

VOLUME III

Burung

A COLLECTION OF STORIES OF
COMMUNITIES AND STAKEHOLDERS









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FOREWORD

To respond further to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic, the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan – Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD KALAHY-CIDSS) modified its mode of implementation by employing the Disaster Response Operations Modality (DROM).

DROM is a streamlined process for expediting the approval of community projects that would aid communities in their disaster recovery efforts.

To share the stories of those who were instrumental in the implementation of DSWD KALAHY-CIDSS, the program publishes the third volume of Burunyog, a compendium of stories from the Bicol Region that highlights the challenges and triumphs of communities in sustaining the bayanihan spirit, as well as the good practices of Local Government Units (LGUs) in providing technical assistance to barangays during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This collection of stories also showcases the start of a new chapter for Balik-Probinsya, Bagong Pag-asa (BP2) program beneficiaries and how the DSWD assistance helped them transition to their new town and lives.

These stories will serve as a proof to societies that the Sama-Samang Pagkilos Nang May Malasakit or Compassionate, Collective Action is essential in times of disasters.

MagKALAHY Tayo Pilipinas!



MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR



I started my journey in DSWD as part of Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan – Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (KALAHI-CIDSS).

Through the years, I have witnessed the obstacles and achievements of communities in solving developmental issues and strengthening the community spirit.

DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS is not just about the projects but the PROCESS that displays the modern-day Bayanihan. Our aim is to amplify the voices of ordinary citizens from diverse sectors in understanding their needs and implementing collaborative solutions.

The theme of the Burunyog Volume III revolves around the plight of communities during the COVID-19 pandemic, and how their participation in the program created a synergy with local government units, national government

agencies, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector in responding to and recovering from the pandemic.

This compendium serves as a tribute to our community volunteers and partners who selflessly provided their time, effort, and knowledge to assist their communities in times of difficulties.

We hope that this collection of stories will motivate you to take action, influence others, and achieve our societal goals.

DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS is now in its 19th year of implementation and the program is strongly pushing for the institutionalization of Community-Driven Development (CDD) approach to reach more community members to participate in the local development.

We hope that more people would support our proposed CDD Institutionalization Bill because we need to reach out to more communities to include them in our Sama-Samang Pagkilos.

Once we reach all villages—no matter how far—people will realize that being in a community is more than just living in the same physical region and prospering individually; it is also about flourishing as a whole and being accountable for the community's progress as well as its future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'LQ' or similar, written in a stylized, cursive manner.

LEO L. QUINTILLA, CESE
Regional Director







KWENTONG KOMUNIDAD





23-YEAR-OLD VOLUNTEER LEADS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMUNITY PROJECT

Margie Blanco, a 23-year-old community volunteer from Barangay Buenasuerte Lupi, Camarines Sur, is the designated chairperson for their Barangay Sub-Project Management Committee (BSPMC). She holds a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Central Bicol State University of Agriculture (CBSUA).

The BSPMC will be in charge of overseeing the implementation and completion of many community-based sub-projects funded by the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan—Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD KALAHY-CIDSS).

Leading a group of community volunteers seems to be a difficult path for her to take at her young age. Margie recalls being notified by her mother, who is also a barangay councilor, that she had been called to serve by the council.

"Ako ay kinakabahan dahil hindi naman ako madalas lumabas sa aming tahanan," she shared.

(I got nervous because I don't usually go out of our house.)

Initially, Margie was hesitant to accept such responsibility, knowing that she would be studying for the Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET) back in August 2020, but it was the encouragement from the barangay chairperson that willed her to accept the role. Along with the KALAHY-CIDSS staff, the entire barangay council also offered their support and counsel to help Margie succeed in this endeavor.

"Kaya pumayag na rin ako dahil prebilihiyo na maging isang lider at may tiwala sa akin ang barangay," Margie said. (So I accepted the role since it's a privilege to be a leader and the barangay trusted me.)

DURING THE PANDEMIC

The BSPMC presented three (3) sub-projects to fulfill the community's identified needs in their response to COVID-19. These sub-projects received a grant amounting to PHP163,204.74.

These projects are the Cash-for-Work (CFW) For Cleaning of Public Places, Provision of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Tools, and Supply for Existing Quarantine Facilities, and lastly, the Provision of Sanitary Kits for 156 affected families.

Margie believes that all of the knowledge she gained in school helped her come up with the idea for the aforementioned sub-projects. Furthermore, community volunteers frequently meet with the barangay council to discuss the projects' implementation. The community's involvement proved to be an invaluable tool in conceptualizing these initiatives.

"Natamonamin ang tagumpay na maisakatuparan ang aming proyekto at napapakinabangan ito ng mga mamamayan ng Buenasuerte," Margie shared. (Our achievement is the completion of the project that benefits the community members of Buenasuerte.)

Aside from the skills she gained through executing community initiatives, the principles she learnt as a volunteer that would aid her in her new efforts include treating others with respect and decency, having empathy, and sharing information.

"Mapadpad man ako sa aking propesyon sa darating na panahon, dala-dala ko ang aking natutunan sa DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS," she conveyed. (When I start practicing my profession; I know that I will still bring all the learnings I have obtained from DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS.)

With reports from Aldrean Fernandez

ABOUT DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS

The DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS poverty alleviation initiative assists communities in low-income municipalities in identifying poverty concerns and implementing CDD-based development projects.

Community project approval and implementation have also been accelerated throughout the pandemic thanks to the adoption of the Disaster Response Operations Modality (DROM), a streamlined Community Empowerment Activity Cycle (CEAC) built around CDD principles.

In Camarines Sur alone, DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS implemented DROM in two (2) of its municipalities with a grant amounting to PHP 21,398,733.12.

For more details about DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS, follow this link: <https://kalahi.dswd.gov.ph/about/community-driven-development>





A 76-YEAR-OLD MAN SHARES JOY IN VOLUNTEERISM

Helping the community does not end when a person reaches the age of 60. As some might say, age is only a number that should not prevent you from seeking and fulfilling new goals.

Cesar Rasco, 76, a community volunteer of Barangay Matango in Vinzons, Camarines Norte demonstrated that there are still many things and ways a senior citizen can offer either knowledge or skills despite the limitations brought by the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

Senior citizens have been classified as being more vulnerable to the disease and are considered high-risk, which is why they are not permitted to leave their homes. According to Cesar, this pandemic has been the most difficult to deal with in comparison to dealing with big typhoons.

“Pinadilim ng pandemyang ito ang aming komunidad na dati’y masigla,” he described.

(This pandemic eliminated the vitality of our community.)



IDENTIFYING THE NEEDS

According to the Rapid Disaster Assessment and Needs Analysis (RDANA) conducted by the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit Bisig- Laban sa Kahirapan- Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD KALAHÍ-CIDSS) staff, the lack of a quarantine facility in the community affected 408 households, or 100% of the total number of households.

This issue has sparked widespread anxiety among community members, since people from other places with a high number of positive cases are returning to their neighborhood.

In addition, the barangay reported a lack of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and sanitizers that could have been utilized to safeguard its front line workers.

Because they saw these difficulties as serious community concerns, they suggested remodeling and upgrading their present multi-purpose building as a temporary quarantine facility, as well as supplying these facilities of PPEs through DSWD KALAHÍ-CIDSS.

The department spent a total of PHP 574, 899.33 on this community project.

VOICING OUT

The opportunity to voice your concerns is probably the most important aspect of a democracy, and because the program attempts to empower and include elderly folks, they have learned to advocate for their own welfare.

"Kami ay nagkaroon ng boses at naramdaman namin na may malaki kaming parte sa pagpapaunlad ng aming komunidad,"

(We were given the voice and we felt that we have a big part in the development of our community.)

Mr. Cesar regarded his fellow community members' active involvement as a good result that encouraged collaboration among their team, and his team of volunteers has harnessed this strong motivation to enhance their community's health care facilities.

"Mas pinaghigpit ang pagkakapit-bisig ng aking mga kasamahan," the volunteer said.

(It strengthened the camaraderie of my fellow community volunteers.)

This senior thought of his contribution to the project. He now recognizes that volunteering is not restricted by age or gender.

“Buo ang aming loob at may tiwala sa sariling kakayahan na walang imposible sa lahat,” the volunteer explained.

(Our resolve is clear and we have trust in our abilities that there are no impossibilities.)

Mr. Cesar further stated that as long as they [senior citizen volunteers] have the strength, they will serve as an instrument in providing comfort for the community.

“Ako bilang senior citizen ay hindi makakalimot sa pagkakataong ipinaranas sa akin ng DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS,” Cesar professed.

(I, a senior citizen, will forever cherish the time and opportunities provided by the program.)

And even though Cesar could no longer reclaim his youth and bring back lost time, the wisdom and the skills he acquired through time have proved to be a valuable tool for the benefit of the community.

With reports from Luvy Pababero

ABOUT DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS

The DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS poverty alleviation program assists communities in low-income municipalities in identifying poverty issues and implementing CDD-based development projects.

DROM, a streamlined Community Empowerment Activity Cycle (CEAC) that still adheres to CDD principles, was adopted by the program to expedite approval and execution of community initiatives during the pandemic.

DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS has executed DROM in two (2) municipalities in Camarines Norte with a grant of PHP 20,336,650.00.

For more details about DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS, follow this link:

<https://kalahi.dswd.gov.ph/about/community-driven-development>







A PWD'S CONTRIBUTION IN COVID-19 RESPONSE

Everybody has a role in the local development including persons with disabilities (PWDs) and other members of the marginalized and vulnerable sectors.

Based on Republic Act no. 7277 or Magna Carta of Disabled Persons, PWDs should have active participation in the social and economic development of the country wherein they are encouraged to participate in the planning, organizing and managing government programs and projects.

To ensure the active participation of PWDs in the local development, the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan – Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS) included the PWD sector in the planning, implementation and maintenance of community projects.

Gloria Espeña, 42, a community volunteer of Barangay Amomonting in Castilla, Sorsogon, is one of the PWD volunteers under DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS' Disaster Response Operations Modality (DROM) who share their time, skills and effort to implement the community project.

ROLE OF PWD IN PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Since the program shifted its mode of implementation to DROM in response to COVID-19 pandemic, the community proposed the following: 1. provision of medical supplies for the existing quarantine facility, 2. capacity building for Barangay Health Emergency Response Team (BHERT) and, 3. purchase of information education campaign support amenities as a project funded by the program.

Gloria shared that the daycare center, health center and school were converted into quarantine facilities with seven (7), five (5) and ten (10) bed capacity, respectively.

The project was based on the identified needs of the community given that the quarantine facilities need additional medical supplies and upskilling of BHERT members.

Despite Gloria's orthopedic disability due to an accident, the volunteer openly provided assistance in the community project implementation.

"PWD man ako sa paningin ng tao, nakatulong naman ako sa komunidad at bukas ang puso't isipan upang ang aking tungkulin ay magampanan," she said.

(Though people see me as a PWD, I helped the community and I am open to carry out my duties.)

Gloria serves as the head of the Audit and Inventory Team (AIT) that gives assurance whether internal control systems are in place and are functional for the efficient and effective implementation of the project.

The team also ascertains the validity and reliability of financial reports and detects whether the funds are utilized in accordance with the program policies.

During the implementation, the volunteer observed that the program has significantly transformed the community as well as its volunteers.

"Ang mga mamamayan ay naging mapagmatyag sa proyekto at ang volunteers ay nagkaroon ng tiwala sa sarili," she shared.

(The community became vigilant to the implementation of the project and the volunteers gained self-confidence.)

Gloria is also open to share her knowledge with others to achieve local development.

"Hindi hadlang ang kapansanan, basta't ang abilidad ay ipamahagi sa kapwa mo at kumilos para sa pag-asenso at ikakabuti ng bayan o mundo," she concluded.

(Disability is not a hindrance as long as you share your skills to others and you contribute to the development and betterment of the community and of the world.)

With reports from Chris Madridano

ABOUT DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS

DROM was executed in four (4) municipalities of Sorsogon by DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS with a total implementation funding of Php 45,658,080.00.

Castilla has received Php 18,516,050.00 from the program. To present, Barangay Amomonting has spent Php 442,988.84 on the quarantine facility project.

For more details about DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS, follow this link: <https://kalahi.dswd.gov.ph/about/community-driven-development>





A REWARDING EXPERIENCE OF A VOLUNTEER DURING PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a major effect on our lives. It has affected millions of people's lives and has devastating health and socio-economic consequences.

Many communities have seen the businesses they owned or worked for, typically as day employees, have been forced to close. Barangay Ponong in Casiguran, Sorsogon, is one of these communities.

Based on the damage assessment conducted by the barangay, 206 out of 263 households with low income and no permanent employment were those severely affected by the pandemic. Included in the affected families are skilled workers, farmers, and fisherfolks.

For example, fishermen cannot afford to get their broken fishing equipment repaired for they must prioritize the needs of their families first.

Meanwhile, community members lack the necessary tools to establish a vegetable garden, which could also serve as an alternative source of food and income. This leads to a shortage of adequate food and nutrition for their children.



FUNDING THE PROJECT

To address these issues, the community proposed distributing fishing equipment and gardening tools through the Disaster Response Operations Modality (DROM) funded by the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan – Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS).

The fishing equipment and gardening tools proposed by Barangay Ponong would benefit the fishermen, as well as assist in the establishment of a communal garden for the people to create revenue and food security for the community,

respectively.

According to Mary Ann Bueza, a community volunteer, they were able to secure the funding of their proposed projects with the help of the community members and strong support from the barangay and municipal local government units (LGUs).

The program provided PHP 337,857.44 to Barangay Ponong, with PHP 237,857.44 going to fishing equipment for 47 fishermen and PHP 100,000.00 going to gardening materials for the people.



AS A VOLUNTEER OF THE PROGRAM

Being a community volunteer, especially as the chairman of the Barangay Sub-Project Management Committee (BSPMC), is a new and daunting experience for Mary Ann. She was originally doubtful of her ability to manage the committee and oversee the project.

“Sa una, madami ang naging katanungan sa aking isip katulad na lamang ng, kaya ko bang maging lider?”, Mary Ann said.

(At first, I have so many questions regarding my ability as a leader)

But Mary Ann was determined to learn the program processes.

“Palagi akong dumadalo sa mga patawag na gawain, pagdalo sa mga pagsasanay at aktibong nakikilahok na kung saan sa pamamagitan nito ay tumataas ang aking kumpyansa na makaya ang obligasyong ibinigay at ipinagkatiwala sa akin,” the volunteer explained.

(Attending meetings, training, and staying on top of things all added to my confidence in carrying out my responsibilities.)

Mary Ann also encountered problems along the way. She would often receive questions, grievances, and negative reactions from some community members.

“Nakakapanghina at para na akong sumuko sa sakit ng ulo pero ganoon yata talaga, iniisip ko na lang na isa itong pagsubok na dapat kong malampasan,” Mary Ann revealed.

(Receiving negative comments is grueling to the point that I wanted to give up but I tried my best to think that this is just a challenge I needed to overcome.)

Despite the difficulties, the committee was able to finish the projects by November 30, 2020. Mary Ann also stated that her team is grateful for the opportunity to deliberate and collaborate on these initiatives.

“Kaming simpleng mamamayan ay nabigyan ng boses at pinagkakatiwalaan na magampanan ang bawat tungkuling ibinigay,” Mary Ann imparted.

(Ordinary citizens like us were given a voice and trust to perform the duties given.)

Mary Ann also noted that being a community volunteer is not a stroll in the park, but it has proven to be incredibly rewarding, especially when their beneficiaries show their thanks.

“Worth it naman kung ang mamumutawi sa mga labi ng beneficiaries sa komunidad ay isang simpleng salitang, “salamat sa inyo mga volunteers” iyan kasi ang gantimpala para sa aming volunteers,” she continued.

(Being a volunteer feels very rewarding when we hear the beneficiaries say “thank you, volunteers” because it serves as a reward for us).

With reports from Katherine Martillana

ABOUT DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS

DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS is a poverty alleviation program that helps communities in poor municipalities to identify challenges involving poverty and implement developmental projects using the Community-Driven Development (CDD) approach.

To hasten approval of community projects and its implementation during pandemic, the program used DROM, a simplified Community Empowerment Activity Cycle (CEAC) which still follows the principles of CDD.



In Sorsogon, DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS implemented DROM in four (4) municipalities with a total grant of PHP 45,658,050.00.

For more details about DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS, follow this link: <https://kalahi.dswd.gov.ph/about/community-driven-development>



A FAMILY'S JOURNEY TO A NEW AND BETTER LIFE

With businesses closed and unable to operate due to restrictions brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, millions of people were displaced and left with no jobs. Among these was Regine Visto, a 24-year-old mother and wife who is responsible for making ends meet for a family of four people.

Regine claims that the strict lockdowns have rendered their family reliant on her husband Ian's 300-peso wage, which is half of what he usually earns a day pre-Covid. Back then, Ian's earnings sufficiently covered their daily expenses, but due to this loss of income, the family found themselves struggling to make ends meet for their two daughters.

As part of the recovery mechanism from the economic downturn of the pandemic, the Department of Social Welfare and Development through the Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pag-asa (BP2) program offered cash assistance to low-income families who decided to return to their home provinces.

Seeing this as a new chapter of their lives, Regine and her family opted to stay permanently in her husband's hometown of Presentacion, in the province of Camarines Sur.



SMALL STEPS INTO A NEW LIFE

The program identified Regine's family as one of its 13 beneficiaries who returned to Camarines Sur on April 29, 2021.

Her family initially received PHP 64,270 in cash aid from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), which covered a variety of benefits including transportation assistance, a transitory family support package, and a transitory shelter assistance.

During the family's transition phase, the Sustainable Livelihood Development (SLP) staff also assisted them in looking for possible livelihood opportunities and after such careful thought and brainstorming, the family received PHP 50,000 of Livelihood Settlement Grant to set up their own Feeds Supply Store.

In addition to the DSWD cash aid, the family received 50 heads of white leghorn chickens from the Department of Agriculture (DA) and a free one-year rental of commercial space from the Local Government Unit of Presentacion for their Feeds Supply Store.

After seeing some growth in the business which the DSWD and DA helped them set

up, Regine and her husband are planning to expand their scope.

"Nakabili na kami ng dalawang biik, tapos dadagdagan namin yung manok, kasi lahat na kita ay idadagdag sa Feeds Supply namin para mas maraming pagpipilian ang mga tao at mas lumaki siya (We bought two [2] piglets and we are also adding more chickens because all the income earned will be added to the Feeds Supply Store to grow our business and expand the choices of feeds for our customers)," she proudly shared.

Regine expressed her gratitude to the program saying that because of it, they were able to start anew.

Though it was both scary and uncertain, Regine and her family have already taken a big step forward.

"Tiyaga lang po at sipag para po makamit natin yung mga pangarap natin (Patience and perseverance is the key to achieve our dreams)," she said to fellow BP2 beneficiaries.



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The BP2 program is one of the support measures to decongest urban poor communities. It also intends to give hope and opportunities to families from pandemic-affected metropolitan areas, displaced employees, and those vulnerable to health and safety problems as well as other environmental dangers.

Based on social worker assessments, the program may provide transportation assistance, a transitory family support package, livelihood settlement grants, transitory shelter assistance, and/or psychosocial support to family beneficiaries, while community grants may be provided to municipalities with more than 20 BP2 family beneficiaries.

In addition, other National Government Agencies (NGAs), as members of the Regional BP2 Program Committee, also provide complementary assistance to eligible families of this program.







BARANGAY COGON IN CASTILLA, SORSOGON DEMONSTRATES COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Participation is one of the key principles in achieving community's development. It is also one of the main features of Community-Driven Development (CDD), an approach used by the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan – Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS) in its project implementation.

CDD is a globally-recognized strategy that gives communities control over the development process, decision-making, and resource management. One of the communities that exhibited the advantage of participation is Barangay Cogon in Castilla, Sorsogon.

With the impact of COVID-19 pandemic, they used their strong involvement and determination in implementing their sub-project: retrofitting of day care center into barangay temporary quarantine facility, having capacity building for Barangay Health and Emergency Response Team

(BHERT) and barangay officials, and purchase of information, education campaign support amenities.

The community proposed the sub-project due to the lack of facilities for the locally-stranded individuals (LSIs).

“Ang aming barangay ay malayo sa kabayanan at walang sapat na quarantine facility kung kaya kapag may mga LSI na dumarating ay walang mapaglagyan at sumasailalim lang ng home quarantine na nagdudulot ng malaking pangamba sa maaaring pagkalat ng sakit,” community volunteer Raul Medallada said.

(Our barangay is far from downtown Castilla and we have inadequate quarantine facility for the LSIs so they resort to home quarantine which created apprehension on the possible spread of the virus.)

PARTICIPATION DURING PANDEMIC

Raul shared that implementing a community project during the pandemic is not an easy task considering the restrictions in conducting community activities that require face-to-face interaction.

“Naging mahirap ang pagpapatupad ng programa dahil maraming protocol na kailangan sundin at naging limitado pa ang ibinigay na oras para sa pagpapatupad ng proyekto,” he explained.

(Implementing the program became difficult because of the health protocols that must be observed and the limited timeline for completing the project.)

When discussing the development of the community, every barangay needs proper dialogue among its community members.

“Sa komunidad, kailangan ang mahusay na pakikipag-usap sa mga tao upang mahikayat silang makilahok at maipahayag ang kanilang mga pangangailangan upang malutas ang mga suliranin at mabigyan ng solusyon ang bawat problema,” Anabel Hisita, barangay treasurer.

(In a community, it needs ample discussion with community members to encourage them to join and voice out their concerns in solving issues and providing the appropriate solution for each problem.)

Completing the project posed a big challenge for Anabel which resorted to performing her assigned duties beyond working hours. With this, she cannot anymore spend time with her family. Despite the difficult tasks, she continued providing service to the community.

“Dahil sa alam ko na magbibigay ito ng malaking tulong at kaghinaan sa aming barangay ay hindi ako umayaw bagkus mas lalo akong nagsumikap na gampanan ang aking tungkulin,” she said.

(Since I know that it will provide a huge help and comfort in our barangay, I did not give up and continued performing my assigned duties.)

Anabel added that the program gave the community a chance to join and learn especially in identifying the needs of the community and eventually implementing these identified projects.

“Dahil sa programa ng Kalahi-CIDSS, ang mga community volunteers ay natutong makiharap at gumawa ng desisyon para makatulong sa pag-unlad ng komunidad,” the barangay treasurer stated.

(Through Kalahi-CIDSS, community volunteers learned how to coordinate and make informed decisions to assist in the community’s progress.)

With solidarity and cooperation among community members, they completed the sub-project last November 30, 2020 with a grant cost of PHP 389,441.87 and local counterpart contribution amounting to PHP 1,500.00 benefitting 242 households.

“Ang biyaya ay hindi makakamit kung wala tayong pagkukusa at kooperasyon,” Raul imparted.

(We will not receive any blessing without initiative and cooperation.)

With reports from Ma. Cristina Guiriba

ABOUT DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS

DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS is a poverty alleviation program that helps communities in poor municipalities to identify challenges on poverty and implement developmental projects using the CDD approach.

To hasten approval of community projects and implementation during the pandemic, the program used Disaster Response Operations Modality (DROM), a simplified Community Empowerment Activity Cycle (CEAC) that still follows the principles of CDD.

In Sorsogon, DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS implemented DROM in four (4) municipalities with a grant amounting to PHP 45,658,080.00 in 2020. For more details about DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS, follow this link:

<https://kalahi.dswd.gov.ph/about/community-driven-development>









DACULANG BOLO, A COMMUNITY OF STRENGTHS

A bamboo symbolizes strength and flexibility. It has the ability to stand upright and adapt in difficult situations.

Daculang Bolo also known as a large bamboo is also the barangay's name in the municipality of San Lorenzo Ruiz, Camarines Norte. True to its name, Barangay Daculang Bolo showed many strengths.

The barangay exhibited remarkable collective action of its members through the implementation of community-managed projects such as construction of school building, day care center, and pathway.

"Lumakas ang involvement namin sa mga aktibidad ng barangay dahil sa mga proyekto," Maridhel Belen, 44, community volunteer said.

(The involvement of the community members in barangay activities increased because of the projects.)

These projects were funded under the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan – Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS).

The program is a poverty alleviation program that uses Community-Driven Development (CDD) approach to increase the participation of communities in decision-making, planning and implementation of projects.



COMMUNITY UNDER CRISIS

Due to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) crisis, the community suffered from the lack of quarantine facilities because the school building which was also used as an evacuation center cannot fully accommodate the Locally Stranded Individuals (LSIs) and Persons Under Monitoring (PUMs).

Barangay Daculang Bolo was also affected with the increase of unemployment rate because of the pandemic. To resolve the problems identified by the community, the barangay proposed the retrofitting of existing public toilet and bath, and establishment of modular tent as temporary quarantine facility with provision of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and amenities.

The proposed project was funded under the Disaster Response Operations Modality (DROM) of DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS.

DROM is a modified Community Empowerment Activity Cycle (CEAC) wherein each stage is simplified to hasten the process of approval of community projects and its implementation while still following the principles of CDD approach.

The project generated employment opportunities for construction workers who lose their jobs during the pandemic. This also helps in increasing the participation of women in labor force.

“Malaking tulong ang project kasi nagkaroon kami ng pagkakakitaan,” Maridhel shared.

(The project helped us a lot because it provided us a source of income.)

Maridhel shared that six (6) women are part of constructing the project proving that construction work is not only limited to men.

THE POWER OF EXPERIENCE

Aside from the jobs generated, it also demonstrated the ability of the barangay to implement a project considering they have already three (3) community projects.

“Medyo sanay na ako sa proseso ng Kalahi-CIDSS dahil sa mga seminar at trainings na nagpalawak ng aking kaisipan,” Maridhel explained.

(I can already manage the implementation of the Kalahi-CIDSS’ process because of the seminars and trainings I’ve attended that furthered my knowledge.)

For Maridhel, she compared the rapport of the community members to a bamboo.

“Kung may hindi pagkakaunawaan, nagkakaroon ng pasensya ang bawat miyembro katulad ng kawayan na yumuyuko,” she said.

(If there are misunderstandings, each community member is humble enough to have it solved like that of a bending bamboo.)

“Pagbugkos-bugkos, maraming nagagawa,” she added.

(United, we can do more.)

With reports from Tommy Tesoro

ABOUT DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS

DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS implemented DROM in two (2) municipalities of Camarines Norte with a total implementation grant of PHP 20,336,650.00

The program has allocated San Lorenzo Ruiz with PHP 5,666,400.00. To date, Barangay Daculang Bolo implements the quarantine facility project with total cost of PHP 621,564.57.

For more details about DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS, follow this link:

<https://kalahi.dswd.gov.ph/about/community-driven-development>





PANDAN FINDS GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY THROUGH CDD

We often hear other people say: “may yaman sa lupa (there is treasure in the soil).” This is not the usual treasure chest with precious gems that we see in movies, but the limitless opportunities a soil can offer. One of these is livelihood.

Through the collaboration of communities, barangay and municipal local government units, national government agencies and private sectors, the municipality of Pandan saw a greater opportunity - an alternative livelihood for the affected people of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Delicia Sabeniano, 31, a resident of Barangay Wagdas recalled her experience during the pandemic: “*Hirap sa buhay tapos kulang sa pagkain kasi walang mapasukan na trabaho kasi hindi po makalabas ng bahay* (It’s difficult to live with inadequate food to eat because we cannot work since we cannot go out of our houses due to restrictions).”

Since the province of Catanduanes is also prone to weather disturbances, the livelihood of fisherfolks is greatly affected.

Victor Alfon, 48, community volunteer of Barangay San Andres, cited that they cannot catch fish because of strong waves during the rainy season.

Seeing disasters as a major concern in the livelihood and employment of many, 11 barangays identified the cash-for-work for the establishment of cassava plantation as an alternative livelihood.

The cash-for-work sub-project with a total project cost of PHP 3,397,328.00 has 1,344 beneficiaries. This sub-project was funded by the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan – Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD KALAHÍ-CIDSS).

DSWD KALAHÍ-CIDSS uses the Community-Driven Development (CDD), a globally recognized strategy wherein it empowers communities to plan, decide and implement projects based on their identified needs.

ESTABLISHING THE CASSAVA PLANTATION

Before the implementation of the sub-project, the communities asked consent from private landowners to use their properties for cassava plantation for which they received a permit of three (3) years. With over 17 hectares of land, the sub-project started from November until December 2020.

To fully establish the plantation, the Local Government Unit, through the Municipal Agriculture Office provided technical supervision to the beneficiaries. The office also worked out in acquiring the cassava cuttings in Sorsogon that will be used for the plantation.

The cash-for-work program gave communities employment during the pandemic.

“Yung nakuha ko pong sahod sa cassava plantation, binili ko po ng pagkain sa pang-araw araw tapos kung ano pong pwedeng mga bayarin (The salary I received from working in the cassava plantation was used to buy food and pay for my other expenses),” Delicia explained.

The cash-for-work sub-project may be a temporary intervention, but the communities used it as a big leap to maintain the plantation as their source of livelihood.

According to Victor, Barangay San Andres decided to divide the earnings of their cassava produce equally - 50% for the maintenance, and 50% for the community members.

“Ang importante lahat ay makinabang (What’s important is everyone will benefit from the plantation),” he stated.

The cassava farmers see a fruitful harvest, but this do not prevent them from worrying.

Allen Isorena, Municipal Agriculturist opened that the beneficiaries are quite hesitant with the plantation as they are worried about who will buy their produce when the harvesting season approaches. To ease that apprehension, the LGU sought assistance from the Department of Agriculture on tying up with potential buyers.

The communities had acquired San Miguel Corporation as a possible buyer for their produce. The corporation will use the cassava roots as animal feed.

“Nabigyan sila ng sigla na matiyak na yung kanilang cassava produce ay ma- coconvert sa pera at mabibili ng San Miguel Corporation (They were filled with zest when they were assured that the cassava produce will be bought by the San Miguel Corporation and will be converted into cash),” Allen noted.

INSTILLING “SAMA-SAMANG PAGKILOS”

Using the principles of the CDD which are participation, transparency, accountability and enhanced local capacity helped communities to form developmental changes.

For Victor, from the seminar or training he received, the principle of transparency held a significant part in their community.

“Kada mag-memeeting kami sinasabi ko sa kanila yung transparency ay para yung mga tao ay magtiwala. Kasi pag-nawala yung transparency, ito [organisasyon] ay manghihina (Every time we conduct meetings, I usually say to my co-members that transparency is vital in order for people to give their trust. If transparency fades, the bond of the organization weakens),” he imparted.

According to Mayor Honesto C. Tabligan II, Local Chief Executive of Pandan, the notion of the people is if it’s government support, it is dole out, they just receive after which they don’t have an obligation to give back.

“Dito nagbago yung utak nila na kung saan (Here, their perception changed wherein) KALAHÍ-CIDSS is not only for infrastructure, not only for one-time big- time or for dole out but they put some responsibility in our constituents,” Mayor Honesto explained.

The local chief executive also said that the biggest lesson imparted by the program is collective action.

“Sa community natin, mas madami palang mararating pagsama-sama, tulong- tulong para sabay-sabay tayo lalakad at susulong para sa panibagong bukas (In our community, there are many possibilities if we have the people who work together and help each other in order to walk and push forward for new tomorrow),” Mayor Honesto encouraged.

With the Sama-Samang Pagkilos Nang May Malasakit or compassionate collective action of everyone, they were able to form a golden opportunity through partnership and collaboration.

ABOUT DSWD KALAHÍ-CIDSS

DSWD KALAHÍ-CIDSS is a poverty alleviation program that helps communities in poor municipalities to identify challenges on poverty and implement developmental projects using the CDD approach.

To hasten approval of community projects and implementation during the pandemic, the program uses Disaster Response Operations Modality (DROM), a simplified Community Empowerment Activity Cycle (CEAC) that still follows the principles of CDD.

Last year, DSWD KALAHÍ-CIDSS implemented in Pandan, Catanduanes with a grant amounting to PHP 7,838,637.30.

For more details about DSWD KALAHÍ-CIDSS, follow this link:

<https://kalahi.dswd.gov.ph/about/community-driven-development>



WOMAN'S FOUR YEARS OF SERVICE POSITIVELY INFLUENCES COMMUNITY

“Experience is a terrific teacher,” says John Legend, an American singer-songwriter, and it resonates with Verde Jalimao’s four (4) years of experience as a community volunteer, which taught her life skills that will undoubtedly serve her well in life.

Jalimao is a volunteer of the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan – Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD



Kalahi-CIDSS), which is a poverty alleviation program that helps communities in poor municipalities to identify challenges on poverty and implement developmental projects using the Community-Driven Development (CDD) approach.

Using the knowledge she earned while implementing sub-projects way back when she joined in 2017, Verde’s heart of service continues to beat strongly as she spearheads the implementation of two (2) sub-projects in Barangay Sto. Domingo, Vinzons, Camarines Norte.

The Cash-for-Work (CFW) for Clearing and Grubbing along Barangay Roadside, and the Provision of Hand Tools and Concreting of Barangay Road were the identified needs of the community. Both sub-projects amounting to PHP 1,970,371 were financed under DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS Additional Financing and counterpart contribution of the Local Government Unit.

These sub-projects of the community are based on the results of their Rapid Disaster Assessment and Needs Analysis (RDANA).

With additional funding, the program was also able to finance five (5) sub-projects amounting to PHP 6,011,963.88 from 2015 until 2020.

These projects are: (1) Construction of Alternative Learning System (ALS) facility; (2) Improvement of Barangay Road; (3) Provision of Sanitary Kits for 450 poor and marginalized families; (4) CFW for 70 community volunteers or residents for the Clearing of Canals; and (5) Retrofitting and Refurbishment of Existing Multi-Purpose Covered Court as Temporary Quarantine Facility with Provision of Amenities and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).



BATTLING HURDLES

In 2020, Barangay Santo Domingo were not spared of the implications brought by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Samson Balce, 54, chairperson of the Barangay Local Government Unit, identified unemployment as one of their village's struggles, citing the fact that the majority of their residents had lost their jobs and are struggling to find income sources. Another issue is the scarcity of COVID-19 facilities for locally stranded people (LSIs).

"Malaking bagay po yung COVID-19 facility sapagkat kung walang naka-install sa barangay na facility...siguro po lalong lalaganap ang COVID-19 (The COVID-19 facility is a great help to our community. Because if we don't have an installed facility in the barangay, the virus would have spread)," Balce said.

Implementing community projects has its own set of obstacles. Verde stated that they cannot escape the perception that their team and barangay council stole surplus supplies and embezzled unused funds from the sub-projects.

To try and resolve things and aim for complete transparency, Verde and her team often conduct meetings with the rest of the community to help clarify such issues and find solutions.

"Mag-attend kayo ng pagpulong kasi meron kami every month kung saan inuulat namin kung ano na ang estado ng aming pinansyal at ganoon din yung progreso ng implementasyon namin sa pisikal (You attend meetings being conducted every month because we discuss the physical and financial accomplishments on the implementation of sub-projects)," she told community members.

CHANGE IN THE COMMUNITY

The village of Santo Domingo, one of the 19 barangays of Vinzons, Camarines Norte, has a population of 5,021. Most of their residents rely on agriculture, particularly rice and coconut farming, as their main source of livelihood.

Through collective action and strong participation of the community members, the residents in this sector had seen positive changes in their industry.



One of which is the 954-meter farm-to-market road constructed to provide easier access in the transport of farm goods.

“Yung aming mga motorista, medyo nabawasan ang kanilang expenses sa pagpapaayos ng mga gulong ng kanilang sasakyan (For motorists, the expenses incurred from having their tires fixed were lessened),” she further explained.

As a volunteer, Verde was able to develop her communication skills, which helped her carry out her responsibilities in the community.

“Natuto po akong makihalubilo sa kapwa ko dati kasi nahihya ako i-express yung sarili ko (I learned to socialize with fellow community members because before I was too shy to express myself),” she explained.

Having the confidence and relevant skills, Verde felt generous to share her inputs and learnings to other volunteers from neighboring barangays during KALAHI-CIDSS’ training.

“Nagagalak ako na makilala bilang isang responsableng tagapamahala at may tiwala sa akin ang mga tao (I am overjoyed that people regard me as a credible consultant and have faith in me.),” she said.

Evidently, Verde’s four years of experience as a community volunteer left footprints not just in her life, but also in her cherished community.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

In its efforts to hasten approval of community projects and ramp up in their implementation during the pandemic, the program adopted the Disaster Response Operations Modality (DROM), a simplified Community Empowerment Activity Cycle (CEAC) that follows the principles of CDD.

Last year, the program expanded its scope to 76 municipalities in Bicol Region under Additional Financing. And in Camarines Norte, the DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS is implementing Additional Financing in six (6) municipalities with a grant amounting to PHP 90,180,000.

DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS Additional Financing allocated Vinzons with PHP 20,000,000 and local counterpart contributions of PHP 5,000,000.

For more details about DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS, follow this link: <https://kalahi.dswd.gov.ph/about/community-driven-development>





WOMEN'S ROLE IN COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT DURING PANDEMIC

Traditionally, community affairs and administration has been the domain of men. Due to institutional, socio-economic and cultural barriers, women were unable to actively take part in public processes. However, times are changing. In Del Gallego, Camarines Sur, community members of Barangay Mansalaya demonstrated that women can and do play a vital role in community affairs, particularly in contributing to the achievement of community development and progress.

Annaliza Tiballa, treasurer of Barangay Mansalaya, is one of the Department of Social Welfare and Development's Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan – Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS) women community volunteers.

Most people believe that women should only be responsible for their houses, but she claims that DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS gave

women in the barangay the opportunity to accomplish more.

“Nung magkaroon ng KALAHI-CIDSS, isa sa mga natutunan ng mga babae dito ay ang mailabas ang saloobin nila (When we became part of KALAHI-CIDSS, one of the lessons learned by women is to share their opinion),” she said.

Annaliza also stated that women gained dignity and were able to face people through the program.

With determination to rise up from the pandemic, the community proposed the retrofitting and refurbishing of multi-purpose buildings as temporary quarantine facilities.

The project amounting to PHP 300,000 was funded by KALAHI-CIDSS Payapa at Masaganang Pamayan Indigenous Peoples – Community-Driven Development (PAMANA IP-CDD) program.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

The community saw the need for a quarantine facility due to the increasing number of Locally Stranded Individuals (LSIs) returning to the barangay.

“Simula nung 2nd quarter ng 2020, nagkaroon kami ng LSI na nasa 200 hanggang sa ngayon (Starting the 2nd quarter of 2020 until the present, we have had 200 LSIs),” Annaliza explained.

They also encountered problems during the project’s run involving salary discrepancies with their construction workers. After a series of discussions, both sides have settled the issue and the community recognized the importance of transparency in project implementation.

“Napakaganda ng pagbabago ng community nung sumali sa KALAHI-CIDSS. Unang-una po ay nagkakaisa ang mga volunteer at nagkaroon ng transparency (Positive changes happened to the community when we joined KALAHI-CIDSS. There has been volunteer camaraderie, as well as the practice of transparency),” Ronilo Surara, 44, Barangay Chairperson said.

Annaliza stated that transparency is currently being applied not just in KALAHI-CIDSS but also in other activities and interactions. She went on to say that they found it advantageous to hold meetings on a regular basis to allow their members to discuss next steps or potential actions and strategies for the community’s growth.

Managing a group of community members is difficult, but Milagros Rombaon, 51, a community volunteer, led the Barangay Sub-Project Management Committee with ease (BSPMC). The BSPMC also oversees the sub-project’s implementation.

Milagros proudly said that she learned practicing transparency in project implementation which helps avoid disunity in the organization. Moreover, as a woman volunteer, Milagros also expressed her gratitude to the program for helping them improve their lives.

“Nagpapasalamat kami sa KALAHI-CIDSS dahil ang barangay namin ay tinutulungan nila umunlad (We are thankful to KALAHI-CIDSS because they helped improve our barangay),” Milagros mentioned.

The universe is full with options and opportunities, particularly for women and both Annaliza and Milagros demonstrated that women have the right to lead, have their voices heard, and make decisions.

Just like what Ruth Bader Ginsburg, American lawyer and jurist, famously said, “Women belong in all places where decisions are being made. It shouldn’t be that women are the exception.”



ABOUT DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS

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To hasten approval of community projects and implementation during the pandemic, the program uses Disaster Response Operations Modality (DROM), a simplified Community Empowerment Activity Cycle (CEAC) that still follows the principles of CDD.

Last year, DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS implemented the PAMANA IP-CDD program in three (3) barangays of Del Gallego, Camarines Sur with a grant amounting to PHP 1,800,000.

For more details about DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS, follow this link:

<https://kalahi.dswd.gov.ph/about/community-driven-development>





PAGHALUBAN SOARS HIGH TOWARDS EMPOWERMENT

We learn to fly not by being fearless, but by the daily practice of courage. The same may be said for a town taking its initial steps toward growth during a pandemic. The community of Paghaluban in Barcelona, Sorsogon is no exception from experiencing the effects of COVID-19. It has brought anxiety among families since their livelihood and employment were immensely affected.

“Naging mailap ang mga trabaho at nagsi-tanggalan ng mga empleyado kaya ang karamihan ay nahihirapan kung saan sila makakakuha ng panggastos araw-araw,” Jhonrey Evasco, a community volunteer and chairman of Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) explained.

(Getting a job these days is extremely challenging, especially when many people have been laid off, making it impossible for most community members to find sources of revenue for their daily necessities.)

Seeing this as a top priority, the community selected the cash-for-work (CFW) sub-project for communal gardening as a remedy for this problem. In addition, the community suggested providing medical supplies and equipment for its existing quarantine center.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan – Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS) provided funding for both sub-projects totaling PHP 338, 024.51.



ACCEPTANCE

Jhonrey also stated that being a part of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) community did not make things easier for him, as he became a target of ridicule and was subjected to insults from his colleagues.

Despite the fact that he was subjected to derogatory remarks from others, he proved to them that he can help his community as a youth leader and he is happy to be a part of the implementation of sub-projects. Volunteering provided him with the acceptance he had always sought.

“Sa kabila ng aking kalagayan, binigyan din ako ng respeto, pag-unawa at kahalagahan,” he remarked.

(Regardless of my gender, they gave me respect, understanding and importance.)

He went on to say that he never felt that his sexual orientation was a burden, and that he solely saw himself as a volunteer who contributes to a more beautiful and thriving community.



A NEW CHAPTER

Jhonrey saw several changes in his community, one of which is the active engagement of each community member.

“Sa pagkakaisa at pagtutulungan ng mga opisyal lalong lalo na ang mga volunteer, nagampanan ang mga trabaho,” the volunteer explained.

(Through cooperation and collaboration of officials and the volunteers, we accomplished all the tasks.)

Paghaluban derives its name from the term *“natacluban,”* which means “covered.” It all started with a folklore of a gigantic bird flying over the neighborhood and enveloping it in darkness as someone yelled *“natacluban.”* Despite the name’s negative meaning, the community demonstrated that they may soar to new and better heights.

With reports from Rubylyn Gatus

ABOUT DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS

DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS is a poverty alleviation program that helps communities in poor municipalities to identify challenges on poverty and implement developmental projects using the CDD approach.

To hasten approval of community projects and implementation during the pandemic, the program used DROP, a simplified Community Empowerment Activity Cycle (CEAC) that still follows the principles of CDD.

In Sorsogon, DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS implemented DROM in four (4) municipalities with a grant amounting to PHP 45,658,050.00.

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MEMOIRS OF BICOLANOS

BUHAY VOLUNTEER

ROSALIE J. ALLEN

*Barangay Development Council - Technical Working Group (BDC - TWG) Chairperson
Barangay San Pedro, Irosin, Sorsogon*

Ang pagiging volunteer
Ay marunong mag-share
At marunong mag-care
Likas na mabait, but beware...
Sila'y talented, kaya handle with care

Ang serbisyo naming dala
Sa komunidad ay mahalaga
Huwag maliitin maging sinuman sila
May natapos man o wala
Malaki ang kayang magawa

Sa proyektong dala ng KALAHI
Mga training sa atin ay naibahagi
Dagdag kaalaman sa mga volunteer
Nasa atin ay hindi na mababawi
Ngunit ito'y ating ibigay sa mga bagong kasapi

Mga proyekto nito
Hatid ay trabaho
Ikaw, sila, tayo
Ang makikinabang nito
Sipag at tiyaga lang ang kailangan mo

KALAHI sa komunidad
Tayong lahat ay may responsibilidad
Opisyal o volunteer bawal ang tamad
Malaking kita, hindi ang hangad
Sa mga proyektong makikinabang ay buong komunidad

Salamat ng marami sa DSWD KC NCDDP-AF
Sa mga butihing staff
Sa mga supportive na opisyal ng komunidad
Sa mga masisipag na volunteer
MABUHAY TAYONG LAHAT SA SERBISYONG TAPAT!

*Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan -
Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services - National Community-Driven
Development Program (DSWD KC NCDDP) - Additional Financing

HIRAP MAN AY TUTULONG PA RIN

EVANGELINE H. FORTES

Barangay Development Council - Technical
Working Group (BDC - TWG) Chairperson

Ang mga residente sa aming komunidad
Labis ang pagsubok ngayong may pandemya
Ang mga estudyante ay hirap sa kanilang pag-aaral
Ang mga magulang nama'y hirap sa paghahanap-buhay

Talagang mahirap ang sitwasyon ngayon ng mga mag-aaral
Hirap makasagot at makahabol sa modyul na dumaratal
Lalo na kung walang koneksyon sa internet ang inyong mga WI-FI
At wala kang cellphone, load o computer sa bahay

Ang hirap intindihin ng mga modyul na dumarating
Mga mag-aaral ngayon kadalasan ay ito ang daing
Tulong na paparating, ito ang tanging hiling
Ng mga magulang na pilit itinataguyod ang pag-aaral natin

Kahit ako man ay ito rin ang hiling
Dahil sa kasalukuyan ito ay nararanasan ko rin
Habang pilit kung pinagsasabay ang trabaho at pag-aaral
Ramdam ko ang hinaing ng akin mga magulang

Marami nang residente ang nagsi-uwian
Galing sa iba't ibang lugar sa kamaynilaan
Sapagkat sila'y natigil sa kanilang pinapasukan
Kaya ang pangangailangan ng pamilya'y di na matustusan

Hirap ang ating mga LSIs
Habang nakakwarantina sa ating mga paaralan
Dahil ang ating pasilidad ay walang higaan
Sa lapag na lang naglatag ng matutulugan

Hirap din ang ating mga BHERT o mga volunteers ng barangay
Kapag sila ang nakatokang magbantay sa mga LSI
Dahil kulang sa amenidad ang ating paaralan
Kaya't ang mga bantay ay ibayong hirap ang nararanasan

Sana ang pandemyang dumapo sa ating bansa ay magwakas na
Dahil hirap nang magbudget ang mga pamilya
Sa kakarampot na kita araw-araw dahil hirap na rin sa pera
Ang mga pinapasukan o ang mga amo nila,

Kahit ang may sariling lupa at kabuhayan,
Ay hirap na rin sa kasalukuyan ang nararanasan,
Kakaunti ang kita sa mga taniman at niyogan,
Dahil mababa ang produksiyon pati na rin ang bentahan

Kaya naman salamat KALAHI CIDSS NCDDP-AF at siya'y dumating
Magaganda mong programa sa amin ay "blessings"
Natulungan mo na kami noon sa aming water system
At sa iba pang programa na dinala mo sa amin

Bilang isang volunteer abot langit ang aking saya
Gayundin ang aming komunidad dahil sa mga programa mong dala
Kami ay na-empower at natuto nang husto
Sa mga aral na dala ng programang sinimulan mo

Kaya kahit mahirap pagsabayin ang pag-aaral, trabaho at pagboboluntaryo
Ay hindi ako magsasawa dahil alam kung panalo kami rito
Ang aking komunidad ang siyang tatanggap nitong benepisyo
Na galing sa dugo at pawis na inalay namin sa paggawa nito.

*Locally Stranded Individuals (LSIs)

*Barangay Health Emergency Response Team (BHERT)

PARA SA KAPWA, PAGKAKAISA AT GAWA

FEDENCIA PADUA

*Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) Chairperson
Barangay Nato, Sagñay, Camarines Sur*

Dito sa aming nayon
Sa pagkakaisa kami ay umaayon
Ang pag-asang hatid nito ay
Para ang komunidad ay umahon

Bolunterismo ay nasa diwa at puso
Mahalaga ang lipunan at aking kapwa tao
Kasipagan, malasakit, at pagtutulungan
Upang tagumpay ay maisakatuparan

Ang aming komunidad ay isang patunay
Na ang pagmamahal sa kapwa
Ay natural nating taglay
Higit sa biyaya at halata sa gawa.



A background image showing several hands of different skin tones reaching upwards, symbolizing unity and community. The hands are positioned in a way that they appear to be reaching towards the top of the frame, creating a sense of aspiration and collective effort.

GAANO KAHALAGA ANG PAGIGING ISANG COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER

MARIVIC M. BOMBITA

Barangay Development Council - Technical Working Group (BDC - TWG) Chairperson
Barangay Carriedo, Irosin, Sorsogon

**“Bolunterismo”—Ito ay isang bagay na dapat tandaan
Mahirap ibahagi ang isang bagay na mayroon tayo
Lalo na kung ito ay pinaghirapan at pinagpawisan mo
Bagay na pinaghirapan mo, bakit mahalaga na ang iba ay makinabang nito?**

**Ang ating buhay ay hindi lang umiikot sa ating sarili
No man is an island, ika nga nila
Bilang indibidwal, may responsibilidad tayo sa isa’t isa
Dahil kabahagi natin sila sa Diyos na sa atin ay lumikha**

**Ang pagiging volunteer ay ang maibabahagi ang ating kaalaman,
Magbigay serbisyo, bagay o kung ano pa man
Walang hinihintay na kapalit na para sa pansariling kapakinabangan
Hindi para sa isang tao, kundi para sa karamihan**

**Sadyang napakahalaga nito sa isang tao
Pati sa barangay at maging sa buong bansa
Dito nabubuo ang pagkakabuklod-buklod
Ano man ang kanilang kalagayan sa buhay**

**Hamon ko sa bawat isa na makialam
Makilahok sa mga gawaing pangkaunlaran
Para sa ngayon, para sa bukas
At sa mga darating na panahon ng ating bayan.**

DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS

HERMOSO P. CANDELARIA

Barangay Representation Team (BRT)
Barangay, Barcelonita, Cabusao, Camarines Sur

D – Dahil sa malaking tulong na ibinigay sa amin
S – Sa isip namin, ‘di kayo mawawaglit
W – Walang sawa sa pagtulong saan mang panig
D – Dahil kaming mahihirap lagi niyong iniisip
K – Kailan man ‘di namin kayo malilimutan
A – Ang sainyong kabaitan, hindi matutumbasan
L – Lagi kayong nariyan para umagapay
A – Ang inyong tulong napakalaking bagay
H – Hihintayin namin kayo araw-araw
I – Iisipin magpakailanman
C – Cabusao, Camarines Sur ay iyong natulungan
I – Ibinahagi sa amin ang maraming bagay
D – Dapat lamang kayo ay pahalagahan
S – Serbisyo at kawanggawa ay nangingibabaw
S – “Salamat” mula sa pusong kasiyahan ay umaapaw



JOYDESIL BULOS

Barangay Development Council - Technical Working Group (BDC - TWG) Chairperson
Barangay Cawayan, Manito, Albay

**KALAHI-CIDSS na matagal nang tumutulong ng masugid
Mga mamamayan ng aming barangay lumuwag ang dibdib
Dala nito ay pag-asa sa mga mamamayan na may problemang kinikimkim**

**Dati akong mahiyain, ang humarap sa tao ay hindi ko kayang gawin
Dahil sa mga proyekto ng KALAHI-CIDSS, loob ko'y pinilit palakasin
Para ito sa mga mamamayan na umaasa samin**

**Iba't ibang proyekto ay unti- unti nang maisasakatuparan
Lalo pa't mga ka-volunteers na kabarangay ay nagtutulungan
Mga mamamayan pansamantalang naibsan ang pangangailangan**

**Mainam ang pagkakaroon ng pagpupulong ng komunidad
Ukol sa mga proyekto na ipapatupad
At nang masiguro at matiyak na ito'y may kalidad**

**Bolunterismo ay para sa pagkakaisa at pagbibigay
Magandang diskursong maaaring maging gabay
Sa pagtuklas ng solusyon para mapaganda ang buhay.**



KADAKILAAN SA PANAHON NG PANDEMYA

DIOSDORA ABINAL

Barangay Treasurer

Barangay Tanawan, Lupi, Camarines Sur

Ang kababaihan ay may iba't ibang mukha
Ngunit mas madalas kilala bilang ilaw ng tahanan

Ang pag-aruga sa pamilya ang unang pinaglalaman
Kahit mahirap, mayaman, o sino ka man

Subalit nang dumating ang pandemya
Kaming mga Gabriela ay biglang naluha

At kahit buhay man ay biglang naging malumbay
Kagustuhang tumulong sa kapwa ay mas lalong tumibay

Serbisyo publiko ay aking naging obligasyon
Pagtulong sa kapwa aking nilalayon

Kahit minsan sariling pamilya ang naisasakripisyo
Dahil madalas ang oras ay binibigay sa serbisyo.

Pagtulong sa kapwa, ang sarap sa pakiramdam
Kahit kapalit nito ay batikos mula sa iilan

Pinipilit pa ring ngumiti dito, at tumawa doon
Sama at bigat ng loob, titiisin muna sa ngayon

Dahil ito ang sinumpaan kong tungkulin
Babae ako at may mga minimithi

Pandemyang nararanasan ay may hangganan din
Huwag kang bibitaw at laging manalangin.

KALAHI, KALAHI, ITO ANG MGABINIGAY NIYO SA AMIN

EVELYN JARCIA

Operations and Maintenance (O&M)
Barangay Namuat, Gainza, Camarines Sur

Sa simula ako ay isang butihing ina lamang ng aming bahay,
Subalit nang dumating ka sa buhay ko, mundo ko ay nag-iba
Tawag dito, tawag doon
Meeting dito, reporting mamaya
Pagdating ng bahay, isang ulirang ina na naman ako
Ligpit ng mga gamit, hugas ng pinggan, linis ng paligid

Kinabukasan, KALAHI, KALAHI, KALAHI, ito na naman tayo
Walang tigil na trabaho
Monitor dito, reporting doon
Maraming tanong, maraming hinanakit

Kinabukasan ay training, training, training
Ito na yata ang pinakamasaya at challenging
Dati kong kaalaman mas nadagdagan pa
Workshop dito, workshop doon, talagang masaya

Bagong kakilala, bagong kaibigan, bagong kaalaman
Pero dahil sayo KALAHI hindi lang ako ang natulungan
Ang aming pamilya mas naging maunawain
Ramdam ko ang suporta nilang lahat sa akin

Kita ko na ang aming komunidad ay nabago
May magandang daanan, maayos na drainage, maaliwalas sa bawat liko
Dahil sayo KALAHI mas naging matatag ako bilang isang volunteer
Ang dating takot noon, ngayon ay kahit anong problema kayang harapin

MARAMING SALAMAT KALAHI!



KALAHI-CIDSS NG DSWD, BIDA NG SANTA MAGDALÉNA

FORMER MAYOR EDUARDO LOZANO

Local Government Unit of Santa Magdalena, Sorsogon

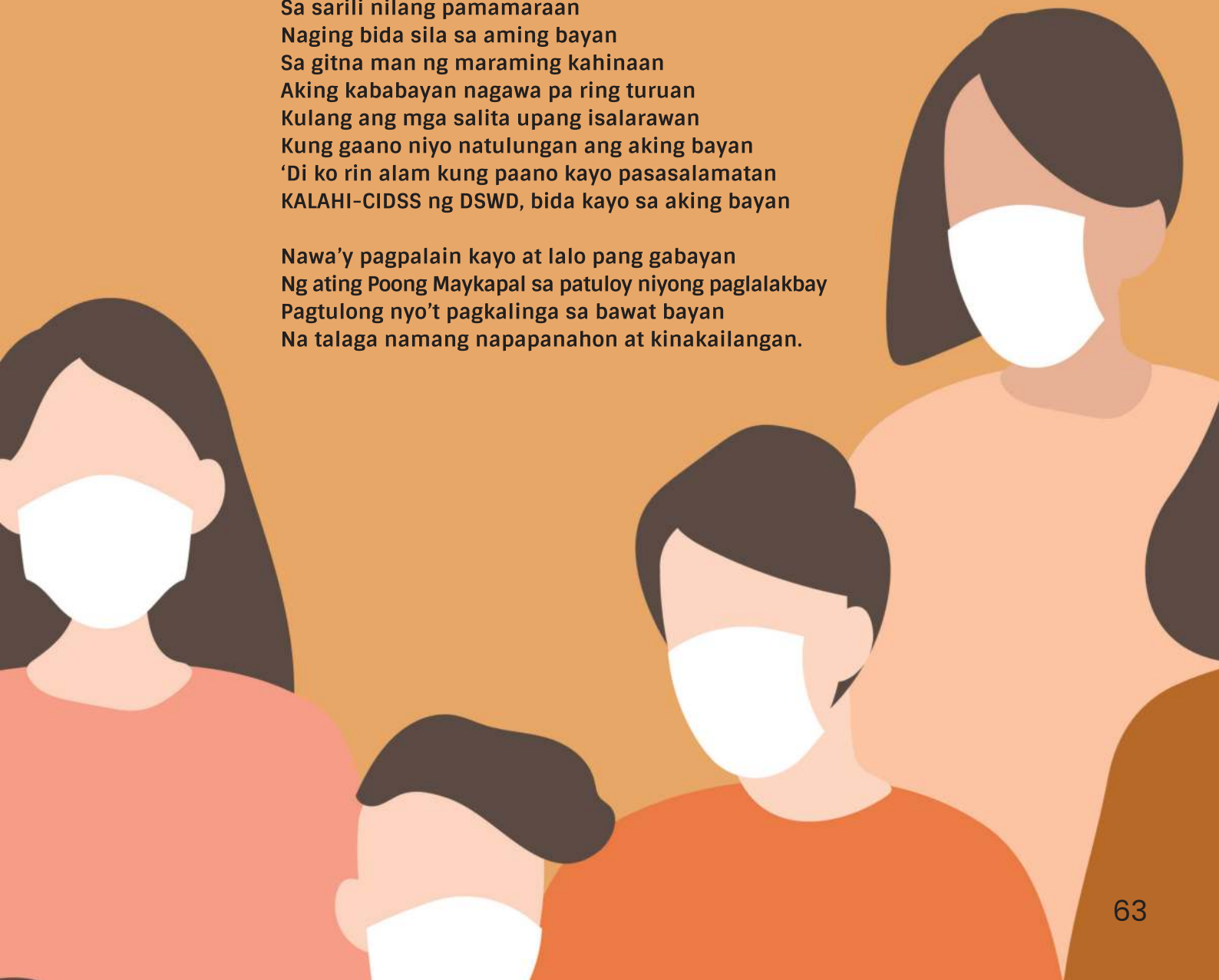
Walang kamalay-malay
Binalot ng Pandemya
Ang bayan kong Santa Magdalena
Na labis kong sinisinta

Binalot ng kaba at agam-agam
Mula sa hamong dala-dala ng COVID-19,
Madami pa ring kayang tiisin
Pagmamahal sa bayan, di kayang sukatin

Tila ba ako'y nalulunod sa kawalan
Hanggang ang DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS
Ay dumating sa aking bayan
Sila at kaming lahat ay nagdamayan

Sa sarili nilang pamamaraan
Naging bida sila sa aming bayan
Sa gitna man ng maraming kahinaan
Aking kababayan nagawa pa ring turuan
Kulang ang mga salita upang isalarawan
Kung gaano niyo natulungan ang aking bayan
'Di ko rin alam kung paano kayo pasasalamat
KALAHI-CIDSS ng DSWD, bida kayo sa aking bayan

Nawa'y pagpalain kayo at lalo pang gabayan
Ng ating Poong Maykapal sa patuloy niyong paglalakbay
Pagtulong nyo't pagkalinga sa bawat bayan
Na talaga namang napapanahon at kinakailangan.



KAPWA AY PAGLINGKURAN, MAGSILBING HUWARAN

ALMIRA CELESTE

Community Volunteer

Barangay Mangcawayan, Vinzons, Camarines Norte

Ako'y isang simpleng mamamayan
Kabilang sa isang mahirap na pamayanan

Noon pa man ako'y nangangarap
Balang araw ay makaahon sa hirap

Ngunit 'di lahat may pagkakataon
'Di lahat ng panahon ay mayroon

Dinanas ay labis na kabiguan
Nang 'di makatapos ng pag-aaral

Sa kabila ng paghihirap
Nanatiling may pangarap

Ang makatulong sa kapwa
At maging isang halimbawa

Sa 'di inaasahang pagkakataon
Ako'y naging bahagi ng isang organisasyon

Naglalayon itong makatulong
Tulong sa kahirapan ay isinusulong

Malaki man itong responsibilidad
Dinagdagan nito ang aking kapabilidad

Maging kontribusyon sa komunidad
Kasiyahan ang nakitang pag-unlad.



KOMUNIDAD AY MAGKAISA UPANG PANDEMYA'Y MAGWAKAS NA

LILIA CHAVEZ

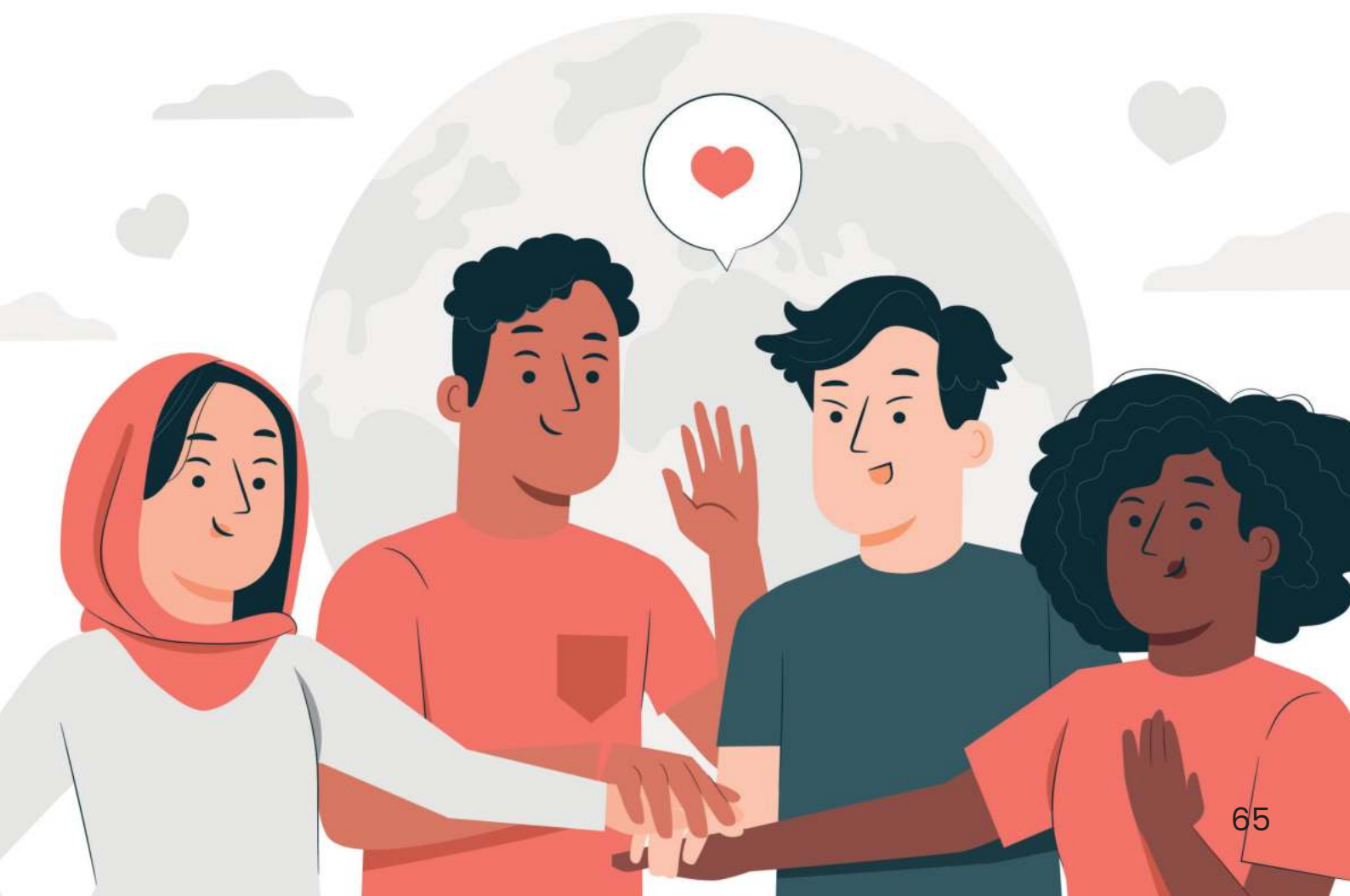
Punong Barangay
Barangay Tible, Lupi, Camarines Sur

Buwan ng Marso, dumating ang pandemya
Isang kagimbal-gimbal na problema
Bansa'y sinubok man, komunidad ay nagkaisa

Samu't saring health protocol ang inilunsad
Upang masigurong lahat ay makakaligtas
Sapagkat COVID-19 mawawala rin sa ating landas

Tayo ngayon, sabay-sabay humarap sa problema
Dahil ang KALAHI-CIDSS ay nariyan na
Komunidad, tara na! Kasipagan ay ibida na

Sapagkat lahat ng problema ay may solusyon
Basta't tayo ay nagkakaisa at nagtutulungan
Bawa't hamon ay malalampasan, basta nagbibigayan.



PAGSUBOK SA KOMUNIDAD

JOSE E. REONDANGA

Barangay Development Council - Technical Working Group (BDC - TWG) Chairperson
Barangay Gulang-gulang, Irosin, Sorsogon

Halika kababayan, tayo'y magkwentuhan
Mga pangyayari sa bayan
Tila sa iba ay puno ng kadiliman
Kaya marami ang nangangapa sa daan

Komunidad, ano pa man ang 'di natin nakikita
Kahit pa siguro isara ang ating mga mata
Maririnig pa rin ang pangyayari 'di ba?
Ingay sa kalsada o mga busina at kung ano pa
Nariyan sila, naririnig mo ba?

Anong paligid ang mayroon tayo sa kasalukuyan
Buhay na puno ng takot at walang kasiguraduhan
Kahit saan ka tumingin may karahasan
Kahit pa siguro doon sa kanluran.

Pinoy tayo 'di ba?
Magagaling sabi nga nila
Ngunit bakit ganito ang ating nadarama
Nakakalungkot at nakakaluha?

Hinahangaan ang galing nating mga pilipino
Kahit saan man sa mundo
Nangingibabaw pa rin tayo
Maging saang larangan man ito

Anong ugali ng komunidad mayroon tayo
Na siyang naging daan para mangyari ang lahat ng ito
Sakim lang ba ang karamihan sa gobyerno
O ikaw at ako ang may kasalanan din dito

Kababayan, ang pag-unlad daw ng komunidad
Ay nagsisimula sa ating mga pamilya
Ang pamilya natin walang katulad ang pagmamahal
Magandang asal ay huwag nating kalimutan
Mula sa ating pinanggalingan

Mga negatibong paguugali ay itapon
Kapag ikaw, ako, tayo ay nagtutulungan
Masisigurong lahat ay makakaahon

Huwag tayong maging ganid sa mundong ito
Ang buhay mo at buhay ko ay saglit lamang dito
Ang magiging salamin ng iyong pagkatao
Ay kung paano mo iaangat ang kapwa mo.



SA GITNA NG PANDEMYA

RANDY MADERA

Community Volunteer

Barangay Guinacutan, Vinzons, Camarines Norte

Ikalawang linggo ng Marso nang
Ikaw ay maranasan
Isang pandemyang hindi inaasahan
Takot at pangamba sa puso ay nanalasa
Tanong sa sarili ay paano na kaya

Aming munting baryo ay lubos na nabahala
Sa mga kababayang lubhang apektado
Kawalan ng trabaho, kawalan ng kita
Malubhang mga epekto ng pandemyang ito

Ngunit dumating ang isang pagbabago
Nang ang DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS napadpad sa amin
Mga kababayan ko'y nagkaroon ng trabaho
Pag-asa na makaahon, ibinigay ninyo

Quarantine facility ay naitayo
Kaya kami ngayon ay lubos na protektado
Hindi man malayang gumalaw sa ngayon,
Ilagay na lamang muna natin ito sa ating puso.



SA GITNA NG PANGANIB, BAWAT ISA ANG MAKAKAPITAN

MAY-ANN VERNISCA

Community Volunteer

Barangay Bagong Sikat, Lupi, Camarines Sur

Sa gitna ng laban ay 'di kayo nakitaan
Ng kahit man lang katiting na bakas ng kahinaan
Kahit pa nga sariling buhay ay handa ninyong ialay
Maski pa sa mahal sa buhay ay panandaliang mawalay

Sila ngayo'y nasa bahay, ang iba ay nasa pagamutan
Ako naman ay nasa labas at barangay ay binabantayan
Masiguro lang na aming pamilya payapa kahit kami ay nasa digmaan
Upang maging ligtas sa pandemyang nararanasan

Nais man nating lupigin ang 'di makitang kalaban
Ngunit mahigpit na bilin ng kinauukulan ay manatili sa tahanan
Nababatid natin ang paghihirap ng lahat
Ngunit tayo ay nagsusumikap upang ito ay malabanan

Sa mga kapwa ko frontliners, kasama natin ay panganib
Trabahong sinumpaan sa bayan ng sinilangan
Buong puso ang aming pasasalamat sa aming mga kababayan
Sa pagsunod sa health protocols, sila ay number one.

Ligtas tayo ngayon, at malayo na sa sakit
Dahil sa mga kapwa naming lubos kung magmalasakit
Kahit sa gitna ng panganib, lagi pa ring nakakapitan
Ang kamay ng bawat isa magpakailanman.



HILING SA BITUIN

WILLIAM V. CARBONEL JR.

Barangay Representation Team (BRT) Member
Barangay Sto. Niño, Sagñay, Camarines Sur

Hindi ko malilimutan na dahil sa aking pakikilahok
Ay madami akong natulungan sa aming komunidad
Na simbolo ng aking kagandahang loob at kusang pagkilos
Para maiangat ang kabuhayan ng bawat isa sa aming barangay

Si haring araw ay tumatanaw
Ang bagong araw ay pupukaw
Ang mga bukirin ang hagap-hagap
At ang pag-asa lamang ang taong masipag

Ang aking tanging hiling na sana'y dumami pa
Ang taong may puso sa ibang tao ay mahumali
Upang ang pag-unlad sa komunidad ay manatili

Sa mga bituin ako'y nakatingin
Na ang aming pag-angat ay dinggin
Na balang araw kami'y mapakinggan
Upang ang aming pangarap sa aming puso ay mabuksan.

WENEFREDA POLENIO

Community Volunteer
Barangay Bulawan Jr., Lupi, Camarines Sur

Ang aming barangay ay dinaanan ng pandemya
Pangamba at takot ang nadarama
Pananampalataya sa Diyos ay nagawa
Bawat pamilya ang gumawa

COVID-19 sa buwan ng Disyembre
Buong mundo'y humarap sa problema
Mga tao'y nawalan ng pag-asa
Sa dami ng taong nahawaan ng Corona

Sa bawat araw na lumipas
Pagbilang ng nagpositibo ay walang wakas
Sa ating isip, marami ang katanungan
COVID-19 ba'y magwawakas?

Kapit-bisig ang bawat isa
Dumating man ang problema, may solusyon 'yan
Sa hirap at ginhawa kami'y sama-sama
Anumang krisis ang mararanasan

Alam namin na ito'y kayang-kaya
Dahil may panibagong pag-asa.







DSWD

Department of Social Welfare and Development



MagKALAHI Tayo Pilipinas !