainland. The only connection of the 148 households to the Poblacion of Barugo was the 70-year old wooden Barawalte Bridge.

Crossing the wooden bridge was very difficult, according to the residents of the barangay. Armelinda Lozada, a resident of the village, recalled how she gave birth midway while crossing the bridge. She named her baby, "Bridget."

"It was very difficult to cross the old Barawalte Bridge. To cross it was to risk your life; I almost lost my baby girl, but thank God I didn't," Armelinda said.

When Brgy. Balud was given an opportunity to choose a sub-project under Kalahi-CIDSS, residents had only one thing in mind—the construction of a footbridge.

"The residents of our village were very eager to be part of the implementation and construction of our foot bridge because it was really what we needed.



We were able to finally address a problem," said Jebet Quintana, a Kalahi-CIDSS Brgy. Representative team member.

The construction of the 160 linear meter footbridge was completed in March 2016.

Today, the 700 residents of Brgy. Balud are no longer using the old Barawalte Bridge.

Through the new foot-bridge, farmers and fishermen from the village can now easily trade their

produce and sell their catch to the nearest market. Students can now go to school without any difficulty and parents no longer worry for the safety of their children.

BEST LGU IMPLEMENTING KALAHI-CIDSS

As recognition of its exceptional implementation of Kalahi-CIDSS and its adoption of the processes of community-driven development, the Municipality of Barugo won the National 'Bayani Ka! Award' Award of Best LGU Implementing Kalahi-CIDSS.

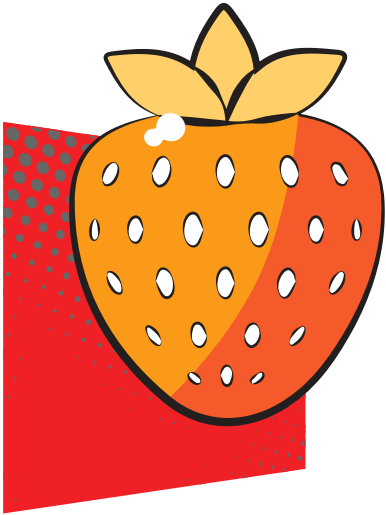
The Bayani Ka! Awards of the DSWD is an annual event that aims to recognize the exemplary efforts of Kalahi-CIDSS community volunteers and LGU-partners in ensuring not only the completion of their identified sub-projects, but also in actively supporting citizen participation in local governance and poverty alleviation initiatives.

While winning the award branded the LGU of Barugo as a CDD Champion, the municipality went beyond its responsibility as a partner CDD implementer of DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS. Today, Barugo is a CDD Ambassador in Eastern Visayas, pushing for the legislation and institutionalization of the CDD approach across all municipalities in the region.

With the collective action of the residents and local government of Barugo, the town has accomplished a total of 46 Kalahi-CIDSS sub-projects funded by the MCC, while a total of 65 projects were constructed and had been turned-over to communities under the National Community Driven Development Program (NCDDP) Cycles 1 to 3.

Meanwhile, as of December 31, 2017, a total of 5,787 sub-projects have been completed in Eastern Visayas, with a total fund disbursement of P4.3 Billion from NCDDP Cycles 1 to 3 and funding from the Incentive Grant and the Tier 2 Implementation for selected champion municipalities.

The program has also already engaged a total of 198,574 community volunteers who were highly trained, leading to the successful implementation of their identified community projects.



The Strawberries of the South

In Sitio Toril, Barangay New Dumangas, in the mountainous Municipality of T'boli, South Cotabato lies a strawberry farm that sits in a hectare of land.

Through the beneficiaries' hard work and dedication, the farm is slowly becoming a tourist attraction in T'boli where visitors enjoy picking fresh strawberries.

The farm—the only one in the town and in the whole province—is owned and operated by 33 beneficiaries of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps).



THE 'BERRY' START

When the beneficiaries received a livelihood grant from the Sustainable Livelihood Program, they only had one thing in mind: to set up an agri-business.

The idea to cultivate strawberries in their village was discussed during the regular family development sessions, where they meet to discuss various topics to further improve their living conditions.

The cool temperature in the village is conducive to planting strawberry. In addition, the location of Sitio Toril is strategic

because it is close to the town's tourist spots such as the Bakngeb River and Lake Holon.

To start the farm, the beneficiaries decided to borrow the land owned by their fellow beneficiary and 4Ps parent leader Anabelle Wating, who also agreed to let her land be used for their livelihood project.

The members then contributed P200 each to cover the cost of seedlings and fertilizers. They bought strawberry runners from Romy Antang, an agri-product technician,

who, upon seeing the perseverance of the group, decided to volunteer for them.

Romy became the volunteer agri-technician of the beneficiaries, providing them with technical assistance in the production of strawberries. He also visited the farm once a week to check on its progress and allowed the group to borrow money for him to pay for important expenses. Because of all his help, the residents of the town have always been very thankful to Romy.



EFFECTIVE OPERATION

To effectively operate their farm, the beneficiaries divided the responsibilities among themselves. They devised a schedule for the farm's proper maintenance. They also formed teams who were given assigned schedules and tasks. For instance, the group of Jurie Limbong, one of the beneficiaries, was scheduled to clean and maintain the farm every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Aside from strawberries, the beneficiaries also planted cosmos flowers.

They used the petals of the flowers as insecticide, which they sprinkle over strawberry flowers to drive away insects and other pests. This is an organic technique that the group learned from Romy. They have also started to grow asparagus on vacant parts of the farm.

Today, the beneficiaries already have a strawberry nursery in the farm and are now growing their own strawberry runners.

The farm has also grown to have a total of 500 strawberry plants, which regularly yield fruits.

The beneficiaries are planning to plant more strawberry seedlings, and eventually, dragon fruit, to increase their harvest.

Seeing the potential of the farm as a tourist attraction, the local government of T'boli plans to construct comfort rooms and a guest receiving hall in the farm. This is the town's way to promote the micro-enterprise of the beneficiaries and to make it a year-round destination in the municipality that would attract both local and foreign visitors.



ASEAN marks 50 years of successful regional solidarity

It has been 50 years since the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was formally established by the foreign ministers of five countries, namely: Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, and the Philippines.

For its golden year anniversary celebration, hundreds of participants from various government agencies, the academe, local and international press, and members of the public joined the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the ASEAN, dubbed as “Under One Light, We Are One ASEAN” at the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) Complex, Pasay City.

To start the celebration, various schools from Metro Manila joined the ASEAN Grand Parade which presented the ten ASEAN member states and various festivals in the Philippines such as the Higantes Festival from Angono, Rizal and the Sinulog Festival of Cebu.

After the parade, poems, dances and songs from various performers and ASEAN pop artists, featuring the Philippines' very own romantic balladeer Christian Bautista, echoed throughout the CCP Complex to show the diverse culture and history of the ASEAN region.



To cap off the event, Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) Assistant Secretary Ma. Helen De La Vega and National Artist for Literature and National Commission for Culture and Arts (NCCA) chair Mr. Virgilio Almario led the ceremonial landmark lighting of the ASEAN Lantern which was also simultaneously done in different key cities in the Philippines and in the capital cities of ASEAN member states.

Former DSWD Secretary Judy M. Taguiwalo, who chairs the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) this year, expressed her solidarity with all those involved in marking the momentous occasion.

She said, “As we celebrate 50 golden years of ASEAN, we would like to articulate our best wishes to all the ASEAN member states for their continuing efforts to pursue peace, prosperity, and inclusive development in the region.”

“This event is an opportunity to put the spotlight on the successful camaraderie and unity among the ASEAN’s member states, not only during times of humanitarian and disaster crises, but also during the daily efforts to address the roots of poverty in the region, to empower the marginalized sectors such as persons with disability (PWDs), children and youth, and women, and to serve our people better,” she added.

“The event also provides an opportunity to reflect on what must be done to further improve efforts in the region to create a more people-centered and people-oriented ASEAN. This means that we must continue to dedicate ourselves to serving our people, to be fully accountable and responsive to their needs,” she further said.

“We hope that the next chapter of ASEAN will focus not only on improving the economic condition of our member states, but also to provide more platforms to reduce inequality and to provide a safer environment and society for our children, our children’s children, and for the next generation,” she ended.

NATIONS MODEL FOR SOCIAL WELFARE

Former DSWD Secretary Judy M. Taguiwalo urged the members of the ASEAN to develop a model for social welfare to ensure that social protection programs are carried out effectively and efficiently.

“Perhaps we can develop an ASEAN model for social welfare, which builds industries and create wealth from within. We need not look far, I trust in all your capabilities,” Sec. Taguiwalo stated in her message during the opening ceremony of the High Level Conference on Social Protection ceremony at the Sofitel Hotel in Pasay City last August 15, 2017.

The former DSWD chief also said that cash transfers are not the solution to poverty. She asked, “How do we wean governments out of cash transfer solutions? This is the P80 billion and increasing question that we at the DSWD are grappling with. With this amount, we can provide free college education, irrigation, and yet here we are looking for ways to pay for cash transfer through tax increases.

Former Sec. Taguiwalo is the Philippines’ ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Leader.

The ASCC Pillar bats for a people-oriented and people-centered ASEAN and ASEAN’s resiliency. The ASCC Pillar is one of the three Community Councils within ASEAN which is focused on nurturing the human, cultural and natural resources for sustained development in a harmonious and people-oriented ASEAN.

The High – Level Conference on Social Protection tackled the Overview of Regional Framework and Action Plan to Implement the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection; Social Protection in the ASEAN; UNICEF Social Protection Strategic Framework and Initiatives in the ASEAN; and Country Report Presentation of Good Practices on Social Protection.

Meanwhile, Former Assistant Secretary Aleli Bawagan represented the DSWD at the on-going High-Level Regional Conference on Open Government, a side event of the Philippines’ chairmanship of the ASEAN at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) in Pasay City.

Cabinet Secretary Leoncio Evasco Jr. delivered the keynote message to the attendees of the event

which serves as a convergence of representatives from the government and civil society at the local and international level to discuss the best practices in implementing good governance initiatives and open government reforms, and to encourage the other ASEAN member states to join the Open Government Partnership (OGP).

The event also marks the launching of the 2017-2019 Philippine Open Government Partnership (PH-OGP) National Action Plan. The Philippines hosts this year’s ASEAN Summit with the theme, “Partnering for Change, Engaging the World.”

Perhaps we can develop an ASEAN model for social welfare, which builds industries and create wealth from within”

Sec. Taguiwalo



DSWD continues to serve indigent clients

When the school season started in June 2017, former DSWD Secretary Judy M. Taguiwalo assured the public that the agency will continue to assist clients who want to secure educational assistance through the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) program of the department.

"Marami sa mga kababayan natin ang gustong makakuha ng educational assistance dahil simula na ang pasukan sa elementary at high school (The DSWD is currently being flooded with clients who want to secure educational assistance because it is the start of the school period for elementary and high school)," former Sec. Taguiwalo said.



Clients lined up by the hundreds at the DSWD compound to avail of educational assistance. This has been the pattern in the last few years, especially during school opening.

"Hindi naman bago ang ganitong pangyayari tuwing magpapasukan. Kahit maliit lang ito, ang educational assistance ng DSWD ay nakakatulong mapagaan kahit paano ang bigat ng mga gastusin ng mga magulang para sa tuition at iba pang bayarin ng kanilang mga anak. Pandagdag din ito sa kanilang pambili ng school supplies, baon sa eskwela, at pamasahe ng kanilang mga anak (This is nothing new. Every year, we expect the number of clients asking for educational assistance during and before the start of the school year to surge. Even if the educational assistance we can provide is not at all exorbitant, it is still useful because it helps ease the financial burdens of parents when it comes to tuition costs, school supplies, and the transportation and food needs of their children)," she explained.

To avail of the educational assistance, clients have to go through the screening process where they need to submit the following documents: 1) Enrollment Assessment Form/Certificate of Enrollment or Registration; 2) Student's school ID; and 3) Barangay Certificate of Residency or Indigency. The maximum amount of assistance which can be provided to the client is five thousand pesos.

Meanwhile, the social welfare former chief also clarified that despite the huge number of clients asking for educational assistance, other services of the AICS programs such as the provision of medical, burial and transportation assistance will continue. With the urgency of the burial and medical assistance, the cash aid or guarantee letter can be released immediately.

She also said that the DSWD augments operations by deploying social workers from other bureaus to assist social workers working in the Crisis Intervention Unit (CIU) to interview and assess AICS clients.

"Kami po ay saludo sa mga magulang na nagsisikap na maitaguyod na mapag-aral ang kanilang mga anak kaya po aming ginagawa ang lahat ng aming makakaya upang maayos at epektibong maisagawa ang mga programa ng ahensya upang mas marami ang mabigyan ng tulong (We salute parents who strive to provide education to their children. This is the reason why we continue to improve the services of the agency so that we can reach more people in need)," former Sec. Taguiwalo said.

03 SILONG

NG PAG-ASA

Providing haven for
the homeless



CONTENT

59 HOME FOR THE LIVING



Home for the living

Collective action and provision of appropriate interventions will help address the plight of homeless Filipinos.

The DSWD launched #HELPhomelessPH campaign with the tagline, “Responsableng Tulong ang Kailangan ng mga Taong Nakatira sa Lansangan!” to encourage the different sectors of the society to respond to the decade-long problem of homelessness in the country.

The Department intends to raise public awareness on the actual situation of homeless families and the reasons why they stay on the streets.

It is also a call to action for everyone which includes non-government organizations (NGOs), civil society organizations (CSOs), national and local government agencies, and the private sector to work together to help address the needs of this often neglected vulnerable sector.

The campaign encourages the right kind of assistance that will bring back their dignity and hope to achieve their dreams; not through alms-giving which threatens their safety, security and health.

“Napunta kasi kami dito matapos kami ma-landslide sa San Mateo, tapos nawalan kami ng bahay. Namatayan ako ng dalawang anak. Sa pedicab lang kami natutulog (Our house was buried in a landslide in San Mateo where I lost two of my children. This is why we now stay in a pedicab),” a street dweller in Quezon City Lolita Callado said.

Aling Lolita is one of the thousands of Filipinos with no decent shelter that is supposed to safeguard her family from the dangers of living on the streets.

PROGRAMS FOR HOMELESS PERSONS

As of December 2017, the DSWD already caters to 3,557 active beneficiaries of the Modified Conditional Cash Transfer for Homeless Street Families (MCCT-HSF).


From 2011 to 2016, the Comprehensive Program for Street Children, Street Families and IPs assisted 14,216 children and 10,390 families which include members of the Sama-Bajau group in the National Capital Region (NCR).

For 2017, the program provided assistance to 2,684 non-Bajau children and 1,438 Bajau children.

The program helps beneficiaries with their civil and birth registration for both newborns as well as adults without copies of their birth certificate. Beneficiaries are also assisted in securing marriage certificates, and are given opportunities to attend trainings.

The DSWD, together with local government units (LGUs), also operate and manage 58 community-based child-friendly spaces or activity centers where street children and youth can play, learn, eat, shower, and socialize as they are monitored and cared for by social workers and volunteers.

*Blessing of the new home
of the Ramirez family*



The Department also conducts the Reach-out Operation for Children, Families and Unattached Adult At-Risk on the Street through the @savestreetkids Twitter account. Concerned citizens are encouraged to report children at risk by stating the exact location and situation of the child or children seen on the streets.

From January to December 2017, the reach out team was able to reach out to a total of 357 individuals. They were provided with appropriate interventions by DSWD social workers.

These programs are specifically implemented for children and families at-risk on the streets.

However, the Department can only do so much within its mandate to provide social protection for Filipinos in need. Given this, the public is encouraged to help to provide the right type of assistance to homeless families and individuals by holding gift-giving activities, conducting feeding programs, and donating to centers and institutions that help street children and other homeless individuals.

HOMELESS NO MORE

"Malipayon ko nga ang among pamilya magpuyo na gyud sa usa ka balay. Among kaugalingong balay. Sa una man gud, sementeryo ra gyud ang nahimo namong pinuy-anan (I am happy that our family will now live in a real house. We used to live in Carreta Cemetery," said Arlene F. Ramirez, 32, as she happily shares the story of her life.

From the time she was two years old, Arlene had lived in a graveyard with her parents. When she became an adult and began to raise a family of her own, she promised herself that one day she would find a decent home where her children can grow.

Now, Arlene is among the 20 Modified Conditional Cash Transfer (MCCT) partner-beneficiaries who own decent houses in Brgy. Kalunasan, Cebu City.

Through the partnership of the DSWD Field Office VII and the Pagtambayoyong Foundation, Inc., former street-dwellers can now raise their children in safe, low-cost housing units by means of a rent-to-own scheme.



Ramirez family

The MCCT program targets beneficiaries who are not covered by the regular Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) beneficiaries since they need special protection. Beneficiaries include street families, indigenous families, and those who were affected by disasters.

In addition to the regular assistance provided to the partner-beneficiaries, they also receive a rent subsidy for a maximum of P4,000 per month up to 12 months.

"Karon nga aduna na mi kaugalingon balay, paningkamotan namo sa akong bana nga mapadayon kini aron dili na mi mobalik sa sementeryo (Now that we have the means to rent and one day own a real house, my husband and I have to strive hard so we can continue paying the rent and no longer return to the cemetery)," said Arlene.

She adds to the family funds by selling rugs, while her husband works as a roof installer. Together they support the needs of their four children.

The Pagtambayoyong Foundation also provided opportunities for her and other beneficiaries to augment their income by teaching them how to make chorizo.

Currently, the DSWD hopes to collaborate with more private organizations and other stakeholders to help provide assistance to the needs of homeless individuals and families by providing them basic needs such as food, shelter, clothing, water, as well as, livelihood opportunities.



I am happy that our family will now live in a real house

04 KAAGAPAY

Delivering accessible
assistance for
the seniors



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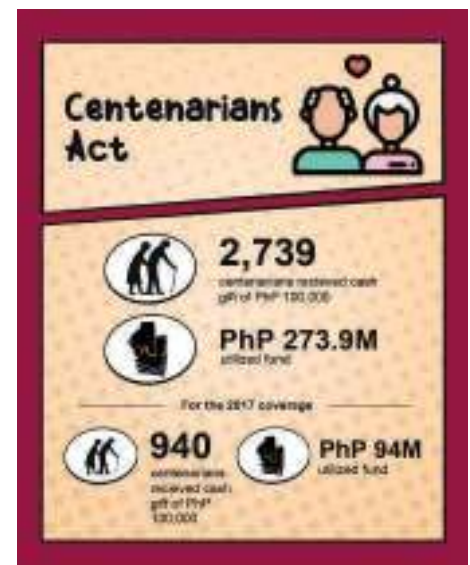


Centenarians, families grateful for P100K gift

“Tinood ba ni? Ako ba jud ni? Karon lang ko nakagunit og ani nga kuarta (Is this true? Is this really mine? This is my first time to have this much money),” Nanay Eleuteria said.

Nanay Eleuteria along with other centenarians and their families expressed gratitude for the P100,000 they received through the DSWD.

Under Republic Act No. 10868, all Filipinos who live up to 100 years, otherwise known as centenarians, will also receive a Letter of Felicitation from the President whether he or she is in the Philippines or not. Centenarians also receive a plaque of recognition and a cash incentive from their respective cities or municipal governments.



DSWD Regional Director for Davao Region Mercedita P. Jabagat personally visited the residence of some centenarians and handed over the cash gift.

"Most of them were teary-eyed and speechless when they received the gift. Others seemed confused and even asked 'why,' overwhelmed of the unbelievable amount they were given," Director Jabagat shared.

At first, Tatay Casimero, 104, refused to receive the cash, insisting that he wanted food instead. "*Dili ko* (I will not accept that)." On the other hand, Tatay Margarito, 102, thought that it was a loan and must be repaid. He was reluctant to receive it because he thought he would be unable to pay it back. "*Wala koy ikabayad pag-abot sa panahon* (I could not repay that)." But it was made clear to both of them that the cash was a gift from the government and was theirs to use for their daily needs.

Others were giddy with happiness after receiving the centenarian gift.

"*Buotan ang gobyerno, very good. Pasalamat ko sa Ginoo kay gihatagan ko og taas nga kinabuhi* (The government is good. I thank God for giving me a long life)," said 104 year-old Nanay Flordiluna from Davao Del Sur. Nanay Flordiluna has 10 children.

Tatay Sixto, 100, said he will offer a mass and share some of the amount with his children. "*Magpa misa ko ug bahinan pud nako ang akong mga anak* (I will offer a mass and will also share this with my children)."

Most of the recipient centenarians have more than 10 children and have no illness. They don't take any medicine either, and some are still able to move about on their own.

A 104 year-old farmer, Tatay Melecio still wished for a longer life. He said prayers are very important in his life. "*Kanunay jud ko mag-ampo kay importante kini* (I always pray because it is important)." Surprised but grateful, he even prayed twice and cried before receiving the cash. Tatay Melecio's secret to long life is drinking bahal (coconut wine).

The 112 year-old Nanay Diosdada also shared her secret to long life. "*Wala koy vetsin, walay softdrink, walay karne. Permi ko gulay, patatas ug kamote* (I don't take food seasoning, drink softdrinks or eat meat. I always eat vegetables, potato and camote)."

In 2017, 107 centenarians in Davao Region received their unexpected "gift."



**The
government
is good**

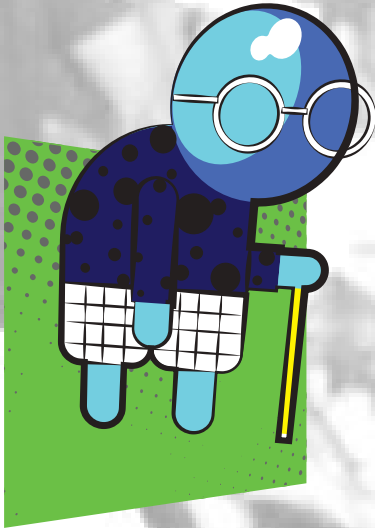
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Nanay Flordiluna



**This is
my first time
to have
this much
money**

Nanay Eleuteria



Lolo Leonardo gets social pension

"I was once durable and sturdy like the sugar cane."

These were Lolo Leonardo Genodia's words when asked about his life. Having been born from a family that had worked in the sugar fields for generations, he was one of the haciendera workers in Brgy. Zamora, Pontevedra, Negros Occidental. His family used to be resident farm workers of the hacienda in their area.

Growing up, Lolo Leonardo had always chosen work over school. "*Pigado gid kami (We are really poor)*," he stressed.

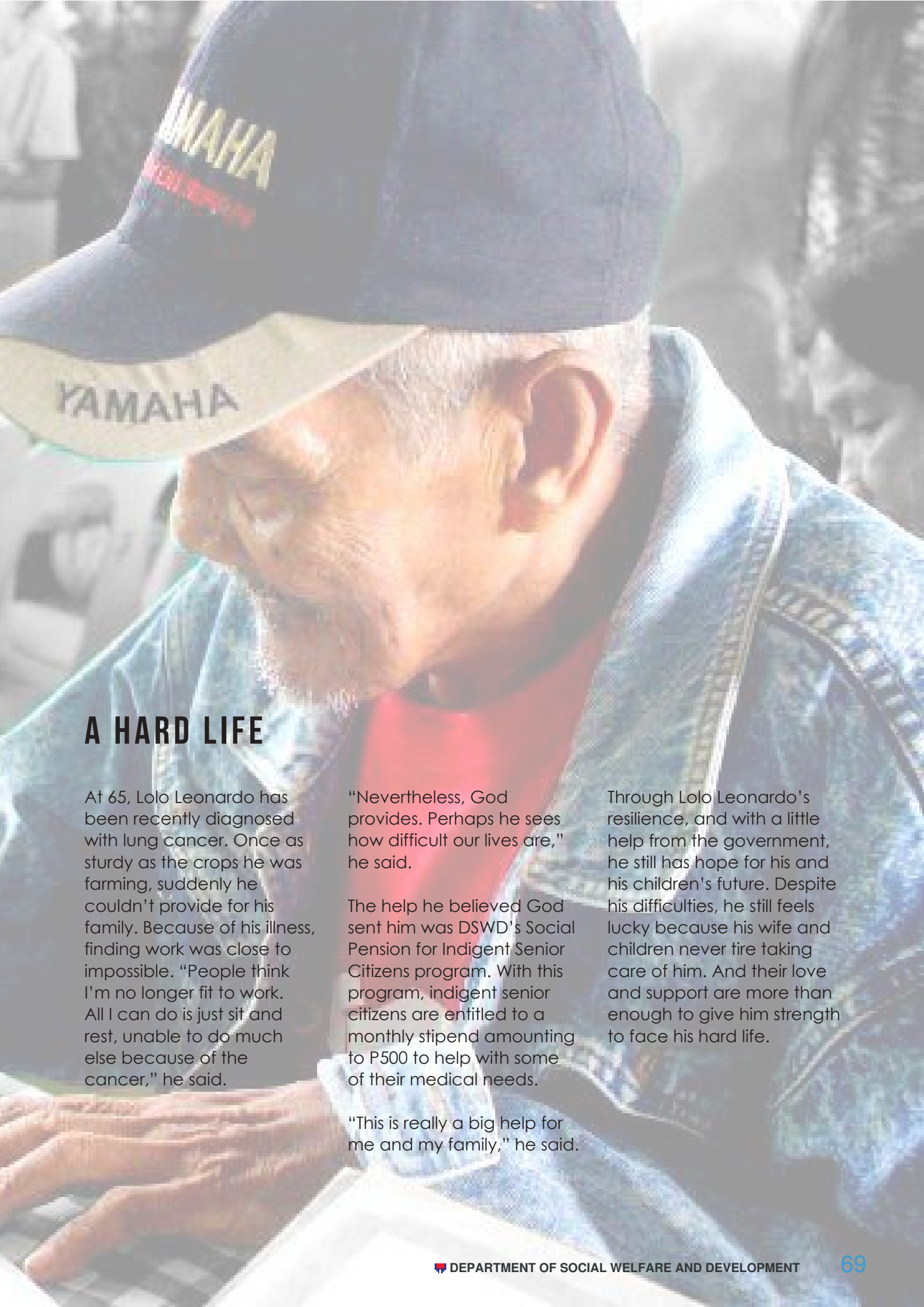
"Until I had my own family, I continued to work, took on whatever work that came my way so I could earn and feed my wife and five children."

For years, Lolo Leonardo survived by accepting different jobs that were available especially during dead season (*tiempo muerto*). "I never chose jobs; the most important thing for me was to earn for my family," he shared.

His hard work paid off—all his children finished high school and now have their own families. "They found better work than I did and can send their children to school," he said.



This is really a big help for me and my family



A HARD LIFE

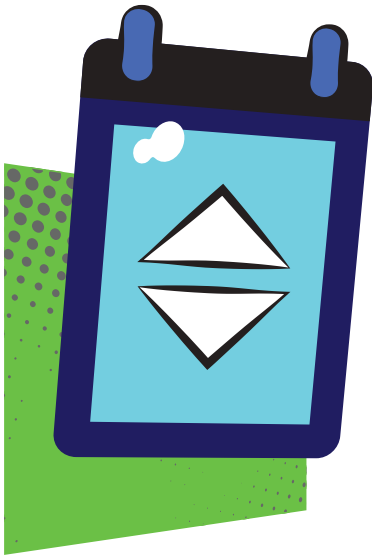
At 65, Lolo Leonardo has been recently diagnosed with lung cancer. Once as sturdy as the crops he was farming, suddenly he couldn't provide for his family. Because of his illness, finding work was close to impossible. "People think I'm no longer fit to work. All I can do is just sit and rest, unable to do much else because of the cancer," he said.

"Nevertheless, God provides. Perhaps he sees how difficult our lives are," he said.

The help he believed God sent him was DSWD's Social Pension for Indigent Senior Citizens program. With this program, indigent senior citizens are entitled to a monthly stipend amounting to P500 to help with some of their medical needs.

"This is really a big help for me and my family," he said.

Through Lolo Leonardo's resilience, and with a little help from the government, he still has hope for his and his children's future. Despite his difficulties, he still feels lucky because his wife and children never tire taking care of him. And their love and support are more than enough to give him strength to face his hard life.



Age doesn't matter

At 62, Zosimo "Tay Simoy" Galvez thought he was content making charcoal and working on his little parcel of land. For someone who is an elementary school graduate and now a senior citizen, he thought this was the most he could do for his family of seven.

This changed when KALAHI-CIDSS came to his town in Sibunag, Guimaras. His positive attitude of unwavering responsibility and reliability made him the perfect volunteer for the government community project.

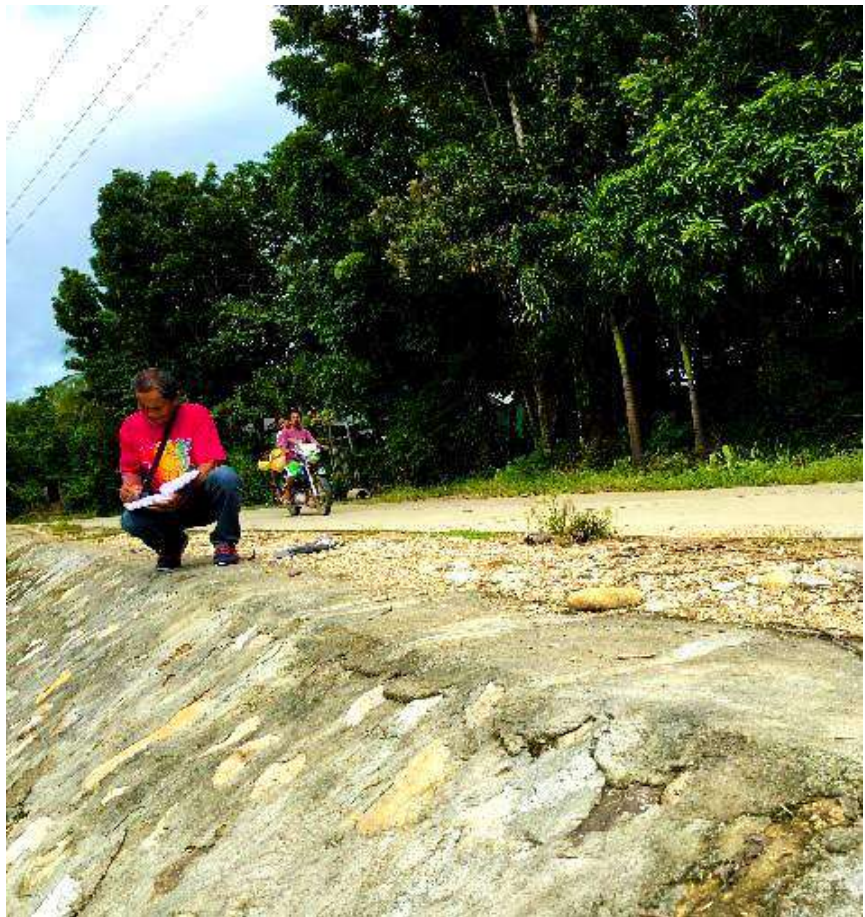
Tay Simoy is a senior citizen with an active role in Kalahi-CIDSS.

His role as a father went beyond leading his own family. He now feels like he is also a father to his community.

Starting with a Kindergarten Sub-Project (MCC-Cycle 2), Tay Simoy spent his time helping with the project, its maintenance and innovative enhancement processes. Because of the project, mothers in his community can now earn extra income while their children are at the Kindergarten. Beyond this, when a 2-classroom high school building project (MCC Cycle 3) finished, children are able to get an education in a convenient learning environment.

DOING MORE

In the morning, people will find Tay Simoy walking along the rice fields. Since he lives far from the barangay proper, it would take him almost an hour to reach the project site. People would ask him why walk such a long distance when he could ride a motorcycle instead. But Tay Simoy would simply say, “*Gapanaw ta pa gane katong lupa pa ayhan pa ka jang semento doron*” (We walked this muddy road before; why not do the same when it's already cemented).



But he walked, it also seems, for the opportunity to chat with other community members along his way. He would then share the wonderful stories during meetings. He was more than just a volunteer; he was the messenger who ensured that the views of the community were heard during the project implementation process.

More than that, he helped resolve problems and settle grievances of the workforce in the project sites. He would use his people skills and connections to tap the help of others to make the work easier. He made sure that the work ran smoothly.

During assemblies, Tay Simoy would conduct information dissemination activities among BSPMC members as well as the council and would encourage them to inform all the community members to participate. He would also tell members to go house-to-house to inform families regarding the activities they should engage in.

He actively participated in the discussions regarding the project. He helped explain to people what the sub-project was all about – what exactly they were building, how the project implementation was going, what issues and concerns were raised, and more -- to practice transparency.

Even though he was not a direct beneficiary of the projects (given that the project sites are far from his sitio) he still did not hesitate to agree whenever he was asked to do something. “*Ako tana bisan mabudlay kanakon maglakat halin sa puno asta sa punta ka site, disideran ko ro man lang ja kay amon ja project* (Even if it's difficult for me to walk from one end of the project site to the other, I'm willing to go the distance because this is our project),” Tay Simoy said.

05

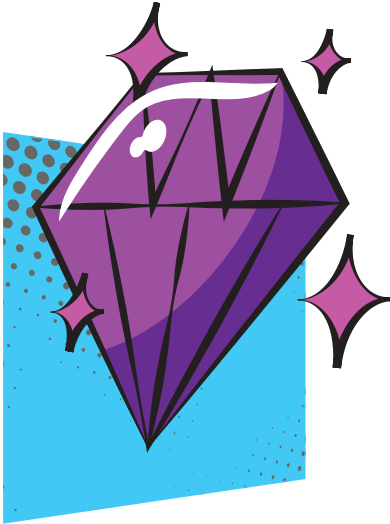
MGA PANGARAP NG MUSMOS

A child friendly
society



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A child miner's love and sacrifice

Lester used to shovel rocks and squat over a large sifting pan for hours searching for tiny pebbles and bits of precious metal, smaller than rice grains.

Being the eldest in the brood of five, Lester was obliged to help his father Rodolfo, 34, to earn a living for their family. He first entered a mine at age seven, when he accompanied his father who was a miner. His tasks at the start included sending food down to the mining area. Later, he was carrying heavy loads of rocks from the hill down to their house.

Life is harsh for this young boy. His day at the mines starts at seven in the morning and ends in the afternoon. He asks for low-grade ore from miners and carries the heavy sack of rocks to their house. He then pounds the rocks with a mallet before these can be ground in the ball mill. When the rocks are reduced to a fine powder, he adds mercury to see if these contain gold.

In a day, he usually earns PhP 175 for forming a small coin gold called "aliwan". This supplements the family's everyday living.

"Kadalasan, dalawang beses lang kami kumain sa isang araw. Pag wala kaming bigas na maisaing, kangos ung kinakain namin (We usually eat twice a day. When we have no rice to cook, we eat "kangos", a cassava-like root crop)."

Lester's mother Melanie, 35, knows that mining is dangerous. *"Bilang isang ina, nag-aalala ako sa kanyang kaligtasan, pero wala kaming choice, wala kaming ibang mapagkakakitaan (As a mother, I worry about his safety but we have no choice, we do not have other ways to earn),* she says.

LOST CHILDHOOD

Lester usually goes to school without a meal or “baon.” He needs P40 a day to commute to school. Sometimes, he has to walk when his parents are unable to give him money.

After school, instead of playing, he takes care of his siblings at home, helps his parents do household chores, and then works in the mine.

“Ayaw ko maglaro kasi kailangan ko pang alagaan ang mga kapatid ko.” (I don’t like to play because I need to take care of my siblings), Lester said.

Lester was only in 7th grade when he was forced to quit school because his father was diagnosed with tuberculosis, and his mother was nursing a month-old baby.

“Kailangan ko maghanap buhay para sa amin dahil ako ang panganay at may sakit si Papa (I have to earn to provide for our daily needs because I’m the eldest and Papa is ill),” he said.

No playtime, no afternoon naps. This is the kind of childhood Lester had.

HARSH REALITIES

Lester is one of the children in Brgy. Palanas, Paracale, Camarines Norte who had to forego their childhood and engage in toxic and hazardous work at an early age.

Derived from the local term para cale meaning “canal digger,” Paracale is known as a gold town. Gold mining or “pagkakabod” is the primary means of livelihood for most of the townsfolk. The search for gold has become a way of life.

A survey conducted by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) in 2011 showed that 2.1 million children are engaged in child labor in the Philippines, 218,400 of whom live in Region V.

Similarly, in 2015, the DSWD’s Listahanan recorded 25,304 poor working children in the region. Most of them are laborers and unskilled workers.

In a study on the worst forms of child labor (WFCL) conducted by the DSWD Social Technology Bureau, it was found that poverty is the main reason for children’s engagement in dangerous work.

Mining is physically dangerous especially for children like Lester-

the strenuous work, carrying heavy loads, exposure to extreme heat and cold, and contact with toxic chemicals like mercury.

“Sabi ni Papa, masama sa katawan ang asoge, lalo na kung niluluto ito.” (Father said mercury is harmful to the body, especially when it is heated), Lester said.

He also said that he does not use safety gear in handling the mercury. At an early age, Lester experienced going inside the narrow tunnels. “Mainit, masyadong madilim, nakakatakot at mahirap huminga sa ilalim.” (It’s hot, too dark, scary and it’s hard to breathe in the tunnel), he said.



**I want to
finish school
so I can find
a job one day
and help my
parents and
siblings**

”

Lester

A NEW HOPE

When asked if he would leave the mine if he has an option, “*Opo, mahirap ang pagkakatod, masakit sa katawan* (Yes, mining is very tiring, it causes body pain).”

The DSWD has taken a closer look at this serious situation. As a member of the National Labor Committee, the agency supports the Philippine Program against Child Labor 2017-2022 which aims to withdraw one million children from child labor. This is also in accordance with the calls to end child labor in all its forms by 2025.

With this, the department created the Strategic Help Desks for Information, Education, Livelihood and other Developmental Interventions (SHIELD) program to help combat child labor in the country.

SHIELD is being implemented in three regions, namely Calabarzon, Eastern Visayas, and Bicol Region, where high numbers of children are found working under hazardous conditions in industries like deep-sea fishing, agriculture, and mining.



The SHIELD project aims to strengthen the capability of local government units (LGUs) in the prevention and elimination of child labor through the establishment of local child labor registration system that will identify child laborers in the community and monitor their cases. It also calls for the establishment of barangay help desks that will provide services for child laborers and their families.

Lester is one of the identified children beneficiaries of SHIELD project.

Part of the intervention of the program is the provision of an educational grant amounting to P500 monthly and livelihood assistance for parents.

“*Gusto ko makapag tapos ng pag-aaral para makapag hanap ng magandang trabaho at matulungan ko ang aking mga magulang at kapatid* (I want to finish school so I can find a job one day and help my parents and siblings),” he said.

He dreams for his parents to have a bakery and for his siblings to also secure an education. SHIELD gives him hope that he can one day turn his dreams into reality.



Resilience, hardwork, keys to achieving Cienna's dreams

Cienna is an exemplary child representative of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program from NCR.

She is currently 14 years old and the oldest among four siblings. She is studying at Manila Science High School. Despite their situation, she managed to excel in her studies and actively participate in social organizations. She lives in their grandparent's shanty under a bridge. Growing up, she learned to understand their difficult living conditions such as the unhealthy environment.

She helps her grandmother in repacking and selling different goods at the streets to sustain their daily needs. She also does household chores and assists her younger siblings in their school assignments.

During onslaught of typhoons, their family always evacuates to the nearest shelter to ensure everyone's safety. Despite the difficulty of this scenario and the inevitable thought of having nothing to go back to, she did not pity their situation. Instead, she used this as a motivation to study hard so that they will overcome it someday. Cienna inculcated in herself the need to become stronger for her siblings.

In elementary, she was bullied by her classmates because of their situation. Instead of being upset, she focused on her studies. She became a consistent honor student which led her to be the Class Valedictorian and the first student from their school to be admitted to Manila Science High School.

In fact, she was also featured through an interview by GMA 7 due to her hard-earned success despite their family's situation. Until now, she is striving hard to remain an Honor student in MaSci.

SILENT ACHIEVER

Mrs. Diana Grace Aniban, class adviser of Cienna, expressed how proud and grateful she is that Cienna will be the representative of NCR in the National Search for Exemplary Child 2017.

During weekdays, Cienna has to struggle waking up early just to take a boat ride from their home to school which is the cheapest mode of transportation.

Her English teacher who is well-aware of her family's situation, supported Cienna through provision of free lunch. Cienna would always say, "*Maswerte po ako na kahit ganito po nangyari sa pamilya namin, marami pa rin ang nagmamahal sa 'kin*" (I'm lucky that even though this happened to my family, there are many people who love me).

Cienna said that she keeps on being true to herself, but not to gain sympathy of others. She also makes sure that the people around her feel her overwhelming gratitude. Despite her battles, she was called a "Silent Achiever" by her adviser. She works on her success silently through giving so much attention to the value of education.

"Siya kasi yung tipo ng tao na hindi mo mapapansin sa umpisa dahil tahimik lang siya at hindi siya loud, pero kapag nakita mo yung ginawa niya, nag-eexcel talaga siya." (At first, you will not notice her as she is quiet, but eventually, you can see that she excels on what she does).

She always tries her best to cope with class discussions and she never stops asking questions until she understood the lectures. Cienna is also friendly with her schoolmates. She was also recognized as one of the outstanding students in their class and never fails to receive honors every end of the school year.



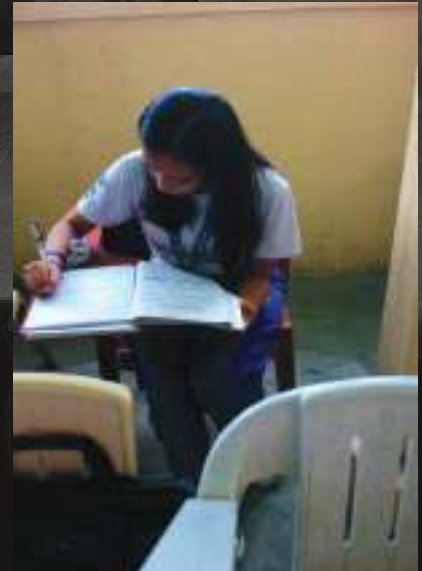
BEYOND THE FOUR-CORNERS OF THE CLASSROOM

Cienna is also a youth volunteer in Kanlungan sa Ermita Manila, also known as Kanlungan sa ErMa, a non-government organization which caters to street children. She feels blessed to be part of this organization and being one of their scholars. She enjoys the commitment and dedicates herself to the realization of the organization's noble goals.

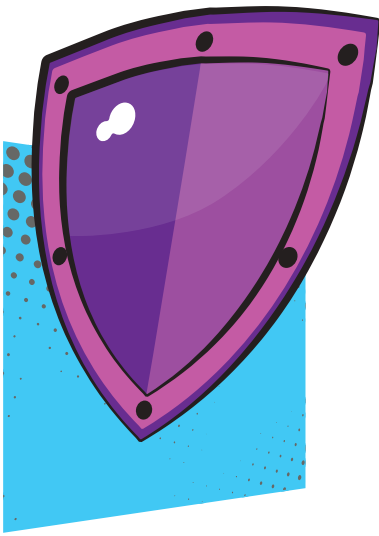
She shares almost the same situation with the children-beneficiaries who also struggle to live their lives every day.

"Masaya po ako na nakakatulong ako sa mga batang katulad ko... katulad ko na mahirap din pero iisa ang adhikain. Itong Kanlungan na ito ang magtutupad ng pangarap ng maraming batang Pilipinong katulad ko (I'm happy that I'm able to help these children who lives in poverty like me and shares the same aspirations as I have. Kanlungan will make my dreams together with these children come true.)"

As Cienna continues her journey in life, she vows to remain humble and keep inspired every day with the belief that what she does is for her family and her dreams.



I'm lucky that even though this happened to my family, there are many people who love me



Protection of children

A cliché line would say that our children is the future of our country.

Being the lead agency upholding the rights of children especially those who have been abandoned, neglected and surrendered, the DSWD conducted several activities. The main objective is to strengthen the information campaign on the importance of legal adoption and protection of children's rights. This is all for the benefits of the every community in this country.

"Strengthening the campaign on legal adoption is one of the priority programs of our Protective Services Bureau. This 2017, we plan to hold various activities for the whole year to encourage more families to support abandoned, neglected and surrendered Filipino children through foster care and legal adoption," former Secretary Judy Taguiwalo said.

Some of the major activities conducted were walk for legal adoption, conferences here in the Philippines and abroad, and events that showcased children's talent on drama.

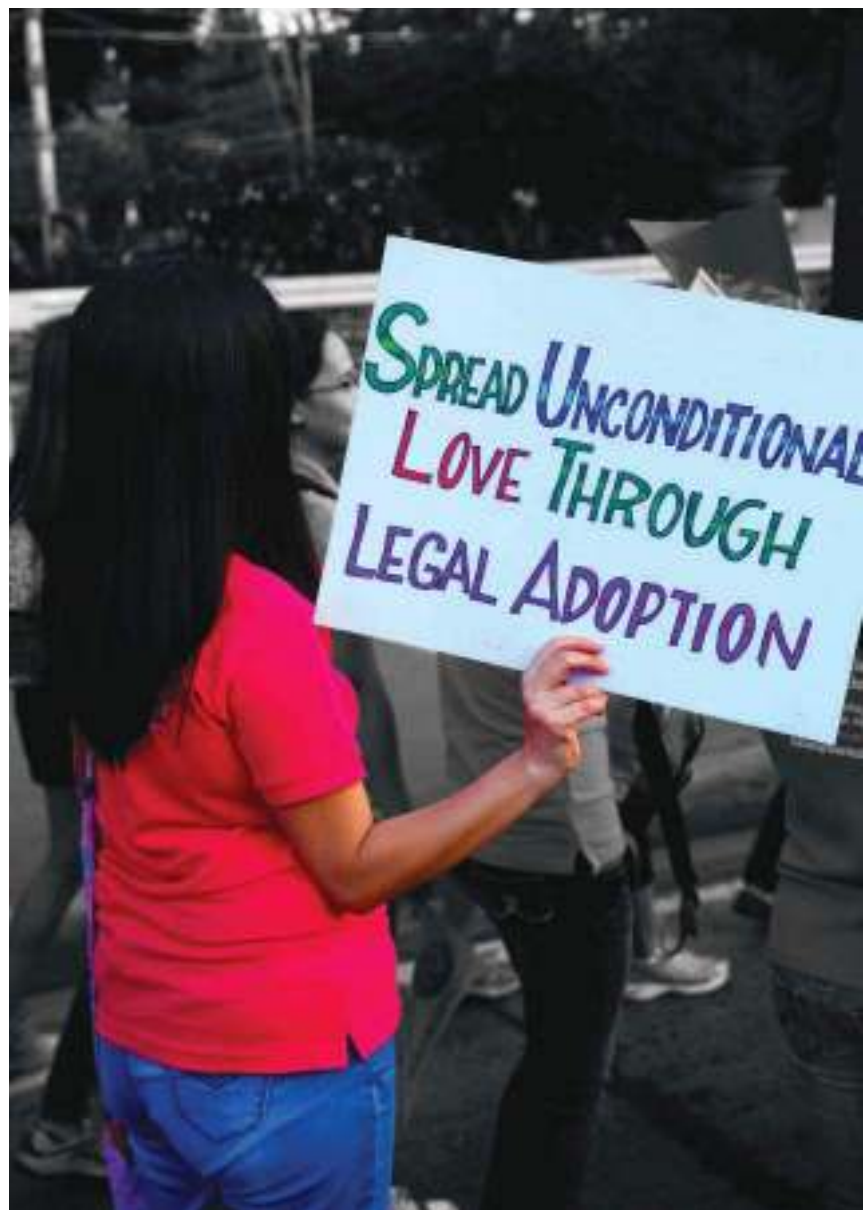
WALK FOR LEGAL ADOPTION

Hundreds of participants from various child-caring organizations, adoptive families, adoption advocates and national and local government agencies, including the DSWD, joined a “Walk for Legal Adoption” at the Quezon City Memorial Circle during the 2017 Adoption Consciousness Celebration (ACC) with the theme “*Pagmamahal Palaganapin, Legal na Pag-aampon Ating Gawin!* (Spread Unconditional Love through Legal Adoption),” and is a part of the year-round advocacy to raise public awareness on the importance of legal adoption.

Aside from the process, Dir. Alice Bonoan of Protective Services Bureau also warned the public on the repercussions of birth simulation and the DSWD’s plan to help create adoption support groups.

Moreover, adoptive parents Wowie and Joy Wong, Romeo and Maritess Brosas and celebrity couple Jimmy and LJ Alapag shared their legal adoption journey and encouraged the public to help eradicate the stigma on adoption.

Meanwhile in a separate statement, DSWD Former Secretary Judy M. Taguiwalo expressed her full support to the activity and thanked all the participants who joined the event.



ACCESSIBLE PROCESS

Seven teams of elementary school students actively participated in the dance-drama competition spearheaded by the Adoption Resource and Referral Section (ARRS) of DSWD-Caraga.

Bearing the theme "Pagmamahal Palaganapin, Legal na Pag-aampon Ating Gawin" (Spread Unconditional Love Through Legal Adoption), the competition was the Culmination of the Adoption Consciousness Week Celebration held at LJ Mega Convention, Butuan City on February 27, 2017.

In his welcome remarks, Division Chief Ramel Jamen emphasized the importance of legal adoption and encouraged partner-stakeholders to continue promoting it.

"It is important to inform the public about the process of legal adoption so that we can protect the best interest of the child, and help couples share the joy of becoming foster parents," said Jamen.

He also encouraged partner-agencies to disseminate information on adoption and promote it in communities so that more parents and families will know the importance of going through the legal process.

The following schools participated in the competition:

Butuan Central Elementary School (BCES); West City Central; J.T. Domingo; Obrebro Elementary School; Ampayon Central Elementary School; Libertad Central Elementary School; and, Couples for Christ School of the Morning Star (CFC-SMS).



Each team consisted of five to eight students.

The contenders used English or Tagalog as medium of communication, and they had five minutes to present their original piece. Students from West City Central School won first place, while CFC-SMS and BCES won 2nd and 3rd places respectively.

The celebration also awarded the internal staff from the Capability Building Unit (CBU) who won the Deca3x film contest that highlighted legal adoption. The second and third prizes were awarded to Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program and Personnel Unit, respectively.

“We want to make the process of legal adoption more accessible to families who want to adopt. Children who have been abandoned should be given all the help they need so they have a very good chance of finding families who will love them and care for them all their lives. Legal adoption is a process that will help guarantee that abandoned children will end up with the right families, and the children’s own rights are protected,” former Sec. Judy Taguiwalo said.



Employees from various offices, bureaus and units of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) march for legal adoption awareness during the "Walk for Legal Adoption" at the Quezon City Memorial Circle.

06

KATANGI- TANGING LAHI

Opening doors
for indigenous people



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THE SUBANEN TRIBE



There's still hope

At first glance, Maribel Rebadio who is 36 years old, does not have any feature that are common to the people of her tribe.

However, what she may not have in her physical attributes, she makes up for with what she has inside. Maribel has a deep and abiding love for their Sama-Bajau tribe and their rich culture. She has a dream of freeing everyone from fear and poverty, and erasing the negative image the public has of them.

Maribel, her husband, and four children live in Brgy. Malitam in Batangas City. She chose to live there to get away from poverty and conflict in their native land in Mindanao.

"Hindi naging madali ang buhay namin dito dahil pare-pareho kaming hindi nakapagtapos ng pag-aaral. Kung anu-ano ang pinasok na trabaho ng asawa ko, minsan nakakaraos kami, minsan hindi (We had a difficult life because we lacked formal education. My husband took on different jobs. Sometimes, we had things easy, but sometimes, our life was hard)."

Maribel is grateful that despite the hardships they went through, her family has come a long way. Armed with the various opportunities that came along their way, Maribel sees hope for her children and now, for her tribe's future.

THE START OF CHANGE

In 2012, Maribel's family was included among the first beneficiaries of the Modified Conditional Cash Transfer (MCCT) Program for Families in Need of Special Protection. The said program was implemented by Lingap Pangarap ng mga Paslit Center, Inc. (LPPCI), a partner civil society organization of DSWD Field Office CALABARZON.

The LPPCI has served a total of 611 Sama-Bajau families in Batangas Province. These families, after a year of being beneficiaries of the MCCT, were transitioned to the regular Pantawid Pamilya program.

"Noong napasama kami sa MCCT, unti-unting nabago ang buhay namin. Malaking bagay sa aming pamilya na may tumutulong sa pagsagot sa pangangailangan namin sa araw-araw lalo na 'yung P2,800 na suporta para sa pag-aaral ng tatlo kong anak (Our lives changed when we were included in the MCCT program.

The assistance that we receive helps us in our daily needs, especially the P2,800 assistance for the education of my three children)," she shared.

According to Maribel, the Family Development Sessions (FDS) has also opened the minds of most of the members of the tribe, particularly the parents.

"Natutunan namin sa FDS ang tamang pag-aaruga sa aming mga anak. Marami sa amin ang madalas may problema at dahil doon, napapabayaang na namin ang mga bata. Sa FDS, natuto kaming magpasensya (We learned how to properly take care of our children in our FDS sessions. Most of us face many problems and for this reason, we sometimes neglect our children.

Because of our participation in the FDS, we've learned to become more patient)," Maribel said.

The FDS is a monthly gathering of parent-grantees that teaches lessons on strengthening marital relationships, rights of children, and financial management, among others.

In the meantime, Maribel has also put up a small sari-sari store out of the savings from her husband's income as a fisherman.

"Nagsimula kami sa kalahating sakong bigas lang. Ngayon, malaki na ang aming tindahan at nagagamit na namin para suportahan ang pangangailangan ng mga bata (When we first started our sari-sari store, we only had half a sack of rice to sell. Slowly, our store began to make a modest profit, and now we have the means to provide for our children's needs)," she shared with pride.



**Our lives changed
when we were
included in the
MCCT program** ”

A CHANCE TO HELP THE TRIBE

As part of the convergence efforts of the DSWD to improve the living condition of its beneficiaries, the Sama-Bajau tribe in Batangas City was provided with other opportunities through the Comprehensive Program for Sama-Bajau.

This program is a social technology developed by the DSWD to help itinerant Sama-Bajau leave the streets. This program, through the support of the LGUs and other non-government organizations, provides a package of assistance to identified families living and working in the streets. Forms of assistance for these beneficiaries include permanent shelter, education, livelihood, and skills trainings.

As part of the comprehensive program, Maribel was trained under the Empowering Learning Sessions for Indigenous Peoples Initiatives (ELIPI) and is now a Sama-Bajau facilitator.

The ELIPI is a learning tool that helps tap the potential of Sama-Bajaus by teaching them their rights and responsibilities and capacitating them to develop self-reliance.

“Bilang facilitator ng ELIPI, nagagamit namin ang aming natutunan. Natututo na ako, nakakatulong pa ako sa aking mga kapitbahay at sa ibang mga Sama-Bajau (Because of the things I’ve learned as an ELIPI facilitator, I can help my neighbors and other Sama-Bajaus),” Maribel shared.

Admittedly, Maribel knows it is hard to impart new knowledge to Sama-Bajau parents; however, she learned to be patient with them.

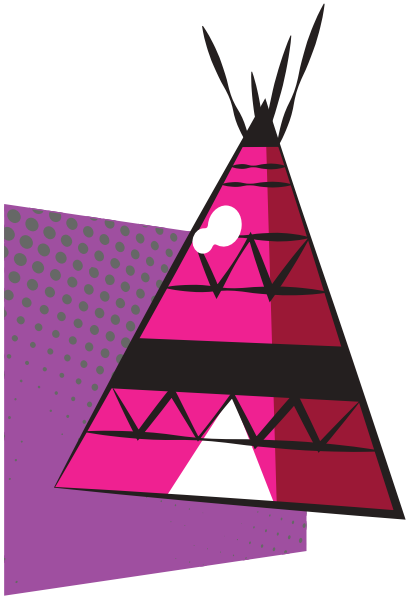
“Halos lahat dito ay hindi nakapag-aral, kaya nilalawakan namin ang pang-unawa sa kanila at ipinapaintindi ang mga gustong iparating ng ELIPI (Most of the participants here are uneducated, so we try to be as patient as we can so they can learn),” she shared.

Maribel wants to teach other parents the value of education for their children.

“Mas malayo ang mararating ng bawat Sama-Bajau kung lahat kami ay nakapag-aral. Sa kultura namin, sa edad na 14, puwede nang mag-asawa ang mga kabataan kaya hindi na nakakapagtapos ng pag-aaral. Natatalo ng kultura naming ito ang kahalagahan ng edukasyon (Sama-Bajaus can aspire for more if only we were given a chance to go to school. In our culture, education is not a priority because Sama-Bajaus can get married when they reach the age of 14. The need for education is no longer prioritized because of our traditional culture)” said Maribel.

According to her, it does not hurt to welcome a new tradition.

“Pinapaintindi namin sa kanila na bawasan ang kultura na minsan ay nakakasama na sa amin. Ang pag-aaral kasi ang magiging susi ng tagumpay sa sarili namin, sa pamilya at sa buhay namin (We try to help them understand that it is not bad to welcome new traditions. Education is the key to success for ourselves, for our family, and for our lives),” she concluded.



Building a new path for the subanen tribe

Located in the mountainous region of the Tudela Municipality of Misamis Occidental is the community of the Subanen tribe of Gala. Their main livelihood is farming; Subanens share the work from planting, harvesting, and bringing their produce to the market. The latter, however, is very difficult due to the unpaved roads and the distance of 24 kilometers from the barangay.

Recognizing the commitment of the Subanens to build a better future for the next generation, the DSWD Kalahi CIDSS-NCDDP facilitated a series of barangay assemblies and processes to improve the road that lead to Brgy. Gala.

A two-kilometer pathway sub-project to Gala was developed and conceptualized by the Subanens which will be funded through Kalahi CIDSS-NCDDP totaling P2,445,800, and with a P100,000 local counterpart from the Barangay Development Fund of Gala.



A FARMER'S TEST

Paterno E. Magante, 41, a farmer from Purok 1 in Brgy. Gala was selected by their community to act as the Barangay Sub-Project Management Committee (BSPMC) Chairperson. He shared the difficulties of implementing the sub-project, *"lisod, ilabi na nga dili parehas ang tempo sa panahon, kay naay usahay nga ala-una pa lang sa hapon, muulan dayon, usahay kusog usahay ulan* (It is difficult, especially because the weather keeps changing. There are days when the rain keeps pouring non-stop)."

"Nasabotan namo sa BSPMC Meeting nga dapat alas-sais sa buntag mag sugod ang trabaho aron mataas-taasan ang agi nila sa trabaho (We agreed in the BSPMC meeting that we need to start working at six in the morning so we can finish the work faster)", explained Paterno.

We are very happy that all our hard work has finally bore fruit



Community volunteers and hired workers during the construction of the pathway



For the Subanens of Gala, they are hopeful that the pathway will make travel to and from their community easier and faster.

“Magpasalamat gyud ko ani sa mga nagdumala aning proyekto, nahuman ra gyud. Dili na mi mag lisod mag byahe pag dala sa among mga produkto (I really thank those who made this project possible, we don't have difficulty in transporting our products)”, said Manong Berto, a Subanen resident of Brgy. Gala.

“Dako kini og katabang sa amoa nga mga Subanen kay kami nga taga Gala, pag uma ang panginabuhian, kay sa una kasagara sa among mga produkto manga daot inig abot na sa lungsod gumikan ka yang among dalan kay lisod kaayo agian. Busa dako kaayo mig pasalamat nga naapil mi sa na priority, lipay kaayo mi kay ang among kagahoy nagbunga na gyud (This is a big help for us Subanens here in Gala, farming is our livelihood. Previously, usually before, our products would rot when we get to the town proper because the roads were bad. That is why we are very thankful that we were included as priority. We are very happy that all our hard work has finally bore fruit),” concludes Paterno.



Completed part of the pathway in Barangay Gala, Tudela, Misamis Occidental.

07

MAKABAGONG KABABAIHAN

Making change
work for women



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- 96 A BETTER FUTURE FROM THE SEA



A survivor's call

Being raised in a dysfunctional family by our single mother alone, I am the eldest of four children who have different biological fathers.

When I was a kid, home was never a safe haven. Since I was five, I had suffered from repeated physical and psychological abuses from my mother, among other things I can no longer afford to narrate.

The image is still vivid on how she broke the traditional Filipino alkansya and hammered a three – inch high heel shoes on my head, how she pushed me down the stairs, and how I struggled whenever she strangled me.

I did not go to school to hide the bruises and injuries.

When I was in high school, I wondered how our mother made money despite having no permanent job. She told me that it was my father who was sending money to support us and that we would soon meet him Manila. We later on found out that mother was about to sell us to a pedophile foreigner.

After telling the incident to our relatives who reported it to authorities, we were rescued on December 13, 2008 with the help of the Tacloban City Government and Local Police. This was a day before we were about to depart from Manila to meet the foreigner.

My mother was then arrested, while my siblings and I were admitted at the DSWD Home for Girls. The foreigner and my mother pleaded guilty the following year.

I was a high school drop-out. Fortunately, I passed the DepEd-ALS examination which allowed me to enroll in college. I took up Social Work and graduated in 2014. I passed the board exam on the same year. I later got the custody of my siblings and we are now a happy family.

BREAKING THE CHAINS

All of this happened because I sought help. And they listened and took action for it. They cared because they felt responsible. All of us are responsible for others.

Women are human beings, not commodities to be bought and sold.

We found it disturbing because we really could not believe that one human being could actually commit such heinous act on another. I do not regret losing my mother.

As a victim, survivor, and now, a community member, I want to end the story of my human trafficking experience with a message for you.

You – woman, man, girl or boy, victim or survivor, whoever you are – do not mind what the world may say about you.

We hold our worth within ourselves and no one is worth more or less than another. Whatever your traffickers may be forcing you to do now, or whatever you may have done in the past, these should not diminish your value as a person.

I survived sex trafficking, and I now feel the responsibility to help others who still live in that hell and think there is no way out.

As a victim, survivor, and a community member, I'm here to tell you that we can all join in the fight against human trafficking.

We should not stay silent on this matter and help break the chains.

Human trafficking or sexual slavery can happen anywhere, in any neighborhood, and most people are not aware.

Let us say this together:
No more sexual slavery!
No more human trafficking!

I was once a victim of child trafficking. And I am now a survivor. I am now a woman who multi-task, and a woman who is never contented with her present situation. I am now a woman who makes things happen all by herself. I am now empowered.



**No
more sexual
slavery!
No more
human
trafficking!**



This is a personal account by Maria Carmela Pullantes, a Social Worker at the DSWD Field Office VIII. She was once a victim of child abuse and child trafficking.



A better future from the sea

In a village blessed with the gift of the sea, 16 mothers have found the opportunity to better reap its benefits.

Through the years, their families have been relying on the sea to provide for their needs. Never have they thought that with one business plan and a collective effort among them, they will get a bigger catch and a better chance to improve their lives.

In February 2016, 16 fisher-folk beneficiaries of the 4Ps in Brgy. Caridad Ilaya in Atimonan, Quezon Province, formed a group under the supervision of the DSWD's Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP).

SLP is one of the core poverty reduction programs of the DSWD that provides income-generating opportunities to help improve the economic sufficiency of poor individuals and families.

After a series of training and planning, the group, called the Magsikap Fishing Boat SLP Association, was awarded with PhP160,000 capital assistance, which they used to start a medium-scale fishing business. Now, they have motorized boats.

It really is a big help that we've got a source of income for our family”

EARNING MONEY FOR THEIR FAMILIES

Roelyn Marquez, one of the beneficiaries, shared that they used to be housewives who relied on their husbands' income to support their family. Some of them helped with the finances by assisting their husbands in the preparation of fishing gears.

But with the start of their fishing business, all of them found the opportunity to earn for their families.

Arlene Custosa, 51, the treasurer of the association, shared how this became possible. “Once a week *naglalaot ang bangka namin. Bago umalis ang bangka, lahat kami ay nagtutulong-tulong sa pagsisimpi* (preparation of their basket fishing gear) *na gagamitin sa panghuhuli ng isda* (Once a week, our boat would sail. Before the boat leaves, we would altogether help in the preparation of the basket fishing gear that would be used in catching fish),” Arlene said.

All the mothers involved in this preparation are paid P260 per day, which is a big help for them who used to stay at home before.

“*Napakalaking tulong sa amin na nagkakaroon kami ng pagkakakitaan. Dahil dito, tuloy-tuloy ang aming kita para sa aming pamilya*” (It really is a big help that we've got a source of income for our family), said Rodelyn Caramihan, 37, another beneficiary.

EARNING TOGETHER

While the mothers are busy with the 'pagsisimpi,' Arlene's family takes charge of preparing all the other needs such as food of the three fishermen, ice, baits and gasoline.

In their coastal community, seeing all of them working together is a bigger picture of one community dreaming together to improve their lives. The days of the preparation not only means an additional income for their respective families, but also means a great bonding opportunity for all of them. These are the times when they can share stories, plans and dreams.

After two days of 'pagsisimpi,' their boats sail to the sea. Three nights later, their boats will return, and another set of tedious tasks will face them.



"Pipiliin at aayusin namin ang mga isda, tapos dinadala namin sa bayan para ibenta. 'Yung aming pinagbentahan, ibabawas namin lahat ng ginastos mula sa gas, yelo, bayad sa mga nagsisimpi at pagkain. Ang matitira, aming pinagpaparte sa tatlo," (We carefully choose the fishes that we would sell at the town proper. After deducting our expenses on fuel, ice and food, what's left would be divided for the three equal values), said Arlene.

In the three parts of their income, one-third goes to the association. The remaining parts are divided by the fishermen who manned the boats for the last three nights.

"Nasisiguro namin na sa bawat pag-alis ng aming bangka, mayroon kaming kinikita. Amin itong gagamitin para patuloy na mapalago pa ang aming nasimulang negosyo,



HELPING THEIR FAMILIES. *These mothers, who used to stay at home, now earn income for their respective families through the group business they opened through DSWD's SLP. Together with 16 beneficiaries of the 4Ps, they are grateful for the opportunity to be productive and help achieve their dreams of a more comfortable life for their respective families.*

(We make sure that every time our boat goes to the sea, we got a good profit. We will use this to improve our business)," shared Arlene.

Once the revenue has been secured, everyone is faced with the same process again—that is helping with the preparation of the fishing gears, bonding with friends and earning money for their families.

For the 16 of them, the process of doing their business has opened a lot of opportunities, especially for mothers like them.

With the dream of changing the course of their lives for the better, all of them are grateful that they were provided with an opportunity to get more from the sea, be productive mothers and most of all, dream bigger for their future.

08 TUGON SA MGA BAGONG HAMON

Creating innovative
solutions



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- 101** KNOWLEDGE IS POWER
- 105** FLYING TO THE PEAK OF LEARNING



Knowledge is Power

After five years of hard work and commitment, DSWD Field Office Cordillera Administrative Region's Regional Learning Resource Center (RLRC) has been conferred the INNOVATE Award during the PRAISE Awards given by the Department on February 22, 2017.

Although the region already has its collection of books and DSWD materials, the "mini library" was one of the offices affected by the Field Office's structural renovation. Like most of its endeavors, DSWD-CAR faced various challenges and difficulties in setting up and maintaining its RLRC.

Guided by the former DSWD Vision Basecamps, the DSWD Field Office Cordillera Administrative Region began its journey in knowledge management in 2011.

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

To strengthen and promote the exchange of knowledge towards increased productivity and efficiency, the Department pushed to institutionalize a knowledge management system. After a series of capacity-building activities and consultations with the management, the DSWD-CAR was able to set up its RLRC which features the display and use of books, paper journals, and other publications in social welfare and social protection by stakeholders, partners, and staff within DSWD. The FO also established a library and an online catalog that includes the social welfare and social protection collections of DSWD Knowledge Exchange Center and RLRCs.

Upon the suggestion of GIP librarians to adopt the current trends in library management that would improve services offered by the RLRC, the DSWD-CAR explored the implementation of a KOHA Integrated Library System in December 2012. By January 2013, the FO had successfully installed the KOHA 3.14 version.

It was used to encode the learning center collections using its cataloging module. It took one year to encode records of existing materials using the Library of Congress Classification scheme. The RLRC and ICT staff conducted final assessment on the capability of the system which resulted to a positive evaluation, a year after.

The system was successfully deployed for utilization within the FO after modifications on the Graphical user Interface (GUI) of its OPAC on August 1, 2014. Staff were enrolled and given database access; circulation of material for check-in was also started. The RLRC issued the approved rules and regulation in a brochure.

The ILS was upgraded to KOHA 3.22 version and successfully migrated the data from the old KOHA version on March 2016. The LRC's Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) was uploaded online (web-based) and made accessible through the internet. The OPAC was linked to the official website of the FO.

Presently, the system is being operated for all the learning resource center transactions and can be accessed by DSWD Staff and partners visiting the RLRC.

CORPORATE KNOWLEDGE



LIBRARY HOURS:
Mondays-Fridays
• 8:00am - 5:00pm
Saturdays & Holidays
• CLOSED

EDGE



HARDWORK AND PASSION

Meanwhile, the DSWD-CAR's RLRC reaped its first ever award, winning First Place in the Incentive for Notable and Valuable Technology on Expanding Learning (INNOVATE) Awards for the excellent maintenance of the Learning Resource Centers based on the standards of the DSWD Capacity Building Bureau.



The award has a prize worth P300,000. The said award helped sustain the functionality of the RLRC. The FO was able to purchase various furniture, fixtures, and equipment to support the operation of the said learning facility.

The DSWD-CAR's Librarian Rojan Paleng was recognized as the Most Passionate RLRC Focal Person and was recognized as an #ASLPMoDeLibrarian for 2017. Paleng has served in DSWD-CAR's RLRC since 2011.

Six years since its conception, DSWD-CAR's RLRC has now found its home at DSWD-Project Luke Resource Center Building at 90 Leonard Wood Road, Baguio City.

The RLRC is open to all learners seeking for knowledge related on social welfare and development.

"During my research for graduate studies, I often used the RLRC because it's easier to borrow books here. Almost all of my needs are there." Library of universities here in Baguio City only augmented my needs during research," DSWD-CAR Social Welfare Officer Rohjelea Ann Marie Clair shared.

She completed her graduate studies from the University of the Philippines Open University in 2017.

More than the awards and recognitions, the DSWD-CAR takes pride of the people behind the success of RLRC.

"We do our best to continuously improve our service delivery because we acknowledge the importance of information and knowledge in empowering the people that we serve. We credit this success to the passion and sacrifices of our Institutional Development Division, librarian, government interns as well as our students and researchers," OIC-Director Janet P. Armas explained.

The DSWD-CAR RLRC is the first to be recognized DSWD RLRC as member of the Association for Special Libraries of the Philippines Inc.(ASLP Inc.), a non-stock, non-profit organization composed of special libraries from government institutions, private sectors, business community, and the academe, since its establishment on 2016.



Flying to the peak of learning

In an effort to reinvent the implementation of Learning and Development Interventions (LDIs) among DSWD-CAR personnel, intermediaries, and stakeholders, the Capacity Building Unit (CBU) has developed systems and solutions in the management of its LDIs.

One of the innovations is the L & D passport to efficiently monitor the attendance of personnel to IDCBAs by recording their attended trainings or seminars which in turn will serve as basis for generating information for the L & D information system. The L & D Passport serves as a monitoring tool for the attendance of stakeholders to IDCBAs conducted by the DSWD-CAR. This was conceptualized by the CBU Team in May 2016.

The FO customized its learning materials/training kits and other supplies used for LDIs that will serve as advocacy materials for building a brand image of quality and elevated learning interventions.

By July 2016, the L & D Passport system was fully implemented. Data on the conducted LDI for LSWDO's Functionality show a significant increase in the attendance rate beginning from Tracks 1 to 3. The decrease in the number of participants during the Track 4 is due to heightened disaster activities in all provinces due to the onslaught of Typhoon Lawin. Furthermore, very satisfactory to excellent rating of all LDOs provided was recorded.

All of the participants rated the practice as Very Effective.

The L & D passport also served as a means to effectively monitor trainings and learning sessions attended by participants as practice to achieve PRIME-HRM Maturity Level II Accreditation for DSWD CAR.

As the passport served as a basis for giving rewards and incentives, the participants are hooked into the practice and in some ways motivated them to attend LDIs initiated by the Department.

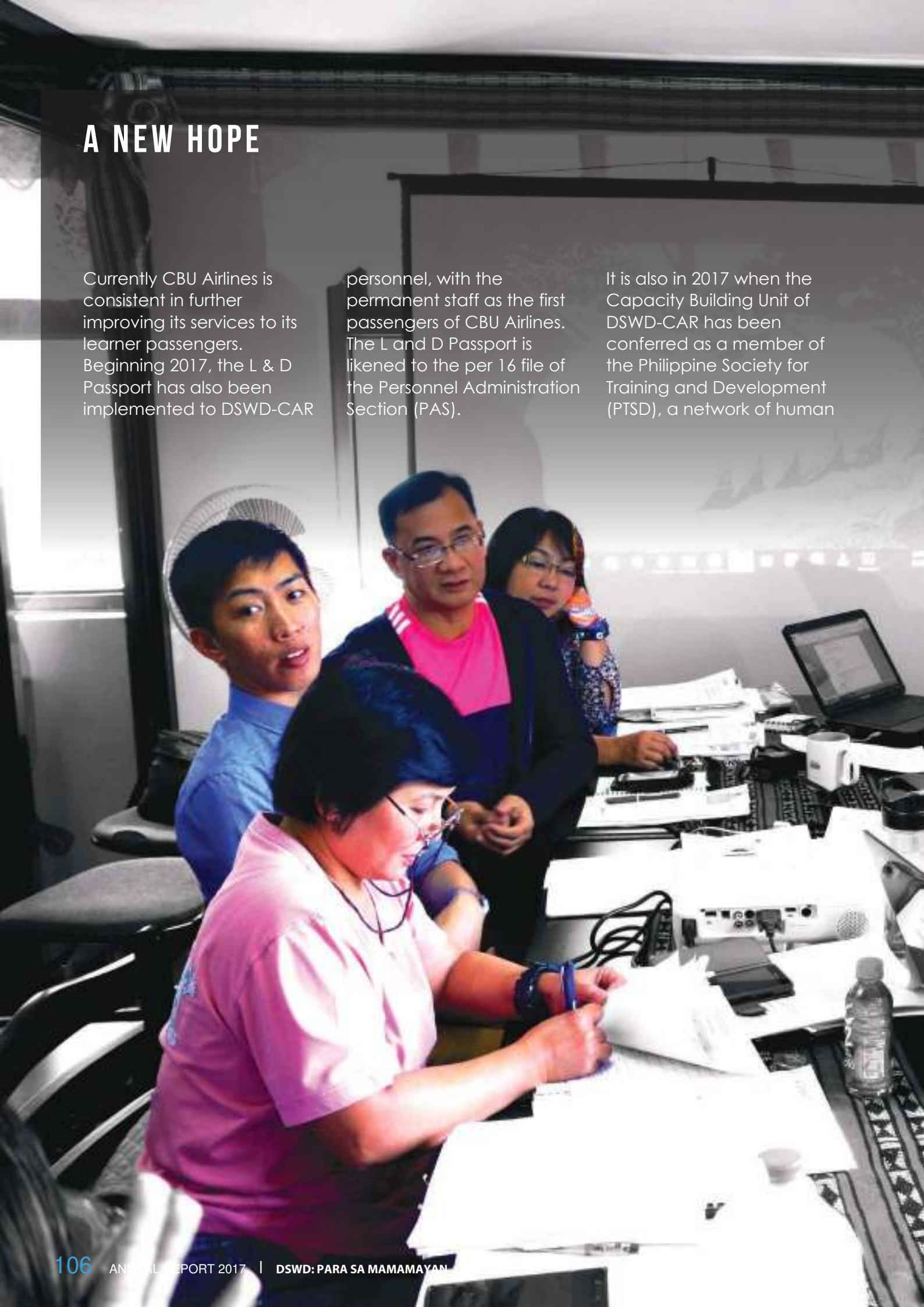
Numerous Local Government Units and some National Government Agencies such as the Philippine National Police and private companies such as DOLE Philippines signified their intent to duplicate the practice. DSWD CARAGA has also replicated the said innovation.

A NEW HOPE

Currently CBU Airlines is consistent in further improving its services to its learner passengers. Beginning 2017, the L & D Passport has also been implemented to DSWD-CAR

personnel, with the permanent staff as the first passengers of CBU Airlines. The L and D Passport is likened to the per 16 file of the Personnel Administration Section (PAS).

It is also in 2017 when the Capacity Building Unit of DSWD-CAR has been conferred as a member of the Philippine Society for Training and Development (PTSD), a network of human



resource and development (HRD) practitioners and workplace learning and performance professionals in the Philippines providing training and communication expertise

and solutions to clients in business, government, and non-profit organizations.

This milestone gave the Field Office the leverage to be constantly updated with the current trends in L & D.

With the FO's commitment in further developing the learning journey of its stakeholders, CBU Airlines' schedule for touchdown is yet to be identified.

PLEASE
KEEP THIS
PLACE CLEAN
AND ORDERLY



09

NAGKAKAISANG TINIG

Collective efforts of
the attached agencies



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- 109** PIGMENTS OF HOPE
- 112** NCDA'S 2017 TRAINING OF GENDER, DISABILITY, AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT



Pigments of hope

On November 19, 2017, the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Council (JJWC) conducted an on-the-spot poster making contest among the children and youth from the National Capital Region and other nearby regions. Selected paintings from the contest were featured in the exhibit entitled "Pigments of Hope" as part of the celebration of the 6th Juvenile Justice and Welfare Consciousness Week held at SM City Fairview with the theme "*Mapagkalingang Hustisya, Ugaliin at Pagtibayin!*"

The exhibit showcased children's colorful interpretation of the theme which delved into the

principle of restorative justice as applied to efforts to address the plight of the children in conflict with the law (CICL) in the Philippines. "The principle of Restorative Justice is the core of the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act. It emphasizes the roles each of us play in creating hope for the children, and building safer communities for us to live in," said Atty. Tricia Clare Oco, JJWC Executive Director.

Aside from the Pigments of Hope exhibit, an advocacy video was launched which featured a success story of a former CICL who is now a licensed teacher.

A music video on the struggles and triumphs of a CICL towards becoming a productive citizen was also shown during the event. There were also special performances from artists like Quest, Madeline, and the band Mayonnaise.

"We continue to advocate for the full implementation of the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act. The featured success story is just one of the many testimonies we have documented.

They are proof that with proper intervention and rehabilitation programs and the support of the community, we are able to effect change in the lives of these children," Atty. Oco shared.

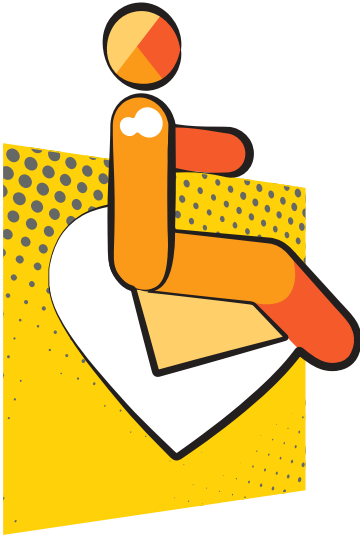


PIGMENTS OF HOPE

an art exhibit

Brought to you by the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Council





NCDA's 2017 training of gender, disability and leadership development

The National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA) conducted a series of Trainings on Gender, Disability, and Leadership Development for 2017. The training was participated in by persons with disabilities with their respective focal persons. The trainings aimed to: **(1)** increase the awareness of participants on the rights and responsibilities of persons/ women with disabilities;

(2) increase the awareness of LGUs in the importance of their roles in achieving the objectives of the government in attaining the goals of UNCRPD; **(3)** develop the participants to become active members and leaders of their organization; and **(4)** enable them to become advocates for persons/ women with disabilities' rights and assist their localities in the promotion of the UNCRPD.

Fifty-four (54) participants from the Provinces and Cities of Region 6 attended the training held last March 14-16, 2017 at the Gov. Cabagnot Tourism and Training Center, Aklan.

Sixty-three (63) participants from Zamboanga Peninsula (Region IX) attended the training held on 7-9 November 2017 at the Guillermo Hotel, Pagadian City.



MIMAROPA group was held at the Bayview Park Hotel on November 27-29 2017, forty (40) participants attended the training.

On December 6-9, 2017, the City Government of Bislig sponsored the conduct of training held at the OSCA Conference Hall which was attended by fifty (50) participants.

2018 THRUSTS AND PRIORITIES

Rationale and Context

Consistent with the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2017-2022 to build up socioeconomic resilience of individuals, families and communities in dealing and coping with risks, reducing vulnerabilities by increasing the people's adaptive capacities, the Department of Social Welfare and Development has restated its Vision, Mission and Core Values to better served the Filipino people.

DSWD envisions all Filipinos free from hunger and poverty, have equal access to oportunities, enabled by a fair, just, and peaceful society.

To achieve the vision, DSWD will lead in the formulation, implementation and coordination of social welfare and development policies and programs for and with the poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged. In line with the core values of: *"Maagap at Mapagkalingang Serbisyo; Serbisyonong Walang Puwang sa Katiwalian; at Patas na Trato sa Komunidad,"* DSWD will focus on the following Organizational Outcomes that will serve as the people's voice in government, able to enunciate welfare and development needs, and provide substantive policy inputs for the governeent poverty reduction plan:



Organizational Outcome 1
Well-being of poor families improved



Organizational Outcome 2
Rights of the poor and vulnerable sectors promoted and protected



Organizational Outcome 3
Immediate relief and early recovery of disaster victims/ survivors ensured



Organizational Outcome 4
Continuing compliance of social welfare and development (SWD) agencies to standards in the delivery of social services ensured



Organizational Outcome 5
Delivery of social welfare and development (SWD) programs by local government units (LGUs), through local social welfare and development offices (LSWDOs), improved

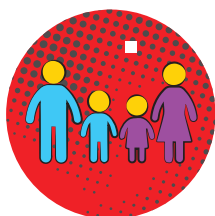
Objectives

The 2018 DSWD thrusts and priorities aim to promote collaboration with stakeholders at all levels, coordinate gender responsive service delivery of social welfare and development programs and strengthen the Department's organizational capacities.

It shall guide and direct all DSWD Bureaus, Services, National Project Management Offices, and Field Offices in the formulation of their gender responsive plans and budgets as well as performance contracts.

Thrusts and Priorities

The following thrusts and priorities shall contribute to the achievement of DSWD's organizational outcomes.



Organizational Outcome 1

Well-being of poor families improved

Institutionalizing Community Organizing (CO) in program framework and processes.

Development of Convergence Strategy for Pantawid Pamilya households with strong thrust on CO.

Development of community-led City/Municipal Action Plan.

Integrating CO approach in the program implementation of MCCT areas particularly in Indigenous Peoples communities.

Strengthening Social Preparation to anchor SLP processes on CO.

Development and Implementation of Convergence Initiatives.

Pilot implementation of Graduation Approach.

Monitor implementation of Convergence Initiatives, recognize good practices and mainstream in the Department, if applicable.

Develop inter-agency dialogues towards convergence of programs for community development.

Development of New Models of Intervention Program that will address needs of different vulnerable.

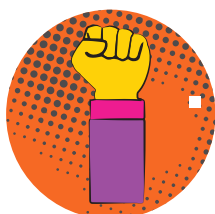
Creation of convergence initiative, programs, projects, activities (with emphasis on the establishment of referral system).

Pilot-test of Multi-modality approach of "Buhos" strategy on identified Pantawid participants under Level 1 – Survival based on Social Welfare and Development Indicators (SWDI).

Strengthening and monitoring application of core Family Development Session (FDS) lessons towards improvement of beneficiaries' well-being.

Development FDS M&E and Information System

Conduct of Training of Trainers on FDS information system and M&E system.



Organizational Outcome 2

Rights of the poor and vulnerable sectors promoted and Protected.

Enhancement of Models of Intervention for Vulnerable Sectors.

Creation of Comprehensive Referral System (convergence of protective and promotive programs with AICS as convergence point of entry).

Implementation of Yakap Bayan Framework, a strategic and coordinated provision of interventions to drug surrenderees, their families and communities.

Implementation of comprehensive program for street children and homeless families implemented.

Development of training manual and conduct of training of trainers on addressing the needs of special groups of trafficked victim-survivor of online sexual exploitation and the LGBT.

Undertake a study on developing appropriate response for male victim-survivors of trafficking and other forms of violence.

Complement Bansamoro Umpungan sa Nutrisyon (BANGUN) in target ARMM areas to address malnutrition.

Strengthen delivery of International Social Services at Posts and Home Office.

Establishment of Centers and Facilities with Level 1, 2 or 3 Accreditation

Conduct continuous assessment of Residential care facilities in accordance with the standards on level 1, 2 and 3 accreditation.

Sustained residential care facilities with level 1, 2 or 3 accreditation.

Evaluation of devolved social welfare programs

Conduct program audit and/or program evaluation of the protective services.

Generate private sector support for vulnerable sectors.



Organizational Outcome 2

Immediate relief and early recovery of disaster victims/survivors ensured.

Unification of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for warehousing, logistics, production and quality control for NROO, DRCs, and Field Offices.

Provision of technical assistance to local government units on disaster response.

Continuous improvement of mechanism for disaster response and early recovery.

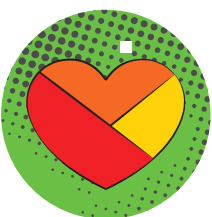
Accomplishment of pre-disaster administration of digitized DAFAC/FACE as baseline data.

Implementation of capacity building of LGUs on the utilization of FACE.

Continuous enhancement and implementation of mechanisms for addressing forced evacuations of Indigenous People (IP) families, communities, and other affected due to military operations.

Soldiers and families of soldiers' killed-in-action or wounded-in-action continuously provided with necessary assistance.

Institutionalize internship/immersion program for Central Office and Field Office personnel, volunteers, LGUs, NGAs, and NGO counterparts/partners for multi-stakeholder partnership.



Organizational Outcome 4

Continuing compliance of social welfare and development (SWD) agencies to standards in the delivery of social welfare services ensured.

Decentralization of accreditation process for Social Welfare Agencies (SWAs) to field offices.

Sustained compliance to social welfare and development standards of accredited SWAs, service providers, and registered or licensed Social Welfare and Development Agencies (SWDAs).



Organizational Outcome 5

Delivery of social welfare and development (SWD) programs by local government units (LGUs), through local social welfare and development offices (LSWDOs), improved.

Popularization of Organizational Outcome 5 and LSWDO Functionality Assessment

National Cluster Roll-out of the Enhanced LSWDP Tool

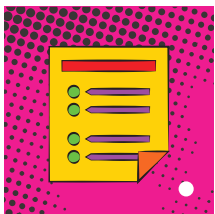
Regional Roll-Out of the Enhanced Tool

LSWDO Functionality Assessment utilizing the Enhanced LSWDO Tool

Coordination with DILG re: JMC and Seal of Good Local Governance

To ensure that the abovementioned priorities will be effectively carried out, the following support services will be pursued:

A. SUPPORT TO OPERATIONS



Planning, Policy Development, Research and Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and calibration of the approved advocacy action plans for the priority legislations

Implementation of DSWD Research, Policy, and Evaluation Agenda for 2017-2022.

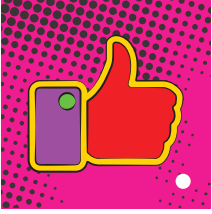
Monitoring of the DSWD Medium-Term Expenditure Plan (MTEP).

Implementation of DSWD Comprehensive Sector Plans.

Implementation of Unified Results Based Monitoring and Evaluation System (URBMES) by all Offices, Bureaus, and Services.

Data Collection toll and proxy means test (PMT) model reviewed and enhanced in preparation for the third round of household assessment.

Development of SWDI system applicable to all clientele group.



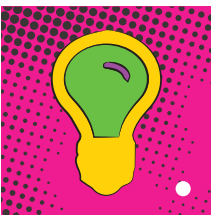
Quality Management

Development of Offices, Bureaus, and Services (OBS) operations Manuals to include business process and requirement analysis.

Development and implementation of Risk Treatment Plans by all Offices, Bureaus, and Services.

Institutionalization of Integrity Management Program.

Writeshop on the ISO certification activities.



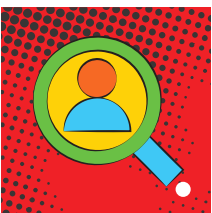
Knowledge Management

DSWD learning platforms established.

Social laboratories developed and capability of the Department as a learning institution for the on-the-job training of Social Work students and those of allied professionals strengthened.

System of communication, coordination, and collaboration between Central Office and Field Office practitioners and allied professionals on social welfare and development programs and services strengthened.

B. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES



Human Resource Management, Performance Management, and Organizational Development

Leadership development program for emerging leaders thru succession planning developed.

Formulation of DSWD Rationalization Plan responsive to the new DSWD Vision, Mission, Organizational Outcomes and Strategic Framework, with focus on proposing creation of plantilla positions for MOA/Job Order workers.

Rollout implementation of Enhanced Mechanism on Providing Occupational Well-being and Employee Reinvigoration (EMPOWER).

Training of Community Speakers Bureau.

Implementation of Competency-Based Recruitment, Selection and Placement System (CBRSPS).

Enhancement of DSWD Strategic Performance Management System (DSPMS).

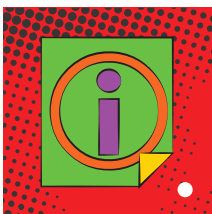
Development of DSPMS information system.

Provision of capacity and welfare of DSWD personnel implementing programs in conflict-affected regions.



Social Marketing

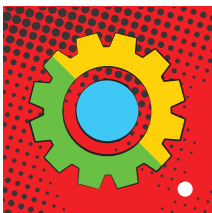
Implementation of social marketing strategies.



Information Management

Implementation of functional enterprise data warehouse which contains the program beneficiary database.

Fully functional Financial Management Information System (FMIS) that will improve transparency and accountability in the management of public funds implemented.



Administrative and Other Support Services

Sustained integrity level and good governance to include popularization of service culture handbook.

Benchmarking of internal audit practices in international setting and develop capacities of our internal auditors.

Completion of retitling of DSWD real properties.

Implementation of Personnel Management Information System to guarantee timely release of salaries for cost of services personnel.

Implementation of efficient inventory and disposal of DSWD records based on retention period approved by the National Archives of the Philippines.

Development and implementation of an electronic Procurement Tracking and Monitoring System (ePTMS) to improve procurement transparency, efficiency, and timely delivery of goods and services.

Structural audit of all DSWD Buildings conducted and interventions in response to audit results identified and disseminated to all DSWD officials and employees.

Preparation and implementation of a Structural Repairs and Construction plan for DSWD-maintained Centers and Residential Care Facilities.

C. GENDER MAINSTREAMING

The Department will continue to mainstream gender and development (GAD) in the organizational policies, programs, people, and enabling mechanism towards protecting women's human rights, promote gender equality, peace and development, and eliminate gender discrimination.

Implementation of DSWD GAD Agenda for 2018.

Conduct gender responsive assessment of agency programs and projects using the Harmonized GAD Guidelines tool.

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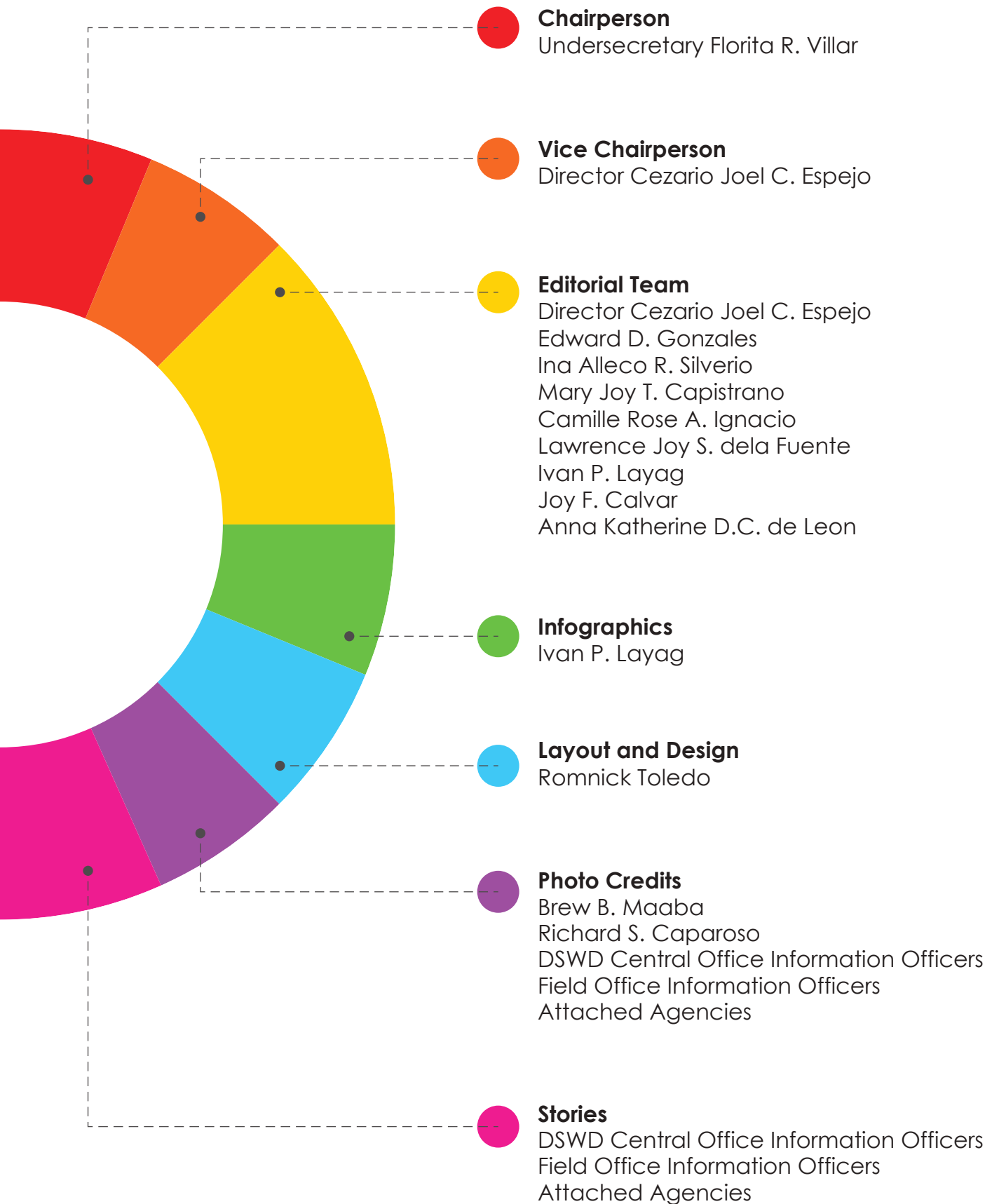
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