

VOLUME II

Burung

A COLLECTION OF STORIES OF
COMMUNITIES AND STAKEHOLDERS



SAMA-SAMANG PAGKILOS NANG MAY MALASAKIT





Burungog

VOLUME II

A COLLECTION OF STORIES OF
COMMUNITIES AND STAKEHOLDERS

C R E D I T S

Consultants:

ARNEL B. GARCIA, CESO II
Regional Director

ARWIN O. RAZO
Assistant Regional Director for Operations

MARISSA M. PAESTE
OIC – Promotive Services Division

TERESITA C. CACERES
Regional Program Coordinator

Writer:

RANELLE ANNE M. SERTAN
Social Marketing Officer III, Kalahi-CIDSS

Editors:

JESSESHAN M. AYCOCHO
REY ANTHONY OSTRIA

Layout Artist:

RAYMON BOSQUILLOS

Contributors:

JESSA CEDRO
MENCHIE SODSOD REMOGAT
AURORA GALEON
ROBERTO LOBIENTA
LYDIA BALLESTEROS
JOCELYN ELVIRA
EVELYN RADA
LILYBETH RAYAZA
ANNIE PADIOS
DIVINIA CABILES
SALDY B. DEJINO
RONITA MARISTELA
ARLYN B. NAPAO
LUZVIMINDA NIEVA
SUSAN NALA



TABLE OF CONTENTS



FOREWORD	8
MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR	10
KWENTONG KOMUNIDAD	14
<i>The 5-minute Trip Through Bayanihan</i>	15
<i>Bridging Over Troubled Water via Grassroots Participation</i>	20
<i>In Light of TD Usman, There's Still Collective Effort</i>	23
<i>Investing for Empowerment</i>	25
<i>Jagna-an Opens The Door for Community Unification</i>	28
<i>MLGU Bula approves Municipal Talakayan Ordinance</i>	31
<i>MLGU Pio V Corpuz passes CDD Ordinance</i>	34
<i>Organization in Pilar</i>	37
<i>PWDs Limitless Vigor for Development</i>	40
<i>Rainbow in Bayanihan</i>	43
<i>Reaping the Fruits of Volunteerism</i>	46
MEMOIRS OF BICOLANOS	49
<i>Ang Boluntir</i>	50
<i>Unang Hakbang</i>	51
<i>Dakilang Volunteer</i>	52
<i>For You Who Build A Community of Love</i>	53

TABLE OF CONTENTS



<i>Hugot Ko</i>	54
<i>Isang Ordinaryong Mamamayan</i>	55
<i>Kalahi</i>	56
<i>Kalahi Ang Bagong Yugto</i>	57
<i>Magbahagi</i>	58
<i>Magiting Na Bayani</i>	59
<i>Nang Ngumiti Ang Langit</i>	60
<i>Participatory Situational Analysis</i>	61
<i>Sa Ika-apat Na Yugtong Tagumpay</i>	62
<i>Sa Kalahi-CIDSS May Pag-asa</i>	63
<i>Salamat</i>	64
<i>Batang Lider</i>	65



FOREWORD

The Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan – Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS) is now on its seventeenth year of implementing community empowerment.

With over 83,000 Bicol volunteers, who manifest the love for community development, DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS proved that Community-Driven Development (CDD) is one of the effective strategies to strengthen the involvement of ordinary citizens in planning, decision-making and implementation of community projects based on their needs.

The Burunyog Volume II is a compendium of stories of Bicol Region featuring the success of communities in preserving and upholding the bayanihan spirit among the implementers providing technical assistance to the barangays.

The compendium also showcases local government units (LGUs) that adopted the CDD approach, proving that it as an essential part in strengthening local governance.

These stories will serve as testimonials to societies that the converged efforts by the people can bring further development.

As Coretta Scott King, an American author said, “The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members.”

ARNEL B. GARCIA, CESO II
Regional Director



MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR



The Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS) has uplifted the lives of thousands of community members because of the bayanihan spirit engrained in the program.

The program created a pool of 83,230 hardworking volunteers across the Bicol Region to help in the development of their communities and facilitate improved access to basic services.

In 2019, the program completed 223 community projects with a total grant of PhP507,337,810.94 in the 55 municipalities of Bicol Region, benefitting 43,641 households.

The community projects were bridges, community centers, day care centers, electrification or lighting, flood control or river control, foot path, health stations, livelihood equipment or building, pre- and post-harvest facilities, rip rap wall or

slope protection, roads, sanitary toilets, school buildings, seawall, training and learning center, tribal housing and water system.

The program will not be able to attain these accomplishments without the collective effort of our community volunteers as well as the active participation of our local government units (LGUs) and stakeholders in the implementation of the projects.

As the program gears towards the institutionalization of Community-Driven Development (CDD) approach, some LGUs in Bicol have adopted the processes of DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS. Among these LGUs is the Camarines Sur town of Bula, which adopted the Municipal Talakayan, an evaluation tool designed as a face-to-face interaction with the people and government to discuss the overall development of municipalities.

CDD is a globally-recognized strategy wherein communities are engaged in choosing, designing and implementing the development projects to address their identified needs.

This is a good indication that DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS has established achievements in poverty alleviation, community empowerment and participatory local governance.

Through this compendium, we hope to gain support as the Department is on the move to call for the passage of CDD Institutionalization Bill wherein the approach will be operationalized in the government programs, activities and projects.

ARNEL B. GARCIA, CESO II
Regional Director








KWENTONG KOMUNIDAD

A photograph of a paved path leading through a lush, green landscape. A person in a light green shirt and shorts is walking away from the camera on the path. The background features rolling hills under a bright sky. The text 'THE 5-MINUTE TRIP THROUGH BAYANIHAN' is overlaid in the center of the image.

THE 5-MINUTE TRIP THROUGH BAYANIHAN



Traveling comfortably is always a luxury especially to communities located in far-flung areas. But nothing can stop members of these communities from reaching the main district to acquire their needed supplies and services. One such community is Barangay Canlong in Garchitorená, Camarines Sur.

From Naga City, people must travel for five hours on a bus going to the municipality of Garchitorená. Upon reaching the town, they must ride a small motorboat for 30 minutes crossing the river surrounded by mangrove trees. From the makeshift port, they need to tread an uphill trail for an hour withstanding the distress walking on mud.

According to Gemma Clores, 48, barangay treasurer, the main source of livelihood of residents are fishing and agriculture. She also said that the barangay needs basic facilities which are pathway and evacuation center.

“Noon, pagnaglalakad kami kapag maputik aabutin sa isang oras. Sa ngayon, nasa five minutes na lang na habal-habal at 40 minutes kapag papunta sa bayan (Before, we must walk for one hour on a muddy trail. Now, it only takes five minutes of motorcycle ride and 40 minutes going to the town),” Clores shared.

Through the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS), the community has constructed a 2-kilometer concrete pathway.

Kalahi-CIDSS is a poverty alleviation program implemented by DSWD which strengthens community participation in local planning, budgeting and project implementation.

Clores explained the difficulty to be part of the prioritized projects of the program due to the needed documents required.

“Ang pinakaproblema namin na makakuha ng dokumento ay yung right of way para ma-prioritize kami ng Kalahi-CIDSS (Our problem is to acquire a document on the right of way to be part of Kalahi-CIDSS prioritized projects),” she added.

She also said that they have to get the barangay map and lot number with its corresponding owners to be used as basis for the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) to release the certification.

“Sa pagtarabangan kang mga volunteers, napakarhay mi ang project proposal at iba pang dokumentos na requirements kang Kalahi-CIDSS para ma-prioritize kami (With the help of the volunteers, we were able to create a project proposal and acquire the needed documents for the prioritization of Kalahi-CIDSS),” she recounted.

The Municipal Inter-Barangay Forum-Participatory Resource Allocation (MIBF-PRA) is an activity that identifies projects to be funded by DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS using the criteria approved by barangays and community members during the MIBF Criteria Setting Workshop.

ROAD TRIP TO NEW BEGINNINGS

The residents of Barangay Canlong saw a big difference especially when they had a pathway. Before, they find it problematic to reach the municipality in times of emergencies.

There is one instance that a child died with pneumonia because of the lack of medical care which is only available at the town.

Clores also described the difficulty in informing people about the importance of the project and how each of them should help in the implementation.

“Sa umpisa, talaga masakit paintindihon pero sa kahaluyan nasabutan man ninda dahil sa mga trainings na tinao kang Kalahi-CIDSS (At first, it was tough to make people understand but through the training of the program, they started appreciating the essence of the project),” she stated.

Due to their community project, some residents bought motorcycles as a form of transportation and additional source of income.

“Nakikita ko na lahat na problema namin noon ay ngayon napagaan. Yung mga produkto na dapat namin dalhin sa

bayan ay napapadala namin nang mabilis (Now, I see that our problems before were solved. Even our products that need to be transported to the town were delivered swiftly), she added.

For Cristy Iglesia, 39, Barangay Sub-Project Management Committee (BSPMC) chairperson, they have produced good results through volunteering and collective action of the community.

“Gusto ko po maitao sa sakuyang kabarangay ay ang padagos na pagserbi po sa sainda, padagos pakikipagtabangan sa sainda para sa karahayan sa samong barangay (I want to continue serving and helping the community for the development of our barangay),” she explained.

“Dakulamanang sakong pasasalamat sa kapwa volunteer na nagsuporta sa samuyang proyekto (I am also thankful to my fellow volunteers who showed support for our project),” Iglesia continued.

Despite being mired down, the unwavering support for the community has turned a thousand steps of anguish into a 5-minute extraordinary excursion of collective action.







BRIDGING OVER TROUBLED WATER VIA GRASSROOT PARTICIPATION

Amidst a million culs-de-sac, there is always a way for communities to find the will to stand strong in front of the problems they face. Barangay Sipaco in Lagonoy, Camarines Sur can attest to that.

To reach the village, one must travel for two hours from Naga City to Goa, a town neighboring Lagonoy, and take a two-hour boat ride from Tamban Port, which is 28 kilometers away from Goa's poblacion or town center.

The strong current, especially in the afternoon, does not make the journey going to Sipaco easy for travelers.

Accessibility has been noted as one of the major problems of the community making it difficult to haul products and deliver services from the central business district .

Ulysses Buena, 43, a community volunteer in Sipaco, said that students meet danger while crossing the river on their way to attend classes. There were reported

cases of drowning due to sudden flooding.

Because of this very problem, the community decided to construct a cable-bridge sub-project through the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS).

Erson Barera, 33, community empowerment facilitator (CEF) of DSWD Kalahi-CIDtSS, will always remember his dreadful experience while traveling from Sipaco to Tamban Port.

"Biglang nagkaroon ng sama ng panahon noon sa sobrang alon. Akala namin hindi na kami makakadaong kaya nilabas ko ang rosary at patuloy kaming nagdasal hanggang makarating kami sa Tamban (All of a sudden, the weather became unpleasant, causing strong waves. We thought we would not be able to make it, so I grabbed my rosary and keep on praying until we reached Tamban port)," Barera recounted.





MISCONCEPTIONS

Misunderstandings arose during the implementation of the sub-project came to Sipaco at an ocean wave speed.

“Nagkaroon ng isyu sa mga responsibilidad ng mga community volunteers at barangay dahil sa hindi naitindihan nila ang grassroots participation (We had an issue on the responsibilities of the community volunteers and the barangay in implementing the cable bridge sub-project since they did not fully understand the grassroots participation that the program needed),” Buela said.

To sort out the issue of misconception between the barangay and community volunteers, the community conducted a barangay assembly in which the technical staff of the DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS explained the features of the program thoroughly.

“Nagkaliwanagan ang bawat panig sa mga responsibilidad ng community volunteers at barangay sa proyekto (Both the community volunteers and the village fully understood their responsibilities on the sub-project implementation),” Barrera also explained.

BRIDGE TO GAIETY

Other than the sub-project, the community gained more than what they wished for: knowledge, organizational management, and an unforgettable experience.

“Dahil sa proyektong ito, naka-survive ang mga tao dito dahil makakatawid na ang mga estudyante nang ligtas at mas mapapadali din ang hanapbuhay namin (Due to this project, we have survived because the students may now cross knowing that they are safer, and we can now earn a living a lot easier),” Buela happily said.

“Mas napalakas pa ang samahan namin sa komunidad at nag-enjoy sila sa pagiging volunteers dahil sa marami silang

natutunan (Our bond became stronger and the residents enjoyed as community volunteers because they learned a lot),” the volunteer added.

Despite the life-threatening experience, Barera sees his work as a path to help more communities.

“Para sa community, gagawin mo talaga para makatulong ka. Isusugal mo talaga ang iyong sarili anuman ang kalagayan sa gitna ng dagat (You will really do the best that you can to be able to help the community. You will gamble with your life no matter what dangers you face in the middle of the sea),” the facilitator said.



IN LIGHT OF TD USMAN, THERE'S STILL COLLECTIVE EFFORT

A family's peaceful slumber turned into a night of terror when it was disturbed by the loud rumbling of rocks making their way down the hillside and shaking the earth.

Thinking of the safety of his family, the father, understandably terrified, still managed to get out of the house at 10 o'clock in the evening. He was in great shock when he saw the waist-high flood waters about to conquer their home.

That was the dreadful experience of Melchor Narra, 59, a resident of Barangay Burocbusoc in Buhi, Camarines Sur when Tropical Depression 'Usman' hit the Bicol Region on the 29th of December in 2018, just a few days before New Year's Day.

From downtown Buhi, their house can be reached through a 45-minute motorcycle ride.

"Nakalipat kami sa harong kan tugang ko kan bumisita man ang kapitan, mga kagawad pati man ang mga rescuers (We transferred to my brother's house when the barangay captain, councilors and rescuers visited us)," Narra explained.

The aftermath of TD Usman showed just how nature could sometimes have no mercy. The area where Narra's house stood was surrounded with uprooted trees and enormous rocks that came from the mountain on the other side of the road.

According to Narra, it was the first time he experienced that kind of distressful incident.

"Medyo na-trauma kami kaya nagsimba kami sa Iriga para magpasalamat. Siguro kung natuluyan kami nin mga gapo asin kahoy digdi baka ubos kami sa laog kan harong (We were traumatized so we attended a holy mass in Iriga to give thanks. If the huge rocks hit our house, none of us would have survived it)," he said.



GUIDING LIGHT FOR SAFETY

For Sandra Barruga, 44, also a resident of Burocbusoc, the Tropical Depression ‘Usman’ has left a great ordeal on her life.

According to Barruga, they were attending a neighbor’s wake when the electricity supply was cut-off, so they decided to return to their house.

Already feeling frightened, Barruga went outside to observe their surroundings.

“Maray na sana ngane po igwang solar-powered street light, sa paghiling ko igwa na palan tubig samo kaya nagparakurahaw ako na igwa na nin baha asin magdulag na ta may tubig na (Good thing, we have the solar-powered street lights. When I saw the water rising, I shouted to my neighbors warning them of the flood and telling them that we needed to evacuate),” she recounted.

Long before the calamity, the community already decided to install solar-powered street lights through the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS).

“Maray na may tigkabit na street lights bago mag-uran dahil dae ko mailing su baha ta banggi (I’m thankful that there are

street lights installed before the strong rains came because I wouldn’t have been able to see the flood that night),” Barruga continued.

Narra also shared the impact of their community project in times of disasters.

“Igwa pang ilaw habang nagalakaw kami maski ngane baha igwa pang ilaw (When we are evacuating, the street lights are still fully functional despite the flood waters),” he said.

Barruga also shared that she attended barangay assemblies and even aided in determining the possible solutions for their needs, thus, the installation of street lights came into fruition.

“Tama talaga an pighagad mi na dapat street lights ta magayon ining produkto sa barangay (It’s a good decision to put up those street lights because it is a big help to the village),” she stated.

Through community meetings, everyone is given the significant opportunity to voice out concerns before any decision is made in the community.

But, one must also reflect on the responsibility appointed to anyone when identifying issues and outcomes because in every choice made, it will enormously affect all members of the community.



INVESTING FOR EMPOWERMENT

Empowerment gives the power, the right, and the authority to do something but it does not only revolve on self-confidence or the freedom to claim one's rights.

This is also a way to take responsibility for doing something such as the duty to achieve community development. Every citizen always has a goal to contribute something great for the community although sometimes limited by what little they know in creating projects.

With the push from the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS), communities used their goals and resources as a driving force to claim their right in making decisions that would accelerate local growth.

One of these communities is Pagao Waterworks and Sanitation Association (PAWASA), Inc., an operations and maintenance group of Barangay Pagao in Bombon, Camarines Sur that was formed through the Community-Driven Development (CDD) strategy of DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS.

The CDD is an approach that operates on the principles of transparency, participation, accountability and enhanced local capacity

by giving them control over decision-making and resources.

The PAWASA oversees the water system sub-project funded by DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS to ensure the clean water supply is provided to the barangay and other nearby communities.

Water Supply Woes

Barangay Pagao proposed the water system sub-project so that community members will not suffer from water shortage and unsafe drinking water.

According to Jose Camalla, 65, community volunteer and president of PAWASA, Inc., people used to travel to downtown Bombon just to get water supply. To transport the containers by boat, it takes them half a day.

"Umaabot sa lima hanggang walong piso ang presyo ng isang container ng tubig. Mahaba ang proseso makakuha lang ng tubig (A container of water costs about Php5.00 to Php8.00. It takes a long process just to get water)," Camalla explained.

The community project was granted in 2013 with 12 units of Level II tap stands to cater 140 households. After a year, the barangay



ADNOC

AUTHENTIC



decided to convert the water system to Level III, a piped distribution network with private connection or household taps.

According to Delia Segovia, 68, a resident of Barangay Pagao, said that through the water system sub-project, the community members only have to pay Php13 a day, a sharp decrease of expense from their previous Php100 a day when getting water from the town proper.

“Hindi na kami nahihirapan magbitbit ng mga container ng tubig dahil mismong sa bahay namin makakakuha na ng tubig (It is easier for us to have water now because the water supply is already available in our homes),” she explained.

Formation of PAWASA, Inc.

Now on its sixth year of operation, the PAWASA, Inc. was established on June 13, 2013, aiming to give high-quality water to the members of the community as well as strengthen the cooperation of the community on the duties and responsibilities in ensuring the durability of the sub-project.

According to Camalla, the association collects Php30.00 per cubic liter as a tariff for the maintenance services of the project. Through their collection, they were able to purchase a 115 square-meter land and construct an office for the organization.

They also extended their services to nearby communities like Barangay Carigsa in Magarao, Camarines Sur with 22 households.

“Napapaunlad namin ang operasyon ng proyekto dahil hindi kami nagkakainteres para sa aming pansariling kapakanan (We were able to expand the operations of the project because we are not thinking of personal interests),” he said.

Through the DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS, the government invests in human capital by capacitating community members to take ownership of the community projects they have implemented to bring them long-term benefits.

By giving people access to resources, trainings and participation in decision-making processes to implement community projects is like providing them a chance to prove themselves as agents for sustainable development.

JAGNA-AN OPENS THE DOOR FOR COMMUNITY UNIFICATION

A worthy achievement is accomplished through diligence and hard work, not with shortcuts nor neglect.

Cerconsecion Escorel, 28, a community volunteer of Barangay Jagna-an in San Jacinto, Masbate shared her sacrifice in achieving their goal of improved access road to the municipality's población.

“Nahihirapan kaming tahakin ang aming daan tuwing luluwas kami papunta sa aming bayan dahil sa napakalubak ng aming daan tuwing tag-init at madulas naman kung tag-ulan (We find it difficult when traveling to the town proper because the road is rock-strewn during the humid season while slippery during the rainy season),” Escorel said.

Manilyn Lique, 26, a resident of Barangay Jagna-an, recounted her struggles when she was still a student:

“Noon na nagaaral ako, grabe ang sakripisyo namin makapunta lang sa paaralan dahil hanggang tuhod yung putik sa daanan (When I was a student, I have struggled a lot when going to school because of the knee-high mud covering the trail),” Lique shared.

With the community's drive to solve this problem, the project was funded by the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD Kalahi CIDSS) through the Municipal Inter-Barangay Forum-Participatory Resource Allocation (MIBF-PRA).

The MIBF-PRA is an activity in the DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS' Community Empowerment Activity Cycle (CEAC) wherein projects are funded based on the criteria set by the communities.



KNOCKING ON DOOR

According to Escorel, they have struggled on achieving the requirements of the program particularly the 80 percent participation rate for the attendance to barangay assemblies because of the difficulty of encouraging the community members to attend the gathering.

The volunteer compared her struggles on community participation to that of a closed door.

“Sobrang hirap mangatok ng pinto upang ipaliwanag sa kanila ang kahalagahan ng proyekto. Hangga’t hindi nila nakikita ang resulta hindi ka nila pagbubuksan (It’s really tough to knock on someone’s door to explain the importance of the project because they won’t open unless they see the results first),” she recalled.

Escorel and her fellow volunteers did their best to ensure that the pathway project materialized from the planning stage until its turnover to the community.

There came a point when they would help in carrying gravel to the site for lack of construction workers.

“Kailangan ipakita mo sa kanila na hindi ka lang basta nagsasalita. (You have to show them that you are not just good at words but more in action),” the volunteer added.

But like any other projects, the community has also dealt with problems. One of the issues encountered was the hurdle on the delivery of materials needed for the construction due to unworkable weather conditions that affected the access going to the barangay.

To solve this, the volunteers maintained constant communication with the supplier as well as lobbied to the local government unit (LGU) to provide boulder fills to be dumped on the trail so that the truck can deliver the construction materials to the barangay.

Escorel explained to the community members that there are processes to follow to be able to receive assistance from the government.

“Kung gusto talaga natin na magkaroon ng pagbabago at magandang kinabukasan para sa susunod na henerasyon, kailangan na magkaisa tayo (If we really want change and a bright future for the next generation, we need to be united),” Escorel advised.



MLGU BULA APPROVES MUNICIPAL TALAKAYAN

Bula town approved the ordinance that institutionalizes the Municipal Talakayan of the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS), making it the fourth municipality in the Bicol Region to adopt such activity.

The Municipal Talakayan is an evaluation tool which has been designed as a face-to-face interaction of the people and the government officials. With the assistance from the DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS, they are expected to discuss the overall development of municipalities.

Since the evaluation was proven effective in achieving government transparency and accountability, the local government unit (LGU) accepted Talakayan as their annual activity that shall be done on the third day of April coinciding the founding anniversary of the town.



Based on the ordinance, the LGU shall provide the development status on governance, poverty reduction and people empowerment.

For the implementation of the activity, an initial budget of Php500,000 will be allocated with an increment of 20 percent every other year.

Glenn Genio, municipal councilor and author of Municipal Talakayan Ordinance, said that an LGU is effective if people are included in discussing the development and direction of the municipality.

“Itong Talakayan ay magiging basehan ng local government para sa susunod na badyet kung saan tatanunging at kokonsultahin ang lahat na sektor sa ganitong paraan mas binubuhay nito ang people empowerment (This activity will be the basis of the local government for the next allocation of budget, in which representatives from various sectors will be asked or consulted, stimulating people empowerment),” he explained.

Other LGUs that adopted Municipal Talakayan are Viga in Catanduanes, and Gainza and Ragay in Camarines Sur.



INSTITUTIONALIZING CDD

For Mary Ruth Parro, municipal planning and development coordinator (MPDC), apart from the beauty of its process, the local government has decided to institutionalize Talakayan considering DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS is about to end in 2019.

Parro explained that one of the benefits of Community-Driven Development (CDD) Institutionalization is the effectiveness of programs coming from the needs of the people.

“For a long time, the national government and the local government are implementing programs and plans that are detached from the real needs of the people. Because of CDD, it is better if people themselves will voice out their needs, identify the possible solutions and are part in the implementation and monitoring of the operations of the project,” she said.

The MPDC also added that government officials need to work hard to include people in everything they are doing in the local government with the help of the national government.



MLGU PIO V. CORPUZ PASSES CDD ORDINANCE

The Municipal Local Government Unit (MLGU) of Pio V. Corpuz in Masbate institutionalized the processes and activities of the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS).

Based on the ordinance, the MLGU shall adopt the criteria setting process of the program in identifying the projects for funding; create operation and maintenance (O&M) program for the sustainability of the projects; adopt the 80 percent attendance rate during the barangay assembly and 30 percent total workforce allocated for women in paid labor for the construction of projects.

This is to ensure that all sectors are well-represented in the planning, decision-making, and implementation of development projects.



The Criteria Setting of DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS is a venue for localized decisions where the communities involved take control of decisions in prioritizing projects based on criteria, they prepared themselves. Another aspect of the program is the O&M wherein the communities should manage, operate, maintain and sustain the project.

According to Municipal Councilor Abel Prudenciado, author of the ordinance, the LGU decided to institutionalize CDD because of its benefits and effectiveness in the communities.

“Nakapagbigay ito ng magandang programa sa ating komunidad at isa dito yung pagbibigay karapatan o kapangyarihan sa mga simpleng mamamayan makilahok sa pagpapalano at pagdedesisyon upang maisakatuparan ang kanilang proyektong idinulog (It provided an excellent program to the communities such as providing ordinary citizens the rights or and the power to in planning and decision-making to achieve their needed projects),” he said.



Association of Barangay Captains (ABC) President Leonila Lepasana also explained that the CDD processes will be integrated and included in the annual investment plan (AIP) and budget to implement the projects at the barangay level.

“Ito ay i-implement sa AIP at pwede na siyang lagyan ng budget upang mai-guide ang mga barangay captain (This will be implemented in the AIP with corresponding budget to guide the barangay captains),” Lepasana said.

Lepasana encouraged other LGUs to adopt the CDD processes for the benefit of the communities.

“Sana mai-institutionalize din ito sa ibang LGUs kasi hindi naman sa atin ito o sa personal na pangangailangan kundi sa community (We hope this will be also institutionalized to other LGUs because this is not for personal gains but for the community),” she exclaimed.

In line with this, the municipalities of Pio V. Corpuz, Cawayan and Dimasalang also approved resolutions supporting the institutionalization of CDD.



ORGANIZATION IN PILAR, SORSOGON ACHIEVES SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Volunteerism has never been an easy task because it takes time and effort to help a community. To sustain this for years is already an achievement.

A project may have a positive effect, but it must have long-term impacts. The organization that handles the operations and maintenance (O&M) of the project must also be self-sustaining to fully address the issues and its mission in the community.

Through maintainable efforts, the Lumbang Water System Association (LUWASA) in Barangay Lumbang, Pilar Sorsogon has set an example of sustaining the community project.

LUWASA Incorporated was established on July 7, 2012 thanks to the collective action of the community that aims to provide a safe and reliable water supply to the people of Barangay Lumbang.

The water system was a prioritized sub-project of the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS) under the Makasamang Tugon to provide basic access of safe and potable drinking water to every household in the community.

According to Jean Poseran, 35, president of LUWASA Incorporated, the community decided to implement a water system sub-project due to the difficulty in acquiring water every day. To do so requires residents to walk at least half an hour to reach the water source located in another barangay.

After the water system project was prioritized for funding, the community provided its greatest effort to implement the community project that will resolve their problem.



“Marami ang tumutulong. Hindi iniisip kung may sweldo o yung makukuha kundi mabenepisyuhan lang ng tubig (There are many people who helped in the project. They don’t think about anything in exchange for their services, but they did it so the water could benefit everyone),” Poseran explained.

It started from 11 units of Level II tapstands wherein some 77 households were benefitted. These households paid Php60 per cubic liter covering Zones 1 and 2.

AS A FORMAL ORGANIZATION

On October 22, 2014, the Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) recognized LUWASA Incorporated as a registered organization.

For Dorris Mendez, 42, chairman of the board of LUWASA Incorporated, the SEC-registered organization is very important to set rapport with the residents.

“Dahil kami ay naka-register, andyan ang karapatan namin gumawa ng rules and regulations na naayon sa tamang pagpapahalaga ng proyekto (Since the organization is registered, we have the right to impose rules and regulations in accordance to the maintenance of the project),” she said.



After the registration, the organization was able to manage and extend its services to Zone 3. Also, they elevated the services from Level II to Level III water system, therefore supplying to 189 households and an elementary school. They have also given free services for the day care center and barangay community garden.

According to Jerome Lipata, 33, bill and account collector, the payment was reduced to Php30 per cubic liter to cover the maintenance services of the project. Through the payments, the organization was able to acquire funds of about Php20,000 to Php25,000 in a month.

As part of the maintenance activities, the organization checks the elbow pipe line and cleans the water tank twice a month. This is also to inspect for any defects to prevent damages.

Mendez also cited that everyone in the community has a responsibility in sustaining the project.

“Sana po patuloy na alagaan natin ang proyekto na ating sinimulan para pwede pa ito magamit ng mga susunod na henerasyon (I hope that we keep on taking care of the project that we have started so that the future generation can still use it),” she said.



PWD'S LIMITLESS VIGOR FOR DEVELOPMENT

Anyone can notice the beauty of her gleaming smile because it shows her endless passion to help. It is also very evident in her that having a disability is not an excuse not to yearn for the community's development.

Regina Buban, 39, a person with an orthopedic disability was crippled by polio at a young age. She is a community volunteer of Barangay Lantangan, Mandaon, Masbate.

According to the Republic Act 7277 also known as Magna Carta for Disabled Persons, Buban and all persons with disability (PWD) have the same rights as other people to take their proper place in society. They should be able to live freely and as independently as possible. This must be the concerns of everyone the family, community and all government and non-government organizations.

Buban's disability did not hinder her aspirations to join the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS) as community volunteer to implement a development project in the barangay in 2015.

Based on the Participatory Situation Analysis (PSA) results gathered by the community volunteers, the barangay has proposed the concreting of barangay road on the second cycle of Kalahi-CIDSS implementation in 2017.

The PSA is a process to identify and analyze the problems and needs of the community as well as propose solutions.

According to Buban, all residents suffer from walking on the rough and muddy trail to reach the health center and school.



“Malaki ang naitutulong nito dahil lahat ng residente ay dumadaan doon upang makapunta sa health center at paaralan (The project is a big help to the residents going to the health center and school),” she said.

CHALLENGES FACED

The construction of a road is not always an easy task. According to Buban, the community volunteers have received ridicules from the residents questioning their ability as volunteers.

“Sabi nila, dapat professionals ang sumali sa ganitong implementasyon hindi katulad namin (According to them, it has to be professionals who should oversee the implementation, not people like us),” she recounted.

Despite all the mockeries, she and the community volunteers used it as their driving force to finish the barangay road.

“Isa lang ang goal ko sa buhay: Tumanda man ako sa aming barangay mailagay sa puso at isipan nila na ako isang PWD na tao lamang ay nakakaya ko na makagawa na ganoon na project (I have only one goal in life: Even though I may grow old, I hope they will put in their hearts and minds that even though I’m a PWD, I am capable of implementing a project),” she said.

Her pregnancy with her youngest child got more difficult because she was part of their road’s implementation team. However, her husband supported her endeavors outside their home such as giving her confidence and logistical support.



“Nagpapasalamat ako sa asawa ako kasi full support siya dahil pinapayagan niya ako na magvolunteer at sa paghahatid-sundo niya sa akin kapag may inaayos na documents para sa proyekto. Kung hindi dahil sa kanyang suporta wala din yung proyekto (I am grateful of my husband who gave his full support because he allowed me to volunteer and accompanying me in transmitting the documents for the project. Without him, the project wouldn’t have been completed),” she exclaimed.

Regardless of all adversities, the community has finished the 400-meter barangay road on December 7, 2018.

“Kahit grabe yung ulan, init, pagkadulas at pagkadapa na naranasan ko, iniisip ko na lang na ang aking mga anak ang makikinabang nito (Even though I have experienced extreme weather, slips and falls, I just think of the welfare of my children who will benefit from the project),” Buban said.

The Barangay Sub-Project Management Committee (BSPMC) of Lantangan led by Buban was recognized as the regional winner for Person with Disability category during the 5th Regional Bayani Ka! Awards.

She was also one of the delegates who represented Bicol Region during the 3rd Community Volunteers’ Congress and 5th National Bayani Ka! Awards in Butuan City, Agusan del Norte on August 13 to 15, 2019.



RAINBOW IN BAYANIHAN

“Openness may not completely disarm prejudice, but it’s a good place to start.” – Jason Collins, first openly gay athlete in U.S. pro sports

This statement livens up the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual, Queer, Intersex and Asexual (LGBTQIA) community of Barangay Piña in San Jacinto, Masbate by taking part in the implementation of community projects geared towards empowerment and local development.

Jhonnell de los Santos, 34, a day care worker and a member of the LGBTQIA community, was voted by community members through a barangay assembly to oversee the implementation of pathway sub-project as Barangay Sub-Project Management Committee (BSPMC) chairperson.

This barangay road was funded through the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS).

According to Barangay Captain Jhony Almencion, the main source of livelihood of the barangay is farming while selling of gravel and sand for construction serves as a sideline.

The community proposed the construction of barangay road to ease the travel of students and delivery of agricultural products.

MARCHING THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION

To finish the sub-project with flying colors is already a feat. But, the community is not an exception when experiencing difficulties.

According to de los Santos, they experience a hard time organizing the community for an assembly because some do not believe in the DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS program.

“Tinatak ko sa isip iyon na pagsubok na kailangan malampasan kaya ini-encourage o ipinapamulat ko sa mga tao na totoo yung program sa pamamagitan by purok na invitation sa pag-attend ng barangay assemblies (I set the problem as a need to solve so I encourage or enlighten the residents that the program is indeed real by inviting them by zone to attend the barangay assemblies),” he said.

He also said that as a gay, he also faced discriminatory remarks from others questioning his ability as BSPMC chairperson who leads the implementation.

“Marami nagsasabi na hindi ko kaya kasi bading o bakla ako pero ang sarap sa pakiramdam na maraming tao pa rin ang naniniwala sa akin na kaya ko (Many said that I won’t be able to make it because I’m gay but it’s a nice feeling to know that many people put their trust on me),” he added.

Using the trust given by other community members, de los Santos set aside the discrimination and dedicated his time and effort in implementing the project diligently.

The volunteer also emphasized that the barangay became one family during the implementation.

“Dito sa aming barangay ay parang isang pamilya. Kami ay nagtutulungan at sama-sama sa mga pangarap namin (Here in our barangay, we are one family. We help each other in achieving our dreams),” he said.

He also inspired fellow LGBTQIA to participate in the program like Jose Rey Lignes, 35, a community volunteer of Barangay Danao by sharing experiences and words of encouragement.

According to Lignes, when their intervention was not prioritized for funding by DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS on its third cycle of implementation, de los Santos encouraged them not to give up on proposing their community project for the succeeding cycle because all their sacrifices will be put to waste.

“Ini-encourage kami niya na lahat na pagod namin ay mawawalang saysay kapag sumuko kami so ngayon na Cycle 4 nakapasok kami sa DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS (He encouraged us and said that all our efforts will be useless if we decided to surrender. Through his advice, we are now part of the Cycle 4 implementation of DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS),” Lignes said.

Every barangay in a target municipality must undergo the Municipal Inter-Barangay Forum (MIBF) for every cycle of DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS to identify the prioritized projects to be funded.



INVOLVEMENT IN THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

Before, the barangay council would decide the project on their own during sessions. Through DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS, the community is already part of the decision-making process for the development of their barangay.

“Sa Kalahi-CIDSS, lahat ng community tulung-tulong kami na magpaplano kung ano ang dapat na gawin na proyekto (In Kalahi-CIDSS, all in the community are helping in planning for the projects they deemed fit),” Barangay Captain Almencion said.

“Bilang punong barangay, ang gagawin ko po ay kasama na ang community sa pagpaplano ng development plan dahil mas kumportable kami kasama ang community dahil wala kaming makakaligtaan kung ano ang problema ng community (As barangay captain, I will include the community in the preparation of the development plan because we [council] are more comfortable with the residents to makes sure that no problem will be left unnoticed in the community),” he continued.

To date, the construction of barangay road is on its 67 percent physical accomplishment.

Taking initiative despite differences in gender, age or religion is a good indication that everyone knows the rights and responsibilities as a community member.



REAPING FRUITS OF VOLUNTEERISM THROUGH LIVELIHOOD

“Give people fish and you feed them for a day. Teach people to fish and you feed them for a lifetime.”

This famous proverb has been the direction of Barangay Caawigan in Talisay, Camarines Norte as they had decided to resolve their unemployment crisis in the community.

According to Caawigan Barangay Captain Filomeno Villagracia Jr., the three main problems in their barangay are malnutrition, unemployment and out of school youth.

He added that over 89 individuals do not receive proper employment opportunities.

Seeing this as one of the issues to settle, the community members decided to construct a one-unit community productivity center through the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS).

DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS is a poverty alleviation program of the national government that aims to increase community engagement in local planning, budgeting and project implementation.

Villagracia also said that the process is systematic through Community Empowerment Activity Cycle (CEAC) of the program because they used the data acquired during the Participatory Situational Analysis (PSA) as a basis in identifying community development problems and priorities in planning for appropriate interventions.

The PSA is part of Social Preparation and Community Consultation Stage of the CEAC. It aims to establish a common understanding of the current situation of the barangay. It extensively analyzes and describes the expectations, current socio-economic and political situation as well as the other needs or problems of the community.

“Parang natuto pa nga ako kasi kung magre-request kami sa ibang ahensya ng pamahalaan. I-apply ko yung sistema ng Kalahi na may documentation at hindi lang basta ka lang magsusubmit ng request na walang nakikitang justifiable reason (I’ve learned a lot in requesting for projects from different government agencies. I have applied the Kalahi-CIDSS’ system with proper documentation and we don’t submit proposals without justifiable reasons),” he explained.

BALANCING FAMILY AND VOLUNTEER WORK

For Melany Mejia, 44, Barangay Sub-Project Management Committee (BSPMC) chairperson, she must juggle her time as a mother and a volunteer.

The Barangay Sub-Project Management Committee takes care of the overall management of the community center. Under the guidance of Barangay Development Council, it formulates policies and makes decisions for the project. It also oversees the sub-project implementation, monitoring, maintenance and sustainability after project completion.

According to Mejia, she would often bring her children during meetings or seminars.

“Kahit may ginagawa ka sa bahay once nagpatawag ng meetings or seminars hindi ka pwede na hindi mag-attend kasi yung obligasyon mo andyan na sayo (Even though you have household chores to do, you cannot refuse to attend the meetings or seminars because you have the obligation to fulfill),” she said.

Mejia shared that being a volunteer requires great responsibility.

“Being a volunteer ay mabigat na responsibilidad. Kahit man may kabigatan, kusang loob na ibinibigay ang serbisyo namin (Being a volunteer is a great responsibility. Despite the heavy tasks, we openly give our service),” she explained.

Through DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS, Mejia said that she learned a lot about bookkeeping and project implementation.

“Usually, kapag sa government galing sa taas papunta sa pababa ini-implement na lang pero sa DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS galing sa baba kung saan ang volunteers at council ang mag-identify ng mga problema na pwedeng tugunan ng programa (Usually, the government uses the top-down approach in implementing projects but in DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS, it uses bottom-up where volunteers and council identify the problems that the program can fund),” she continued.

Just like Mejia, the barangay captain also shared other values he learned along the implementation of DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS.

“Hindi lang yung pondo ang nakuha namin. Marami kaming values na natutunan katulad ng organization, systematic na paglalalatag ng programa. Nakita namin na nabuhay yung volunteerism (Aside from the grant we have received, we’ve learned the organization and systematic execution of the program. We have also seen the rise of volunteerism),” he stated.

Volunteerism has been the special part in implementing the project because without the hard work of the community volunteers, they would not finish constructing the planned productivity center.

“Nagbo-volunteer sila na walang bayad pero nagtiyaga sila, kaya itong [productivity center] yung reward. At iyang reward na iyan, sila rin magtatatrabaho sa business (The community volunteers provided their service without pay, yet they’ve shown determination; thus, receiving their reward. With the center, they are also the workers for their livelihood business),” Villagrancia imparted.

The community productivity center will be used to cater to their livelihood programs like coconut production.

According to Capt. Villagrancia, the barangay has allocated Php68,000 as a fund for the community’s livelihood program.

Through volunteerism, the community has built a productivity center that will serve as another source of livelihood of many families.





MEMOIRS OF BICOLANOS



ANG BOLUNTIR

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER

Libmanan, Camarines Sur

Nagtatrabaho kami nang buong puso
Binibigyan namin ng oras at sakripisyo
ngunit sa mga tao hindi sila kontento
dahil ang alam nila kami ay korap.

Ngunit wala kaming pakialam dahil ang nasa isip namin
Ay kabutihan at kagandahan para sa sariling bayan,

Ang Kalahi walang pinipili
may kapansanan at walang pinag-aralan
basta't may malasakit sa ating barangay.

Malasakit at pagmamahal ang kinakailangan ng mga tao sa ating barangay.

Sapagkat ang aming pagsasakripisyo at pagmamalasakit para mapaganda ang
aming barangay ay hindi lamang sa amin sa kasalukuyan kundi sa darating
na henerasyon.

UNANG HAKBANG

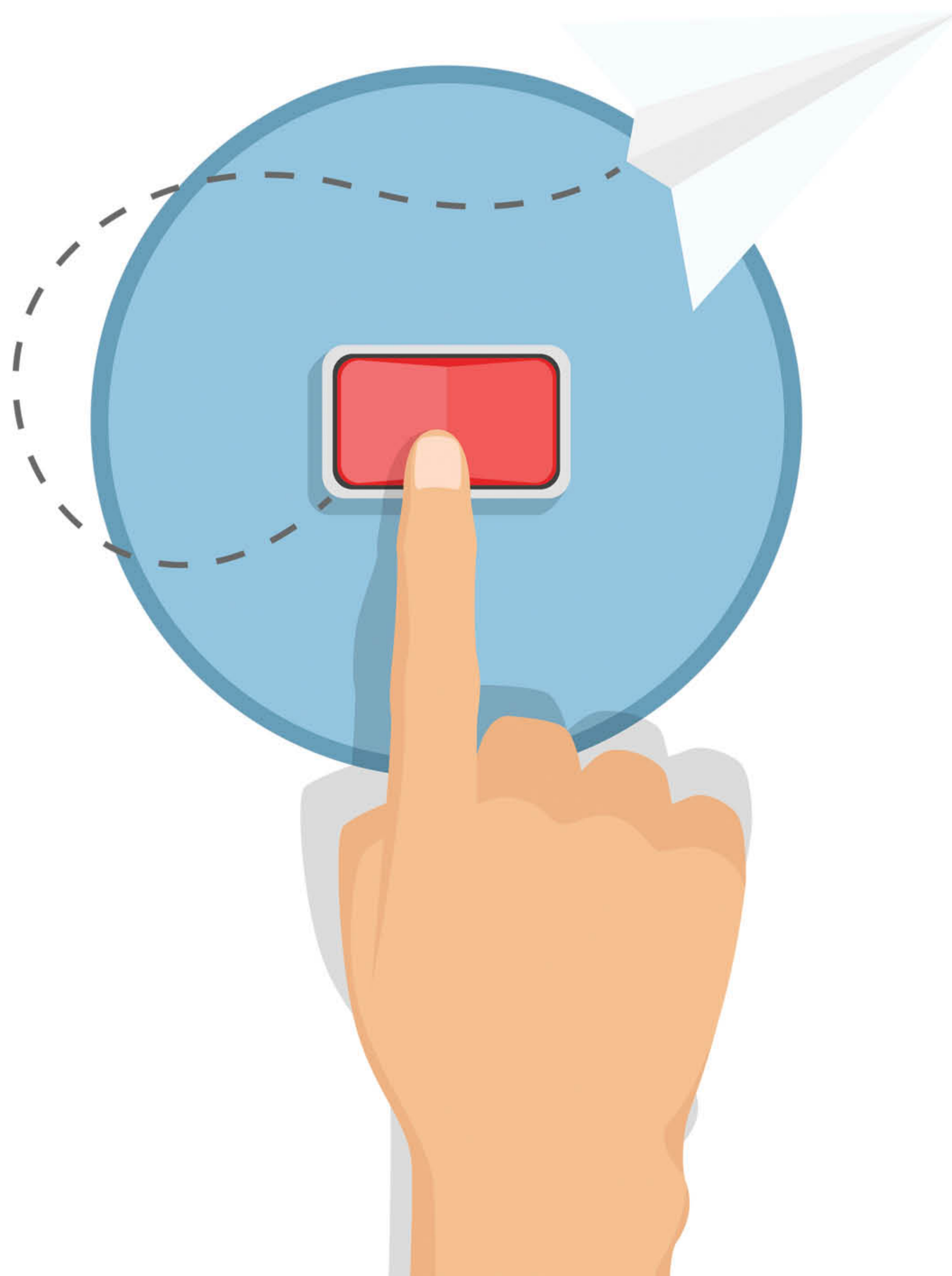
ARLYN B. NAPAO
Community Volunteer

Barangay Assembly, dapat panatilihin
Upang malaman ang dapat gawin
Para matupad mga proyektong pinapangarap

Paglibot sa lahat ng bahay ang unang hakbang
Upang ang lahat ay maanyayahan
na dapat sila ay makialam
sa kanilang komunidad na kinabibilangan.

Ang naramdamang pagod at gutom sa pag-ikot
ay balewala sa 80% ipinakita ng mga taong
nais lumahok at naitala.

Proyektong pinapangarap,
naging instrument sa pagkakaisang hangad
ng mamamayang may pangarap na
ang komunidad ay umunlad.



DAKILANG VOLUNTEER

ANNIE PADIOS

Community Volunteer – Mandaon, Masbate

Komunidad na naging mapalad

Dahil sa pagmamalasakit ng volunteers ay naging huwarang komunidad.

Isaisip na isulong natin ang CDD para sa tagumpay ng lahat
na iwaksi sa puso't-isip ng mananaliksik

Ito'y batid sa dakilang volunteers na tumutulong at kaakibat.

Dumating man ang unos kayang-kaya lampasan

Dahil sa CDD volunteers ay umuugong ang alon ng pag-asa

Mga volunteer na dakila.

Sa mga volunteers, huwag tayong manghinayang sa gintong oras na ating
tinitingnan

Para sa magandang bukas naman ito ng Pilipinong mamamayan

Ang Kalahi-CIDSS ay maihahambing ko sa isang ulirang ina

Nasa “center point” ng pangangailangan ng pamilya.

¹CDD – Community-Driven Development





FOR YOU WHO BUILD A COMMUNITY OF LOVE

RANELLE ANNE SERTAN
Social Marketing Officer III

Your teardrops, a worth of billion smiles
As you lead the way to the unknown
You continue to fight, love, smile and inspire
And I'll be there to preserve your footprints

Grasping on the dreams of impossible
Holding on to the bridge of trust they've endowed
You punch through the storm of sacrifice
And I'll be there to show everyone, you build a dam of happiness

Thanks to you, the future lies in good hands
As you carve your hands of perseverance onto the wall of heroes
I'll be there to tell your story a thousand times
For you who build a community of love.

HUGOT KO

RONITA MARISTELA

Community Volunteer – San Jacinto, Masbate

Kalahi-CIDSS? Ako'y napapatanong.
Bakit ba maraming mga bulong
Mga hinanaing na nais idulog
Na nais ng mga mamamayan na makamit na tulong.

Nang ikaw ay dumating sa aming barangay.
Ako ay napili na maging kahanay.
Ngunit ako'y napaisip na ako ba'y nababagay?
Sumubok na ako ay sayo'y magpatangay.

Nang magsimula ka, ako sayo ay sumabay.
Mga adhikain mo sa amin ay ibinigay
Sa mga pakikinig, kami ay tumibay
Mga kaalaman na sa amin ay inialay.

Kahit mga pamilya namin ay maingay
Tuloy pa rin kami sayo nakaakbay
Mga kaalaman na mga binigay
Ako, sayo ay napaibig nang tunay.



ISANG ORDINARYONG MAMAMAYAN

LUZVIMINDA NIEVA

Community Volunteer – Talisay, Camarines Norte

Isang magandang tagumpay
Ang magkaroon ng isang buhay
Ang isang ordinaryong mamamayan
Sa pamamagitan ng proyektong ibinigay.

Sa programang DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS
Nagkaroon ng kaalaman ang karamihan
Sa pagiging boluntaryong magsasakatuparan
Na ipaglaban na magkaroon ng proyekto

Ang aming barangay ay nagtulungan
at lalo na'ng mga volunteer na obhetong
magsasagawa ng isang samahan na kahit
lingid sa kaalaman ng aming may bahay.

Aming ipinaglaban simula sa unang siklo
Hanggang sa ika-apat na siklo nagkaroon
ng magandang samahan nang makamit namin
ang aming ipinaglaban naging aktibo.

Nang magkaroon ng isang proyekto na pinatunayan
At pinangalagaan, pinaghirapan, pinagpursigihan
Kahit na hadlang sa karamihan
Ang isang ordinaryong mamamayan.

Hindi matatawaran sa pagkakaroon ng DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS.
Ang isang namunong volunteer na ipagpatuloy pa ang nasimulang proyekto
Kundi dahil sa DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS, nagkaroon ng magandang buhay
Ang aming barangay.



KALAHI

LILYBETH RAYAZA

Community Volunteer – Oas, Albay



O Kalahi kong hindi malilimutan
Isang programa na ibinigay at pinaghirapan
ng mga volunteer sa iba't-ibang bayan.

Isang posisyon na aking tinanggap
Pagiging isang treasurer na mahirap gawin
Ngunit ipinagkaloob sa akin na kayang abutin.

Sama-sama nating itaguyod ang programang ito
Makakatulong sa atin sa pag-unlad o pag-asenso.

Dapat isapuso ang programang ito
Sapagkat ito ay marangal at totoo
Mapapakinabangan ng bawat tao.

Para sa mga volunteer na katulad ko
Huwag susuko bagkus lumaban tayo
Sa ikabubuti ng maraming tao.

Isang programa o proyekto sa amin
Ang barangay health center na aming tinapos na tunay at sigurado
Ang Kalahi na ito.

KALAHI: ANG BAGONG YUGTO

MENCHIE SODSOD REMOGAT

Community Volunteer – Oas, Albay

Sisimulan ko ang tulang ito sa pamamagitan ng isang tanong—tanong na sa unang tingin mahirap sagutin, ngunit kapag ito’y iyong inisip nang malalim at taimtim, isinaisip at isinapuso, sigurado ang sagot ay kusang mabubuo sa damdamin.

Ano ba ang nakikita mong panibagong yugto ng kalahi sa kultura ng bayanihan at komunidad? ‘Yan ang isa sa mga tanong na para sa mga taong may mabuting puso at may paki-alam sa kapwa ay madali lang sagutin ngunit bago natin hanapin ang bago, kailangan muna nating lingunin ang luma, dahil walang bago kung walang luma.

Hindi mo masasabing ang isang bagay ay bago kung wala kang mapagkukumparahan na luma. Pagkukumpara ng bago at luma na makakatulong na mas maging maayos ang bago sa luma, makakatulong na ang mga maling nagawa sa luma ay hindi na maulit sa bago.

Makakatulong na ang mga natutunan sa luma ay magagamit sa bago at pinakahuli, pagsasamahan na nabuo. Kapag sinabi nating bayanihan at komunidad, ito ay binubuo ng maraming bilang ng mga tao—mga tao na hindi makasarili at may paki-alam sa kapwa, mga tao naang mithiin ay mapaunlad ang komunidad, mga tao na hindi naghihintay ng kapalit sa bawat tulong na ibinibigay.

Kabilang ang lahat ng tao sa komunidad, mapa-bata, matanda, may pinag-aralan o wala at mga kabataan na maaasahan sa usaping panibagong yugto. Mga kabataan na may maiaambag hindi lang gamit ang lakas ngunit pati na rin ang isip at puso. Sa paggamit ng modernong kagamitan, kung saan hasa ang mga kabataan, dito mapapatunayan na kahit minsan mapapadalas ang mapagalitan dahil maghapon nakahilata at walang ginawa, may maitutulong din pala sa paggamit ng social media.

Bilang kabataan na napabilang sa mga taong marami nang karanasan, mahirap ngunit masaya dahil sa pamamagitan ng KALAHI, marami kaming natuklasan at natutunan, maraming bagong karanasan. Ang iba ay hindi man ganoon kaganda at may pagtatalo pa, alam namin na magagamit naming itong sandata.

Gusto ko sanang ibahagi ang lahat ng aming karanasan ngunit baka abutin tayo dito ng isang taon tulad ng project naming, pero sabi

nga nila sa hinaba haba man daw ng prosisyon aabutin pa rin ang pa-lechon sa inagurasyon.

Hindi nga lang sigurado kung sasagutin ni kapitan. At tama po kayo ng dinig, aabutin pa lang

dahil plano pa lang ‘yun, pero tiyaga lang makakarating rin.

Sana lang lahat may ganoong pag-iisip. Sana kung lahat ng marunong magsimula, marunong ding tumapos. Sabi nga, “SANA ALL.” Masakit mang isipin pero hindi, hindi lahat marunong tumapos ‘yung iba marunong lang sumuko. Hindi po ito hugot, katotohanan lang po.



MAGBAHAGI

DIVINIA CABLES

Community Volunteer - Mandaon, Masbate

Aking karanasan 'di matatawaran
Dito ko napagtantong mapapakinabangan
Lalo sa pagsulong ng mga kakayahan at proyektong aming kailangan.

Kakayahang nakatago lang
Kulang lang ng tamong paglinang
At ito'y ibabahagi sa pangkalahatan
Upang biyayang bigay ay panginoo'y mapakinabangan

Buong puso'y aking ibinigay
Walang pag-alinlangang aking inialay
Mga kakayahan at kalakasan aking ipinamahagi
Upang aming kababayan ay matuto ring magbahagi

Upang komunidad ay magpunyagi
Para sa aming mga KALAHI.



MAGITING NA BAYANI

SALDY B. DEJINO

Community Volunteer - San Jacinto, Masbate

Prosesong Kalahi ang hirap mong gawin
Subalit kailangan itong daranasin
Hindi lang para sa akin, kundi panarin
Sa mga henerasyong darating

Karanasang hindi ko malilimutan
Ang sikmura na kumakalam
Sa paghanap ng mga supplier
na tutugon sa aming pangangailangan
Gano't-ganoon pa man ginagawa ko'y para sa mamamayan

Sa mga kapwa ko volunteers,
Huwag tayong susuko at bibitiw
Ang ating sinimulan ay ating tapusin
Isapuso't-isip natin, kahirapan ay kailangan lutasin

Bayanihan ay kailangan nitong bayan
Proyekto'y maipapatapos at maipapagawa
Kahit walang perang nakikita
Umaasa bandang huli, Diyos ang mapagpala.



NANG NGUMITI ANG LANGIT

ROBERTO LOBIENTA

Community Volunteer - Talisay, Camarines Norte

Sa gitna ng bukid, bundok at kapatagan
Maraming mamamayan na naghihintay na damayan
Sila'y umaasang suliranin ay malunasan upang maibsan paghihirap na
nararanasan

Sa mahabang panahong kanilang pinagdurusan.

Nang isang araw ay may dalawang taong dumalaw na may dalang balitang tila
Liwanag na tanglaw
Tila ningas na nakakasilaw ang dalawang taong dumalaw
Ito ay DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS na tumaglaw.

Lumapit sa barangay nagpatawag ng asembliya upang bumuo ng mga
Volunteer na tinatawag na BSPMC¹
Napagkasunduan ang proyektong isusumite
Ito ay ilaw sa kadiliman ay tatanglaw.

Lumipas ang mga araw natapos ang proyekto ang madilim na sitio biglang
nagbago
Ang matagal na suliranin ngayon ay natupad
Proyekto ay isa lamang instrumento kaalaman, kakayahan at pakikilahok na
nakaukit sa ating puso at isip.

¹BSPMC – Barangay Sub-Project Management Committee



PARTICIPATORY SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

SUSAN NALA

Community Volunteer - Talisay, Camarines Norte



¹PSA ang proseso na gusto kong mapanatili,
Dahil dito nahahanap ang lahat ng data at problema na kailangan ng komunidad
Ano man problema ang ating mahanap
Ito ang ating tulong na idudulog para bigyan solusyon

Talakayan tuwing may pa-seminar
Dahil dito nadadagdagan ang aking kaalaman
Gayun din nakakapagbigay din ako ng aking kaisipan o ideya na pwedeng
Makaambag sa pagunlad ng bayan

Sa lahat ng mga community volunteers
Pinupuri ko kayo
Dahil kahit mahirap matiyaga nating ginagampanan
Ang mga tungkulin na naiatang sa atin.

Ang bagong yugto ng Kalahi
Ay ang pagkakaisa ng mga volunteer, LGU at lahat ng mamamayan.

¹PSA – Participatory Situational Analysis

SA IKA-APAT NA YUGTONG TAGUMPAY

EVELYN RADA

Community Volunteer - Talisay, Camarines Norte

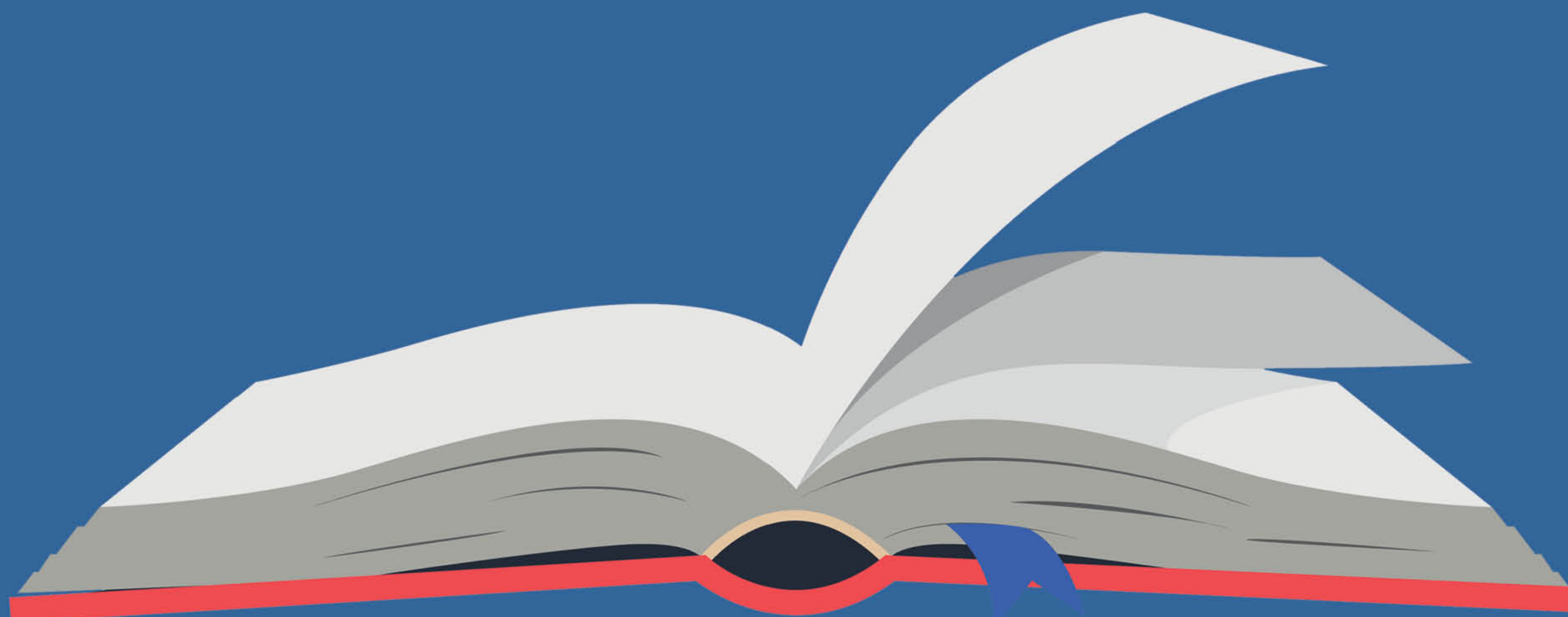
Magandang kinabukasan
Siguradong makakamtan
Dahil sa pagtutulungan
Ng mga ka-barangay.

Ordinaryong maybahay, magsasaka, manggagawa
Maging mga tambay ay nagkaroon ng kaalaman
Dahil sa dalang obheto ng KALAHI-CIDSS sa aming barangay at
Naging makabuluhan at maunlad ang aming buhay.

Nabuhay ang bayanihan
Na dating wala nang saysay
Masaya, mahirap at minsa'y malungkot
ang aming naranasan.

Bilang isang volunteer
Sa una hanggang ikatlong yugto
Naranasan kong malungkot at umiyak
Dahil ang proyektong inaasam ay hindi makakamtan.

Pero hindi sumuko sa ika-apat na yugto
Patuloy na lumaban at nagsikap
Kaisa ng buong barangay
Sa wakas, sa ika-apat na yugto ay nakamtan din ang inaasam na tagumpay.



SA KALAHI-CIDSS MAY PAG-ASA

AURORA GALEON

Community Volunteer - Oas, Albay

Heto na! Heto na mga kababayan!
Isang ahensya ng gobyero na maaasahan
At pwede natin dulugan ng mga problemang pangkabuhayan, imprastrakturang sa
mga barangay
Na may malasakit, pagmamahal at pagkalinga sa mga mamamayan.

Sa DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS natin ito naranasan.
Mga kawani at volunteers na madaling kausapin at kapitan.
Mga ACTs¹, CEFs² na matatalino at masisipag
Kahit mga liblib na pook at lugar ay kanilang pinupuntahan
Para umalalay at masolusyonan ang kahirapan na nararanasan ng ating mga
kabarangay

Sana wala nang katapusan
Ang pag-alalay nila sa mga barangay
Na nangangailangan ng tulong at pag-aaruga
Barangay asembliya lamang at pagkakaisa ang hinihinging kapalit sa walang
sawang suporta.

Kaya ako nawawagan
Sa ating mahal na Presidente Rodrigo Duterte
Palawigin pa ang DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS at panatilihin na
Aking minimithi at itinatangi.

¹ACTs – Area Coordinating Teams
²CEFs – Community Empowerment Facilitators





SALAMAT

LYDIA BALLESTEROS

Community Volunteer - Magarao, Camarines Sur

DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS, ano ka sa buhay namin?
Tahimik na buhay ay naging magulo sa amin
Patawag na asembliya, seminar at maging training
'Yon pala...malaking tulong ang hatid neto sa amin.

Dati ay wala akong pakialam, ngayon ay empowered na
Mga programa niya ay nakaka-inspire na
Umpisa sa AC¹, CEF², MFA³, TF⁴ lalo na mga volunteers
Nagtutulungan, nagkakaisa tungo sa isang programa.

Ano mang sakit ay aking tiniis
Matapos lamang ang isang project.
Minimithing resulta sa pinagpaguran nasimulan
Na ang kinalabasan ay ibayong kasiyahan

Bayanihan sa barangay ay muling nabuhay
Dahil sa mga proyektong itinayo, tinupad at naibigay
Ngayon ang dating barangay na nakalimutan,
Asenso na at umuunlad na nang tunay.

¹AC – Area Coordinator

²CEF – Community Empowerment Facilitator

³MFA – Municipal Financial Analyst

⁴TF- Technical Facilitator

BATANG LIDER

JESSA CEDRO

Area Coordinator

Sa mura mong gulang, ano iyong alam?
Sa pamumuno, ano iyong karanasan?
Kaya mo bang pamunuan iyong mga kasamahan?
Haba ng karanasan at lalim ng kaalaman,
Ikaw ay salat; ikaw na musmos at baguhan.
Mga salitang namutawi at tumatak,
Sa batang noo'y nangangarap.

Bilang gabay sa buhay,
Samo't saring pagsubok na magpapatamlay
Dagdag pa nito'y bigat ng mga karanasan na
Akala mo'y walang lunas
Pero sila'y may solusyon na nabibigay upang ito'y malutas.

Marahil bilang kabataan,
Ito'y isang bagay sa akin pa ay kulang
malawak na karanasan sa mga bagay-bagay,
Kailangan pang hulmahin ng pakikipagsapalaran
Kaya't hindi maiwaksi, mga tenga ay bubuksan,
Sa mga taong bukas ang palad na handa akong tulungan.

Ngunit aking pinakatatandaan
Wika ng isang kaibigan,
Huwag ititigil kung ika'y nasabihan,
"Masyado ka pang bata,"
"Kulang pa iyong karanasan,"
"Wala ka pang magagawa."
O kabataan! Hindi dapat 'yan hadlang
Upang pangarap iyong makamtan
Mamuno man kahit sa may mas karanasan

Sino nga ba ang mas magaling mamuno?
Ang nakatatandang hinubog ng kaalaman at karanasan
O ang batang may bagong ideya at galing sa teknolohiya?

Hindi naman basehan ang edad para maging pinuno
ang mahalaga'y may angking kahusayan at may puso
Sa pagdedesisyon hindi nabubulungan
May sariling pakiramdam at kaisipan
Hindi nadidiktahan at lalong hindi masusuhulan
Hindi nalilinlang at mas lalong hindi manlilinlang.

Ang batang lider na minsan nang hinusgahan
ay isa sa mga piling natira
upang patuloy na maglingkod sa bayan at kapwa.





MagKALAHI Tayo Pilipinas