

# PACEBABACO

#### **OUR COVER**

#### "Children are the world's most valuable resource and its best hope for the future." -John Fitzgerald Kennedy

The cover design tells us about the future that the Department of Social Welfare and Development envisions for the young generation of today - healthier, happier and brighter children.

The children's eyes filled with awe and wonder inspire us to make it possible for them to have a life of immeasurable richness and possibilities. Their smiles and laughter help us find the love and joy amidst the harshness and tragedies of life. Their hugs assure us that goals could be achieved with courage and faith. Truly, they are a symbol of hope.

By providing to our children access to basic health and education, we give them the opportunity to become drivers of change in our society. The Department works for and with the poor, vulnerable, disadvantaged, and marginalized families, building their capacities through various programs and services and empowering them to change their lives for the better. These families, their children, and their children's children will be the living manifestation of the government's role in the realization of their dreams and the betterment of their lives. Indeed, no one gets left behind in our journey to change.

#### VISION

We envision a society where the poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged are empowered for an improved quality of life. Towards this end, DSWD will be the world's standard for the delivery of coordinated social services and social protection for poverty reduction by 2030.

#### **CREDO**

- Promote the rights of every individual
- Work for a society of equals
- Build and maximize people's potentials
- Protect them
- Enable them
- Empower them
- Learn from them
- Involve stakeholders and other partners
- Provide a better future for this and generations to come

#### **MISSION**

disadvantaged.

#### VALUES

- Respect for human dignity
- Integrity • Service Excellence

MANDATE

To develop, implement and coordinate social

protection and poverty reduction solutions

for and with the poor, vulnerable and

To provide assistance to local government units, nongovernment organizations, other national government agencies, people's organizations, and other members of civil society in effectively implementing programs, projects and services that will alleviate poverty and empower disadvantaged individuals, families and communities for an improved quality of life.

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MALACAÑAN PALACE Manila

A nation's greatness is built on its people. As government employees, it is our duty to ensure that all Filipinos have access to opportunities that can afford them dignified, productive lives.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development plays an important role in fulfilling this agenda; your focus on helping those in the margins of society through the state's programs and interventions has given your beneficiaries the possibility of a better tomorrow.

I commend the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program for improving the welfare of many families; this endeavour has made great strides in keeping children nourished, healthy, and educated, thereby taking a step towards dismantling the cycle of intergenerational poverty in the country.

Much has been achieved, but there is still a long way to go in the fight for an improved quality of life for all; our citizens and this administration count on you as leaders in this undertaking. May your successes urge you to keep pushing for more reform, that we may achieve our vision of a society where the poor, vulnerable, and disadvantaged are empowered.

Benigno S. Aquino III

The President of the Philippines



Quezon City

In many parts of the country, there are pockets of hope that emerge even in the most trying times.

These are found in the stories of many mothers, fathers, and children who have little to survive on, but rise to every challenge day after day armed only with some measure of hope and a lot of determination.

These are found in the stories of communities that are now slowly piecing their lives together and building back better from the rubble left behind by various disasters.

These are found in the stories of countless workers, many of whom I work with in this mission of people empowerment, who sail through the roughest seas and cross the highest mountains and give much of themselves if only to extend the help sorely needed by our communities.

Their stories are what we have culled to breathe life into "Kaya Natin ang Pagbabago," the theme of our Annual Report this year.

For the past four years, the Department of Social Welfare and Development has consistently worked to empower the poor and the marginalized through all our programs and projects. Among those we have served are the 4.4 million households under Pantawid Pamilya; the 464,190 families linked to better opportunities through the Sustainable Livelihood Program; and the 5.3 million households benefitting from improved local infrastructure because of Kalahi-CIDSS National Community-Driven Development Program.

However, no matter the impact and depth of these accomplishments, these are nothing but numbers if we let the poor remain faceless and voiceless. Thus, for our Annual Report this year, we are showcasing the stories that lend meaning to the numbers that define this journey towards change.

Inside these pages, you will see that the theme is a battle cry not only of the vulnerable, but of our people. In every story of change, what shines through is the strength of the heart and the will of the Filipinono matter the walk of life from which they came—to soldier on and say, "Kaya ko, kaya natin ang pagbabago!"

Corazon Juliano-Soliman

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

"Kaya natin ang pagbabago; ipinagmamalaki ko ang pagbabago ko; nagbago ako sa tulong ng gobyerno."

"We can change for the better; I am proud that I have changed; *I have changed because of the government's help.*"

It is said that nothing is constant in this world except change. to-day life. It is also heart-warming to read about the trials and Through the work and resources of the Department of Social triumphs of parents who have adopted and how the Department Welfare and Development (DSWD), in collaboration with various helps adoptive parents and hitherto orphaned children find each other. By understanding and respecting children's needs and partners, a better life is possible for many Filipino families. In these pages are the stories and experiences of transformation experiences, we are able to create more effective mechanisms of just a few of the many who are taking this journey towards to develop their full potential and the children themselves can become active agents in their own protection. change.

Through building a strong foundation for families, Foremost to the Department's role is to protect the rights of children and youth and to equip them with we are also enriching communities. The Kapit-Bisig Laban sa opportunities for a better future. These children offer inspiring Kahirapan - Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social and brave stories of hope and victory in spite of challenging Services National Community Driven Development Program circumstances. A beneficiary of Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino (Kalahi-CIDSS), the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program, and Program tells us how he took the initiative and mustered the the Sustainable Livelihood Program, work together to improve courage to strive for a better life. An out-of-school youth shows the level of well-being of the majority of families and individuals us how perseverance turns dreams into reality. Another child in our country. With one goal in mind, the Department has speaks about the positive influence of the Parent Effectiveness pushed its limits and has broken barriers to reach 4.4 million Seminars and Family Development Sessions on his parents' day-Pantawid Pamilya households. By working in partnership with

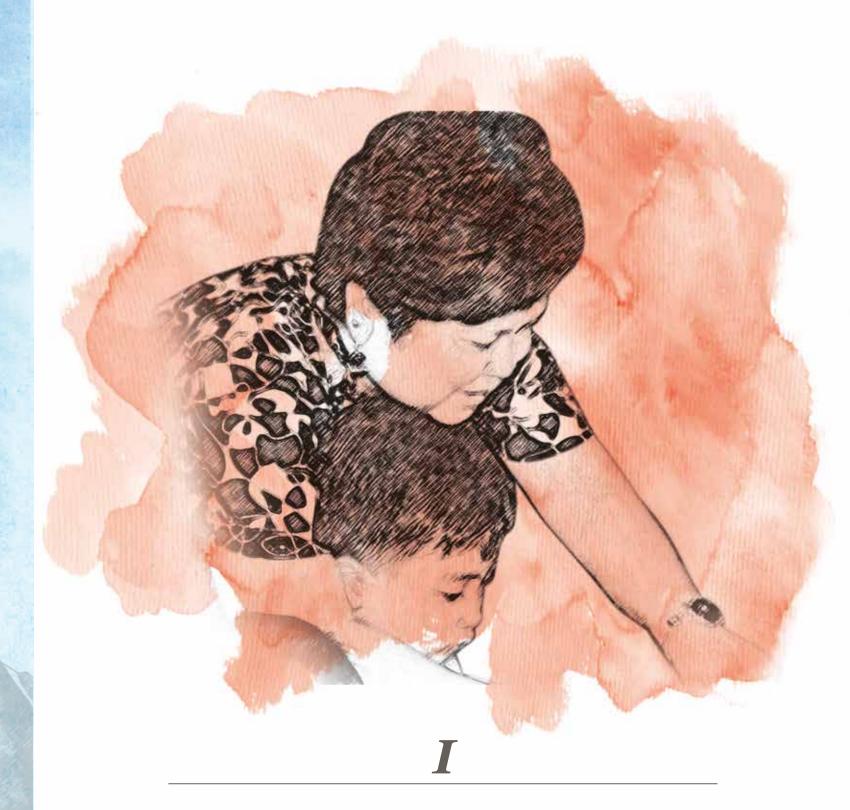
local government units and other supportive institutions and with enhanced capacities and financial support, the poor and we also work to develop individuals holistically. Programs marginalized families now have a fighting chance at breaking like Gender and Development promote women's rights and the intergenerational cycle of poverty. There are accounts of eliminate discrimination, while the Social Pension for indigent how barangays set-up facilities for their basic needs like potable senior citizens and the assistance and privileges given to water systems; bridges that bring communities together; and persons with disabilities aim to ease often difficult situations roads that make traveling easier and safer. These interventions caused by poverty. For our indigent communities, the intangible allow a wider space for greater social inclusion and participation. benefits of volunteerism have made such an impact on their Hence, we are able to bring about change on a bigger scale, lives. Regardless of gender, sexual orientation, age, ethnicity, helping families and communities support themselves.

Even amidst disasters and calamities are opportunities for change. We are made aware of our own vulnerabilities, thus building resilience becomes the central element of our work. The Department has not wasted time in rebuilding from destruction. Testimonies from affected families and communities attest other groups and institutions, each Filipino has the power to how the Department and various local government units work build a better life for himself and his family. One individual at a together to slowly regain what were lost through the provision time, we will be able to make this world a better place. We can of shelter and livelihood programs. Along with those who risk make it happen. their lives daily in the service of the public are some twenty-five thousand employees who carry on with a heartfelt commitment to serve and contribute to the long-term change that we desire.

As we try to protect and promote social welfare, or physical stature, the vulnerable and the marginalized are empowered with the help of these programs.

The Department's efforts would not be as affective without the active participation of citizens. Thus, change must always come from within. Together with the government and

Kaya ko ang pagbabago! Kaya natin ang pagbabago!



Musmos pa lang ako Hirap na buhay ang kinagisnan ko. At ang madalas na tanong ko... Kailan kami yayaman? Mababago pa kaya ang buhay ko?

# 0

#### Champion of the children's future.

This is perhaps the foremost role of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). Thus, the Department takes great effort in ensuring that its programs invest and protect the rights and welfare of children.

Investing in children means they are provided with the needed care in achieving their full potential. The Department's Pantawid Pamilyang



>>Lt. Codiam served in the Army upon graduation from the PMA. He has been assianed in Basilan

Pilipino Program gives poor families cash grants intended for the health and education of the children. Through the program, the children are monitored to become healthy, and get the chance at becoming productive members of society by completing secondary education.

#### PMA Honor Graduate is a Pantawid Pamilya beneficiary

Cadet Billy Casibi Codiam, top three graduate of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) class of 2014, belonged to a farming family in Tanudan town, Kalinga, in the Cordillera Administrative Region. Billy was the first in his village

"Hangad ko na ang mga katulad kong nagmula sa mahirap na pamilya ay magkaroon ng lakas ng loob na magsumikap at pagtagumpayan ang kahirapan. (Here I am; for this I pray that

others like me who came from a poor family may have the courage to try and struggle for a better live.)" - Billy Codiam

to have attended the PMA, and the first from Kalinga to land in the top 10 of graduates.

>>Billy Codiam spending some fun time

with the children from Basilan

The Codiam's family became a beneficiary of the Pantawid Pamilya in 2009. As beneficiary, the family receives cash grants, which helped them with their daily expenses, thus, enabling Billy to pursue his education at the academy.

Such support has not come unappreciated by someone like Billy who is proud of his roots, hardworking, and focused on his

> Pantawid Pamilya is a human capital program of the national government that invests in the



of poor households. particularly of children aged 0-18 years old.



goal. The soft-spoken but towering honor graduate has once said, "Here I am; for this I pray that others like me who came from a poor family may have the courage to try and struggle to achieve a better life."

Twenty-five-year-old Billy, who will join the Army as second lieutenant, was not alone in celebrating his achievement. "My family is happy that I have reached my goal," he said.

#### An out-of-school youth makes his dreams come true

For Billy, education is important as it bridges the youth into the realm of future possibilities. This guiding principle is also shared by Loudemer Doloroso who never ceased to follow his dreams despite limited opportunities.

Loudemer, is a 20 year old out-of-school

"Dreams are free, but the dreamer must persevere to turn these into reality" - Loudemer Doloroso

youth (OSY), and a program-participant of the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) of the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

Loudemer stopped schooling since his fifth grade, but rather than doing nothing, he became determined to send his siblings to school. His dream is for them to finish their education, so he is

doing his best to earn enough to send them to school at least through vending and working at a slaughter house.

He said, "Hindi ko na po maipagpapatuloy ang aking pag-aaral dahil tututukan ko na lang po ang pag-aaral ng aking mga nakababatang kapatid na nasa first year college at Grade 8 (I do not plan to continue my studies anymore since I am prioritizing my younger brothers' education, one will be in first year college and another in Grade 8)."

Loudemer's parents do not have stable jobs, hence, as the eldest, he decided to help send his siblings to school.

At a young age, Loudemer had already faced great challenges and responsibilities. Thus, he was grateful when he was chosen as one of the 10 OSYs who were awarded with a food cart for vending various products through the SLP.

The DSWD provided the food cart worth P5,210, while their local government unit gave the stove, and a regular supply of gas for cooking.

SLP is a capacity-building program that helps participants generate their own sustainable sources of income. The program encourages OSYs to eventually finish school once they have enough money saved from their earnings.

Loudemer earns between P150 to P200 a day from selling fish balls, kikiam, chicken



>>Loudemer serves his costumers to his best

balls, and squid balls. To augment his income, he also works in a slaughter house.

To his fellow OSY food cart vendors, Loudemer is also a role model. He was chosen as the President of the Aringay OSY Sustainable Employment Assistance-Kaunlaran (SEA-K).

The group decided to open a bank account where the members already have P5,200 worth of savings to date. The group is planning to use the savings to buy additional food carts for other OSYs in their barangay and even for the members who plan to continue their education.

#### Feeding program hopes to make kids healthier, brighter

The Department upholds that a healthy child, both in body and mind, has the best chance to reach his full potential while growing up. Although food and nutrition are





continues in all transitory shelters and evacuation centers to ensure that the children IDPs are given the right nutrition.

basic to the growth and development of children, they are not easily available to many households causing malnourishment

"Nagpapasalamat ako sa DSWD at LGU ng Caloocan sa pagpapatupad ng programang ito. Dahil sa SFP, hindi lang kalusugan ng anak ko ang napabuti kung 'di pati na ang pananaw ko sa pagdidisiplina at pagpapalaki sa aking anak. (I am thankful to DSWD and LGU of Caloocan in implementing this program. Because of SFP, not only the health of my child becomes better but also my perspective in parenting my child)." -Marigel Mariano

and stunted growth among children. To address this urgent need, the Department implements a Supplementary Feeding Program (SFP) in day care centers.

Five-year-old Ericka is among the 137 children, aged three to five years old, who kept coming to the Franville Day Care Center (DCC) every morning to study, play, and interact with her fellow tots.

While at the DCC, Ericka and other day

care children are provided with hot meals to ensure their overall physical development under the SFP.

First implemented in 2011, the SFP program aims to address rampant hunger and malnutrition among day care children in the country.

Under the program, the day care children are provided with hot meals and nutritious snacks for 120 days in partnership with the Local Government Units' (LGUs) Social Welfare and Development Offices.

One of the most notable SFP implementation is that of Franville Day Care Center in Caloocan City.

"Franville DCC is holding three sessions for each batch of pre-schoolers. Each session, which includes lessons, playtime, and meal time, lasts for

three hours," explained Erlyn Alcantara, a day care worker.

"We are very happy the with great improvements in the health of our students." Erlyn enthused. "The children are also not allowed to eat junk food or soft drinks, to ensure good nutrition," she added.

The center also undertakes complimentary activities to fully maximize the SFP's impact. These include deworming twice a year; providing children with vitamin A; conducting Parent Effectiveness Seminars (PES), Family Development Sessions (FDS), and Pabasa sa Nutrisyon, among others.

For the school year

cycle of 2014-2015,

a total of

1,688,859

day care children

benefitted from the

program

"Parents play a vital role in the growth and development of their children. Part of their commitment when they enroll their children at the DCC is to help in the preparation of meals and attend PES sessions," Erlyn stated.

Erlyn pointed out that PES sessions are very helpful in changing the mindset of parents on disciplining their children. The modules cover the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD), Family Development, and Disaster Preparedness.





The Iuvenile **Justice and Welfare** Council (JJWC) envisions children at risk and children in conflict with the law under a restorative justice and welfare sytem.

Marigel Mariano, single mother to fiveyear-old Sophia, tearfully shared her the lessons gained in attending PES sessions.

"Aminin ko na dati, sinisigawan ko ang anak ko, at nasasaktan ko rin minsan gawa nga ng kakulitan niya. Ngunit nang dumalo ako ng PES ay naliwanagan ako na hindi ko dapat sinasaktan at sinisigawan ang bata. (I used to shout at my child, and sometimes hurt her because I find her naughty. But now, I realized that I should not hurt my child as it only affects her negatively)," Marigel said.

Marigel, who works as a house helper, also finds time to assist in the preparation of meals and join the center's various activities. Assessing her experiences, Marigel realized that she has the capacity to change for the better. "Kaya ko pala ang pagbabago. ( I can deal with change)," she related.



"Alam kong malayo pa ang lalakbayin ko pero naniniwala ako na may magandang pagbabagong darating sa akin. Ayaw ko nang balikan ang dati kong buhay. Gusto kong makatapos at sa tulong ng DSWD, alam ko maaabot ko ang pangarap ko (I know that life's journey is still long, but I believe that there is great change coming to me. I do not want to go back to my former life. I want to finish my studies, and with the help of the DSWD, I know I can reach my dream)." - Grace

The Department strives to protect children through activities such as SFP and various livelihood programs. However, due to certain circumstances like parental neglect, inadequate adult supervision, or abuse, there are still children who end up becoming victims, or worse, committing offenses themselves.

Most often, children in conflict with the law (CICL) are regarded in Philippine society as lost causes, with some sectors calling for harsher punishment for them. The Department, however, stresses that children in general are innately good. They have the right to be guided properly, so that they become responsible citizens one day.

A child in conflict with the law finds healing in DSWD center

> Eighteen-year-old Grace grew up on the streets of Iloilo, leaving home early as she felt she did not receive attention and support from her mother. As a teenager, she fell into bad company and became a sex worker through her live-in partner who "sold" her to other men. Her partner was also

involved in robbery cases.

Happily, Grace is now off the streets and is currently undergoing counselling at the Home for Girls in Iloilo City. While at the institution, Grace is cheerfully interacting with other residents, and continues taking up cooking lessons; her passion in keeping herself busy.

The Home for Girls is managed by the Department and serves as a haven for victims of abuse and exploitation. Aside from attending counselling sessions, the residents participate in various therapeutic and restorative activities.

Grace was accused of being an accomplice in a house robbery case, the Department is also providing her legal assistance in dealing with her court case.

"Nakasuhan ako na accomplice sa isang akyat-bahay case. Masaya ako at tinutulungan ako ng DSWD sa kaso ko. Hindi ko alam kung ano ang napasukan ko (I was accused of being an accomplice to a robbery case. I am happy that DSWD is helping me as I do not know what I got myself into)," Grace said.

These days, Grace is a truly transformed person. In a recent cooking contest organized by the Center, Grace happily worked with her team and cooked "ovareta," which is a well-known caldereta dish with egg as the main ingredient. Their recipe was chosen Best in Palatability.

Such affirming experience within an enabling environment has encouraged Grace to explore her potentials. In the

The Guidelines on the **Establishment of the Regional Juvenile Justice** and Welfare Committee (RIJWC) was approved and adopted. It was promulgated to facilitate the formal establishment of RJJWCs in all 17 regions.

past, Grace was content to just spend her days sleeping, eating, and hanging around to wait for her gangmates. At the center, she has learned to focus her energies in cooking.

"Maganda ang karanasan ko dito sa Home for Girls. Gustong-gusto ko ang pagluluto. Dito lang ako natuto. (I have a good experience here at the Home for Girls. I realized I like to cook which I only learned here)," she said.

Apart from her culinary skills, Grace is also pursuing her education by enrolling in the Alternative Learning System (ALS) of the Department of Education (DepEd).

"Sa ALS, nasa Grade 5 lang ako. Alam kong malayo pa ang lalakbayin ko pero naniniwala ako na may magandang pagbabagong darating sa akin. Gusto kong makatapos at sa tulong ng DSWD, alam ko maaabot ko ang pangarap ko (I am still in Grade 5 under the ALS. It will be a long journey but I know positive changes will come my way. I want to finish my studies, and with DSWD, I know I can fulfill my dreams)," said added.

Home for Girls Center Head Rosalina Lorque stated, "Grace deserves to have a second chance in life, to have a bright future. Every Filipino child deserves that."

"In our own little ways, we can bring about positive change to other people's lives, especially to abandoned children who need the love and care of a family through legal adoption."

- Dennis Sugcang

#### Adoptive couple becomes advocates of legal adoption

The Department likewise recognizes that children like Grace also needs a permanent family to call her own.

To address this, the Department implements the Alternative Parental Care



poses with the Sugcang couple.

to abandoned children either through Adoption or Foster Care.

On their fifth year of marriage, Dennis and Cecil Sugcang of Paranaque City had to confront their inability to conceive a child. At first, Dennis admitted that adopting a child was not initially a welcome idea. "I never thought that I will undergo the adoption process. I feel ashamed about not having a child," he shared. After sometime, they finally decided to adopt.

In September 2009, the couple was assessed by the Department to be capable of adopting a child. Dennis was working in Singapore when he heard the good news that they were finally matched with a baby girl. He cried when he first saw the picture of baby Cyrille sent by his wife.

"That was the most beautiful picture I ever saw," Dennis narrated. Excited about his daughter, Dennis decided not to finish his work contract in Singapore and immediately flew home.

"When I first met my five-month old child at the airport, I was very happy, and it entirely changed my negative feelings about adoption," Dennis continued.

Today, the couple is very active in the

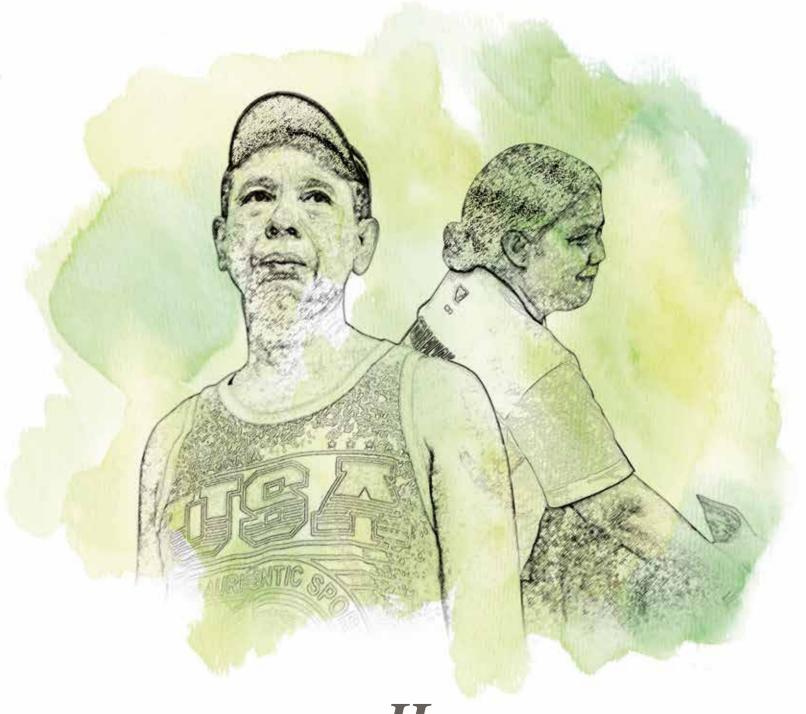
adoption support group in the National Capital Region. Furthermore, the Sugcang couple is now preparing to adopt their second child.

"In our own little ways, we can bring about positive change to other people's lives, especially to abandoned children who need the love and care of a family," Dennis emphasized.

Out of the 872 cases of children received for issuance of Certification Declaring a Child Legally Available for Adoption (CDCLAA) for the year, 715 children were issued with CDCLAA.

Of the 715, 468 were from regular and agency adoption, 33 was foster-adopt, and 361 were independently placed or children who had been

under the care of adoptive families prior to the issuance of CDCLAA.



Gusto ko syempreng guminhawa Bumangon sa hirap Malaman, makahanap, matuto ng paraan. Sa isip ko – sa mga pangarap ko... ang tanong ko, Saan ba ako patungo?

Π



For the year 2016, the Department envisions an increased number of families covered by the social welfare and development services. This only means that no community, no matter how distant and isolated, gets left behind in receiving the opportunity to raise the level of their well-being through the programs of the *"Hindi kaya ng* barangay council na Department.

This is reflected in the story of Flordeliz Olesco, 67-year old retired teacher from Brgy. Ananong, Viga, Catanduanes.

#### Harmonizing community involvement and development

For the longest time, she has lamented the conditions in her hometown. She describes Ananong as a farming village rich in natural resources, in particular, abaca, yet is often visited by strong typhoons. Damaged crops almost always mean little or no income for the farmers and their families.

Making matters worse, according to change. Flordeliz was so appreciative that Flordeliz, was the lack of access to potable water, a condition that still exists in many rural communities in the country. This is because many barangays have to depend on an allotment from the national government for their expenditures, and often this is not enough for all the infrastructure needs of a locality and its population.

Ananong's barangay captain Jesus Cervantes has himself said that their council would not be able to build a water system if they only relied on the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) that they receive.

magpagawa ng water system kung nakadepende lang kami sa IRA (The barangay council would not be able to construct our water system if we only depend on our IRA)" he said.

came the Kapit-Bisig Laban Then sa Kahirapan - Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (Kalahi-CIDSS) program of the Department. Through Kalahi-CIDSS, poor families and communities are ensured access to social welfare and development programs and services nationwide.

When the water system was finally installed, residents of Brgy. Ananong knew that their lives were about to she was even inspired to compose a song.

> "DSWD. MCC. Kalahi-CIDSS Pampamahalaang ahensya Tumutulong sa sambayanan Sa paglutas ng kahirapan"

The installation of a much-needed facility for potable water, does not just bring

about a physical transformation to a place. It also gives its residents much relief from having to trek long distances for clean water, or from spending hardearned money on the commercially bottled kind. It assures them that their community, especially the children and other vulnerable members will be healthier.

It may seem like a small thing relative to huge projects in the big city centers, but constructing a potable water system in a typhoon-vulnerable village like Ananong goes a long way in building a collective sense of self-confidence among the

#### **DSWD Strategic Goal 1:**



2.3M **Pantawid families** in accessing opportunities to move their level of well-being by 2016



the Listahanan data sets nationwide included 38 National and Regional Government Agencies (NGAs), 250 Local **Government Units (LGUs), 14 Non-government Organizations** (NGOs), 12 legislators, and three (3) academic and research institutions.

residents in the community. Through the programs of the Department, the government shows that it is responsive to their situation and does all it can to support them as they do their best to move forward and do more for themselves. It gives people like Flordeliz the sense that she is capable of bringing about and is at the same time part of the positive change in their lives.

#### Education is STILL key to success

Access to facilities, even to something as fundamental as potable water systems,

*"Hindi kaya ng* barangay council *na magpagawa* ng water system kung nakadepende lang kami sa **IRA.** (The barangay council would not be able to to construct our water system if we only depend on our IRA)." - Jesus Cervantes

Thanks to the Department's

#### What is Listahanan (NHTS-PR)?

In the attainment of the DSWD goals, the identification of who are in and where the vulnerable sectors are is very important. The National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR), also known as the Listahanan, identifies, assesses, ranks, and classifies these seholds to guarantee that they can avail themselves of social protection programs.

The Listahanan also attempts to be efficient and effective in its delivery of social services by accurately reaching the actual targets.

Through the Listahanan, the Department was able to maintain one (1) database of 5.2 Million Poor Households and conduct special validation covering 947,311 households where 418,014 households were identified as poor (393,217 in CY 2013; and 24,797 in 2014).

The following programs of the Department rely on the Listahanan: a. Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program

- b. PhilHealth Sponsored Program
  c. Social Pension for Indigent Senior Citizens
  d. Sustainable Livelihood Program
  e. Student Grant-in-Aid Program of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED)
  f. Socialized Housing Project of the National Housing Authority (NHA)

12

"Ayokong maranasan ng mga anak ko ang naranasan kong hirap. Gusto ko silang sumulong sa buhay at magkaroon ng magandang kinabukasan (I don't want my children to experience the hardships I encountered. I want them to move up in life and have a bright future)." -Intan Agcon

is unfortunately still limited and not available to many households, especially in the rural areas, more so for social services like public education. Even if free public basic education is constitutionally guaranteed for all, it is still difficult for families with meager income to cover all expenses usually incurred when sending children to school, like clothing, pocket money for food, and transportation.

Intan and Hiyawata Agcon of Conner, Apayao are not strangers to these challenges. While Intan herself had to forego schooling because of limited funds at home, she had wanted for their children to have a different experience, not to go through the hardship she did, and to have a bright future.

"Ayokong maranasan ng mga anak ko ang naranasan kong hirap. Gusto ko silang sumulong sa buhay at magkaroon ng magandang kinabukasan (I don't want my children to experience the hardships I encountered. I want them to move up in life and have a bright future)," Intan said. And for her and her partner, education must be the key out of a difficult life.

intervention, the Agcon family's ten children have all been able to study.

"Dahil sa tulong ng mga programa ng DSWD tulad ng Pantawid [Pamilya] at SLP, napagtapos ko ng college ang apat kong anak. 'Yung dalawang anak ko naman ay nakatapos ng vocational course. 'Yung pang-pito ay kasalukuyang kumukuha ng Education. 'Yung pang-walo ay nasa high school at 'yung dalawa pa ay nasa elementary (Because of DSWD's programs, like Pantawid Pamilya and SLP, four of my children have already earned college degrees. The other two finished vocational courses, while the seventh is taking up Education. My eighth child is in high school, while the last two are both in elementary)," Intan added.

The Department endeavors to help more families like the Agcons by providing them with at least two programs/services.

By 2016, the Department aims to raise the number of families assisted from 3.9 to 5.2 million. As its second organizational outcome and strategic goal, the Department wants to ensure that the rights of the vulnerable sectors are promoted.

"Dahil sa tulong ng mga programa ng DSWD tulad ng Pantawid Pamilya at SLP, napagtapos ko ng college ang apat kong anak. 'Yung dalawang anak ko naman ay nakatapos ng vocational course. 'Yung pang-pito ay kasalukuyang kumukuha ng **Education.** *Yung pang-walo* ay nasa high school at 'yung dalawa pa ay nasa elementary (Because of DSWD's programs, like Pantawid Pamilya and SLP, four of my children have already earned college degrees. The other two finished vocational courses, while the seventh is taking up Education. My eighth child is in high school, while the last two are both in elementary)." - Intan Agcon **DSWD Strategic Goal 2:** To increase the number of families, from 3.9 million to



who are identified in the Listahanan and cover them with at least two social welfare and development (SWD) programs by 2016.



>>Intan also grows cut flowers which the family sells for additional income

relationship started when, as beneficiary-

#### Working Our Way Out of Poverty

True enough, broadening access to education and other social welfare services is a step toward improving the lives of the many, especially in areas far from city centers where there are relatively more opportunities for livelihood.

Sitio Bantolinao is located in Sibagat town, Agusan del Sur, part of the ancestral domain land of Barangay Padiay whose agro-forestry products are mainly abaca and rattan. Almost all of the residents of the sitio are members of the Manobo indigenous community. Since they mostly produce raw materials that are usually sold cheap, their products do not bring much income. Realizing that it will be up to them to improve their living conditions, a group of Manobo women embarked on a small business venture.

Their friendship-cum-working



>>The Agcon couple was able to invest in a piggery/poultry business through the assistance provided by DSWD's programs.

mothers of Pantawid Pamilya, they would attend the monthly Family Development Sessions (FDS). During these times, they discuss how to be better parents or how to manage the home well. Regular attendance in these sessions is one of the conditionalities of the program. With the help of the cash grants they received from Pantawid Pamilya, they were able to save some money and decided to put up a sari-sari store business. From their initial earnings, they were able to expand their store with sundry items and they have pronounced it a thriving success.

According to Evelyn "Inday" Inocente, group leader of the Manobo women, the members are self-confident, determined, and persistent in realizing the livelihood projects that they engage in because there are people and groups that believe in and support them such as DSWD; the NGO called Socio-Economic Uplift, Literacy, Anthropological and Development Services (SULADS); and, the local government of Sibagat.

On this aspect, the Department recognizes the importance of strengthening the delivery of services of its intermediaries especially the Local Social Welfare and Development Offices (LSWDOs) nationwide.

Inday expressed the gratitude of the association to the many groups in government and outside that have helped them, appreciating the fact that these groups had confidence and trust in them as well, *"Nakayanan namin ang pagbabago*  "Nakayanan namin ang pagbabago dahil sa tulong ng pamahalaan at ng iba pang mga grupo. Salamat sa tiwala na kaya namin ang pagbabago

(We were able to deal with change because of the help of the government and other groups. We thank you for the confidence that we can change our lives for the better)." – Inday Inocente

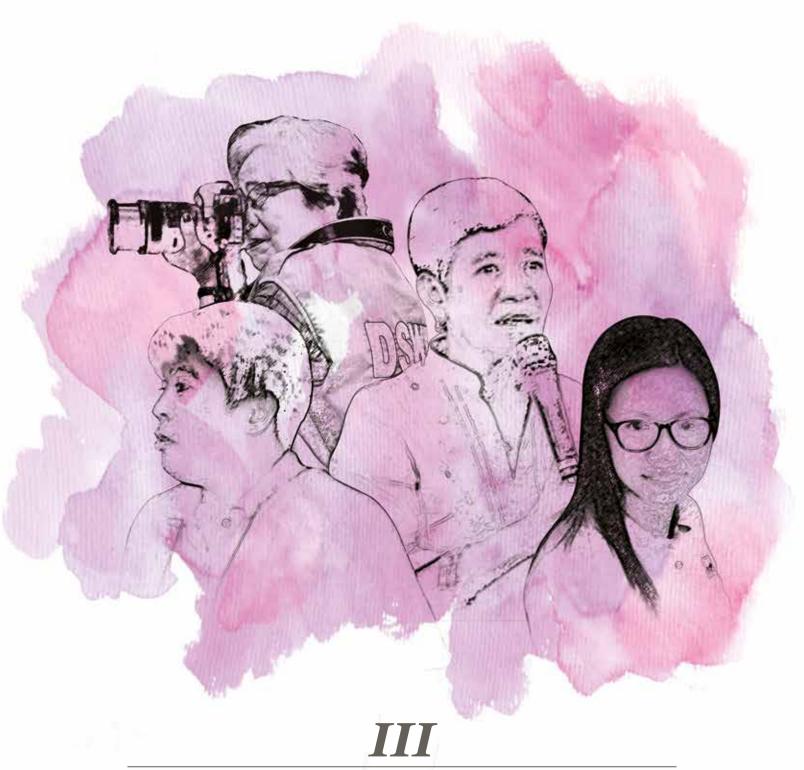
dahil sa tulong ng pamahalaan at ng iba pang mga grupo. Salamat sa tiwala na kaya namin ang pagbabago (We were able to deal with change because of the help of the government and other groups. We thank you for the confidence that we can change our lives for the better)," she said.

#### **DSWD Strategic Goal 3:**



To increase the number of provinces, from

**0 to 40** with majority of their municipalities/cities having a fully functional local social welfare and development offices by 2016.



Sa aking palagay, Sa buhay na ito, May pag-asa pa sigurong sisibol, Kahit na hirap at nasa peligro ang buhay ko.

# Understene the Domain o Public Service

>>RD Lina exemplifies servant leadership. Throughout her career, "service first" has been her silent slogan.

Government service is inherently challenging yet meaningful and gratifying because it contributes towards improving the quality of life and well-being of individuals, families, and communities. For some of us, being in government service is a fulfilling way to express our love of country.

These stories of Lina Apostol, Ma. Dadiva Villanueva, Danny Bitara, and Noemi Mongava illustrate the level of commitment and service demanded of and given by our social development calling. I believe God anointed me to serve." workers.

#### The Call to be a Social Worker

"I am a social worker by profession, a social worker at heart, and a social worker by

#### "I am a social worker by

profession, a social worker at heart, and a social worker by calling. I believe God anointed

me to serve."

#### - RD Lina Apostol

This is how former Regional Director (RD) Lina ("Apol") Apostol sums up her 36 years of service in the Department, working with seven secretaries under the administration of six Philippine presidents. She first joined

the Department as Youthful Offender and Adoption Worker in 1978, then went on to hold higher-rank positions.

Despite giving her what some may call a diminutive appearance, RD Lina's height at 4'11" belies her big heart for selfless service. She might look fragile, but her values enable her to stay strong in the face of legal tangles, political perils, even death threats.

Looking back at her long career, her most unforgettable experiences include surviving a building collapse during the Mt. Pinatubo eruption while singlehandedly getting 100 children out to safety, drowning in a raging river during a storm, and being snapped at by a dollarearning entertainer.



>>As a Regional Director, RD Lina is hands-on in fulfilling her responsibilities, especially in times of disasters.

These incidents would certainly daunt a person of lesser character. But if one would ask RD Lina if she has ever regretted devoting her life to public service, one would hear her proudly say that she would not have it any other way. RD Lina takes pride in all her accomplishments and contributions to the Department and ultimately to the country. She feels especially honored by the National Presidential Lingkod Bayan Award given by former President Fidel V. Ramos in 1996 for her courageous and determined efforts in the field of social work, particularly against pedophiles.

Public service does come in various faces: from conducting assessments to identifying poor households, from monitoring and evaluating of programs have been properly implemented to forming partnerships with other agencies to better achieve goals, from preparing for advocacy campaigns to documenting actual events and programs. The list is long and multifaceted.

For Maria Dadiva Villanueva or Tita Mary as she is fondly called, her calling has been to capture the transformation of the lives "It is in this job where I feel the respect and dignity of a human being through serving the people, even if I am not in any high position in government." -Ma. Dadiva Villanueva

of individuals, families and communities through the work of the department. Through Tita Mary's vocation, the stories of their journeys of change are brought to life.

#### Public Service through the Lens

"It is in this job where I feel the respect and dignity of a human being through serving the people, even if I am not in any high position in the government," says 65-year old Tita Mary. She has worked as photographer in the Department for more than 30 years. Over this period, she has certainly accumulated all kinds of memories that she can impart to her grandchildren when she retires this year. She once experienced on board a

helicopter that almost crashed in a rice field on her way to feature assistance to survivors of a strong typhoon.

As she goes about her responsibilities as photographer in the Department, the risk of being in accidents, having to witness her subject's pain, and exposure to infections may be constant, but Tita Mary takes them all in stride. Such incidents have only sustained her desire to perform her job well.

"I just pray for guidance and protection. But definitely, I have no regrets in this job. All of those experiences have honed me to become the person I am today. In every job, there is always pain and joy, after all," she said.

Served the people she certainly has, sometimes even going beyond the call of duty: "Working here has given me the chance to help the less fortunate members of our community. Whenever I could, I would refer their cases to the Crisis Intervention Unit (CIU) of DSWD especially those who need transportation, burial, and medical assistance among others." she added.



>>Ms. Maria Dadiva Villanueva or Tita Mary as she is fondly called by many, still ontinues to enhance her photography skills by keeping up with new technology.

Tita Mary knows that she may not forever be remembered for her good deeds or even her photos, but this is not so important to her. "What matters is that in the hearts and memories of my children and grandchildren, and those I worked with, my photos of the many big and small events of DSWD will always be alive," she stated. Indeed, a fitting testimony to a job well done.

RD Lina and Tita Mary are not the only ones who risk their life daily to fulfil their commitment to public service.

#### True Service to the People

In December 2013, Danny Bitara and Noemi Mongaya were on a Philippine Air Force (PAF) helicopter bearing relief goods to 'Yolanda' survivors when it crashed near their destination in La Paz, Leyte. All those on board, including their two pilots and PAF personnel, were rescued by citizens in the area and received first-aid treatment by volunteer-doctors from Spain.

Danny was then taken to a tent-hospital at the Tacloban City airport where he underwent a surgical procedure on the stomach. Noemi, on the other hand, was airlifted to Cebu City's Chong Hua Hospital for a major spinal operation. "I will continue to work as long as my services are needed." -Danny Bitara

Danny, from the Bicol region, and Noemi, from Eastern Visayas, are both employees of the Department. "I am very thankful that I survived. It has given me a new lease on life," Danny said. Noemi added, "I always remind myself that this was lucky escape and I owe it to those who rescued and saved us. I am grateful to DSWD for looking after our needs."

For Danny, work in DSWD is true service to the people. "I will continue to work here as long as my services are needed," he affirmed.

Ordinary employees like Danny and Noemi risk their lives daily to serve the community. Yet, they persevere and forge on for a purpose greater than themselves. They believe that they can contribute to bringing about significant change, and indeed they do.

The Department's over twenty-five thousand employees that include the likes of RD Lina, Tita Mary, Danny, and Noemi create an enabling environment for ordinary people to dream of a better future, set goals, and strive towards achieving them.

Social work or public service may remain among the most underappreciated jobs, but the stories of RD Lina, Tita Mary, Danny and Noemi prove that one does not need to be in a high position to work for the good of one's country; one just needs to have a selfless heart and the vocation to serve.

"I always remind myself that this was a lucky escape and I owe it to those who rescued and saved us. I am grateful to DSWD for looking after our needs." - Noemi Mongaya



<image>

>>Danny Bitara is grateful for having survived the aelicopter crash as he can continue serving the government.



>>Noemi believes that she can greatly contribute to bring about significant change to the community she serves. Kaya kong makahanap ng paraan... ng tulong... Upang pilit labanan ang kahirapan. Sa pagsali sa mga proyekto ng gobyerno at ibang tumutulong, Unti-unti kong nalaman na kayang makaahon sa kahirapang kinamulatan.

# 

Families come in all sizes. A husband and wife can constitute a family. So can a parent or two and one or more children. For Samuel Cariño, a pastor from Midsayap, Cotabato, being with her wife, Hope, is more than enough. Despite not having a child of their own, the couple are happily enjoying their relationship.

#### Couple longing for a child

Ten years into the marriage, however, Pastor Samuel began to feel that God was leading him to a new path: to become an adoptive father.

Being adopted himself, Pastor Samuel was excited about this option for him and his wife. However, Hope was initially hesitant, uncertain about the change in their lives once they go through adoption. Eventually, she agreed, and they were soon matched by the Department with a bubbly seven-month old boy, whom they named Chosen.

According to Pastor Samuel, "We named him Chosen because we learned that we cannot choose the baby. There is a committee that does the matching. And so we prayed, 'God, You choose the baby for us.' He was chosen by the Lord, at the same time, we were chosen by God to become his parents," he stressed.

Pastor Samuel looks forward to a life with Hope and Chosen that would be as happy as his own, growing up with much love and care from his adoptive family.

#### A mother wanting to take care of her children

The dream of providing a better life for one's family is shared by Maria Luz Necessario, whose family used to struggle to find the means to eat three meals a day and send her children to school.

There were many nights when they would go to bed on empty stomachs, because

>>Happy family. Pastor Samuel Cariño, his wife Hope, and adopted child, Chosen.

#### There were

423 children placed for adoption and issued with Pre-Adoptive

**Placement Authority** (PAPA)/Affidavit of **Consent to Adoption** (ACA).



ed with Intercountry **Adoption (ICA) Clearance and endorsed** to Inter-country Adoption **Board (ICAB) due to** unavailability of local adoptive families.



food for her family and send her kids to school. Through DSWD's Pantawid Pamilya, Kalahi-CIDSS and SLP programs, Maria Luz and her family are now living a life better than she had ever imagined.

"Dahil po sa tulong ng programa, naibibigay na po namin ang mga pangangailangan ng mga bata. Malaki rin po ang naitulong sa pamilya namin na 'yung kinikita ng asawa ko ay napupunta na sa pagpapalago ng aming kabuhayan (We are now able to provide for the needs of our children with the help of the program. It has been a big help in supporting our family, because my husband is now able to improve our source of livelihood)."

- Maria Luz Necessario

her husband Renie, a fisherman, could not earn enough even for basic food for the family. Not having a fishing boat of his own and with the occasional bad weather Renie's meager earnings remains scant. On worst days, he would not earn anything at all.

According to Luz, "Nakikisakay lang po ng bangka ang asawa ko para makapangisda kaya maliit lang po ang kinikita niya. Kapag malakas ang alon o masama ang panahon, hindi siya nakakapunta sa laot kaya wala s'yang naiuuwi para sa aming pamilya (My husband does not have his own boat, so he makes little money. He also cannot fish when the waves are big or if the weather is bad, so he is unable to earn for our family)."

can become qualified for government assistance through the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program that provides conditional cash grants in support of their children's health, nutrition, and educations needs.

Through the cash grants, Luz and Renie are now able to provide the basic needs of their children on a daily basis. There is less to worry about especially for Luz, who believes that she is moving closer, albeit slowly, to her dreams. "Dahil po sa tulong ng programa, naibibigay na po namin ang mga pangangailangan ng mga bata (We are now able to provide for the needs of our children with the help of the program)," Luz stated.

Luz also qualified under the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP), another program of the Department that provides zero-interest capital assistance to individuals or groups. It prioritizes Pantawid Pamilya beneficiaries like Luz, who receive a loan to start them off on micro-enterprises activities. With the P10,000 she loaned from the SLP, Luz was able to start selling fish and processed food like tocino and longganisa. Since the family's basic necessities like children's food and clothing are somehow addressed by their Pantawid Pamilya cash grant, Renie's earnings, no matter how meager, are also being used to augment Luz's venture.

"Malaki rin po ang naitulong sa pamilya namin na 'yung kinikita ng asawa ko Thankfully, families like Luz and Renie's ay napupunta na sa pagpapalago ng

**Pantawid Pamilya** coverage has expanded to 41,513 **barangays** in 80 provinces; 144 cities and 1.483 municipalities.

aming kabuhayan (It has been a big help in supporting our family, because my husband is now able to improve our source of livelihood)," she said.

Within a year's time, she was able to pay back the loan without any difficulty.

Luz also believes that the SLP's assistance goes beyond the monetary benefits. She learned how to manage their income wisely, leading her to make informed financial and business decisions. With this new skill, Luz is confident that her family can eventually rise out of poverty.

"Maliban sa puhunang pinahiram sa akin, malaki rin ang aking pasasalamat sa mga natutunan ko mula sa programa. Dito ko natutunan ang tamang paghawak ng pera para hindi malugi ang negosyo at ang tamang pag-bu-budget para sa aking pamilya para hindi na kami bumalik sa dati (Aside for the loan, I am also thankful for the lessons I acquired from the program. I learned how to manage money wisely so that my business will not fail, and how to budget for my family so we won't go back to our former condition)," she added.

Another program of the Department is the Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services National Community Driven Development Program (Kalahi-CIDSS NCDDP), has also helped pave the way for families like Luz and Renie's to better their way of life.

Through this project, a four-classroom

nchored on the **Department's** desired outcome to improve the quality of life of the poor, vulnerable, and marginalized sectors, the **Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) facilitates** micro-enterprise and employment opportunities to its program partners though capacity development and partnership building, especially on its two tracks-**Microenterprise Development** (MED) and Employment **Facilitation (EF).** 

high school building was constructed in Brgy. Villa Reyes, the village where Luz's family lives. As a result, they were able to save the transport money of their eldest child who attend school. High school-aged children from the village used to go to the town proper to attend classes, adding to their families' financial expenses. Having a school in their own barangay has freed up considerable amount of precious money for their other needs.

Now Luz has other dreams-for her children to finish their college education

and get a good job, so they can provide for their own families in the future. She trusts that with their own persistent efforts, and with assistance from agencies like the DSWD, she could achieve her other goals, or at least move closer toward fulfilling them.

"Kaya ko pala ang pagbabago dahil nagagawa ko na ang mga kailangan ng aking pamilya para bumangon sa kahirapan (I can make the change because I can now provide for the basic needs of my family and rise from poverty)," Luz pointed out.

#### A family in need of support

These sentiments of Luz is echoed by Atiya Enting Jumdail of Hadji Panglima, Tahil, Sulu. With a renewed sense of empowerment, Atiya's family is confident that they will eventually reach their aspirations through the Department's programs.

She and her husband, Timbasil Jumdail, even happily acknowledged that since they became partner-beneficiaries of Pantawid, many good changes have begun in their lives. Most important, they feel that they are not alone in their struggles. According to them, "Simula nang masama kami sa Pantawid Pamilya, marami ang nagbago sa buhay namin. Nagkaroon kami ng karamay sa pinagdadaanan namin (Since we

joined Pantawid-Pamilya, there's a lot of changes that happened in our lives. We had partakers in the hardship we are going through)."

To meet their family's needs, Atiya runs a small sari-sari store and her husband Timbasil goes fishing.

It has not been easy making both ends meet, so receiving conditional cash grants from Pantawid was a huge help. The grant did not only mean extra cash, it also gave them a sense of assurance that they were being supported in their effort to obtain an education for their children.

According to Atiya, "Noong nakuha namin 'yung una naming cash grant, tuwangtuwa kami dahil naramdaman namin na may kaagapay kami sa pagpapaaral sa mga anak ko (We were very happy when we got our first cash grant because we finally felt that we are supported in sending our children to school)."

The cash grant also helped Timbasil upgrade the motor of his pump boat, which improved his earnings from fishing. This in turn allowed him to contribute to Ativa's financial needs for her store. The small but sustainable income of the couple ensured that the studies of the

#### ALAHI CIDSS-

NCDDP, otherwise known as the Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-

**Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services-National Community-Driven Development Program**, is a community-driven development (CDD) project of DSWD which aims to empower communities through participation in local governance and involvement in the implementation of poverty reduction activities.

Baranaau Cabadsan in Alanaalana. Leute



"Simula nang masama kami sa Pantawid Pamilya, marami ang nagbago sa buhay namin. Nagkaroon kami ng karamay sa pinagdadaanan namin (Since we became beneficiaries of Pantawid Pamilya, many changes came into our lives. Now we are not alone in our struggles)." -Atiya Enting Jumdail

children could continue uninterrupted. It also allowed them to save enough for a house in mainland Jolo, where their children in high school and college now stay.

Atiya's family also benefited from SLP which granted them a loan as additional capital for their sari-sari store.

Atiya said, "Napakalaki ng pasasalamat namin sa DSWD kasi hindi lang isang program 'yung tumutulong sa amin. 'Yung nahiram namin na pera sa SLP, ginamit namin pangdagdag na puhunan sa tindahan namin (We are very grateful to DSWD because we are supported by more than one of their programs. The loan we got from SLP was used as added capital for our store)."

While the family could go from day to day with their meager earnings in the past, Atiya and her husband admit that the

better.

"Dati, nakakaya naming mag-survive, pero 'nung dumating 'yung Pantawid Pamilya at SLP, naramdaman naming mag-asawa na kayang magbago ang buhay namin. Hindi man namin inasahan pero malaki ang naitulong ng gobyerno sa aming mga mahihirap (Our family has managed to survive but with Pantawid Pamilya and SLP, we now feel that we are more capable of changing our lives. We did not expect it but the government really gave us a big help)," Atiya added.

At present, the couple also participates in different community-based activities, such as caring for and growing mangroves funded by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, organic planting funded by the Department of Agriculture, and cash-for-work activities, through which they were able to help build a seawall for their community. The Jumdails' vision towards gaining a better life is not left within the confines of their household. It is also translated on their own community. After all, even an entire barangay, sitio, or municipality could be considered a family.

#### A community as a family

The residents of the village proper in Barangay Cabadsan in Alangalang, Leyte, used to think that their neighbors in the nearby sitios thought too highly of themselves, and they in turn thought



>>The Timbasil couple makes a living through ishing, selling gasoline and producing charcoal.

etween those living in the proper and the sitios in Barangay Cabadsan in Alanaalana. Leute

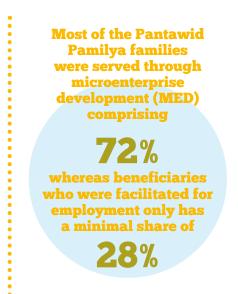
financial assistance they have received has made them feel that they have a chance of changing their lives for the

exactly the same about them.

According to Cristina Gatila, 43, one of the sitio dwellers, the village proper people came on as snobbish.

As if to mirror their mutually felt sentiments, a river ran through the two communities, which seemed to serve to keep them apart. Ironically this same river would also bring them together, through an unlikely catalyst in the form of a twobarrel box culvert.

The river rose when it rained and always threatened to encroach on the main road once it overflowed. Barangay Cabadsan not only had access problems when this happened, its residents were also vulnerable to disease and accidents since they would have to traverse the floodwaters to go to school or to their workplaces. In addition, erosion was also





"Wala po kaming suweldo, pero para sa amin din naman ito. Habangbuhay sa amin ito (We do not earn any salary from this, but we are doing this for us. We will

have this for eternity)."

#### -Marilyn Asis

becoming worrisome, as this would affect the sitios as well.

To address their situation, the community decided to construct their box culvert through Kalahi-CIDSS.

As a program that utilizes the communitydriven development strategy, Kalahi-CIDSS mobilizes citizens so that they can work together to identify their community's needs and implement their chosen solutions for these. When the program was introduced in the village, the residents saw this as an opportunity for them to address their flooding problem. In volunteering in Kalahi-CIDSS, they agreed to set aside their prejudices to deal with their problem together.

Marilyn Asis, 49, who served as the Barangay Sub-Project Management Committee Chairperson (BSPMC), the de facto head of the volunteers, explained that the hard work they put into this was

for their own benefit and for the long haul.

"Wala po kaming suweldo, pero para sa amin din naman ito. Habangbuhay sa amin ito (We do not earn any salary from this, but we are doing this for us. We will have this for eternity)," Marilyn said.

Interestingly, the best part of working together for many of the volunteers was that they actually got to know each other better, and in so doing, resolved the old animosities among themselves.

Looking at her companions, Vicky Sayson, also a resident and a volunteer, astutely observed that where one group had ignored the other in the past, they now had their meals together.

"Dati, hindi nila kami pinapansin. Ngayon, sabay-sabay na kami kumain (In the past, they ignored us. Now, we eat together)," Vicky said.

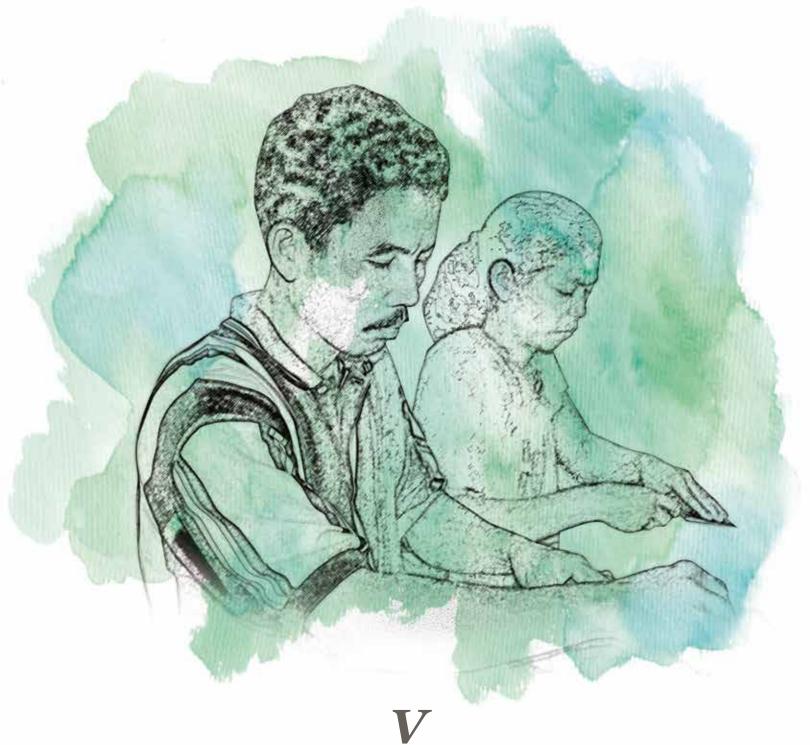
Describing everyone's efforts as a "shared sacrifice", Barangay Captain Herminohildo Salazar said that by working side by side, they were finally able to transform their dreams of having a bridge into reality. It is no wonder then that their completed Kalahi-CIDSS subproject has been dubbed as the "bridge of love." It provided the link to connect the sitios together to become one strong community.

**Kalahi-CIDSS National Community Driven Development** Program, expanded into a national scale, implemented different projects which combine expansions of the first implementation the KC1; granted support in the construction of classrooms and day care centers (thru the support of KC Australian DFAT); provided livelihood community sub-projects (JSDF-LVUC); involved grassroots organizations through the **Bottom Up Budgeting (BUB);** improved access in conflict affected barangays (CABs); and provided grants for the rebuilding of infrastructure and sources of livelihood and early recovery systems of communities affected by **Typhoon Yolanda.** 





>>Brgy. Captain Herminohildo Salazar escribed the construction of bridge as financially efficient", saying that the structure, which was community-built, allowed them to ave money to construct a canal as well, further helping prevent flooding



Ninais kong matutunan ang maging matatag Sa harap ng unos man o karahasan, Di basta-basta patitinag, Dahil sa pag-asang uunlad na inaasam.

>>Ruth (3rd from left) is engaged with her fellow Pantawid Pamilya beneficiaries at the Women-Friendly Space in their village where they are facilitators.

The year 2013 would go down in history as the year of calamities for the country. Disasters, both man-made and natural, struck the Philippines one after the other. and displaced thousands of Filipinos in the year. The Department has had to varying degrees. the Sabah conflict in March, Tropical Storm Maring in August, the Zamboanga siege and Typhoon Santi in September, the Bohol earthquake in October, and finally Supertyphoon Yolanda in November.

#### "Building Back Better"

Meanwhile, the year 2014 marked the road to recovery and rehabilitation through the continued convergence of the services of the national government, the LGUs, and civil society organizations. The national government agencies have recognized that although much work remains to be done, the many efforts focused on the same goal of "Building Back Better" are on the right track.

The massive devastation experienced in many parts of the country presented a different problem altogether. At this

stage, a "new normal" in disaster occurrences has emerged, i.e., stronger, and more destructive calamities visiting the country at unexpected times of reassess its preparedness and response plans under the lens of this new normal, and has resolved to remain resilient. It stays committed to its goal of leaving no one behind in its struggle to deal with and overcome the different challenges besetting the country.

#### Rising from the ashes of **Typhoon Yolanda**

#### The road to recovery

One year after Typhoon Yolanda ripped through the Visayas Region, the efforts to rehabilitate the affected communities seem to be far from perfect. But apparently the Philippines has made significant strides relative to other countries similarly situated. International organizations such as the Action Against Hunger/ACF International, and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) have also

lauded the recovery and rehabilitation efforts of the government.

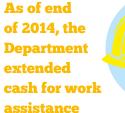
The most important attestations regarding the recovery effort have come from the survivors themselves:

Ruth Parado, 38, of Barangay Cogon, Palo, Leyte, whose house was washed away by the storm surge, said that her family has

#### In 2014, there were



which affected 22,400 barangays and displaced 2.136.294 families or 9,654,293 individuals. Various services were provided to families such as support for food, nonfood items including mats, blankets, mosquito nets.



to a total of247,659 typhoon **Yolanda affected individuals** worth P584.687M and 90,255 individuals affected by the Zamboanga Crisis worth **P31M.** 

recovered from 'Yolanda' a year after it struck, and in fact feels that life seems to be even better because of all the help that has come in.

"Kami po ng pamilya ko, sa palagay ko naman nakabangon na kami mula sa

"Kami po ng pamilya ko, sa palagay ko naman nakabangon na kami mula sa 'Yolanda'. Sa totoo lang po mas maganda pa nga ang buhay namin ngayon dahil sa dami ng tulong na dumadating. Nasa tao na lang kung hindi pa siya nakabangon (I think that our family has recovered. In fact, our life is better now with the extent of assistance pouring in. It's already up to the person if he or she has not recovered),"

- Ruth Parado



Ritchel said.

26

Like Ruth. Ritchel Ripalda. 32, of Barangay Tagpuro, Tacloban City, said that her

family is back on its feet, having now a house and a steady source of income, with their children back in school. "Masasabi ko po na kahit papaano ay nakabangon na rin ang aming pamilya dahil may bahay na kami, may pinagkakakitaan, at nakakapasok na rin sa eskuwelahan ang mga bata (I can say our lives have gone back to normal because we already have a house, a steady source of income, and our children have gone back to school),"

#### Shelter

To assist the most vulnerable families whose houses were partially damaged, the Department distributed shelter kits that the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) procured for priority distribution to families in Tacloban, Palo, and Guiuan in Eastern Visayas, and Capiz and Iloilo in Western Visayas. In addition, more than 70 national and international NGOs and UN agencies provided roofing



>>Ritchell recounts her harrowing experience during Typhoon Yolanda.

materials and toolkits.

Some families who were unable to construct their houses were transferred by the Department and the local government to bunkhouses constructed by the DPWH in Western and Eastern Visayas, and in transitional shelter units in Barangays Caway and Sto. Domingo, Tacloban City.

The DSWD constructed transitional shelter units in partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) for those still living in tents and makeshift homes in Leyte and Samar. Likewise, core/modified

#### "Nasa ligtas na bahay na po kami (We are now in a safe house)." -Rogelio Olbido

shelter assistance in safe zones in Regions IV-B. VI. and VIII from ADB donations and grants were extended to families whose homes were totally damaged.

#### Livelihood

To help the survivors earn some cash to meet their daily needs, the Department implemented the Cashfor-work (CFW) program. This program enabled household heads to receive cash in exchange for rendering an average of ten days of community work in disaster-related operations. Ruth and Ritchel were among those who participated in CFW activities in the affected regions, including the



>>Ritchel and her husband preparing yema candy to sell.

National Capital Region where a number of survivors had temporarily migrated in the aftermath of 'Yolanda'. They said that the livelihood assistance from the government and the private sector has also helped them start anew.

From the Red Cross. Ruth received assistance which allowed her to put up a sari-sari store, which she says represents a welcome addition to her earnings as an NGO facilitator and to her husband's as a sand gatherer. "Nakakatulona na rin po ang kaunting kita ng tindahan sa kita ko bilang facilitator sa Women-Friendly Spaces, at ng asawa ko bilang sand gatherer (The small income I get from the store helps in augmenting our combined income as facilitator at the Women-Friendly Spaces and sand gatherer)," Ruth said.



**Cash for Work assistance to Bohol Earthquake victims** amounted to P120.40M serving 46,964 persons while the program assisted 144,752 persons that were victims of **Typhoon Pablo utilizing the** amount of P1.19B.

the other hand, have been tending a yema-making business since they got a P2,000 loan from a relative, which was their source of income even before 'Yolanda' came. "Eto na po dati ang pinagkakakitaan namin ng asawa ko. Kaya lang kung dati kumikita kami ng P3,000 kada linggo, ngayon po P1,000 na lang kasi kakaunti na lang ang order saka maliit po kasi iyong puhunan namin. (This has been our source of income ever since. However, our earnings have gone down from P 3.000 to only P 1.000 a week these days because of fewer orders and lower capital)," Ritchel said.

Although Ritchel laments the slack in business, she remains thankful for other opportunities given to them. For example, Elias was given a machine for his motorized banca by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR). Ritchel and her husband, Elias, on This has allowed him to go fishing, thus easily meeting their food needs.

> "Malaking tulong na rin kasi nakakapangisda na siya. Hindi na rin namin masyadong problema ang pangulam (It is also a big help to us as Elias can go fishing. We no longer have to worry about our food)," Ritchel added.

#### **Rising from the ashes** of armed of conflict

Road to recovery

As an agency that advocates the welfare of the vulnerable and disadvantaged Filipino people, DSWD makes no exemption

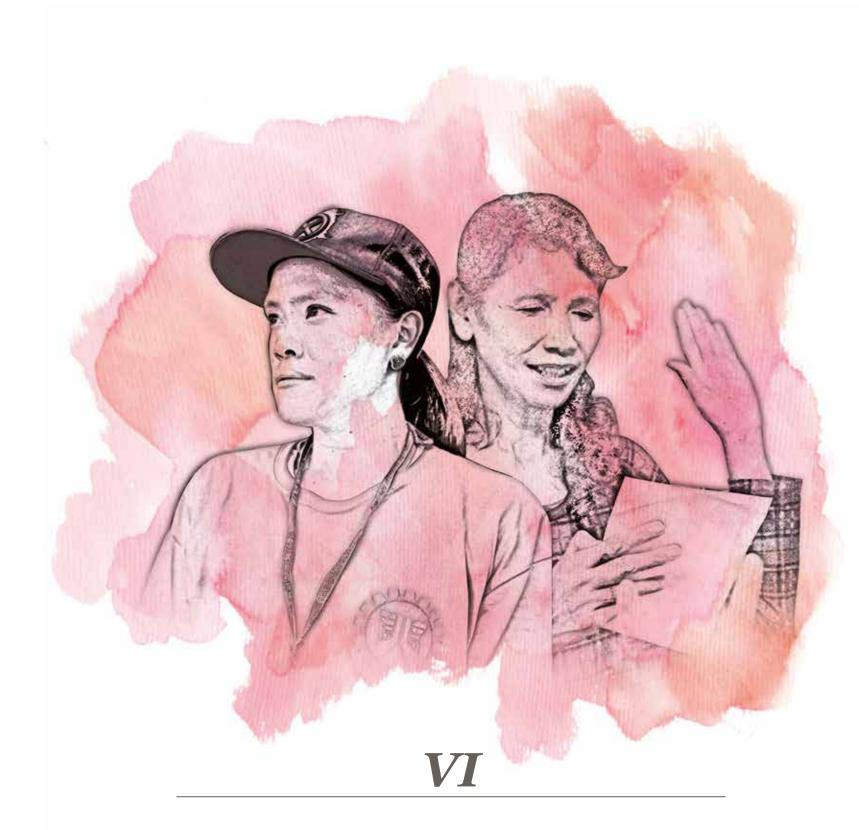
in ensuring that the needs of every Filipino are being attended to, especially those affected by the rising conflicts in Mindanao area. The Department is always the first to respond during times of crisis to make the Filipinos feel that they are not alone and that the government is and has always been with them.

**The Department funded** a total of 1,979 core shelter assistance project (CSAP) units amounting to P138,530,000.00 and **18,548 modified shelter** assistance project (MSAP) shelter units amounting to P1,298,360,000.00 for a total amount of P1,436,890,000.00.

In September 2013, the Misuari faction of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) laid siege to the city of Zamboanga, engaging the military in battle, but more devastatingly disrupting the lives of the city's population. One year later, new communities have risen in various areas established by the government as transitional and permanent resettlement sites for families who lost their homes.

The course of the armed conflict affected a total of 23,794 families in 14 barangays. More than 20,000 families were displaced due to the prolonged fighting which left 10,160 houses totally destroyed. The massive destruction of properties and businesses created a huge setback in the general socioeconomic status of the Zamboangueños.

As soon as the armed conflict ensued, the local government, the DSWD and other national government agencies immediately responded to the urgent needs of the thousands of affected families.



Akin ang pagbabago Ako ang pagbabago, ako ay nagbago Makakamit ko ang pangarap Ako ay sigurado.



Gone are the days when women had only one option - to be stay-at-home mothers and care only for husband and children.

More women today are visible in the public sphere, playing key roles in their respective communities' drive towards development and social transformation.

To support this endeavor and to be true to its responsibility of being genderresponsive, the Department promotes women's rights and eliminates gender discrimination through its own Gender and Development (GAD) framework.

Thus, the Department implements programs to empower the vulnerable and marginalized regardless of their gender or sexual orientation. It also provides venues for women to participate in leadership action and decision-making opportunities within their communities.

#### Born a leader

When she was growing up in Pantukan, Compostela Valley, Vanessa Diez remembers her father telling her that

"Naniniwala akong maaari tayong magbago dahil sa nagkakaisa tayong nagtatrabaho at nagtutulungan sa isa't isa. Ngayon ay nasa atin na ang daang magdadala sa atin sa katuparan ng ating mga pangarap (I believe we can change because we work together and help each other. Now we have the way that will lead us to realize our dreams)." -Vanessa Diez

women should stay at home and serve the family. She believed then that there was no room for women to lead their family and community.

When she was in second year college taking up Civil Engineering, Vanessa got pregnant. She soon stopped schooling and got married. To make both ends meet, she began selling banana cue. Her husband, however, had a hard time looking for a job. She then witnessed her husband's lack of determination to be the family's provider. This was a difficult realization for her, as she had really wanted a life different from her own when she was growing up. It had been a constant struggle for survival because it was only her father who had a job. "Hindi madali nu'ng umpisa, gusto ko talagang magkaroon ng pamumuhay na iba sa naranasan ko nang ako'y bata pa. Parati kaming kinakapos dahil ang Tatay

**SLP** started its implementation in 2 January 2011 and has constantly been enhanced to include new strategies Ē and modalities for better and more effective program implementation.

lang ang may trabaho (It was not easy at first, I really wanted to have a different life from the one I experienced as a child. We were always struggling because it was only my father who had a job)," Vanessa recalled.

Determined to give their children a better life, Vanessa worked hard. Her husband thankfully recognized her efforts and since then they had worked together for their family's welfare.

Now 33, Vanessa believes that women can do more and can in fact contribute to the progress and development of their community even through the simple act of volunteerism.

Vanessa's conviction about the important role of women beyond the home led her to actively participate in her community's activities. Her presence and enthusiasm encouraged the Barangay Council of Women to elect her as president with 14 puroks under her watch. Later on, she was elected Purok Leader.

When the Department launched the Kalahi-CIDSS program in Pantukan, Vanessa represented her purok and later became a volunteer. Among her duties was to convince her fellow residents that the program was sustainable in the long run. Initially she had a hard time dealing with the cynical mindset of many of her constituents who thought their efforts would just be wasted.

"Hindi naging madali ang paglalakbay. Nahirapan akong kumbinsihin ang mga miyembro ng aming komunidad, ang mga nakatira sa 14 na purok sa aming barangay, na tanggapin ang pagbabagong ito. Inisip nilang hindi rin naman matutuloy ang ipinakilalang istratehiyang ito ng pamahalaan, bakit pa pag-aksayahan ng oras (The journey was not easy. To convince the members of the community of this new development strategy seemed to be impossible to achieve. Residents of the 14 puroks in our barangay had a hard time submitting themselves to this change. They thought that what the government introduced will not be sustained anyway, so why waste time)," Vanessa said.

The Kalahi-CIDSS project of constructing a 200-meter road pushed through and was eventually completed. As a result, the villagers can now safely transport their products to the poblacion, and commuting has become easier.

No one was happier than Vanessa who, by being the voice of her community, was instrumental in bringing about simple but crucial change in the residents' lives. Vanessa held on to her firm belief that

"Higit sa materyal na biyaya na tinatamasa namin ngayon, ang aking ipinagmamalaki ay ang aking personal na pagunlad. Hindi naging hadlang ang pagiging mag-isa ko para mabago ang sitwasyon ng pamilya ko (More than the material graces that we enjoy now, it is the personal development that I'm truly proud of. Being single has not been a hindrance for me to change the situation of my family)." - Leonita Panoy

people can change for the better if they work hard, and are united and supportive of each other. The completed road is but an initial step to the achievement of their dreams. "Walang pagsidlan ang aking kagalakan nang maging boses ako ng aming komunidad. Naniniwala akong maaari tayong magbago dahil sa nagkakaisa tayong nagtatrabaho



>>Leonita narrates her story on how Pantawid Pamilya and SLP changed her life.

at nagtutulungan sa isa't isa. Ngayon ay nasa atin na ang daang magdadala sa atin sa katuparan ng ating mga pangarap (My happiness could not be contained when I became the voice of my community. I believe we can change for the better because we are a united community, working hard and supporting each other. Now, we have the road that will lead us to achieving our dreams)," Vanessa enthused.

#### Super woman

#### "Hindi naging madali (It was not easy)."

A widow, Payatas resident Leonita Panoy, 51, shares her realization about having to raise her children and grandchildren on her own.

She is grateful that Pantawid Pamilya helped her weather the rough times.

"Sa lahat ng biyaya na natatanggap ng aking pamilya, ang prayoridad ko ngayon ay mapagtapos ko rin ang aking mga apo. Nagbibigay ito ng kahulugan at kapayapaan dahil alam ko na handa sila sa kanilang kinabukasan (With all the blessings received by my family, I prioritize my grandchildren's education. It gives me a deeper sense of fulfillment and peace, knowing that they are prepared for their future)," Leonita said.

Through Pantawid Pamilya, she became one of SLP's program partners. As a program participant of the livelihood program, Leonita was enjoined to form





store is funded under the SLP.

a group with ten members who would start their own ventures. Their group was granted a loan of P8,000 per member as start-up capital for their respective livelihood projects. Leonita, for her part, used the money to buy a sewing machine and materials for rag-making. After a year, she was able to return the seed capital initially loaned to her.

Today, Leonita's sewing business is thriving. She started out with rags; now she employs seamstresses in her dress shop who make uniforms, jogging pants, ready-to-wear (RTW) dresses, and curtains, among others. With her perseverance and determination, she was also able to re-open her buy-and-sell charcoal business.

"Higit sa materyal na biyaya na tinatamasa namin ngayon, ang aking ipinagmamalaki ay ang aking personal na pag-unlad. Hindi naging hadlang ang pagiging mag-isa ko para mabago ang sitwasyon ng pamilya ko (More than the material blessings we are receiving now, my personal growth is what I am most proud of. My being a single parent did not deter me to try to get out of our condition)," she said.

**SLP** has to ensure that its **beneficiaries** are equipped with the necessary skills for them to be more employable and/or engage in enterprises that would later on help them increase their income.

"We learned that it is not true that women should just stay at home, especially if the husband cannot provide support. Both should earn for their family."

- Rebecca Fernandez

#### Women working together can achieve big goals

Women who work together can achieve big goals. This is what a group of women called "18Bs" (where B stands for "beauties") realized after participating in the livelihood program.

"We learned that it is not true that women should just stay at home. Both spouses should earn for their family," said 30-year old Rebecca Fernandez, a member of 18Bs.

Most of the members of 18Bs are housewives with no experience in business. Through the Pantawid Pamilya, they have been assisted with the food

>>Thelma Villanueva leads the

18Bs group whose members are

mostlu housewives.

and education needs of their children. To help them sustain these, they also participated in SLP. The group opened a sari-sari store to help their husbands support their respective families. Through perseverance, their store soon thrived.

story of their group.

As a bonus, running the business together has helped turn 18Bs into a tightly knit group. They have shared values such as honesty, trust, and respect, which they practice, according to Thelma Villanueva, the group's leader. The 18Bs also serves as a support system for the members. They help one another when crises occur. Together, they dream that their store will someday expand. They are determined to work hard to turn this dream into a reality.

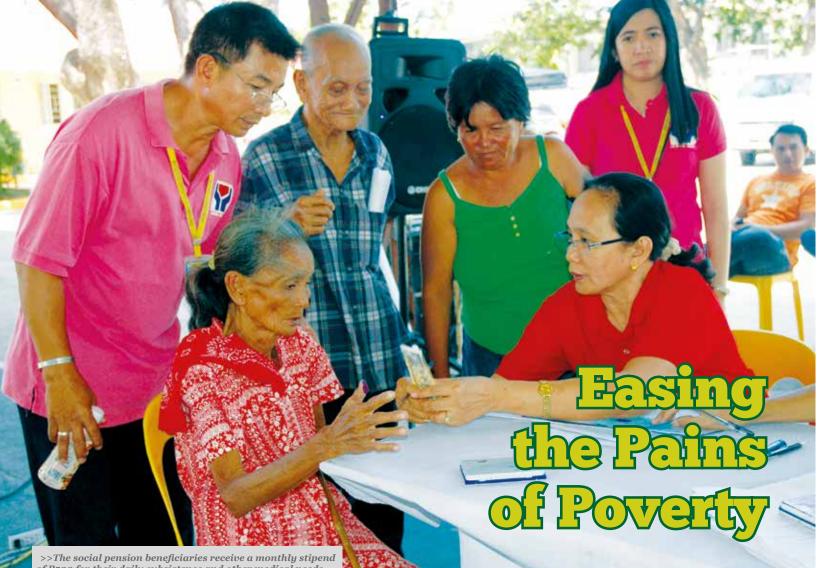
Thus, in addition to acquiring personal leadership skills and strengthening community spirit, development is also about giving everyone opportunities for growth, as the women-program participants of the Department like Vanessa, Leonita, and Rebecca have found out for themselves.



>>Rebecca is now a maintenance worker under the Cash for Work Program of DSWD in partnership with DPWH.



Ipagpapatuloy ang pagsisikap ko Babatahin lahat, makakarating din ako Maabot ang bagong buhay – ang pangarap ko Abot kamay ko ang pangakong pagbabago sa harap ng pagkakataon Dala ng tulong at serbisyo



f P500 for their daily subsistence and other medical needs.

The lives of indigent individuals are fraught with different challenges. Earning money, much less regularly, is never easy. Providing for the education and maintaining the health and well-being of their families are big tasks they may never accomplish by themselves.

The Department's programs and services are aimed at easing the often difficult situations caused by poverty that older people and persons with disabilities (PWD) experience. Specifically, the Social Pension (SocPen) Program for Indigent Senior Citizens and the assistance and privileges given to PWDs are among these interventions.

#### No more scavenging

Well into her 70s, Magdalena Arce-Amejana of Camarin, Caloocan City,

would rummage through garbage piles in street corners to find usable items that could still be sold. It was, her main means of contributing to the household expenses. Now 81, Lola Magdalena has stopped scavenging for a living. As a SocPen beneficiary for the past two years, she has been receiving a monthly pension of P500. Meager as the amount maybe, it represents her freedom from having to scavenge to help feed the members of her family.

*"Kahit gaano kahirap* ang buhay huwag tayong mawawalan ng pag-asa (Don't lose hope despite the hardships in life)."

-Lola Magdalena Arce-Amejena

In Lola Magdalena's own words, she acknowledged the big help this has been for her.

"Napakalaking tulong po talaga sa aking pamilya ang natatanggap kong buwanang pensyon mula sa DSWD. Hindi na ako namumulot ng basura sa kalsada upang may makain kami (The monthly pension I receive from DSWD is a big help to my family. With my pension, I don't have to go to the streets to scavenge for trash just to have some money for food)," she said.

The first pension she received was for a six-month stipend amounting to P3.000. Deciding to build and stay in a house of her own, she bought G.I. sheets and plywood pieces. She then used her succeeding pensions as start-up capital for a small sari-sari store.

"Sa tuwing nakatatanggap ako ng pensyon, itinatabi ko ang kalahati at idinadaqdaq ko sa aking puhunan para sa maliit kong tindahan, kung saan namin kinukuha ang pang-araw-araw na panggastos (Every time I receive my pension, I save half of it to use as

additional capital for my small sari-sari store which supports our daily needs)," Lola Magdalena said.

throws at them.

"Kahit gaano kahirap ang buhay huwag tayong mawawalan ng pag-asa. Kaya natin ang pagbabago kung gagamitin natin sa wasto ang anumang tulong mula sa pamahalaan (Don't lose hope despite the hardships in life. We can improve our lives if we put government support into good use)," Lola Magdalena said.

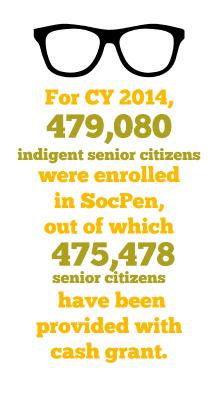
Lola Magdalena and close to half a million more senior citizens are covered by the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010. It provides them P500 as monthly stipend for daily subsistence and medical needs. The priority beneficiaries are senior citizens 77 years old and above who are frail, sickly, and disabled, who do not have regular source of income and/or support from any member of the family, and who do not receive other pension benefits from government and private agencies.



>>Criselda while being interviewed by the Press on receiving a Plaque of Appreciation from the members of NCFF

SocPen has given Lola Magdalena and other beneficiaries hope that they are not alone in meeting the challenges that life





#### Standing tall

Criselda Padoc was only 10 years old when a coconut tree fell on her leg during a typhoon in her hometown in Samar, and she has lost the use of it since then. In the course of her lifetime, she must regularly battle typhoons, being a resident of Basey in Western Samar. Now 53, Criselda has had to pick up the pieces of her life all over again. In November 2013, 'Yolanda' destroyed the houses and livelihood of thousands of people, including Criselda's.

Criselda, however, cannot be defeated by any typhoon. She may have lost a lot because of Yolanda, but her faith and drive to put her family's life back together were instead strengthened.

Indeed, Criselda remains as undaunted as ever, saying "Isa lang nga po ang paa ko pero hindi po ako napilay ni 'Yolanda' (I may be one-legged but I was not crippled by 'Yolanda')."

Criselda was only one of the millions of typhoon victims that the Department extended assistance to, in terms of relief goods, building materials among others.



>>Criselda receives a Plaque of Appreciation from the members of he NCFF for being one of the speakers during the forum.

without calamities, the But even Department empowers PWDs so they may have an improved quality of life. One of the Department's non-residential centers is the Rehabilitation Sheltered Workshop (RSW) that provides vocational or social rehabilitation and skills training to PWDs and other special groups for independence and socio-economic productivity.

In 2014, the Department and the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA) also linked PWDs to prospective employers and oriented different companies to prepare their staff on how to manage, handle, and deal with PWD employees.

"Isa lang nga po ang paa ko pero hindi po ako napilay ni 'Yolanda'

(I may be one-legged but I was not crippled by 'Yolanda')."

- Criselda Padoc

It was part of the activities for the 36th National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation Week.

Elsie Gaches Village, a center run and supervised by the Department, provides its residents with care and rehabilitation. Abandoned and neglected children with

he National Council on Disability Affairs promoted the inclusion of Disability Indicators in the Post 2015 Sustainable Development Goals, which will build upon the Millennium Development Goals. Thus, this pushed for the increase in the number of disability-related structures in local government units by ensuring compliance to disability-related laws and policies. It resulted to the building of 25 disability structures organized and capacitated, 11 Local Policy Forums (cities, provinces) conducted, 20 Local Ordinances adopted/recorded, and 997 local leaders, NGOs/NGAs and other stakeholders given direct orientation on disability laws.

special needs such as those with cerebral palsy, epilepsy, visual and hearing impairment, mental retardation, autism, and other related conditions also receive treatment.

The help that Lola Magdalena and Criselda received may be meager but its impact on them is much more than what most estimate. The little support indeed eases the gnawing pains of poverty for these older beneficiaries.

The **National** Household **Targeting** Office (NHTO) conducted **Special Validation to** 116,368 non-NHTS social pensioners to facilitate their inclusion in the Listahanan database.



Sa mga tumutulong at suporta ng pamahalan at mga kapwa, Sariling lakas at talino ay napagyaman ang sarili, pamilya at kasama ang pamayanan. Ngayon di ko lang nakakayang paunlarin ang pamilya ko Pati na kapakanan rin ng pamayanan ay aktibo kong sinusulong

### C 0 Development

Active citizen participation in community development initiatives and decisionmaking is one of the fundamental ingredients to bring about any desired change.

Such is the realization of Maribel S. Havana, a Kalahi-CIDSS volunteer in Brgy. Bataan, La Paz, Agusan del Sur. Maribel, along with her fellow Manobos, has renewed a sense of dignity and selfsufficiency through their involvement in the implementation of Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan (PAMANA).

#### **An Accomplished Volunteer**

Their community, was able to construct pre- and post-harvest facilities, allowing the villagers, many of whom are

"When they let us (Manobos) join the barangay assemblies and were included to vote and to present our proposed sub-projects during the prioritization, it was the first time I felt that despite my being a lowly lumad, my voice and opinions matter." – Maribel Havana

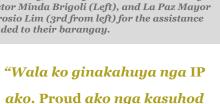
Manobos, to earn more from their crops. The program also allowed the village to construct a rain water harvesting system and a pathway.

>>Maribel was grateful that PAMANA included the Manobos in voting and presenting their proposed sub-projects.

PAyapa at MAsaganang PamayaNAn (PAMANA) is the Philippine government's framework for peace and development. It extends development interventions to isolated, hard-to-reach, and conflictaffected communities, ensuring that they are not left behind. It is implemented by the DSWD and other line agencies in partnership with the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP).

More than the physical infrastructure, however, it is the intangible benefits that have made such an impact on Maribel.

"When they let us (Manobos) join the barangay assemblies and, be included in the voting and present our proposed subprojects during the prioritization, it was



man ako sa sini nga proyekto

(I am not ashamed that I am an

IP. I am proud that I am part

of this project)."

the first time I felt that despite my being

a lowly lumad, my voice and opinions

Through the process of introducing and

implementing the projects, Maribel said

that she "was able to finally realize that

I, along with the rest of her community,

What the residents, especially Maribel,

valued most is how the process empowered

them as a community, by getting them

to work together. As they themselves

underwent training in various aspects of

project implementation, they also realized

their own capacities and potentials, as

well as their rights and responsibilities as

As Maribel said, "Dahil sa mga sub-

projects, nagkaroon kami ng kabuhayan;

sa pagpapatupad nito, nadagdagan

din ang aming kaalaman. Ngayon,

matter." Maribel said.

have worth."

citizens.

- Maribel Havana

hindi na kami maloloko na maa mapagsamantalang tao (The subprojects did not only help us improve our means of livelihood; the process of implementing them also educated us, so that we will not be taken advantage of and deceived by selfish people)."

When Maribel was later requested to serve as a volunteer teacher in the barangay, she did not hesitate to accept the challenge despite only finishing high school. Her reason for accepting was simple - she wanted to do her part to help her fellow Manobos. She is happy and fulfilled that she is able to teach her fellow IPs to read and write.

"I have a vision for my kind. We are left behind. Though we are natives, we have a right to education. I feel indebted to those who sacrificed for me to learn; I should share what I have learned," Maribel said.

#### Community Volunteerism for Development

Certainly, good leaders like Maribel help make of implementation community-led projects easier, but the residents as a cohesive group

>>Maribel (holding the symbolic key of responsibility) warmly thanks DSWD-XIII Regional Director Minda Brigoli (Left), and La Paz Mayor Ambrosio Lim (3rd from left) for the assistance extended to their barangay.





need to work together to ensure that these projects are not just responsive to their needs, but also are properly executed and sustained. Success is dependent on the unity of vision of the people to have improved lives.

In the past, the children of Barangay Man-ilan, Tukuran, Zamboanga del Sur, risked their young lives attending classes in dilapidated classrooms. In fact, some completely stopped studying because their parents feared for their children's safety in the old school. Through the hard





"Kaayuhan da gihapun sa community... Kinahanglan mu tabang ta.Tabang lang pud dayun sila. We as a community need to help each other (We want our community to improve. We asked them to help, so help they did)." - Mamelito Butir



>>Manuelito Butir while being interviewed on the Project funded by BUB.

work of the village volunteers, Barangay Man-ilan was able to get a four-classroom school building, funded through the Department's Bottom-Up Budgeting (BUB).

BUB is a strategy of the government to enable citizens, particularly the poor, to participate in the local budgeting process responsive to their needs.

As one of the volunteers, Mamelito Butir, pointed out, in the end it is the community that will benefit, thus the community members will have to help.

#### Villagers of Linamon

roused the residents of Barangay Napo in Linamon, Lanao del Norte, to work together as a village to build a new road,

deteriorating. Its condition significantly worsened whenever it rained. The road would be flooded, rendering it impassable, as there was no proper drainage system or canal for water to flow out from it.

as their original access road was rapidly

It was a struggle for the village's farmers every time they had to transport their produce to the market. The students to ensure that programs and services are and teachers of Napo Elementary School were especially vulnerable as they would have to walk barefoot on the rocky, slippery, and muddy road on rainy days.

Barangay Napo is no stranger to disasters. It was affected during the allout war declared by the then-President Joseph Estrada against the Moro Islamic It was also the children's struggles that Liberation Front (MILF) last 2000, and again during the problems that arose following the MOA-AD between the Philippines and the MILF in 2008.

lts biggest enemy, however, is still flooding, especially because it endangered the lives of the children in their village.

Thus, when the Department's PAMANA entered the village, the residents did not think twice about prioritizing the construction of the road. They even ensured that the project was implemented properly by keeping a close eye on the contractor throughout the duration of the project, while also doing what they could to help in the construction.

Today, the road is now accessible to practically all types of vehicles. Students and teachers no longer have difficulty getting to and from school. People can now also bring goods to and from Barangay Napo.

> Far from fostering a culture of mendicancy, the programs and services of DSWD help citizens improve their lives by training them and awakening their sense of unity and bayanihan so that they could work together. As they become more confident in their own capabilities, they are able to work for a better future - for their own and for their community.



Magkasama, magkatulong, tahakin natin ang landas tungo sa pag-unlad Ang magandang bukas at bagong buhay ay nasa ating kamay. Taas noo... malakas kong isisigaw Kaya natin – kaya ko ang pagbabago!



# Building Capacities, Shaping the Future

>>OLT teachers train the participants o ousekeeping and values education

There is a common thread that weaves through the Department's stories of change—one most evident and vividly articulated is the sense of hope that partner-beneficiaries manifest because of their renewed belief in themselves.

The Department aims to facilitate the process of empowerment; building the capacity of the vulnerable so that the change that happens in their lives is the change that they create themselves. The Department recognizes its valuable role in providing target beneficiaries and other development stakeholders the opportunity and means through policy making and building competencies.

Shanina Sitchon, a 33-year-old homemaker from Lanao del Norte, had always financially depended on her husband. She had built her dreams around making a better life for their family, but never did she imagine that she could one day be the key for this dream to happen.

In 2014, a partnership project between the Department's Sustainable Livelihood Program and the Our Lady of Triumph Institute of Technology (OLT) changed the course for Shanina and 200 other women from Central "Nang dahil sa programang ito, nagkaroon kami ng pag-asa na makapagtrabaho pa sa edad namin (This program has given us hope that despite our age,

we can still find work)."

- Shanina Sitchon

Mindanao. The project had gathered them for a two-month skills training in which they were taught the basics of housekeeping. This served as their preparation for a guaranteed two-year employment contract in Saudi Arabia. where they were expected to earn US\$400 monthly.

The training program included accommodations provided by OLT, as well as training fees and processing of deployment documents, which were shouldered and facilitated by the Department.

Most participants were housewives like Shanina who came from far-flung barangays in Mindanao. Many of them admitted being overwhelmed especially in the beginning.

Single-mom Rosario Magsalay, 43, from the town of Plaridel, cried in embarrassment when first asked to use a floor polisher. "Noong una, hindi ako marunona aumamit na maa appliance tulad ng floor polisher. Naiiyak at nahihiya ako sa mga kasama ko. (At first, I really did not know how to use appliance like floor polisher. I feel frustrated and ashamed)," Rosario Magsalay said.



>> Shanina Sitchon now works as a house attendant in Riuadh. Saudi Arabia throuah Quintrix International Manpower.



Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program who underwent housekeeping services.

But soon the participants found their footing as the training progressed. They began to bond and help each other as they went through it together.

"Dahil kami din ang magkakasama, nakapaq-bonding na kami at nagtutulungan na rin kami (Since we are all part of the same training, we have learned to bond and help each other)," Rosario added.

According to Lucille Maglasang of OLT, the project came about as the institution wanted to provide opportunities for mothers without stable sources of income. For Shanina, it was a pleasant surprise to know she and the other mothers could still find gainful employment at their age: "Nang dahil sa programang ito, nagkaroon kami ng pag-asa na makapagtrabaho pa sa edad namin (This program has given us hope that despite our age, will can still find work)."

However, even as the program

Elyn is a 27-year-old mother who raised her children singlehandedly, despite not having a stable job and much formal education. Despite this, the program helped her see that she was capable of learning even if she did not attend college.

proponents saw the potential for the

he second round assessment aims to ensure sharper accuracy and precision in identifying the target beneficiaries for the Department's programs. It will use a new Proxy Means Test (PMT) model that, apart from incorporating non-income variables sourced out from the 2009 Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES) and Labor Force Survey, will also use barangay/community characteristics derived from the 2007 Census of Population and Housing (CPH) as bases for the assessment of the family's socio-economic activities.

It will also include the enhancement of the family assessment form (FAF), a 52-item questionnaire used to assess the families. Some improvements to the form include the identification of families within a household; members with disability; and a specific classification of occupation based on the **Philippine Standard Occupation Classification (PSOC).** 

mothers in overseas employment, they also recognized that their physical absence would have considerable impact on the lives of their families, especially their children. For this reason, OLT and the Department complemented the program with values education and spiritual guidance to prepare the families psychosocially for the women's absence. Part of this entailed helping the husbands and the parents of the participants ease into the responsibilities of the women, which gave the men an opportunity to play a bigger role at home.

While the program was merely seen as an economic opportunity by some, it enabled women like Elvn Bihag to gain confidence and find hope in new possibilities.

For the period of January to **December 2014, Sustainable Livelihood Program or SLP** has already served

297,556

#### Pantawid families out of its 111,314 target Pantawid Families for CY 2014



>>Participants araduated with TESDAaccredited certificates on Household Service.

"Marami pa palang matututunan kahit hindi ako nakatunatona na college (I am capable of learning more even if I didn't go to college)."

#### 2nd Nationwide Assessment: a chance for poor families

Women like Shanina, Rosario, and Elyn once only dreamed of better possibilities. but with the assistance of these programs, they have been given capital to explore new beginnings and chart change in their lives. There are many similar stories that lend truth to the progress that has slowly taken root in the lives of families that have been and are part of the programs of the Department. However, there are many more vulnerable families—fathers and mothers like Shanina, Rosario, and Elyn-who remain in the margins of society, needing the same assistance from government.

#### As of December 2014.



For this reason, the Department worked for the approval of the implementation of the 2nd nationwide assessment of poor families. This second assessment gives a chance to other families who were not included in the 2009 assessment to become part of these interventions. It also provides the Department the opportunity to update its existing database and track the progress made by the families that were part of the first assessment.

#### Identifying the near poor

The 2nd round assessment of Listahanan is also seen to provide a more textured response to poverty as it sheds light on the numbers of the "near poor." Those in this sector are families not considered poor but remain vulnerable to economic shocks, thus the danger of them sliding back down to poverty, especially when faced with crisis.

Such is the story of Danilo Villarojo. Like his father, Danilo knew no job other than growing, harvesting, and selling coconuts. This was a skill he learned and mastered from his father, and a stable livelihood he depended on to send his two children to school—both scholars and now graduates of Education. Unfortunately, this sweet reward was all that was left of Danilo's hard work when Typhoon Pablo hit Compostela Valley in 2012, and devastated his community.

That fateful day, 'Pablo' felled Danilo's coconut trees, destroyed his nipa hut which had been his family's home ever since, and washed away all the tools of his trade. Still he was thankful that his family was spared.

After the typhoon, Danilo struggled to bring his life back on track. To help his



"Kaya pala namin ang pagbabago basta may umaalalay sa amin sa gobyerno (We can initiate positive change in our lives as long as there is a government that is ready to assist us)."

- Danilo Villarojo

family survive, Danilo sold his fallen coconut trees, continued farming with the few trees that were left, and did odd jobs in the community.

In 2014, the Department tapped Danilo and other farmers in nearby villages to participate in an organic farming training of the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) and ACES Natural Farming Institute. The program taught them skills in raising hogs, chickens, red tilapia, and vegetables organically. It also gave Danilo an opportunity to develop his leadership abilities when he was elected president of their association. Through this, he discovered the value of leadership by learning how to relate to his members despite their varying personalities.

"Iba ibana uaali van. Mahiait isandaan sila. Kailangan lahat 'yan pakikisamahan mo (They all have different attitudes. There are more than one hundred of them. You need to get along with everyone)," Danilo said.

When Danilo's group, the Tapia Organic Farmers Association (TOFA), underwent a one-month extensive training on organic farming, he encouraged his members to work hard and make good use of the opportunity.

"Sabi ko sa mga kasama ko na wala na kaming ginastos kaya kailangan pagsikapan namin ito. Kami rin ang *makikinabang* (I told my fellow farmers that we didn't spend anything that is why we have to work hard for. It will benefit us)," Danilo shared.

On August 30, 2014, a new dawn had come for Danilo and the TOFA. That day, they gathered their first harvest and celebrated it with a ceremony. As president of their association, Danilo received a check as payment on behalf of his members for hogs and harvested red tilapia.

Danilo recognized the support and assistance that enabled him and his fellow members to initiate positive change in their lives.

"Kaya pala namin ang pagbabago basta may umaalalay sa amin sa gobyerno (We can initiate positive change in our lives as long as there is a government that is ready to assist us)" Danilo added.



The National Household Targeting **System for Poverty Reduction or NHTSPR** is maintaining one (1) data base of 5.2 Million Poor

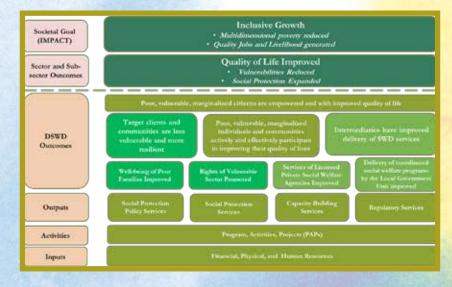
Households

and conducted special validation covering 947,311 households. Of these, 418,014 households were identified as poor (393,217 in CY 2013; 24,797 in 2014)

# DSWD Accomplishments for CY 2014

The year 2014 proved to be a major period of change for the Department of Social Welfare and Development, following the significant turn of events when various calamities, both natural (e.g. typhoon Yolanda, Bohol earthquake) and man-made (e.g. Zamboanga siege), besieged the country. The advent of new realities and circumstances as well as the introduction of other ways of doing things – the "new normal" – forced the Department to take a step back and re-think its overall role in social protection. The change in the Department's role has been mainly influenced by: "(1) its mandate as the Agency Chair for the Development and Poverty Reduction Cabinet Cluster, (2) external events that demanded immediate response from the agency beyond its core mandates, (3) internal changes in response to new events or occurrences that required new technical skills, services and structural changes, and (4) effect of successful programs undertaken by the DSWD"<sup>1</sup>.

Despite the multi-faceted issues and concerns on social protection including the changing and increasing demands of the "new normal", the Department remains true to its vision – the overall alleviation of poverty and empowerment of the disadvantaged individuals, families, and communities for an improved guality of life. Following its core mandate, the Department continues to provide assistance to local government units (LGUs), non-government organizations (NGOs), other national government agencies (NGAs), people's organizations (POs) and other members of civil society to effectively implement programs, projects, and activities that uplift the lives of its beneficiaries. It has strongly pursued programs, projects, and activities that would help contribute and realize its long-term goals and outcomes.



These initiatives of the Department are anchored in the overall societal goal of inclusive growth and poverty reduction. In order to achieve these goals, the Department has four (4) outcomes, which are expected to happen in the short to medium term (3 to 5 years) to substantiate the feasibility of achieving the Department's long-term goals.

The first organizational outcome of the DSWD is the Well-being of the poor families improved. This is a direct contribution to the reduction of vulnerabilities of our target clients, which essentially contributes to one of the sector outcomes of the country, i.e., "improved human development status", particularly by "improving access to quality social protection services"<sup>2</sup>. This objective Sourced from the draft Policy Brief on "The Emerging DSWD in the Face of the New Normal" 1

Sector outcome lifted from the PDP 2011-2016

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pertains to increasing the capacities of the poor and the vulnerable families thru ensuring their access to social welfare and development (SWD) programs and services. In such, we are committing to raise 2.3 million Pantawid Pamilya families with improved level of well-being by 2016. The levels of family well-being of the beneficiaries of the Department would be measured through the Social Welfare and Development Indicators tool. Further, the Department also aims to increase the number of NHTSPR-identified poor families covered by at least two SWD programs/services from 3.9 to 5.2 million by 2016. This is to expand the access of the families to services that can help them improve their level of well-being.



In line with the sector outcomes of the country and in support to the long-term goals of the Department, the second outcome focuses on the **Rights of the vulnerable sectors promoted**. This outcome factors in the clients of the Department in its residential and non-residential facilities and the other vulnerable sectors of the society catered through its sector programs and services. This is to guarantee that the vulnerable individuals as identified in the NHTS-PR database, namely the women, youth, children, persons with disability, and senior citizens are able to benefit from the SWD programs and services provided by the government, especially by the DSWD.

The third and fourth intermediate outcomes are Services of licensed private social welfare agencies improved and Delivery of coordinated social welfare and development programs by LGUs improved that refer to the Department's vital role in providing technical assistance and resource augmentation to intermediaries, such as the Social Welfare and Development Agencies (SWDAs), including the Local Social Welfare and Development Offices (LSWDOs) to be efficient and effective in delivering SWD programs and services. This highlights the Department's mandate as "steerer" of SWD programs and leader in social protection by enhancing the capacities of our intermediaries and providing an enabling environment for coordinated delivery of services.

The Department needs to ensure that the provision of services by the Social Welfare Agencies (SWA), through licensing and accreditation, is improving to assure that its beneficiaries avail of effective SWD services. Furthermore, the Department intends to that majority of the LSWDOs in the country are fully functioning. This is the third strategic goal of the Department, which is to increase the number of provinces with majority of their municipalities/cities having a fully functioning LSWDO to 40 by 2016. The functionality of the LSWDOs will be measured in five years through a tool developed by the Department, namely: functionality of Local Council for Protection of Children and Disaster Risk and Response Management Council; implementation of SWD programs and services; budget allocation for SWD programs and services; and adequate staff complement.

#### **RESPONDING TO THE CHALLENGES OF THE "NEW NORMAL"**

Being at the forefront of the promotion of the rights of the poor, vulnerable, and disadvantaged sectors, the Department pursues the provision of four (4) major outputs namely: Social Protection Policy Services, Capacity Building Services, Social Protection Services and Regulatory Services. These are reflected in the various programs, projects, and activities implemented by the Department.

#### >>Towards a Better, Bolder, and Faster Disaster Response

The Department continued to perform its role as the lead in disaster response work. It provided technical assistance and resource augmentation to disaster-affected local government units (LGUs) and through intermediaries. It has also modified its existing disaster response mechanisms for better provision of relief assistance. In 2014, there were 179 disaster occurrences which affected 22,400 barangays and displaced 2,136,294 families or 9,654,293 individuals. Various services were provided such as support for food, family food packs, non-food items (NFIs), cash-for-work (CFW), shelter assistance, and construction of temporary shelters or bunkhouses.

#### Food and non-food items provided to the families affected by disasters

In 2014, the total cost of assistance extended to the families affected by various Tropical Cyclones (e.g. typhoons Glenda, Luis, and Ruby and tropical storms Mario and Seniang) and the eruption of Mt. Mayon in Bicol reached #880,354,175.92. These consisted of family food packs and non-food items like mats, blankets, mosquito nets, sleeping kits, family kitchen kits, clothes, laminated sacks, water containers, and tarpaulins. Generator sets were also loaned to the DSWD FO I to be used in evacuation centers where supply of electricity was not yet restored.

In addition, a total of 8,707 families composed of 41,686 individuals were affected by fire incidents, of which 6,841 or 33,149 persons were displaced and 1,998 families or 8,433 persons were deportees and also assisted through the Disaster Relief and Augmentation Assistance. The cost of assistance was \$13.05M covering Region IX.

Relief assistance were provided to 23,794 families who were victims of the Zamboanga Crisis utilizing ₱274.49 million. For the victims of Bohol earthquake, relief assistance worth ₱220.93 million was served to 236,830 families. For the victims of Typhoon Pablo, ₱1.02 billion worth of relief assistance was extended to 454,413 families.

The year 2014 was also an opportune time to review and enhance the Department's capacity to respond to the food requirements of the families affected by disasters. As a result, the contents of the family food packs now consist of 6 kilos of rice, coffee, noodles, canned goods, chocolate drink and cereals. Stock piles have also been increased to 30,000 family food packs at the field offices and 100,000 at the National Resource Operations Center (NROC). The Department also authorized the lease of additional warehouses in the regions affected by typhoon Yolanda and the utilization of the Clark warehouse in Region III to provide bigger storage for large volumes of food and non-food items. These measures ensured a more efficient delivery of relief augmentation to the affected LGUs.

#### Cash for Work

The Department extended cash for work assistance worth ₱584.687M to a total of 247,659 typhoon Yolanda affected individuals and ₱31M for 90,255 individuals affected by the Zamboanga Crisis. During the year, the Department also provided funding for cash for work for 13,260 families affected by previous disasters like typhoon Juan, Labuyo and Odette amounting to ₱33.208M as well as 2,655 families affected by Typhoon Glenda. Moreover, cash for Work assistance to Bohol Earthquake victims amounted to ₱120.40M serving 46,964 persons while a total of 1.19B was released to 144,752 persons who were victims of Typhoon Pablo.

Cash for work assistance to Bohol earthquake victims amounted to Php 115.47M serving 43,097 persons while the Program assisted 144,752 persons who were victims of Typhoon Pablo utilizing the amount Php 1.19B

#### **Core Shelter Assistance**

The core shelter assistance project/modified shelter assistance project of the Department is a disaster response and mitigating strategy aimed at reducing the number of families rendered homeless every year due to natural and man-made disasters by providing structurally strong indigenous shelters. It also maximizes the participation of the community members and the beneficiaries towards empowerment and sustainable development. The Local Government Units (LGUs)/Provincial provided the needed relocation sites,





declared safe for any hazards by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources- Mines and Geo-sciences Bureau (DENR-MGB) and manpower requirements needed for the construction of shelter units.

In CY 2014, CSA/MSA Projects were provided to regions of CAR, I, II, IV-B, V, VI, VII, VIII and XI. The Department funded a total of 2,145 core shelter assistance project (CSAP) units amounting to ₱150,500,000.00 and 20,293 modified shelter assistance project (MSAP) shelter units amounting to \$1,420,510,000.00 for a total amount of \$1,570,660,000.00. Out of the 22,438 total shelter units funded for CY 2014, 2,119 units were completed for a 9.44% accomplishment. The difference accounts largely for units still under construction. The delays in the implementation are due to the following factors: (a) inclement weather condition in most areas; and delay site/s development of the proposed relocation site/s by the LGUs and other agencies.

#### Assistance to Individuals or Families in Crisis Situation (AICS)

The Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) is also part of DSWD's protective services for the poor, marginalized and vulnerable/disadvantaged individuals. The Crisis Intervention Unit (CIU) provides direct financial assistance, defined as limited assistance, either in cash or guarantee letters (to service providers) to individuals and families whose normal functioning has been hampered due to difficult situations brought about by dysfunctional situations that may be caused by poor health conditions, natural and man-made calamities, and other crisis situations. It serves as a venue to provide integrated services that include protection and provision of immediate psycho-social services.

The Crisis Intervention Unit served a total of 486,912 individuals and families in crisis situation. They were provided with counselling services, medical expenses, transportation assistance, financial assistance, food subsistence and clothing packs, burial assistance, educational assistance, and emergency or shelter assistance. The total amount disbursed for AICS was Php 1,639,227,880.90 for CY 2014.

#### >>Uplifting Families and Communities through DSWD Programs and Services

The Department implements and supervises social welfare and development (SWD) programs, projects, and services catering to the disadvantaged and vulnerable sectors. These sectors are composed of children, youth, and women, persons with disabilities, senior citizens, family, and community. Technical assistance and resource augmentation (TARA) are continually provided to capacitate Local Government Units (LGUs) in implementing programs for a more efficient coordinated delivery of social services.

#### Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program

The Department likewise provides opportunities for poor families to have a better chance at breaking the cycle of poverty through the implementation of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (Pantawid) – a conditional cash transfer (CCT) program investing in health and education of poor households, particularly of children 0-18 years old.

For 2014, the program served 4,478,562 household beneficiaries representing 99.85% of the targeted 4,461,732. Of this number 4,260,161 were regular CCT beneficiaries, while 218,401 are under the modified CCT scheme. Since the program's launch in 2008, it has expanded to 41,513 barangays in 80 provinces, 144 cities, and 1,483 municipalities.

Upholding its commitment to inclusive growth, the Department together with its key partners particularly the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Education (DepEd) and the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) developed the implementation guidelines for the Modified Conditional Cash Transfer (MCCT) Program for Indigenous Peoples (IP). The MCCT-IP shall ensure the accessible and sustainable delivery of healthcare and alternative educational services to homeless IPs and indigenous communities in geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas within or outside their ancestral domains, targeting 116,000 households.

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

#### (KALAHI-CIDSS)/ National Community Driven Development Program (NCDDP)

Aside from promoting the rights and welfare of families, the Department also empowers communities through the KALAHI CIDSS-NCDDP, otherwise known as the Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services-National Community-Driven Development Program.

Through the program, communities are mobilized and participate in local governance using strategies that reduce existing gaps in social inclusion, transparency, accountability and people's participation in priority-setting, design, planning, implementation, and operation and maintenance of community development projects and activities.

KALAHI CIDSS-NCDDP which has been implemented in national scale covers different projects which combine expansions of the first implementation of the KC1 (KCAF); grant support in the construction of classrooms and sub-projects (JSDF-LVUC); involvement of grassroots organizations through the BUB; improved access in conflict-affected barangays (CABs); and grant on the rebuilding of infrastructure and sources of livelihood and early recovery systems of communities affected by typhoon Yolanda (KC-JFPR).

| Projects  | Completed Sub-projects in 2014 |
|---|--------------------------------|
| NCDDP   | Ongoing social preparation     |
| KC AF   | 2,328                          |
| КС МСС  | 1,786                          |
| Livelihood for Vulnerable Urban Communities (JSDF-LVUC) | 84                             |
| Payapa at MasaganangPamayanan (PAMANA)                  | 2,287                          |
| Bottom-up Budgeting (BUB)                               | 125                            |
| Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR)                 | 1                              |

#### Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP)

Anchored on the Department's desired outcome to improve the quality of life of the poor, vulnerable, and marginalized sectors, the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) facilitates micro-enterprise and employment opportunities to its beneficiaries through capacity development and partnership building, especially on its two tracks—Microenterprise Development (MED) and Employment Facilitation (EF). The program started its implementation in January 2011 and has constantly been enhanced to include new strategies and modalities for better and more effective program implementation.

The Program carries the challenge of further increasing this number with high quality standards within limited time and resources. The Program has to ensure that its beneficiaries are equipped with the necessary skills for them to be more employable and/or engage in enterprises that would later on help them increase their income.

For the past years, the SLP has also been measuring its performance through the number of beneficiaries served. For 2014, SLP has already served 297,556 Pantawid families which exceeded its 111,314 target Pantawid families though Micro-Enterprise Development and Employment Facilitation<sup>3</sup>. On the other hand, the non-Pantawid Families served through Micro-Enterprise Development totalled to 45,770 beneficiaries.

Almost all regions exceeded their targets, while ARMM only served 21% of its target with a balance of 17,372 families. In terms of the actual number of families served, Regions VI and IX have accomplished the most with 97,139 and 45,578 families respectively.

Most of the Pantawid Pamilya families were served through microenterprise development (MED) comprising 72% whereas beneficiaries who were facilitated for employment only has a minimal share of 28%.

For SLP-BUB 2014, there are 1,073 approved projects from the Department of Budget and Management for the year 2014. As of December 2014, there are 35 completed, 77 ongoing, 847 pipelined, 112 proposed, and 2 projects to be discussed. Similar to the non-BUB areas of SLP, the most common types of projects include setting up of production units, trading activities, capital seed fund provision, skills training, and establishment of common service facilities.

In addition, SLP-PAMANA is implemented in identified conflict vulnerable areas (CVAs) in Regions VIII, IX, X, XII and CARAGA through a community cash grant or the PAMANA Peace and Development Fund (PDF). The cash grant amounts to Php 300,000 which is provided to the duly selected SLP Association.

The reflected accomplishment for CY 2014 was based on the reconciled data with the field offices as of 16 March 2015.



Table 1: Number of Completed Sub-Projects under KALAHI CIDSS-NCDDP



There are two main modalities for SLP-PAMANA livelihood projects, namely: (1) Production Unit which is availing of a common service facility to maximize profit through mass production by farmers, fisher folks, or manufacturers through a duly recognized SLPAs and (2) Consolidation Unit which covers the distribution of goods such as acquisition and consolidation of goods from suppliers and selling, supplying and distributing goods to markets and/or end-buyers.

As of December 2014, there are 21 ongoing and 449 completed projects of the 470 target projects for SLP-PAMANA 2013, whereas there are 74 completed, 331 on-going, and 65 projects ready for funding of the 470 target projects for SLP-PAMANA 2014.

A total of 15,254 participants have been served, of which 60% are female. Projects are commonly agriculture-related, such as postharvest facilities (54% or 254 projects) like hand tractors, trading (26% or 121 projects), agri-production (12% or 56 projects), and production units (9% or 39 projects).

#### Supplementary Feeding Program

The Supplementary Feeding Program is the provision of food, in addition to the regular meals, to currently enrolled at the Day care centers (DCCs) and Supervised Neighborhood Play (SNP) in order to address the increasing malnutrition rate. The feeding program which covers 120 days, aims to improve knowledge, attitude and practices of children, parents and caregivers through intensified nutrition and health education. For the school year cycle of 2014- 2015, a total of 1,688,859 day care children were served out of the 1,936,395 children targeted for the Supplementary Feeding Program.

For the total allocation of Php 3,061,594,647.00 for the Program, 93% or Php 2,843,837,962.00 was obligated by the Field Offices to the LGUs.

#### **Alternative Parental Care**

The Department continues to protect the welfare of children, especially the neglected, abused, or abandoned through alternative parental care services. It desires an environment where each child will have an access to a permanent, caring, and loving family to call his/her own.

Republic Act No. 9523 Series of 2009 requires the Department to issue declare a child legally available for adoption as a prerequisite for local and inter-country adoption proceedings. Out of the 872 cases of children received for issuance of Certification Declaring a Child Legally Available for Adoption (CDCLAA) for the year, 715 children were issued with CDCLAA.

Of this number, 468 from regular and agency adoption, 33 foster-adopt, and 361 were independently placed or children who had been under the care of adoptive families prior to the issuance of CDCLAA.

Similarly, there were 423 out of 715 children placed for adoption and issued with Pre-Adoptive Placement Authority (PAPA)/Affidavit of Consent to Adoption (ACA). It meant that a child was paired with a Prospective Adoptive Parents (PAPs) based on the capacity and commitment of the adoptive parents to meet the individual needs of the child and the capacity of the child to benefit from the placement. Furthermore, there were 218 children issued with Intercountry Adoption Clearance (ICA) and endorsed to Inter-country Adoption Board (ICAB) due to unavailability of local adoptive families.

The passage of Foster Care Act of 2012 strengthens foster care services and provides funds for the allocation of subsidies to eligible foster children under the care of foster parents. The subsidy for Regular Foster Child is #2,500; Regular Foster Family is #1,500; Child with Special Needs is ₱3,000; and Foster Family with Child with Special Needs is ₱2,000. There were 1,291 children under Foster Care, of which 353 were provided with subsidy. There were 1,339 licensed Foster Care Families, of which 311 were families provided with subsidies.

#### Social Pension Program for Indigent Senior Citizens

The Social Pension Program (SocPen) is a provision mandated by Republic Act 9994 or the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010. It provides cash assistance to indigent elderly to augment their daily subsistence and other medical needs. It protects indigent senior citizens from neglect, abuse, or deprivation. The program provides a monthly stipend of #500 to indigent senior citizens 77 years old and above who are frail, sickly and disabled, who do not have regular source of income and/or support from any member of the family, and who do not receive other pension benefits from government and private agencies. For CY 2014, a total of 479,080 indigent senior citizens were initially targeted in the Program. The total number served was 481,603 which exceed the initial target

| Sector                            | Residential Facilities                          | No. of Clients Ser |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------|
|                                   | Reception and Study Center for Children (RSCC)  | 744                |
|                                   | Haven for Children                              | 256                |
|                                   | Lingap Center                                   | 88                 |
|                                   | Nayon ng Kabataan                               | 383                |
| Children in Need of               | Marillac Hills                                  | 243                |
| Special Protection                | Home for Girls                                  | 851                |
| (CNSP)                            | Haven for Women and Girls                       | 218                |
|                                   | Other Non-Children Center                       |                    |
|                                   | Haven for Women                                 | 499                |
|                                   | Jose Fabella Center                             | 686                |
|                                   | AMOR Village (Non-PWD)                          | 58                 |
| Sub-Total                         | AWOK VIIIage (NOIT-F WD)                        | 4,026              |
|                                   | Regional Rehabilitation Center for Youth (RRCY) | 1,353              |
|                                   | Other Non-Youth Center                          |                    |
|                                   |   | 17                 |
| Youth in Need of Spe-             | Nayon ng Kabataan                               |                    |
| cial Protection (YNSP)            | AMOR Village                                    | 15                 |
|                                   | Lingap Center                                   | 19                 |
|                                   | Jose Fabella Center                             | 389                |
| Sub-Total                         |   | 1,793              |
|                                   | Haven for Women                                 | 689                |
|                                   | Sanctuary Center                                | 270                |
| Women in Especially               | Haven for Women and Girls                       | 81                 |
| Difficult Circumstances<br>(WEDC) | Other Non-WEDC Center                           | 80                 |
| . ,                               | Home for Girls                                  |                    |
|                                   | Marillac Hills                                  | 85                 |
|                                   | Jose Fabella Center                             | 491                |
| Sub-Total                         | Juse Fabella Celitel                            | 1,693              |
|                                   | GRACES  | 353                |
|                                   | Home for the Elderly/Aged                       | 414                |
| Senior Citizens                   | Non-Senior Citizen Center                       |                    |
|                                   | Jose Fabella Center                             | 47                 |
| Sub-Total                         |   | 814                |
|                                   | Elsie Gaches Village                            | 605                |
|                                   | AMOR Village                                    | 34                 |
|                                   | Other Non-PWD Center                            |                    |
| Persons with Disability           | Home For Girls                                  | 24                 |
|                                   | Haven for Women                                 | 6                  |
|                                   |   |                    |
|                                   | Jose Fabella Center                             | 318                |
| Sub-Total                         |   | 987                |
| Individual and Family in          | Jose FabellaCenter (Other Adults in Need)       | 845                |
| Crisis Situation                  | Processing Center for Displaced Persons (PCDP)  | 8,921              |
| Sub-Total                         |   | 9,766              |



#### Table 3: Number of Clients Served Non-Residential Facilities

| Sector   | Non-Residential Facilities                       | No. of Clients Served |
|--|--|-----------------------|
|  | Rehabilitation Sheltered Workshop (RSW)          | 81                    |
|  | National Vocational Rehabilitation Center (NVRC) | 294                   |
|  | Area Vocational Rehabilitation Center (AVRC)     | 113                   |
| Persons With Disability                          | Area Vocational Rehabilitation Center (AVRC II)  | 222                   |
|  | Area Vocational Rehabilitation Center (AVRC III) | 119                   |
|  | Center for Handicapped                           | 127                   |
| Sub-Total  |  | 956                   |
| Women in Especially Diffi-<br>cult Circumstances | INA Healing Center                               | 104                   |
| (Grieving Mothers)                               |  |                       |
| TOTAL  |  | 1,060                 |

due to the addition of 6,094 beneficiaries (77 years old and above) who were not covered by the approved number of beneficiaries under the Direct Release Fund. The additional beneficiaries were found under the Centrally-Managed Fund.

For CY 2014, the total allocation for SocPen was Php 3,108,913,000.00, of which Php 2,934,616,035.00 or 94.39% were utilized for the cash grant.

#### **Residential and Non-Residential Care Facilities and Services**

Taking the lead in the provision of social welfare services, the Department maintained residential and non-residential care facilities that provide welfare services to children and youth in need of special protection, women in especially difficult circumstances, senior citizens, persons with disability, and individual and family in crisis situation. The Department provided appropriate interventions geared towards the healing, recovery, and reintegration of residents to the family and community.

For 2014, the Department served a total of 19,079 clients in its 64 residential care facilities. These include 956 persons with disabilities in Center for Handicapped, Vocational Rehabilitation Centers/Sheltered Workshop and 104 Grieving Mothers/Fathers in INA Healing Center.

#### <u>Recovery and Reintegration Program for Trafficked Persons (RRPTP)</u>

The Department as the lead shepherd in social protection serves as Co-chair of the National Inter-Agency Council against Trafficking (IACAT) and the Chair at the Regional IACAT. It is also the lead agency in providing program for the 2nd IACAT National Strategic Plan 2012 – 2016, along with the "Protection, Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reintegration for Cases of Human Trafficking" (Sec. 16, RA 9208).

The Recovery and Reintegration Program for Trafficked Persons (RRPTP) provides a comprehensive program that ensures adequate recovery and reintegration interventions provided to trafficked persons. The strategies implemented includes directs assistance to victims/survivors, their families and relatives; advocacy activities to increase community awareness and prevention of becoming victims of human trafficking; and capacity building to service providers to enhance their skills on the provision of programs/services.

For CY 2014, the program has served a total number of 2,060 victims/survivors, most of whom were women. Many of them were rescued and intercepted in airports and exit points in the country and were prevented from purposive exploitation of their traffickers. The project provided a package of services to trafficked victims and their families which included rescue, counselling, financial assistance, skills training, auxilliary services, temporary shelter and legal assistance. Financial assistance is either for self-employment and/or for their expenses while seeking employment.

The Department has conducted 54 advocacy activities against trafficking in persons during the year and conducted capabilitybuilding on skills enhancements to RRPTP Focal Persons in the seventeen Regions.

#### International Social Welfare Services for Filipino Nationals (ISWSFN)

The Republic Act No. 8042 also known as the "Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipino Act of 1995" has called for the assignment of qualified and trained social workers to provide counselling and other re-integration services to overseas Filipinos (OFs) sheltered at the Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Resource Centers in various foreign posts. To operationalize this, the DSWD has forge a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the Department of Foreign Affairs in 2002 to send social workers abroad as social welfare attaché (SWATT) to provide psychosocial interventions and other welfare services to countries with high concentrations of migrant Filipinos, particularly the undocumented OFWs. At present, there are eight countries where social welfare attaches are being deployed, namely: Riyadh and Jeddah, KSA; Kuwait; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; South Korea; Abu Dhabi, UAE; Qatar; and Hongkong.

Through the ISWFN a wide range of social services where provided to 6,279 Overseas Filipinos. Of the total, 71% or 4,433 were documented, and the remaining 29% or 1,846 were documented.

In various posts, the SWATTs delivered a wide range of social services to OFs in coordination with the members on the one country team and professional assessment. More specifically: counselling (1,791 or 16% of the total number of clients), food assistance (954 or 9%), toiletries (808 or 7%), value inculcation (697 or 6%), transportation assistance (609 or 5%), referral to FOs for airport assistance and reintegration services (473 or 4%), coordination with Assistance to Nationals Unit of the Philippine Embassy (ATN) for provision of travel document (361 or 3%), jail visitation (335 or 3%), and Critical Incidence Stress Debriefing (CISD) (328 or 2.9%).

#### FOCUSED TARGETING THROUGH THE LISTAHANAN

The Department instituted the National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR), also known as the Listahanan, as a data management system that identifies who and where the poor are, ranks and classifies them. It is a response to the need to guarantee that the poor are able to avail of social protection programs. The system also seeks to give human face behind the statistics. The Listahanan further addresses the increase in poverty incidence and wastage of resources due to inclusion of non-poor and exclusion of poor from necessary interventions, providing for a more efficient and effective delivery of social services.

The NHTS-PR is maintaining one (1) database of 5.2 million Poor Households.

In CY 2014, 10.9 million households were assessed and included in the datebase, which is over and above the 9.4 Million targeted for the year. There are now eight National Programs who are benefitting from the NHTS-identified poor households and 370 organizations using the database, which showed a marked increase in the number of users than the previous years.

#### IT Enhancement

In support of the implementation of the conduct of a Special Validation, the existing NHT system (data entry application, user management system and data management) was enhanced to be able to address the requirements of the Special Validation. Moreover, an Online Monitoring Report system was developed to track accomplishment as well as a separate encoding application.

#### Social Pension and MCCT Special Validation

The Department hired, trained and supervised 1,188 field staff to conduct the special validation. It covered 116,368 Social Pensioners whose names were not in the database and 52,446 MCCT beneficiaries who will be enrolled in the regular CCT program. Of these 38,451 social pensioners and 33,224 MCCT beneficiaries were identified as poor.

#### **BCC profiling**

A total of 38,780 or 92% out of the total 42,028 barangays nationwide conducted Barangay Community Characteristics (BCC) profiling. The barangay profiling establishes the presence of different structures such as schools, commercial, and recreational establishments. It profiles the area of economic activity within and outside the two-kilometer range of the barangay. Based on the Proxy Means Test (PMT), observable and verifiable non-income indicators is a good way in targeting the poor.





#### Data Sharing/Utilization

For CY 2014 alone, there are 370 social protection stakeholders entered into a data-sharing agreement with the Department. This brings into a total of 1,203 data users nationwide from 2010 – 2014 composed of 43 national government agencies; 1,066 LGUs, 50 NGOs, 34 legislators; and 10 academic institutions.

#### **Near Poor Policy**

As part of its preparation for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Nationwide Assessment that aims to generate poverty data on 15 million families, the Department conducted a study on the "Near Poor Policy". With funding support of the Asian Development Bank, the study sought to define the near poor families or those with per capita income above the official total poverty threshold (TPT) at a given year, but at high risk of subsequently falling into poverty. Metaphorically, these are non-poor households that precariously live at a knife-edge with little or no buffer against the economic shocks.

#### **BUILDING CAPACITIES AND PROMOTING INNOVATION**

#### >>Culture of Learning and Innovation

The Department was responsible for the development and enhancement of social welfare and development (SWD) technologies addressing the current and emerging needs/ issues of the poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged individuals, groups or families. It produces research studies, concept papers, program designs, pilot implementation guidelines, and manuals as outputs in the social development cycle.

#### Social Technology Development

The Department conceptualized ten (10) projects: a) Community – Based Food Banks for Poor Families; b) Addressing the Social Cost of Migration for Families Left-Behind of Overseas Filipinos/Kaagapay ng mga Overseas Filipinos Worldwide (K-OFW) Program; c) National Prevention Program against Online Abuse, Pornography and Exploitation; d) Referral System and Prevention Program for Elderly Abuse Cases (ReSPPEC); e) OP and PWD Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction; f) Sama-Bajau Localized Interventions and Learning Approach for Holistic Improvement (SALINLAHI); g) Comprehensive Rehabilitation Program for Victims of Torture and their Families; h) Unlad Kabataan Program (UKP); i) Conduct of Employees relative to the Care/Protection of Children in the Operation of Residential Care Facilities; and j) Empowering Learning Sessions for Indigenous Peoples Initiative (E-LIPI).

A total of ten (10) social technologies were also pilot-tested in 2014, namely: Sustaining Intervention in Poverty Alleviation and Governance (SIPAG); Strategies Toward Acceptance, Reintegration, and Transformation (START) for Recovering Drug Dependents; Women Friendly Space (WFS); Comprehensive Rehabilitation Program for Victims and Families of Enforced Disappearances (CRPVFED); Comprehensive Program for Street Families, Street Children and Indigenous Peoples especially Bajaus; Supervised Independent or Group Living Arrangement (SIGLA); The Music and Art Therapy Program (MATP) for Persons with Disability (PWD) specifically with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD); Team Balikatan and Rescue in Emergency (TeamBRE); Cash Transfer/Cash Voucher to Affected Families in Emergencies (CTCVAFE); Adaptation to Climate Change through Enhanced Social Services (ACCESS).

Meanwhile, there were seven (7) completed social technology with project documentation, to be turned-over to respective offices and implementing bodies for possible implementation, namely: Comprehensive Delivery of Reintegration Services for Deportees and Irregular OFWs; Family Drug Abuse Prevention Programme (FDAPP); Comprehensive Program for the Healing and Grief Management Approach for Bereaved Mothers and their Family Members; Counselling Service for Rehabilitation of Perpetrators of Domestic Violence (CSRPDV); Comprehensive Intervention against Gender Violence (CIAGV); Golden Reception and Action Center for Elderly and other Special Cases (GRACES); Psychosocial Care and Support Services for Persons Living with HIV and AIDS.

#### **Research, Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Department undertook a major decision to strengthen its capacity along research development, implementation & advocacy, and its monitoring & evaluation system towards developing empirically-based policy decisions. It provided added support to the desired Outcomes of the DSWD by generating timely and relevant researches for policy uses.

As the demand to transcend surface-level results expanded in order to understand the challenges accompanied in meeting the goal of the Department to be the world standard for the delivery of coordinated social services and social protection for poverty reduction by 2030, the Department ensured that its outputs led to the attainment of a systematic application of strategic researches, policy formulation and program development/improvement, dynamic monitoring and evaluation of agency results and objectives, and quick response to special concerns.

To enhance evidence-based policy making capacity, two research studies were undertaken. The Assessment of the Operations of DSWD-Managed Crisis Intervention Units (CIUs) and Conduct of Satisfaction Survey on Day Care Service Beneficiaries were expected to support the enhancement of policies and/or programs pertaining to assistance to individuals in crisis situations and ECCD concerns. Joint researches were also conducted that aims to find evidence on the effects and impact of the Department's programs/services to affect improvements/enhancements for more efficient service delivery, namely: Active Ageing and Rapid Assessment of CCT Impact using Population based Survey.

To establish the baseline information on the functionality of Local Social Welfare and Development Offices (LSWDO), the Department developed the User's Manual for the MC. 16 S. 2014 or "Standards for the Functionality of Local Social Welfare and Development Offices". This is a critical step towards the concrete expression of the Department's Strategic Goal No. 3 which is "Increasing the number of Provinces with majority of their municipalities and cities having a fully functioning LSWDO to 40 provinces by 2016".

A number of key activities supporting the Department's aim to track its performance progress and changes over time had been completed. These activities pertain to the creation of, providing support mechanism to, and enhancing capabilities on Monitoring and Evaluation. An ICT Consultant was hired to help in the ICT Component for the Unified Results Based Monitoring and Evaluation (URBME) System. This endeavour intends to maximize the use of available technology to ensure a responsive and dynamic monitoring, evaluation, reporting and feedbacking mechanisms on the DSWD objectives and activities. Various technical assistance along the cascading of the URBMES, crafting of the Theory of Change (TOC), and training on impact evaluation were also conducted.

#### >>Enhancement of Competencies through Capacity Building

In pursuit of its mandate to enhance the competencies of staff and partners (intermediaries and stakeholders) in performing and achieving its goals as lead in the social welfare and social protection sector, the Department provided the following capability building services.

#### Provision of Technical Assistance to Intermediaries and Stakeholders

Six thousand sixty two (6,062) various stakeholders were provided capacity-building services. Out of this number, 3,003 were from Local Government Units (LGUs), 233 from Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) and 2,826 were from Peoples Organizations (POs).

To further improve the functionality of the Local Social Welfare and Development Officers, the Department conducted the Learning Development Intervention (LDI) Course on Problem solving and Decision Making (PSDM). A total of 210 LSWDO covering 33 provinces and 10 regions participated in the training. The training promoted learning exchange among participants and was perceived to contribute towards becoming better and functional social workers.

Moreover, several capacity building activities for external stakeholders were managed and facilitated. Topics revolved around Retooling on Logistics for Disaster Management Operation, Supervised Neighbourhood Play, Psychological First Aid, and Rehabilitation of Perpetrators of Domestic Violence. The Department also provided technical assistance and resource augmentation (TARA) to the Local Government Units (LGUs) for programs catering to the children and elderly sectors such as Supplementary Feeding Program and Social Pension Program for Indigent Senior Citizens.

#### **Provision of Technical Assistance for OBSUs**

To operationalize the Competency-Based Leadership Development Program (CBLDP) in the Department, a validation of the leadership competencies and behaviours were administered. Four (4) batches of the "Matapat, Mahusay, Magiliw: The Regional Leadership Journey Workshops were conducted. The activity included the self-assessment of the current leadership competencies of the participants that will help identify priority areas for development to become the basis for the leadership development





interventions. The participants who conducted self-assessment were thirteen (13) Regional Directors, twenty-nine (29) Assistant Regional Directors and fifty-seven (57) Division Chiefs.

To enhance the logistics for disaster operations to be able to respond to the "new normal" on disaster, the Retooling on Logistics Management on Disaster Operations was conducted. There were thirty-five (35) participants coming from all regions and three (3) representatives from Disaster Risk Reduction and Response Operation Office (DRROOO).

Sixty two (62) specialists for Family and Community, Persons with Disabilities and Older Persons Welfare and Development were provided with capacity building services as a key mechanism for harnessing expertise. It also updated the knowledge and skills of the specialists in their areas of sectoral expertise to support the operationalization of the DSWD Core Group of Specialist.

A Social Welfare Development Forum was conducted and participated in by 82 Institutional Development Division heads/staff from 16 regional offices and representatives from OBSUs.

The Department continually mainstreamed gender and development concepts on their programs, projects, and activities. It also continually lent its expertise in developing various training workshops and learning sessions. The Department developed the Standard Training on the Trauma Informed Care for Trauma Survivors and Trafficked Victims, conduct of ASEAN Internally Displaced Persons, orientations of Psychosocial Processing Session and Psychological First Aid for Social Welfare Attaches, among others.

#### Knowledge Management

To capacitate and enhance the competencies of its staff and partners (intermediaries and stakeholders, two (2) modules in Supervising Day Care Workers and two (2) modules in Child Friendly Space and Psychosocial Processing Session were developed. Moreover, four (4) modules were enhanced namely Family and Community Based Disaster Preparedness, Gender Sensitivity Training, Trauma Informed Counselling, and Early Childhood Care and Development module for Family Development Sessions.

Knowledge products were also written that discussed the "new normal" and the strategy of convergence. The feature articles were entitled "An Extraordinary Response to a Different Kind of Ordinary: How the 'New Normal Killed the 'Hayahay" and "The MAT on Santol: Converging Towards Attaining METRU Standards in the Delivery of Social Services" respectively.

A pioneering effort to institutionalize a knowledge management system, the Knowledge Exchange Center (KEC) strengthens and promotes the exchange of knowledge towards increased productivity and efficiency. It served as an interactive repository of important knowledge in social protection and DSWD database.

#### >>Delivery of Efficient Regulatory and Quality Assurance Roles

The Department is mandated to set standards, register, license, accredit, and provide consultative services to organizations engaged in social welfare and development activities. The regulatory function enables the government, non-government organizations, and the local government units to achieve and maintain the standards of social welfare and development (SWD) programs and services. It also ensured that the disadvantaged individuals, families, and communities will receive guality services in non-discriminatory fashion.

The Department monitored standards compliance of Auxiliary Social Welfare and Development Agencies (SWDAs), DSWD Centers and Institutions, LGU Centers, NGOs, Senior Citizen Centers (SCCs), and developed Social Welfare Development Standards. The regulatory services also cover the authorization of national fund raising campaigns of Social Welfare Agencies (SWAs), SWDAs, and other groups covering two (2) or more regions. Further, pursuant to the provision of the Tariff and Custom Code of the Philippines, a SWA or SWDA may avail of the benefit of Duty-free Entry of their foreign donated goods.

For 2014, there were 190 auxiliary SWDAs/SWAs issued registration. Out of the 203 SWAs assessed, 196 were licensed as resource agency providing direct service. In terms of accreditation of SWAs and service providers, 16 LGU centers, 101 NGOs, 60 SCCs 118 marriage counsellors and Social Workers Managing Court Cases (SWMMCCs) were accredited. There were also a total of 26 authorized National Fund raising activities conducted and 15 organizations endorsed to the Department of Finance for duty free entry of foreign donations. Meanwhile, a total of 404 SWDs were endorsed to the Security and Exchange Commission.

Improvements of the regulatory services process were undertaken during the period. The Department had undergone policy enhancements after its conduct of gap assessment of the Administrative Order 16 Series 2012 or the "Revised AO 17, s. 2008 Rules"

and Regulations on the Registration and Licensing of Social Welfare and Development Agencies and Accreditation of Social Welfare and Development Programs and Services". The DSWD's Standard Bureau's Regulatory Services was also certified last August 3 with Established Quality Management System (QMS) in the delivery of DSWD's regulatory services in accordance with ISO Certification 9001:2008.

Moreover, technical assistance were provided to the staff of Field Offices regarding the establishment of database of SWDA's as basis for prioritization in the conduct of registration, licensing, and accreditation. They were also given assistance in the proper way of handling complaints against SWDAs in the validation of merits of complaints and proper coordination with authorities.

To ensure the achievement of agency's vision, mission, and goals, the Department orchestrates and shepherds the overall alignment and consistency of its initiatives and efforts to its 2016 Strategic Goals and 2030 Vision. The Department aims to provide responsive policy and plans, both at the local, national and international level. Further, internal policies are also formulated to create an enabling environment to strengthen the functionality and capacity of the Department.

#### Human Resource Development

In line with human resource development, the Department develops and implements policies and systems to ensure the proper jobperson fit, greater employee productivity, and overall organizational effectiveness. Aligned with the Performance Governance System Strategy Map Timeslice 2014-2016, the goal of the Department involves developing a culture of excellence and professionalism by 2030. Hence, there is a great emphasis in ensuring that critical competencies are applied, especially in key offices.

Strategic Priorities Accomplishments include:

- shared reference for workforce planning and recruitment.
- competency profiles of Pantawid Pamilya, DRRROO, and NCDDP were updated/validated.
- individual workforce.

To provide for greater employee productivity, the Department facilitated the development and implementation of personnel development programs and other capability building interventions. For the education programs, the Department currently have 18 employees pursuing further studies through baccalaureate and 19 for master's/doctorate degree. Non-academic specialized training and other short-term courses that do not lead to an academic degree were also offered to employees. There were onehundred seventy five (175) employees who availed these trainings, most of whom were technical and administrative staffs.

In addition, financial assistance worth ₱10,000 each to DSWD Employees and Cost of Service Workers affected by Typhoon Yolanda was released. One (1) Social Case Study Report was also prepared as requirement for financial assistance from Crisis Intervention Unit (CIU).

|              | Assistance to DSWD Employees anected    |            |
|--------------|---|------------|
| Field Office | # of affected employees/<br>MOA workers | Amount     |
| IV-B         | 19                                      | ₱190,000   |
| VI           | 260                                     | ₱2,600,000 |
| VII          | 67                                      | ₱670,000   |
| TOTAL        | 346                                     | ₱3,460,000 |



#### **Upholding Organizational Excellence**

Set in motion the Rationalization Plan of the Department. The Rationalization Plan will establish the parameters, guide, and

A total of 120 competency-based job descriptions (CBJD) were developed on key positions. On the other hand, thirty-seven (73)

**Formulated the DSWD Performance Management System (DPMS).** The DSPMS aim to provide for a single and coherent performance framework that unifies all existing performance management frameworks and processes. The DSPMS includes the processes involved in managing performance at the different levels by cascading targets to its offices and down to its

Table 4: Assistance to DSWD Employees affected by Typhoon Yolanda



The Department also conducted several wellness activities and provided interventions such as counselling services, extending sympathy to the bereaved DSWD employees, Annual Physical Exam, Blood Donation Activity, Medical and Dental Services provided to DSWD staff, Health forum on Menopause and Andropause.

#### **Policy Formulation**

At the international level, the Department provided significant inputs to various reports on cases of women in especially difficult circumstances (WEDC), child abuse cases, children in need of special protection (CNSP), persons with disabilities (PWDs), street children, and internally displaced persons, among others. The Department is also responsible for mainstreaming social protection programs and initiatives at the LGU level. The Department capacitated eleven (11) provinces and sixty-six (66) LGUs composed of Provincial/Municipal Social Welfare Officers (P/MSWDO), Provincial/Municipal Planning Development Officers (P/MPDO) and Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) Officers of Regions II and XI; and conducted a Training of Trainers for a total of forty-three (43) representatives from the seven (7) provinces of Region III, four (4) provinces and one city from Region XI on the Use of Social Protection Handbook.

Some of the important policies formulated in 2014 were:

- AO 2 Series 2014: Guidelines in the Implementation of the Counselling Services for the Rehabilitation of Perpetrators of Domestic Violence;
- MC 5 S2014: Guidelines on the DSWD Early Wins Initiative;
- MC 9 S2014: Revised Guidelines on the Implementation of the Modified CCT for Homeless Street Families;
- MC 16 S2014: Standards for the Functionality of LSWDOs
- MC 19 S2014: Guidelines for the Pilot Implementation of the Modified CCT for IPs

#### Legislative Advocacy

The Department through its Legislative Liason Office lobbies and monitors the immediate consideration and enactment of the two (2) priority legislations "Social Welfare and Development Agencies (SWDAs) Act" and "Public Solicitation Act" in the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress. It coordinates and provides recommendations to relevant measures to support the Department's mandate, for appropriate actions and interventions of the Presidential Legislative Liaison Office (PLLO).

On legislative advocacy, one hundred thirty (130) position papers were submitted to concerned Committees at the House of Representatives. The Department also conducted ten (10) briefings-orientations on the implementation of various programs and projects of the Department with the concerned committees at the House of Representatives to ensure that proper check and balances between the legislative and the executive agencies are well in place.

#### Planning and Monitoring

For the period CY 2014, the following important policies were crafted: Administrative Order 5 S 2014; Amendment of MC 14 S 2013 Guidelines in the Conduct of National and Regional Consultation with CSO for the Annual Budget Preparation; the DSWD Thrust and Priorities for 2015; the Planning Framework for the Preparation of the FY 2015 DSWD Budget Proposal; the Guidelines in the Operationalization of the ECCD-Information System; and the Guide in Accomplishing the Refined MFOs.

The involvement of the CSOs in the budget process will ensure the determination of the relevance, efficiency, and effectiveness of government programs. The consultative process also aimed to come up with a more responsive budget by providing the needs of the poor and vulnerable sectors and to curb corruption by ensuring transparency. Likewise, the DSWD Planning Framework was formulated to guide the Offices, Bureaus, Services, and Units (OBSUs) and Field Offices (FOs) in formulating their agency budget proposals in line with the issuance of the 2015 National Budget Call.

The Department also undertook an assessment on the compliance and processes done by the Field Offices (FOs) and LGUs relative to the implementation of the Social Protection and Development Report (SPDR). The SPDR provides data and information about

a locality. It assists the FOs and LGUs in prioritizing responses to address poverty situation and social protection concerns in the regional and local level. The Department formulated the tool for the assessment to determine the compliance at the regional and local level and to help ascertain the various gaps being experienced in its preparation and submission. The said assessment survey is a vital tool for providing the corresponding Technical Assistance and Resource Augmentation (TARA) that will enhance the process of SPDR implementation.

Congruent with the Department's desired outcome of ensuring that all stakeholders are capacitated in the delivery of SWD services, several technical assistance and capacity building activities along policy and plan development were conducted. These activities resulted to broadened and sharpened understanding, expanded networks of partners, and better appreciation of work systems and procedures that are all intended to optimize organizational performance.

#### **Strategic Management**

Various strategy and operations reviews were conducted in 2014, including the enhancement of the DSWD 2016 Strategy Map and Enterprise Scorecard incorporating the "new normal" and recent developments on the strategic thrusts of the Department. A Performance Governance System (PGS) Quick Guide was also developed to address the clamor of PGS focal persons to clarify and to simplify the PGS basic concepts, terminologies, and processes.

The Department also conducted a series of interviews with the Multi-Sectoral Governance Coalition (MSGCs) members regarding their views about DSWD, its major programs, and MSGC's possible assistance to DSWD. The MSGC is an alliance of stakeholders responsible in ensuring that the strategies are responsive to the needs of the community and the processes heighten transparency and accountability.

The Department's scorecard also consists of objectives and strategic measures that aimed to build mechanisms for a coordinated delivery of social services for the poor, to improve the capacities of the employees, and to continuously mould intermediaries and stakeholders into high-performing partners. All these contribute to lowering the prevalence of risks and vulnerabilities and incorporating sectoral issues into development plans by empowered sectors. The end result is the satisfaction of clients because of better social protection and reduction in poverty. Relative to this, Scoreboard 101 or the "Guide on the Formulation, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation of Breakthrough Goals (BGs) and Lead Measures (LMs)" was developed and disseminated. This provides a step-by-step guide on how to formulate, manage, monitor and evaluate the Office Scoreboards.

Coordinated communication of the DSWD Strategies was also reinforced through the development of various communication and implementation plans and IEC materials and crafting of relevant guidelines. An Online Performance Management System (OSPMS) was established and system user's training was conducted in June 2014. It was a web-based, online reporting and monitoring system for the Agency Scorecard, Strategic Goals (SGs), Strategic Initiatives (SIS), Office Scoreboard and other strategic priorities.

#### Administration Support Services

The Department economically, efficiently and effectively facilitated the management and administration of services related to assets, property, personnel, records, maintenance of facilities, operation of transportation, communications, utility services, and supervision of janitorial and security services.

Construction/renovation and upgrading of the Department's building facilities and infrastructure were undertaken at the DSWD Central Office compound, SWADCAP Building, Golden Acres, Nation Resource Operations Center (NROC) at Pasay City, and at the Tanay facility.

As an energy conservation measure, the Department implemented the Vehicle Preventive Maintenance, synchronization of travel or Car Pooling System, and limited use of vehicles during weekends.

Seminars on First Aid and Basic Life Support and Rescue and Transfer were also conducted in preparation for the establishment of the Disaster Management Group (DMG) that will develop operational mechanism and systems including contingency plan that will ensure disaster preparedness and reduction of disaster risks in the Department.





#### **Financial Management**

During the first quarter, the Department through the Financial Management Service received the General Appropriations Act of 2014 (RA No. 10633) which served as the allotment release document. It provided copies and distributed the same to the concerned central and regional offices. Reviewed and evaluated all project/activity proposals forward for approval and certified availability of funds for Offices/Bureaus/Services/Units (OBSUs) and other transactions if within the Work and Financial Plan (WFP) of CY 2014.

For this period, 20.50% or 938 Million fund utilization out of the 4.573 Billion under Fund 101 for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2014 while Fund 102 registered 16.66% fund utilization for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter utilizing 47.654 Million out of the 285.95 Million fund allotment. No allotment under current appropriations for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter was released under Fund 101.

The Department also participated in various budget related activities such as Budget Forum conducted by Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and other fora relative to FY 2015 Budget Proposal, Outcome Based Performance Informed Budgeting (PIB) for 2014, Grassroots Participatory Budgeting (GPB) for 2014 budget execution and 2015 budget preparation and Executive Briefings and workshops conducted by DBM on the shift to Outcome-Based Performance Informed Budget (PIB) pursuant to NBC No. 552.

At the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, 79.87% or Php18.6 Billion were utilized by Central Office of the total NCA for MDS General Fund 101 (Common Fund) amounting to Php23.3 Billion (Cash).

Maintaining data accuracy and quality, the Department complied with the reporting requirements of COA including audit findings and recommendations, DBM, IFIs and oversight agencies. It has also established strong linkages with DBM, Congress, Senate, COA, BIR and other offices for effective coordination and support. Various reports on Yolanda allotment/funds received and its utilization were also prepared and submitted to EXECOM, DBM, COA and other oversight agencies.

#### **Internal Audit**

The conduct of management and program audits are part of the strategic support services of the Department. For effective organizational and operational processes, the Department continuously conducted the Pilot Baseline Assessment of Internal Control System (BAICS). It also includes the preparation of Baseline Assessment Report (BAR) to the Department's executive managers.

For CY 2014, four (4) BAICS were prepared in order to be familiar with the organization's operations, to identify and document the five component of ICS, to review key control processes and performance of operation and support systems, and to gather sufficient information on potential audit areas as part of crafting of the successor three-year Internal Audit Service (IAS) Strategic Internal Audit Plan for 2015-2017. As part of the organizational development of the Department technical sharing among internal auditors on the use of the BAICS were conducted. Follow-up/monitoring of audit recommendation for nine (9) field offices were assessed. Further, there are also on-going PDAF audit processes on twenty-nine (29) NGOs.

#### Social Marketing

The Department had vigorously pursued the promotion of its programs, projects, and services. Practical strategies and social marketing tactics were effectively undertaken that included media relations, production and publicity, the development of information materials and exhibits, website management, and development of communication plans.

The Department intensified its media relations and publicity efforts through conventional media, new/social media among others.

| Conventional Media   | New/Social Media  | Others   |
|--|---|--|
| <ul> <li>331 stories</li> <li>36 feature stories</li> <li>159 radio/TV guestings</li> <li>6 press conferences</li> <li>2 advertorials</li> <li>43 media advisories</li> <li>10 pitch letter</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>556 facebook stories</li> <li>1,318 FB query responses</li> <li>121 FB referrals</li> <li>361 twitter posts</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>58 fact sheets/briefers</li> <li>26 souvenir messages</li> <li>172 photo coverages</li> <li>80 publicity support on<br/>Special Events</li> </ul> |

Information and Education campaign materials were also developed and various media produced which included: 11 program exhibits; 5 audio-visual productions; 9 bite-size videos on "Kaya Ko ang Pagbabago" campaign; 6 Lathala Newletters; 4 Posters/1 Flyer; 30 tarpaulins and video coverages/documentation of 78 events/activities. Moreover, 3 cinema plugs on the launch of three (3) AVPs on Children in Conflict with the Law was facilitated. Media activities was also closely monitored and referred social protection articles to concerned Offices (2,088 online news articles and 465 broadcast stories).

In terms of communications development, a 2014 National Communication Plan was developed and provided technical assistance for the crafting of the field and various offices in the Department to craft their own.

#### Legal Service

The Department continually equips its offices and personnel in order to meet and surpass the objectives and expectations along legal matters. As an organization that handles sensitive and court-related cases and implements programs that are statutory in nature, the Department ensured that its positions and actions are legally sound.

For CY 2014, more or less 850 legal documents were reviewed that include Contracts, Memoranda of Agreement, and related manuscripts. It also penned 300 requests for legal opinion on subjects concerning women, children, senior citizens and related issues as well as queries on various guidelines, laws, rules and regulations both with internal and external implications.

Lawyers and selected legal personnel provided legal counselling and referrals to walk-in clients and answered inquiries received through telephone, electronic, and snail mails. The Department formed strategic alliances with the Public Attorney's Office (PAO) and the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) to provide free legal assistance to qualified beneficiaries.

#### Information and Communications Technology

The Department likewise upholds social protection and poverty alleviation strategies for improved quality of life through developing, enhancing and maintaining management and information and communication technology (ICT) systems.

For 2014, information systems were developed namely: Enhanced Sustainable Livelihood Program Information System (SLPIS), Adoption Microsite with Online Expression of Interest (AMOEI), Financial Management Information System (FMIS), Human Resource Management Information System (HRMIS), Social Pension Information System (SPIS), Crisis Intervention Monitoring System (CIMS), Enhanced Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Information System, Center-based Information System, Geographic Information System Maps (WEB-GIS) with disaster response situation maps.

The Department also created the Disaster Augmentation Response Team (DART) to respond as a quick IT support during emergencies. This is in addition to its regular service support to the Central and Field Offices, and the monitoring and maintenance of the Wide-Area Network, Local Area Network and Communication on 85 provincial sites. An Information Systems Strategic Plan for 2015 – 2017 has been crafted and awaiting approval from the DOST.

#### Technical Assistance Facility

The Technical Assistance Facility (TAF) was created in May 2011 by virtue of DSWD-TAF Agreement which impelled the creation of a facility for Technical Assistance (TA) resource management on social protection reform. The TAF's main goal is to contribute to the efficient and effective delivery of the Department's social protection programs such as the Pantawid Pamilya, KC-NCCDP and SLP programs and other areas such as disaster management and hunger mitigation. In order to do this, the TAF intends to bring about a situation where TA resources (i) are managed optimally; (ii) responded to the strategic priorities of the Department; (iii) that an institutional mechanism for DSWD's resource generation and utilization has been developed and fully functioning.

The Department through the Technical Assistant Unit (TAU) facilitated the accessing of ₱130 million grant assistance from various development partners. It included the ₱70.4 million from Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), ₱31 million from Asian Development Bank (ADB), and ₱27.4 million from United Nation's Children's Fund (UNICEF) and P1.5 million from the United Nations World Food Program (UNWFP). This translates to achieving 130% of the targeted ₱100 million grant assistance to be accessed for CY 2014.



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#### **Financial Management**

From the total allotment received for CY 2014, the Financial Management Service (FMS) provided sufficient and timely funding support for the delivery of the DSWD mandated functions. In 2014, FMS efficiently allocated funds to the various programs, projects, and activities resulting to 86.35% or P71.3 billion fund utilization out of the P82.6 billion total regular allotment released for the fiscal year.

FMS took an active part in the various public financial reforms of the government like the Treasury Single Account (TSA), Government Integrated Financial Management Information System (GIFMIS), Unified Accounts Code Structure (UACS), Performance-Informed Budgeting (PIB), Online Submission of Budget Proposal (OSBP), and the Philippine Public Sector Accounting Standards (PPSAS) in coordination with the various oversight agencies spearheading these reforms.

For FY 2014, the Department submitted the consolidated Budget Proposal for P95.085 Billion to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) which was subsequently approved in the General Appropriations Act (GAA) in the amount of P83.114 Billion.

FMS also attended and participated in related budgetary exercises as follows:

- DBM Technical Budget Hearing;
- Program Budgeting Hearings for DSWD led and participated projects;
- Bottom Up Budgeting (formerly Grassroots Participatory Budgeting), PAMANA and Bangsamoro Sajahatra Program
- Committees and Plenary Budget Hearings at Congress and the Senate.

The Department continued to conduct the institutionalized Annual Financial Management Workshop and the Annual Work and Financial Planning Workshop where all the Accounting, Budgeting and Cash Division/Unit staff of Central and Regional Offices are gathered for capability building, updating and reconciliation of reports. DSWD also embarked on an initiative to develop and install the Financial Management Information System (FMIS) to promote accountability and transparency.

In addition, FMS continued to provide technical assistance to the DSWD Field Offices which include the NCR, Field Office IV-A and Field Office IV-B and Field XII, including the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) in the speedy and timely utilization of funds downloaded to them.

Manila Consulting, a third party private audit firm engaged by United Nations (UN) agencies namely Unicef and UNFPA, performed a micro-assessment on the financial management capacity of the Department. It involves a general review of the system of accounting, reporting, auditing and internal controls in order to provide an overall risk rating of the financial management capacity specifically in the areas of capability to record all transactions and balances, to support the preparation of regular and reliable financial statements, and to safeguard assets. Based on the Financial Management Checklist Questionnaire provided by the Unicef and UNFPA and several additional procedures performed, the financial management system of the Department has been classified as LOW RISK, an application of the strength of its structures, systems and procedures, internal control measures and staff to pursue a transparent, accountable and honest governance.

| PARTICULAR                              | CY 2013<br>(in Php) |    | CY 2014<br>(in Php) | INCREASE/(DECREASE)<br>(in Php) | %       |
|---|---------------------|----|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| Total Fund Managed                      | 70,299,405,061.50   |    | 94,912,942,186.77   | 24,613,537,125.27               | 25.93%  |
| Breakdown:                              |                     |    |                     |                                 |         |
| Regular Allotment (Fund 101 and 102)    | 55,438,628,000      | *  | 82,615,305,391      | 27,176,677,391.00               | 32.90%  |
| Calamity Fund                           | 3,043,288,261       |    | 2,122,500,000       | (920,788,261.00)                | -43.38% |
| Local and Foreign Donation              | 505,680,603         | ** | 278,462,409         | (227,218,193.73)                | -81.60% |
| Priority Development<br>Assistance Fund | 384,047,800         |    |                     | (384,047,800.00)                |         |
| Other Releases                          | 10,927,760,398      |    | 9,887,136,364       | (1,040,624,034.00)              | -10.53% |
| BCDA (Fund 170)                         | 13,271,941.00       |    | 9,538,023.00        | (3,733,918.00)                  | -39.15% |

\* Quick Response Fund for CY 2014 amounting to P662,500,000.00 is integrated under P/A/P "Assistance to Victims of Disaster and Natural Calamities \*\* Fund 151 - Php 943,570.00; Fund 171 - Php 504,737,032.50



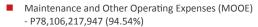
#### **DSWD FY 2014 TOTAL FUNDS MANAGED** P94,912,942,186.77

**Regular Fund** (Fund 101 & 102) P82,615,305,391 87.04%

#### Figure 2

#### **DSWD FY 2014 REGULAR ALLOTMENT BY EXPENSE CLASS** P82,615,305,391

#### LEGEND:



- Personal Services (PS) P3,548,774,573 (4.30%)
- Captial Outlay (C0) P410,312,871 (.50%)
- Financial Expense (FE) P550,000,000 (.67%)

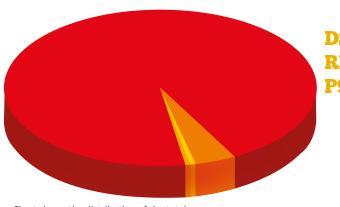


Chart shows the distribution of the total allotment received in 2014



P13,271,941 Calamity Fund -P2,122,500,000 2.24%

Fun 170 -

.01%

Other Funds -P9,887,136,364 10.42%

Fund 171 -P278,462,408.77 .27%

#### LEGEND:

- Regular Fund (Fund 101 and 102) Funds received for DSWD Regular Programs, Locally Funded and Foreign Assisted Projects.
- Fund 171 Foreign donations received subject to special budget
- Fund 170 Bases Convertion Development Authority (BCDA)
- Calamity Allotment received for additional relief and rehabilitation services to communities/areas affected by natural and man-made calamities/disasters.
- Other Funds Other funds cover allotments received by DSWD which are not provided in the DSWD budget under 2014 General Appropriations Act (R.A 10352) such as funds for Terminal Leave and Retirement Gratuity (TLRG), Retirement and Life Insurance Premium (RLIP), Performance Based Bonus, PEI, Addtional QRF Fund for the victims of Typhoon Pablo and Yolanda and Earthquake.

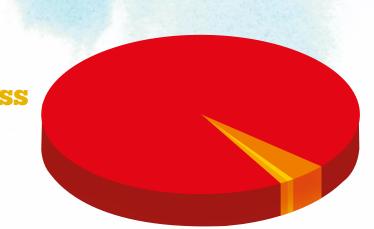


Chart shows the distribution of the total regular allotment received in 2014

#### Figure 3 **DSWD FY 2014 TOTAL ALLOTMENT RECEIVED (INCLUDING OTHER RELEASES)** P94,912,186,000

#### LEGEND:

- Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE) - P90,129,549,863 (94.96%) Personal Services (PS) - P3,769,547,047 (3.97%)
- Captial Outlay (C0) P463,845,276 (.49%)
- Financial Expense (FE) P550,000,000 (.58%)



#### STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS AND NETWORKS

#### Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC)



The Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC) main goal is to ensure a responsive policy environment that would empower children and increase their access to basic services through policy development, research and development, advocacy, capacity building and plan, and network development.

To ensure that this goal is accomplished, the CWC adopted the following child welfare policies: "Implementation Guidelines for Child Friendly Space in Emergencies (CFS)" as one of the core responses to address child protection in emergency issues (CPIE); "Terms of Reference of the Regional Child Protection Working Group (RCPWG)" to serve as the central coordinating body of all child protection activities in their respective regions, the terms of reference is a valuable document to ensure the efficiency of the RCPWG; "Guidebook on Genuine Child and Youth Participation in the Philippines" to provide

guidance and direction in promoting the right of children to participation; "Enriched Guidelines and Tools on Presidential Award for Child-friendly Municipalities and Cities" to ensure that LGUs mainstream child concerns and provide services to address these concerns.

Furthermore, the Council conducted the roll-out of the "Community of Practice on Child-friendly Local Governance (CoP-CFLG). This is a replication strategy that provides a venue for LGUs and other stakeholders to exchange knowledge in implementing child-friendly programs and mechanisms and to collaborate with each other in order to enhance child-friendly local governance in the country. This means a more effective and efficient delivery of services to address children's concerns.

The Community of Practice (CoP) also paved the way for building the partnerships of the CWC with local government units. The Research Consortium on Child Rights, the Local Council for the Protection of Children (LCPC) consortium and the 2014 National Children's Month served as the venues for building partnerships as it provided venues for coordinating efforts and orchestrating efforts of all key players pushing for child rights.

The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the implementation of Executive Order No. 138 S. 2013 "Amending Executive Order No. 56 S. 2001 adopting the Comprehensive Program Framework for Children in Armed Conflict, Strengthening the Council for the Welfare of Children and for Other Purposes" was signed in 2014. Through the MOA, key line agencies officially commit to fulfill their roles and responsibilities in the implementation of EO 138 in order to operationalize the Monitoring, Reporting and Response System (MRRS) on Grave Child Rights violations (GCRVs).

The Search for the Exemplary Government Registered Social Workers Awards (during Typhoon Yolanda disaster operations was jumpstarted. This award aims to recognize the exemplary performance of government registered social workers in the field practice of disaster response and management of child protection in emergencies, welfare and family services in Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan) affected areas. This will inspire more direct service workers, planners, and other stakeholders to protect children during emergencies.

Through these structures, the CWC was able to establish a common connection that served as the link for building partnerships with different agencies/organizations.

#### Inter-country Adoption Board (ICAB)



The Inter-country Adoption Board (ICAB), the Central Authority in matters relating to the inter-country adoption of Filipino children, acts as the policy-making body for purposes of carrying out the provisions of Republic Act 8043 or the Intercountry Adoption Act of 1995.

The ICAB has undertaken activities and strategies to ensure the protection of Filipino children from abuse, exploitation, trafficking and/or sale or any other practice in connection with adoption which is harmful, detrimental, or prejudicial to the child. It regularly monitors and regulates the partner foreign adoption agencies (FAAs) and child caring agencies (CCAs) in complying with the standards to deter improper practices that will jeopardize the welfare and interests of Filipino children. ICAB also

addressed the need to strengthen and empower the stakeholders particularly the Local Social Welfare and Development Offices by conducting capacity building packages on a regional level.

For 2014, the following has been achieved:

- were found to be eligible and suitable prospective adoptive parents.
- Parents (PAPs) were matched. Two hundred thirty-seven (237) PAPs accepted the child referral.
- matched children were accepted indicating that these children are going to have their permanent families.
- who personally came to the Philippines.
- who pursued adoption.
- integral and legal part of the family.
- conform to the ICAB guidelines, policies, procedures and the provisions of The Hague Convention.
- ing a total of 15 Foreign Adoption Agencies (FAAs) were also monitored.

Last, the ICAB also undertook activities to disseminate information regarding the inter-country adoption and actively participated in consultations and dialogues to learn and exchange experiences in dealing with the emerging issues of children and to foster cooperation and collaboration.

#### Juvenile Justice And Welfare Council (JJWC)



The Juvenile Justice and Welfare Council (JJWC) envisions a society that promotes and protects the rights of children at risk and children in conflict with the law under a restorative justice and welfare system. The JJWC is the body created by Republic Act 9344, the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act as amended by Republic Act 10630, to ensure the effective implementation of the law. It covers the different stages involving children at risk and children in conflict with the law from prevention to rehabilitation and reintegration.

The year 2014 is a transition year for JJWC as a new attached agency of the Department. Through a strategic planning process, the Council revisited and reaffirmed its vision of creating a restorative justice and welfare society for children. It also identified its desired outcomes from 2015-2017 and charted the pathways to change to achieve its goals by 2017.

Together with the Department, JJWC prepared a position paper strongly opposing the provisions of House Bill No. 2300 or the Philippine Code of Crimes (Book 1) lowering the minimum age of criminal responsibility from 15 to 13 years of age and for allowing



Three hundred fifty-three (353) adoption applications were assessed. Among these, 214 (60.62%) has been approved. They

A total of 1,410 approved adoptive applicants are awaiting child referral. Three hundred eleven (311) Prospective Adoptive

There were 365 children that were matched to families in the Europe, USA, CANADA and Asia Pacific. Sixty-five (65) of the

Three hundred eight (308) children were entrusted to their adoptive families, of which 71 children were entrusted to the PAPs

Hosting Program in the USA was found to be an effective strategy for finding adoptive parents for older children or sibling groups. Seven (7) hosting participant in 2013 and 1 sibling group of 4 in the 2014 Hosting Program were matched to their family

Two-hundred ninety-four (294) Adoption Decrees were received, indicating that the erstwhile Filipino child finally became an

The ICAB has established a program for post legal adoption services. The ICAB assists the adoptive child/ren and their adoptive family to trace their birth family/relatives. For the guarters in review, there were twenty-eight (28) children who came home to touch base with their Motherland. Four (4) adult adoptees had a successful reunion with their birth family and relatives.

The ICAB worked with 76 Local Partners (CCAs/CPAs), ensuring that 56 of Child Caring/Placing Agencies (GOs and NGOs) will

A total of 106 international/foreign partners (CAs/FAAs/GAAs) were assessed and monitored in relation to their adherence to the existing rules and regulations of the Philippine Inter-country Adoption Program. Six (6) Liaison Service Agencies represent-



an upper age-limit for children to be tried as adults for certain offenses. JJWC argued that the full implementation of the comprehensive Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act and not the lowering of MACR is the key to successful juvenile delinguency prevention.

The Guidelines on the Establishment of the Regional Juvenile Justice and Welfare Committee (RJJWC) was approved and adopted. The said guidelines are promulgated to facilitate the formal establishment of RJJWCs in all 17 regions. Furthermore, validation and finalization of the DILG guidelines on the Localization of the Comprehensive Juvenile Intervention Program and Guidelines on the Establishment of Bahay Pag-asa, in coordination with the DSWD-Social Technology Bureau, were also conducted.

Aside from these initiatives, JJWC also provided technical assistance in the form of providing inputs (as lecturer/resource person) during capacity building activities of various LGUs, partners, and stakeholders.

#### National Youth Commission (NYC)



The National Youth Commission conducted various programs, projects and activities in 2014 to meet the Commission's goal of championing "Youth Development Policy Advisory and Advocacy Services".

NYC is formalizing a policy advisory on the integration of a youth agenda in the Mindanao 2020 Development Agenda. Prior to this, the Commission conducted consultations with various youth organizations from Mindanao and developed a Mindanao Island-wide Youth Situation Study.

As part of the effort to validate the results of the Youth Development Index (YDI), the Commission conducted YDI validation and Data Gathering Workshops in 4 provinces (Aurora, Palawan, Guimaras, and Aklan).

Twenty-five (25) youth were also engaged for the Government Internship Program (GIP) Implementation. The GIP beneficiaries underwent seminars to improve their leadership and work ethics. It also facilitated the culmination of the 11<sup>th</sup> Search for the Ten Accomplished Youth Organizations (TAYO) Awards was held at the Malacañang Palace last February 2-6. Special Awards were also given out to the winners and other finalists (Hecky Villanueva Awardee, Alexis Tioseco Award, Jesse Robredo Youth in Governance Award, Jollibee Award, Project Smart, and Coke Barkada Award).

NYC also coordinated with 3 international exchange programs; 15<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-Korea Future-Oriented Youth Exchange (Korea), 14<sup>th</sup> ASE-AN-Korea Frontier Forum (Korea), and Forum on ASEAN – Japan Young Entrepreneurs: Partnership for Growth (Cambodia), ensuring the participation of 18 youths to the international events.

The agency also organized Grassroots Participatory Budgeting Consultations in 4 areas nationwide. Over 200 youths attended the consultations, calling for an increase on education budget, manifesting support on SK reform, and calling attention to high unemployment rate by creating access to job opportunities. As a result, the NYC proposed P37 million to fund follow up SK activities and to ensure increased presence in all regions. To campaign against gender-based discrimination, it celebrated Women's Day entitled "In Her Shoes" with male volunteers and employees marching around Welcome Rotonda in high heels.

#### National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA)



The National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA) had continued to promote "Disability Inclusive Development" through policy formulation and program development. It also engaged national and local governments and non-government organizations and other stakeholders to establish local disability structures that can be responsible for policy formulation, implementation of laws, monitoring and evaluation of programs and services. Capacity building of disabled people's organizations, civil society organizations, and local government units from all regions of the country were also given focus to ensure their active participation in achieving the "inclusive growth" thrust of the Aquino Administration and to support the DSWD Strategic Goals.

Showing progressive approach towards caring for the persons with disability, the key milestones of the Council involves the following:

> Inclusion of Disability-related Indicators in the awarding of DILG's "Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG)" under the Social Protection Core Indicator described as "Sensitive to the needs of the vulnerable and marginalized sectors of the society"

- localizing the realization of disability inclusive development goals
- for the APEC Economic Leaders Week in Beijing, China

To continually lobby for the rights of the persons with disabilities, five (5) position papers on Senate Bills relevant to disability were produced and submitted to Congress. It also pushed for the increase in the number of disability-related structures in local government units by ensuring compliance to disability-related laws and policies. This resulted to the building of 25 disability structures organized and capacitated, 11 Local Policy Forums (cities, provinces) conducted, 20 Local Ordinances adopted/recorded, and 997 local leaders, NGOs/NGAs and other stakeholders given direct orientation on disability laws.

It also crafted the National Framework on Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation (RBME) on Disability through a series of training workshops and consultations with the vision of achieving the country's goal of inclusive growth and poverty reduction and the sectoral goal of disability inclusive development. Data-bases/system on disability-related information was also developed.

To support the Secretary's Directive on ensuring that the government and the general public understand the real situation of the PWD Sector, the council conducted and facilitated several advocacy and awareness campaigns such as the "Disability Awareness and Sensitivity Workshop on Access to Justice for Persons with Disabilities", which resulted to a resolution recommending that DOJ develop programs relevant to "access to justice" by 21 prosecutors and public attorneys from 16 cities in NCR, and 44 prosecutors and public attorneys from 17 cities and 4 provinces in the Central Visayas.

In addition, continued educational campaign on disability inclusive development and UN Convention on the Rights of PWDS resulted to the launching of five (5) Disability Sections in the libraries of two cities in the NCR, a city college in Oriental Mindoro, and a Resource Center in Cavite. The NCDA also mounted a two-part competition among 30 PWD youth participants to serve as delegates to the upcoming "Global IT Challenge for Youth with Disabilities" in South Korea.

In order to heighten public awareness on existing mandates on disability both local and international, the NCDA performed or undertook a number of Information & Education Campaign (IEC) activities. Apart from all these, the NCDA also acted as resource persons in various seminars, fora/congresses and interviews on disability rights promotion to increase awareness among duty bearers and claim holders on the different laws, policies and mandates on disability and on dealing with PWDs.



Conduct of the "2nd Philippine Community-based Rehabilitation Congress" where it promoted the participation of PWDs in

Participation in the "Consultative Meeting to Prepare for the High Level Meeting on Equal Access and Inclusive Development"

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#### I Can Accomplish Change

Before I could even walk, Poverty has embraced me I've always wondered, Will we ever be rich? Shall my life ever change?

A good life, a better life -This I have always wished In my mind – in my dreams... I ask Where am I headed?

My sense is that In this life, Hope could spring forth In the midst of hardship and risks I face

I can find a way... find help To battle against poverty By getting involved in government projects and work with others who help Slowly, it dawns on me, I can, I will survive and rise from this the poverty that hounded me since

I've always wished to be strong In facing storms or any tragedy Be grounded – unshakable With unwavering hope to plod and gain the advancement I've so long sought

Change is mine I am change, I have changed. I can reach my dreams Of this, I am certain!

I will get on with my striving To face everything till I reach the end Gain a new life – my dream The promised change, a better life now within my reach Brought by genuine help and a faithful service

To the government and for all those who help and provided support I have strength and capabilities But opportunity is that which I needed to take care of myself, my family Today I can do it I can be a face in and for my community

Together, hand in hand, we journey on this road To a brighter future, a better life is in our hands Heads held high, shout my triumph We can do this – I can accomplish change!

#### Kaya Ko Ang Pagbabago

Musmos pa lang ako Hirap na buhay ang kinagisnan ko. At ang madalas na tanong ko... Kailan kami yayaman? Mababago pa kaya ang buhay ko?

Gusto ko syempreng guminhawa Bumangon sa hirap Malaman, makahanap, matuto ng paraan. Sa isip ko – sa mga pangarap ko... ang tanong ko, Saan ba ako patungo?

Sa aking palagay, Sa buhay na ito, May pag-asa pa sigurong sisibol, Kahit na hirap at nasa peligro ang buhay ko.

Kaya kong makahanap ng paraan... ng tulong... Upang pilit labanan ang kahirapan. Sa pagsali sa mga proyekto ng gobyerno at ibang tumutulong, Unti-unti kong nalaman na kayang makaahon sa kahirapang kinamulatan.

Ninais kong matutunan ang maging matatag Sa harap ng unos man o karahasan, Di basta-basta patitinag, Dahil sa pag-asang uunlad na inaasam.

Akin ang pagbabago Ako ang pagbabago, ako ay nagbago Makakamit ko ang pangarap Ako ay sigurado.

Ipagpapatuloy ang pagsisikap ko Babatahin lahat, makakarating din ako Maabot ang bagong buhay – ang pangarap ko Abot kamay ko ang pangakong pagbabago sa harap ng pagkakataon Dala ng tulong at serbisyo

Sa mga tumutulong at suporta ng pamahalan at mga kapwa, Sariling lakas at talino ay napagyaman, ang sarili, pamilya, at kasama ang pamayanan. Ngayon di ko lang nakakayang paunlarin ang pamilya ko Pati na kapakanan rin ng pamayanan ay aktibo kong sinusulong

Magkasama, magkatulong, tahakin natin ang landas tungo sa pag-unlad Ang magandang bukas at bagong buhay ay nasa ating kamay. Taas noo... malakas kong isisigaw Kaya natin – kaya ko ang pagbabago!



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