



# 2014

## National Nutrition Awarding Ceremony

Philippine International Convention Center  
Pasay City • 21 October 2014



Nurturing the Filipino Towards a Stronger Nation





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Nurturing the Filipino Towards a Stronger Nation



My sincere congratulations to this year's awardees of the National Nutrition Council (NNC). As the Chair of the NNC Governing Board, I laud your hard work, not only as advocates of greater nutritional well-being but also as sterling examples of public servants.

The entire Department of Health continues to undertake and support reforms to achieve fastest the reduction of undernutrition among our children, pregnant and lactating women under the *Kalusugan Pangkalahatan* (KP) strategy. A report of the World Health Organization noted that malnutrition contributes 35%-55% of all child deaths, and even increases during disasters. In full cognizance of the strategic contribution of nutrition in achieving MDGs on reducing child and maternal mortality, and achieving MDG 1, on reducing undernutrition, the Department is committed to pursue even more seriously its role along improving access of Filipinos to a package of proven-effective nutrition interventions in their first 1,000 days particularly breastfeeding promotion, micronutrient supplementation and micronutrient powder, clean water and sanitation services during normal times and in periods of human-induced and natural emergencies as well.

I commend the NNC Secretariat's leadership in coordinating all efforts of the Council and partners to formulate policies and programs that are particularly intended to protect and promote child and maternal nutrition.

Fighting undernutrition is a difficult battle but not an impossible one. We encounter challenges but certainly wins as well and we have proven that, as shown by the significant reduction of stunting among under-five children and anemia among all age groups. Our challenge is not to rest on our laurels. More work still needs to be done and we count on outstanding local governments and Barangay Nutrition Scholars like you to stay on the path of excellence.

*Mabuhay kayong lahat!*

**ENRIQUE T. ONA, M.D.**  
Secretary of Health and  
Chair, NNC Governing Board



As Vice Chair of the National Nutrition Council Board, let me convey my warmest congratulations to the lucky LGUs and Barangay Nutrition Scholars whose outstanding contributions to the success of our nutrition programs are being recognized. With exemplary local governments and nutrition scholars like you, the agriculture-nutrition-health link will always be strong and dynamic.

Complementing the efforts of other agencies to ensure sustained growth of the food sector, the Department of Agriculture upholds the objectives of the NNC and our outstanding local government units to nourish and nurture our kababayans by ensuring a comprehensive approach to the eradication of food insecurity, hunger and malnutrition.

As we in the agriculture sector therefore strive to achieve food sufficiency and boost farm incomes, let me assure you that whatever increases we gain in agricultural productivity and incomes will all redound to the nutritional well-being of our fellow Filipinos.

Through these awards, I trust that our local governments and nutrition workers will be further inspired to strive for excellence in providing our countrymen better nutrition and a healthy future.

Mabuhay ang ating mga natatanging LGUs, manggagawang pangkalusugan at nutrisyonista!

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large loop and several intersecting lines.

**SEC. PROCESO J. ALCALA**  
Department of Agriculture



Congratulations to this year's awardees of the National Nutrition Council (NNC). The battle against malnutrition is one that we all share, and i am happy to find models of exemplary public service honored today.

The Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI) of the Department of Science and Technology has and will always be a staunch ally of the NNC in combating malnutrition in the country. As chair of the NNC Technical Committee and Director of the FNRI, we continue to generate, through the National Nutrition Surveys, timely and relevant nutrition and related information as input to the nutrition sector's planning and policy development. We offer new food technologies for adoption by the business sector and local government units that are bold and willing to innovate based on standardized technologies.

The results of the 8th National Nutritional Survey conducted in 2013 have been released with several indicators pointing to some significant success in our nutrition improvement efforts. These include the reduction in stunting and underweight prevalence among under-five children, and the significant improvement in the anemia status of infants and young children and our pregnant and lactating mothers, as well as the increasing breastfeeding prevalence against recent years.

We could not have done this feat without the notable contribution of our local governments, including the awardees of this year's National Nutrition Awarding Ceremony. As we near the end of the current medium-term Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition, let us face the future with greater optimism. Let us continue to actively search for more solutions, and stop at nothing to finally eliminate malnutrition.

Thank you. Mabuhay po kayo at ang bansang Pilipinas!

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large, flowing 'M' and 'C' that extend into a long, horizontal flourish.

**DIR. MARIO V. CAPANZANA, PH.D**  
Food and Nutrition Research Institute



The National Nutrition Council Secretariat extends our sincerest greetings and congratulations to all the 19 winners in this year's National Nutrition Awarding Ceremony. This ceremony that we celebrate every year is indeed to recognize the country's "best of the best" in nutrition program management and implementation. I commend all of you, our winners, for remaining steadfast allies and friends of nutrition, performing the functions of NNC at their level - assessing, planning, monitoring and evaluating, coordinating, and doing advocacy, all for the nutrition improvement of your constituents.

It deeply inspires the NNC Secretariat to work with committed and selfless local government units, barangay nutrition scholars, barangay health workers and other barangay volunteers who uphold excellent and selfless service to our nation. The members of the National Nutrition Council share this honor with our fellow nutrition advocates from the national government, non-government organizations, international development partners, and civil society. The significant reduction in, and near zero prevalence of underweight, as well as the enhanced nutrition behavior in communities of our winners and champions is the other reason for us to continue our unrelenting efforts against malnutrition.

As Chairperson of the interagency National Nutrition Evaluation Team, I offer my humble appreciation to the provincial, city, regional and national teams for a job well done! It was hard work, but it was all so worth it.

Thank you also to all the other local government units that joined this year's search for Nutrition Honor Awardees, Consistent Regional Outstanding Winners in Nutrition, and the National Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar. You are already winners! May you persist and insist, consistently, in your journey for nutrition excellence.

Maraming salamat po at Mabuhay!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. B. Flores', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY MARIA-BERNARDITA T. FLORES**

Department of Health  
NNC Executive Director

**National Nutrition Awarding Ceremony**  
**21 October 2014, 2:00 P.M.**  
**Reception Hall, Philippine International Convention Center**

**PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES**

Registration of guests

Entrance of Colors

**Philippine Marines Security Escort Group**

Philippine National Anthem

**Lal-lo Blacklight Performers**

Invocation

**Lal-lo Blacklight Performers**

Welcome Remarks

**Honorable Enrique T. Ona**  
*Secretary of Health and Chair, NNC Governing Board*

Presentation of Awards

**Honorable Aquilino “Nene” Q. Pimentel, Jr.**  
*to be assisted by NNC Chair and Health Secretary Enrique T. Ona  
and NNC Executive Director and Assistant Secretary of Health  
Maria-Bernardita T. Flores*

Consistent Regional Outstanding Winner in Nutrition (CROWN) Award

1st Year CROWN Maintenance Award

2nd Year CROWN Maintenance Award

Nutrition Honor Award

National Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar (NOBNS) Award



Intermission

Response from Awardees

Nutrition Honor Award

**Honorable Denis B. Habawel**  
*Governor and Chair,  
Provincial Nutrition Committee  
Ifugao Province*

National Outstanding Barangay  
Nutrition Scholar Award

**BNS Efigenia G. Javier**  
*Barangay Maharlika East, Tagaytay City*

Introduction of Guest of Honor  
and Keynote Speaker

**Assistant Secretary of Health  
Maria-Bernardita T. Flores**  
*Executive Director, National Nutrition Council*

Keynote Address

**Honorable Aquilino “Nene” Q. Pimentel, Jr.**  
*23<sup>rd</sup> Senate President of the Republic of the Philippines*

**Mr. Rod Marcelino**  
*Master of Ceremonies*

# 2014 WINNERS

## CONSISTENT REGIONAL OUTSTANDING WINNER IN NUTRITION (CROWN) AWARDEES

Region	Area
I	Bangui, Ilocos Norte
V	Iriga City
X	Maramag, Bukidnon
XI	Island Garden City of Samal

## CROWN MAINTENANCE AWARDEES

### FIRST YEAR MAINTENANCE

Region	Area
II	Cauayan City
III	Paombong, Bulacan
MIMAROPA	Mogpog, Marinduque
NCR	Mandaluyong City
VI	Jordan, Guimaras
VII	Jagna, Bohol
X	Valencia City

### SECOND YEAR MAINTENANCE

Region	Area
II	Quirino Province
IX	Polanco, Zamboanga del Norte

## NATIONAL HONOR AWARDEES

Region	Area
II	Lal-lo, Cagayan
CAR	Ifugao Province
VIII	Maasin City

## NATIONAL OUTSTANDING BARANGAY NUTRITION SCHOLAR (NOBNS) AWARDEES

### NOBNS

Ms. Efigenia G. Javier  
Bgy. Maharlika East, Tagaytay City

### 1st Runner-Up

Ms. Ronely S. Marania  
Bgy. Canan, Cabatuan, Isabela

### 2nd Runner-Up

Ms. Aurora H. Sedorifa  
Bgy. Lawang Bato, Valenzuela City

## NUTRITION HONOR AWARD



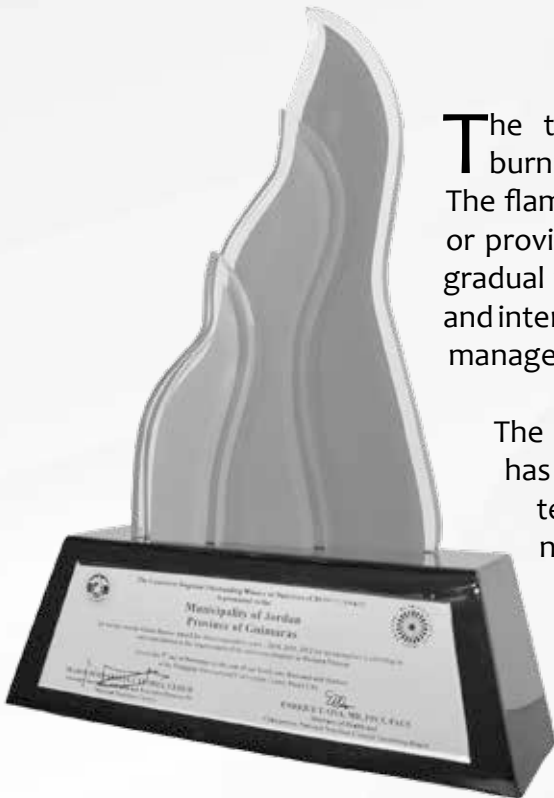
The design of the trophy is inspired by the symbolic flame pattern of the CROWN trophy. The three pieces of colored flames, embedded at the back of a clear beveled glass, symbolize the burning desire and unending commitment of the local government unit toward nutrition improvement. The base represents the strong foundation that the areas have developed during the last six (6) consecutive years of maintaining the Green Banner and CROWN Awards, while the body that contains the text and the flames, presented in beveled cuts, symbolizes the pruning and refinement which the LGU underwent and experienced to reach the height of excellence.

The Nutrition Honor Award (NHA) is given to CROWN awardees that have consistently shown outstanding performance in efforts for nutrition improvement. They have been monitored by an interagency regional nutrition evaluation team from 2009-2011 and by an interagency national nutrition evaluation team from 2012-2014.

To date, a total of 53 local government units have been conferred the NHA. This year's awardees will each receive a cash prize of P 1,000,000 and an NHA trophy.

# NUTRITION HONOR *Award*

# CONSISTENT REGIONAL OUTSTANDING WINNER IN NUTRITION (CROWN) AWARD



The trophy's design symbolizes the local nutrition committee's burning desire for excellence in its quest for nutrition improvement. The flames represent the three consecutive years the municipality, city or province became the regional outstanding winner in nutrition. The gradual increase in color and height of the flame indicate the continued and intensified efforts to improve the nutrition situation through effective management of local nutrition programs.

The CROWN award is given to a municipality, city or province that has been adjudged by the interagency regional nutrition evaluation team as outstanding in the region in the implementation of its nutrition action plan for three consecutive years.

To date, a total of 147 local government units have been conferred the CROWN award. For this year, the CROWN awardees shall receive a cash prize of P500,000 and a CROWN trophy.

# CROWN *Award*

# NATIONAL OUTSTANDING BARANGAY NUTRITION SCHOLAR AWARD



## An Ode to the National Outstanding BNS

You, who are known as a BNS,  
Serving with a commitment so intense.  
You, who care for the community,  
Infants, children, women, the elderly.

From sunrise to sundown  
You bring weighing scale around.  
Teaching parents, weighing children,  
For improved nutrition of our brethren.

You are the best among the best,  
Standing out among the rest.  
Nutrition hero accept our thanks,  
An inspiration in life's continuing quest.

**T**he Barangay Nutrition Scholars (BNS) Program is a strategy under the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition that involves training, deployment and supervision of volunteer workers or barangay nutrition scholars.

By virtue of Presidential Decree No. 1569, every barangay in the country is mandated to deploy one BNS to be responsible for monitoring the nutritional status of the vulnerable and for delivering nutrition services and other related activities.

NNC gives due recognition to the BNS with outstanding performance in the country by awarding her with a BNS trophy and a cash award.

Chosen from among 39,000 BNSs, the national outstanding BNS will receive a cash prize of P150,000 and a trophy, while the first runner-up and second runner-up will receive a cash prize of P100,000 and P80,000, respectively and a certificate of recognition.

# NOBNS *Award*



## **BANGUI, ILOCOS NORTE:** *Collective action towards better nutrition*

**K**nown for its white giant windmills, Bangui, a 4th class municipality in the province of Ilocos Norte is also breaking news in the nutrition map. Spanning 163.59 square kilometers and composed of 15 barangays, the operant motto of the Bangui Municipal Nutrition Committee is “A healthy and well-nourished community is the way to a progressive society”.

The Municipal Nutrition Committee of Bangui under the leadership of Mayor Diosdado A. Garvida has come up with various interventions to address the health and nutritional needs of vulnerable groups in this town which includes preschool and school children, and pregnant and lactating women.



The first priority was the further strengthening of the municipal and barangay nutrition committees. Capacities of the municipal nutrition action officer, Municipal Nutrition Committee members and Barangay Nutrition Scholars (BNSs) were improved through conduct of refresher course on nutrition program management. Incentives both monetary and in kind, were also provided to members and the BNSs following their reorganization.

Aside from ensuring that regular nutrition-related health programs like vitamin A and iron with folic acid supplementation, deworming and immunization are implemented, the municipality procured and distributed multivitamins to 57 underweight children aged 6-71 months in 2013. The multivitamins were provided to children during the 90-day supplementary feeding program.



Food security among farm families and households with undernourished children was promoted through distribution of vegetable seeds and seedlings, dispersal of small animals, fingerlings and fishing paraphernalia, maintenance of banana and coconut plantation, and livelihood projects like production of native delicacies with malunggay, meat processing, and paper bag making. These were made possible through partnership with the Municipal Agricultural Office (MAO) and the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO). Competitions on backyard and community

vegetable gardening were conducted to promote increased production and consumption of fruits and vegetables in the municipality.

Nutrition education and information dissemination on infant and young child feeding (IYCF) and preparation of nutritious meals were integrated in the municipal initiative called Sarungkar ti barangay (“Dalaw sa barangay”). The project involved delivery of medical services by the Rural Health Unit (RHU) and MNC members to all barangays twice in 2013. Aside from Sarungkar ti barangay, BNSs conduct home visits to monitor nutritionally at risk children and counsel their parents/caregivers on proper nutrition.

Resolutions addressing nutrition concerns were enacted to intensify advocacy and strengthen implementation of the various nutrition programs. With the help of the Sangguniang Bayan Committee on Health, a resolution to support and promote optimum breastfeeding practices in the community was passed in 2013. Similarly, a resolution prohibiting the sale of soft drinks in school canteens and ensuring that for sale items have Sangkap Pinoy Seal was passed and monitored by the MNAO and the school nutrition coordinators.

In Bangui, all barangays are encouraged to maintain cleanliness with the provision of cleaning supplies and the conduct of a Clean and Green Contest every December. Three barangay winners were awarded cash prizes ranging from Php 4,000 to Php 7,000. Likewise, the municipality promoted cleanliness in coastal municipalities through the Integrated Coastal Resource Management Program and the assignment of Bantay Dagat.

Through implementing direct nutrition interventions and sectoral programs for families with undernourished children, the MNC in partnership with relevant agencies has made progress with their nutrition program. With reduced prevalence of malnourished school children from 8.81% in 2011 to 7.89% in 2013 and of underweight preschool children from 4.46% in 2011 to 4.04%, Bangui showed that coordinated nutrition action can really bring about improved nutrition and better future for its people.



CROWN  
*Award*



## IRIGA CITY:

*Achieving a healthier populace through hard work, passion and commitment*

**K**nown as “the City of Crystal Springs” in the Bicol region, this city envisions itself to be the premier agro-ecotourism center not only in the region but in the country as well.

Led by City Mayor Ronald Felix Y. Alfelor, the City Nutrition Committee (CNC) is committed to work together to improve the quality of life of the city populace through proper nutrition by providing nutrition programs and services particularly to the indigent families and preschool children.



Along with their commitment, the city government of Iriga embarked on the implementation of various programs to promote responsible citizenship. One of the strategies included launching of the advocacy on Good Local Governance. With this, good governance was recognized in many forms - not only did the city win for the Consistent Regional Outstanding Winner in Nutrition (CROWN), the city was also a recipient of numerous awards such as Seal of Good Housekeeping (Silver Award) in 2012 and Gawad Pamana ng Lahi in

2011 awarded by the Department of the Interior and Local Government, and Galing Pook (Finalist) Tourism Event in 2011 given by the Galing Pook Foundation.

In contribution to the city’s commitment to uplift the health condition and improve the quality of life of the city populace, the CNC is determined in its efforts to continuously improve food production. The Organic Agricultural Learning Farm was established in Barangay San Agustin to showcase to farmers the importance and advantages of organic agriculture. To improve production and increase income among Irigueno farmers, certified palay seeds were also distributed to 400 rice farmers and open pollinated variety and hybrid corn seeds to 400 corn farmers. Vermi-composting was also established for commercial purposes.



The CNC also established a small-scale production facility for the production of a rice-mongo-sesame blend with technical support from the Food and Nutrition Research Institute of Department of Science and Technology. Rice-mongo-sesame blend was provided as complementary foods to 6 months to one year old children. In 2013, the food production plant has become a livelihood training center and has since been providing employment to around 12 mothers and women in the community. In addition to this, other livelihood assistance programs which provided financial assistance as capital availed of by Iriguenos include the *Tulay sa Pag-unlad*, *Kabalikat para sa Maunlad na Buhay* and the Village Foundation.



The Iriga City Nutrition Committee along with the barangay nutrition committees and with involvement of the parents assisted 901 underweight and severely underweight pre-school children in the 36 barangays by providing them nutritious snacks. And through partnership with a private foundation Parents-Teachers Association and barangay nutrition committees, 200 more wasted and severely wasted school children in 5 selected elementary schools were provided with nutritious hot lunch for 120 days. In addition, insumix (infant supplementary mix) powder was used as complementary food provided to 200 poor children 6 months to 1 year old.



Moreover, 3,600 indigent families from all barangays were provided with medical and dental check-up and free medicines. Community Health Teams (CHT) were also deployed in all barangays to ensure referral of at-risk groups to health facilities and service providers. Breastfeeding counsellors and community support groups were also organized to provide breastfeeding mothers timely and practical advice on infant and young child feeding.

Iriga's unwavering commitment and hard work focusing on its indigent populace kept the prevalence of underweight and severely underweight preschool children low at 5.81% in 2013 which was a decrease from 6.54% in 2011. There is no doubt that Iriga's commitment to uplift the nutrition and health condition and quality of life of its constituents is paying off.



**CROWN**  
*Award*



## MARAMAG, BUKIDNON:

### *The Maramag Experience: Paving the way for nutrition-secure Maramagnons*

The municipality of Maramag is a first class land locked municipality of Bukidnon, accessible via Cagayan de Oro, Davao City, Lanao del Sur and General Santos City. The municipality is blessed by flat terrains ideal for agriculture, and several natural springs which led to its declaration as Bukidnon's "eco-resort capital".



The name "Maramag" from "Ag Ramag" is derived from the shortened Manobo term for "Ag Ramag Ki Dini" meaning "Let us eat our breakfast here" – a meaning that keeps the Maramag Municipal Nutrition Committee (MNC), led by former Mayor Alicia P. Resus, challenged to ensure food and nutrition security for all Maramagnons and live up to its motto - **"Himsog nga Lungsod, Atong Kusog! (Healthy Municipality, Our Strength)"**. With a Php 5.5 million budgetary allocation for nutrition and nutrition-related projects, the MNC provides support to its 20 barangay nutrition committees.

Recognizing that the vision of a healthy and well-nourished municipality starts with healthy pregnant mothers, the Maramag MNC built the Home for Mother and Child in August 2006. The birthing home caters to pregnant women, both Philhealth and non-Philhealth members from within and from neighboring towns. For 2013 alone, 523 pregnant women availed of services of the birthing home. Breastfeeding support groups organized in all 20 barangays promote exclusive breastfeeding and assist pregnant women especially the first-time mothers to have positive experiences as well.

Toward ensuring availability and accessibility to food of families and their undernourished children, food production activities and livelihood programs were implemented. Seeds, seedlings and other planting materials as well as garden tools were distributed to 117 families and their undernourished preschool children and more than 900 families with enrolled school children. Work animals like cattle and carabao and goats were dispersed together with ducks for raising and for eggs. The Maramag Fisherfolks' Association also set-up a fishpond and fish processing center as a means of livelihood, with financial and material assistance from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and the Department of Labor and Employment. The JOBs project, another livelihood initiative coined from the name of Vice Mayor Jose V. Obedencio, also provides an initial Php 1,000.00 loan to parents with malnourished children as starting capital for income generating activities. The loanable amount doubles every time the original amount is paid.



The Gulayan sa Paaralan in the 29 elementary schools provided fresh vegetables for the school supplementary feeding program benefiting 998 malnourished school children. The proceeds of the five

(5) Nutri-stores operated by Barangay Nutrition Scholars from nutritionally depressed barangays of Danggawan, Panalsalan, Kuya and Bayabason and in barangay North Poblacion were used to augment their respective barangay funds for supplementary feeding programs where 97% of the malnourished children were rehabilitated.

The Maramag Municipal Nutrition Committee also tapped private institutions for the municipal nutrition program. The banana planters of Bukidnon donated bananas that did not pass quality control for export and were instead used in the supplemental feeding program in the various barangays of the municipality. DOLE Philippines adopted nutritionally-depressed barangays of Danggawan and San Miguel for a supplementary feeding program with a component on nutrition education and livelihood assistance which together rehabilitated 155 (85.2%) out of the 182 malnourished children after 90 days of feeding.

Since 2001, the municipality of Maramag has implemented a nutrition information drive which was further intensified through the airing of “*Kalambuan sa Maramag Karon*” (Maramag Development Today) over DXMU-FM and “*Kasayuran Program*” over Radyo Natin FM. The programs disseminate nutrition and health trivia, provide updates on the nutrition and nutrition-related programs and projects implemented in the locality. Announcements are also aired over these stations on health and nutrition messages.



The results of these initiatives have made headway in improving Maramag’s nutrition situation. The prevalence of underweight among preschool children has gone down from 1.33% in 2011 to 0.78% in 2013. For the last three years, prevalence of school children who are thin-for-height was maintained at a low of 5.49%, a feat seldom accomplished by municipalities similar to Maramag.

Certainly, the Maramag MNC under the leadership of now Mayor Obedencio has made nutrition improvement and *Himsog nga Lungsod* their serious business, and for the year wins for them the Consistent Regional Outstanding Winner in Nutrition (CROWN) award!



**CROWN**  
*Award*



## ISLAND GARDEN CITY OF SAMAL, DAVAO DEL NORTE: *Multisectoral nutrition committee action converges toward good nutrition!*

**S**ituated at the heart of Davao Gulf, the Island Garden City of Samal (IGACOS) consists of a main island and seven islets with a long stretch of coastline. Its scenic white sand, deep blue sea and forestscape make it a promising tourist destination in the country. With a zone IV climate characterized by more or less evenly distributed rainfall throughout the year, the island could be enjoyed essentially year-round.



Endowed with fertile land, this island city's vision is to "Improve the health condition of the people in the Island Garden City of Samal", through the promotion of good nutrition and improved access to quality health care and active participation of the LGU.

With his renewed commitment to good nutrition, Mayor and Chairperson of the IGACOS City Nutrition Committee Aniano P. Antalan, and the CNC members enacted resolutions and ordinances in support to the City Nutrition Action Plan, in particular, along

provision of income opportunities and improving access to quality health and nutrition services. Notable among the programs and their accomplishments were:

- *Micronutrient Supplementation.* 90% of children 6-59 months were provided with vitamin A supplements while all low birthweight infants and more than 10,000 children 12-59 months old were provided with Iron supplements.
- *Food Fortification.* 100% of the 24,112 households, 76 food establishments and 47 public elementary schools were monitored and found using iodized salt. All 31 bakery owners were reported to be compliant in using iron and vitamin A-fortified flour.
- *Essential Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition Services.* 66% of infants below 6 months old were exclusively breastfed and 95% of infants were not provided with complementary food earlier than 6 months. About 90% of eligible children aged 2-5 years were dewormed. An Expanded Unified Medical-Dental outreach was also conducted by the joint team of dentists from the province and city health offices in the schools of IGACOS.
- *Community, school and home food gardens.* About 314 purok gardens were established in all 46 barangays. There were also 51 school nurseries established to sustain the city's vegetable gardening initiative. A Pinakamaanyag nga Gulayan sa Tugkaran contest which encourages city government employees to plant assorted vegetables in their respective backyards using organic farming principles was launched in September 2013.
- *Supplementary feeding program.* About 767 underweight children, 99 of whom are severely underweight, from 46 barangays were enrolled in feeding program. The 61 day care centers also catered to the 1,969 pupils including 240 wasted children. The supplementary feeding is conducted for 120 days and hot meals consist of rice and nutritious viands of meat, fish, and vegetables using locally grown produce.
- *Livelihood and financial assistance activities.* Various livelihood activities such as soap making,



production of fabric softener, handicrafts, rug making, bagoong making, bangus deboning, and animal dispersal were implemented in the 46 barangays of the city. In addition, 10 organizations extended loans to 1,075 beneficiaries as start up capital. Livelihood activities in the city also include the One Town, One Product (OTOP) strategy giving priority to production of mangoes and mongo.



- *Dalit Serbisyo*, a caravan type activity of the different offices was conducted in 20 barangays to bring government services closer to residents of far-flung areas, offering free government services such as medical consultations, dental services, laboratory services, and legal consultations.
- *Implan Tulong*, a DepED District Office project in support to nutrition provided medical and dental services, distributed vegetable and fruit seeds and seedlings, conducted skills training, offered free hair cut and spiritual counselling among school children. Other initiatives of the school include conduct of seminars on food safety, distribution of school supplies and health kits. HANDS which stands for “homegrown active nurses devoted to service” were also tapped by the DepED for provision of nursing services and as a result, IGACOS was adjudged “Best Implementor on School Nutrition and Health Program” and “Best Implementor on Locally Initiated Health and Nutrition” Awards in December 2013.

The results of the strong leadership and sustained support of Mayor Antalan and the multisectoral city nutrition committee are manifested in the improvement of the city nutrition situation. The prevalence of underweight among preschool and school children has kept low and remained single digit for the last three years.

Indeed, the amalgamation of efforts of different discipline overcomes any obstacle it face.



**CROWN**  
*Award*



## CAUAYAN CITY: *Positioning Nutrition in Local Development*

**D**ubbed as the fast-rising agro-industrial area in the heart of Cagayan Valley, Cauayan City pursues a healthy balance of economic and social development. Ratified only in 2001, the young city has remained steadfast in moving towards its vision of becoming the “Ideal City of the North” through enhancing the business climate, improving social services, preserving culture, instituting systems for good governance and engaging the private sector through public-private partnership.



Recognizing the contribution of a well-nourished citizenry in the realization of this vision, the Cauayan City Nutrition Committee led by the development-oriented Mayor Bernard Faustino M. Dy, reinforced the City Nutrition Action Plan with interventions and strategies for the malnourished and the vulnerable. Inspired by the words of former Mayor Ben Dy to the City Nutrition Committee on the 2011 Green Banner awarded to the city, “Do not be happy and contented with the award. The fact remains that still there are malnourished children whom we need to rehabilitate and poor families vulnerable to malnutrition.”

Challenged by these words, the Cauayan City Nutrition Committee led by its Chairperson Mayor Dy, implemented nutrition programs and strategies along food security, information dissemination, advocacy and capacity building.

Toward improved food security, a third Barangay Food Terminal was established in Barangay Tagaran catering to the farmers and consumers in the northern part of the city. The first two Barangay Food Terminals in Minante I and Villa Luna were successful in providing farmers an alternative market and offering safe, affordable and accessible products to consumers. The city maintains a greenhouse under the Agri-Pinoy Program of the Department of Agriculture where variety of vegetable seeds and seedlings are propagated and distributed to barangays and households. In 2013, 356 families with underweight preschool children and 781 families with undernourished school children were provided with vegetable seedlings.



To promote proper eating habits and healthy lifestyle, the City Nutrition Committee passed Resolution No. 108. S. 2013 “Adopting and Implementing the 2012 Nutritional Guidelines for Filipinos”. The city used 100 tricycles plying the city and provided them with rain guards containing the 10 NGF messages. Barangays in support of the resolution also promoted the NGF through creation of murals in basketball court in the case of Barangay Minante II and posting information materials on the NGF in public places such as the public market and barangay health stations.

The CNC launched during the 2013 Nutrition Month Celebration, the “Tsinelas... Walk for the Beat” where slippers were distributed to underweight children. The campaign aims to increase awareness on



the importance of proper hygiene and how the simple practice of wearing slippers can reduce the risk to soil-transmitted helminthiasis (STH) and eventually to poor nutrition among children. Slippers were provided through contributions of the CNC members, private individuals and through the Cauayan City Green Ladies Organization. A total of 956 pairs were distributed through the campaign.

Toward improved knowledge on nutrition, 355 pregnant and lactating mothers, and mother with underweight children attended Pabasa sa Nutrisyon (PSN) and Infant and Young Child Feeding sessions during the year. The sessions aimed to teach participants basic nutrition, and proper techniques on exclusive breastfeeding and complementary feeding. Capacities of the barangays on nutrition program management were also enhanced. Punong Barangays, Kagawads on Health, including the Barangay Nutrition Scholars were oriented on nutrition program management highlighting their roles in planning and implementation of the barangay nutrition program. With partners such as the Rural Improvement Clubs (RIC), Isabela Green Ladies Organization (IGLO) and Cauayan City Green Ladies Organization (CCGLO) which actively support programs along livelihood assistance and micro financing, the Cauayan City Nutrition Committee was able to deliver varied interventions to support families with underweight children.



Like the improving quality of life in the city, more and more children and families are enjoying good nutrition and contributing to greater economic productivity in Cauayan City. The success of the CNC is manifested in the reduction of underweight preschool children from 4.65% in 2012 to 2.15% in 2013 and undernourished school children from 12.88% in 2012 to 8% in 2013. And for this, the City wins the First Year CROWN Maintenance Award!



**CROWN**  
1ST YEAR MAINTENANCE  
*Award*



## PAOMBONG, BULACAN: *Sustained partnership and convergence – key approaches to nutrition excellence*

**P**aombong, known as the Vinegar Capital of the country for its renowned sukang sasa, is a third class urban municipality in the province of Bulacan. The municipality won its first Green Banner Award in 2010 and the coveted Consistent Regional Outstanding Winner in Nutrition (CROWN) award three years later, besting 116 other municipalities in Central Luzon. Since then, the Paombong Municipal Nutrition Committee (MNC) under the baton of Mayor Isagani G. Castro continued to fight malnutrition as it maintained the CROWN for the first year.



The success of the Paombong Municipal Nutrition Program lies in the commitment and cooperation of the members of the MNC and the 14 barangay nutrition committees, supported by the strong spirit of volunteerism and camaraderie of *Lingkod Lingap sa Nayon* (LLN), Bulacan's version of the Barangay Nutrition Scholar, and mother leaders, in delivering basic nutrition services down to the grassroots level. This was evident even with the political setback in 2013. Through the issuance of Executive Order No. 2013-07, the Paombong MNC was reorganized to include representation of the *Liga ng mga Punong Barangay* (Association of Barangay Captains), Public Employment Service Office (PESO) and five (5) non-government organizations and private companies. The inclusion of new members in the MNC strengthened the convergence of nutrition activities in the municipality particularly along livelihood.



The constituents of Paombong often experience loss of livelihood due to constant flooding. Thus, each barangay has a designated Barangay Training and Employment Coordinator (BTEC) who works closely with the LLN in identifying and prioritizing beneficiaries for livelihood training projects funded either by the local government of Paombong, nongovernment organizations or by TESDA. Training on livelihood activities, such as dishwashing liquid and fabric conditioner production, meat processing, candle-making, hairdressing and skin care, conducted by the municipal social welfare and development office (MSWDO) and the *Ina ng Paombong Foundation* in 2013 benefited 386 poor families, 17 mothers with underweight

children and 41 families enrolled in the *Pantawid Pamilya* program. The cash-for-training project of MSWDO and TESDA provided 36 poor out-of-school youth with skills on commercial cooking, welding and housekeeping.

Farm and fishing communities in Paombong that often experience loss of livelihood, e.g., vegetable farming, tilapia-raising, smoked-fish making, due to floods were supported through the provision of tilapia and bangus fingerlings, gill nets, petromax. Life vests were also distributed to 998 fishermen including families with underweight preschool and wasted school children particularly those residing in the island



barangays of Binacod, Masukol and Sta. Cruz. The “Malunggay kada Bahay, Gulay kada Nanay” project established by the Paombong MNC promotes home food production and consumption of fruits and vegetables. All households were provided with malunggay cuttings and assorted vegetable seeds and cuttings and were encouraged to set up container or hanging gardens in their homesteads. All barangays have maintained their own community garden, as well as school gardens through the Gulayan sa Paaralan project.



All 14 BNCs contributed to the success of the Paombong municipal nutrition program. In addition to the usual funding for supplementary feeding, the BNCs allotted a total of Php 2 million for the conduct of Pabasa sa Nutrisyon, Gulayan sa Paaralan, Panadero conference, annual celebration of nutrition month, maintenance of breastfeeding stations in barangay health centers, maintenance of material recovery facilities and allocation of regular travelling allowance for LLNs and mother leaders for their attendance in trainings and seminars outside Paombong.

Results of these efforts are evident in the continued reduction of already very low prevalence of underweight among preschoolers from 0.32% in 2011 to 0.23% in 2013, the third lowest in the entire region of Central Luzon, as well as in the prevalence of wasting among school children from 7.0% in 2011 to 5.5% in 2013. The municipality has 100% coverage in OPT and school weighing.

For the reorganized Paombong Municipal Nutrition Committee, the CROWN Maintenance Award will keep the fires of convergent action toward the path of excellence shining. A job well done, Paombongenos!



# CROWN

1ST YEAR MAINTENANCE

# Award



## MOGPOG, MARINDUQUE: *A putong for scaled-up initiatives for health, nutrition and community development*

The 207-year old municipality of Mogpog is a 2nd class town situated at the northwestern part of Marinduque province. First-time visitors and guests of Marinduque are pleasantly surprised when they experience putong. Putong is a traditional ceremony that welcomes and honors a visitor, as members of the community sing local ballads and dance for the visitor, release butterflies, throw flower petals and coins for good luck, and a floral crown on the head of the visitor. This year, a special putong honors Mogpog as it maintains the Consistent Regional Outstanding Winner in Nutrition (CROWN) award for the first year with its scaled-up initiatives for health, nutrition and community development.



Guided by the vision of “A healthy community and progressive municipality”, the Mogpog Municipal Nutrition Committee (MNC) led by Mayor Senen M. Livelo, Jr., continues to scale-up its initiatives along health, nutrition and community development toward its fight against malnutrition.



The Mogpog MNC and its 37 barangay nutrition committees are fully aware of its nutrition situation as well as the root causes of the problem in their respective communities. Cognizant of this situation, the local legislative bodies –Sangguniang Bayan and Barangay likewise– enacted relevant resolutions and ordinances to facilitate the implementation and funding of various national nutrition and related programs. These include training of community workers and volunteers on the infant and young child feeding strategy, Garantisadong Pambata, Pantawid Pamilya, daycare center supplementary feeding, promotion and consumption of fortified food products, promotion and

utilization of iodized salt, and Gulayan sa Paaralan, among others. A total amount of 5.3 million pesos was earmarked in 2013 by the MNC and BNCs to carry out these activities. The funding support also included capacity building and traveling allowances of all the BNSs deployed in the municipality’s 37 barangays.

Various nutrition-sensitive interventions along community development serve as Mogpog MNC’s ammunition in combating the root causes of poverty and malnutrition. The mikilunggay noodles production project of the BNS Federation, continues to operate and is used in supplementary feeding activities for the municipality’s 261 underweight preschool and 599 wasted schoolchildren. The mikilunggay noodles are also sold at Php 10 per pack by the BNS Association through the regular market channels. The production and marketing of flavored dried dilis (anchovies), which is abundant in the shoreline of Mogpog, was made possible with the assistance of the regional offices of the departments of Science and Technology and of Trade and Industry. To augment the budget of the barangay nutrition committees, the Mogpog



municipal nutrition office initiated the nutri-savings project using coin banks strategically placed and secured in either the BNS's office or rural health center. Every month, the tin can coin banks are collected by staff of the municipal nutrition office, records the collection in a log book and return the same to the BNS. The proceeds are used to purchase commodities for the supplementary feeding and supplies for the Pabasa sa Nutrisyon sessions.

In addition, Community Health Teams (CHT) are deployed in each barangay to ensure that health and nutrition services reach even the farthest puroks, Public elementary schools established a school organization called "Young Nurses" and selected grades 5 and 6 pupils serve as health and nutrition advocates by sharing information on proper hygiene and value of eating nutritious food among their peers. These aspiring young pupils were also trained to provide basic first aid to the other pupils in their respective schools.



Life in Mogpog might be simple but not the perspective of its Municipal Nutrition Committee on how malnutrition should be addressed. The collective efforts of its members and its 37 Barangay Nutrition Committees have resulted in a better quality of life for their constituents. This is evidenced by the continued reduction in the prevalence of underweight preschool children from 6.4% in 2011 to 4.9% in 2013 and in the prevalence of wasted school children from 10.7% in 2011 to 8.5% in 2013.

Truly, initiatives worthy of a putong!



# CROWN

1ST YEAR MAINTENANCE

*Award*



## MANDALUYONG CITY:

### *Para sa Nutrisyon: Gawa, Hindi Salita*

**M**andaluyong City, the “Tiger City of the Philippines”, remains a major contributor to the growth of the National Capital Region as it bags for 2013 the Consistent Regional Outstanding Winner in Nutrition (CROWN) - 1st Year Maintenance Award under its visionary and dynamic City Nutrition Committee Chair and Mayor Benhur DC. Abalos, Jr.

The quote “actions speak louder than words” best exemplifies how the Mandaluyong City Nutrition Committee steered and sustained the implementation of the nutrition program over the years. To beef up operations of the nutrition program, the city’s nutrition human resource was strengthened. Aside from the designation of First Lady Mrs. Carmelita A. Abalos as the City Nutrition Action Officer, two doctors from the City Health Office were designated as the overall medical and nutrition program coordinators of the city and worked hand-in-hand with the five (5) district nutrition program coordinators of the city.



The district nutrition program coordinators provide technical assistance to the city’s 27 barangay nutrition committees and 49 barangay nutrition scholars for the delivery of nutrition services to the populace. In addition, each district nutrition program coordinator is assigned a specific number of barangays to monitor. All the 49 BNSs receive monthly salaries and allowances from the city while the barangay nutrition committees provide the BNSs funds for operational expenses including training allowances.



The city is hailed as the country’s showcase on the promotion, protection and support of breastfeeding practices at the community and household level. With the success and sustained implementation of the Breastfeeding Patrol and Empowerment, Reaffirmation of Paternal Abilities and Trainings (ERPAT) for breastfeeding at the community level, the city Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) Task Force expanded its reach by including public elementary schools in its campaign on the IYCF strategy through the Breastfeeding Blitz project. Four elementary schools were targeted as pilot areas where breastfeeding stations were set up and lectures

on breastfeeding and complementary feeding were conducted among parents of malnourished school children. To date, the city boasts of a 95% exclusive breastfeeding rate.

Aside from the regular routine counselling for teenage mothers, fathers and their parents, the city provided free education, shelter and medical assistance to young parents, and for the young mother in particular, during prenatal check-up at the health center and childbirth. The Mandaluyong City Medical Center (MCMC) maternity center offers counselling activities for pregnant teens and a lactation



management area for nursing mothers who have difficulty in breastfeeding after delivery. Teenage fathers who dropped out of school are provided skills in partnership by the Handyman Incorporated to provide skills training such as carpentry to support their family.

The center is a one-stop shop for vocational skills training and livelihood assistance to indigent families. It offers short-term (3-6 months) training on basic computer, network troubleshooting, hairdressing, dressmaking, massage therapy, caregiving, carpentry, welding, electronics, pastry baking and housekeeping. In 2013, a total of 2,052 students graduated from the manpower and development center.

The slogan “Gawa, Hindi Salita” indeed has worked well for Mandaluyong City. This is particularly evident in the downward trend in the prevalence of underweight preschool children from 1.39% in 2011 to 1.21% in 2013. Prevalence of malnourished school children has been maintained around 5.5% in the last 3 years.

The country’s Tiger City has truly proven that actions do speak louder than words and their accomplishments deserve them this year, the CROWN First Year Maintenance Award!



# CROWN

## 1ST YEAR MAINTENANCE

# *Award*



## **JORDAN, GUIMARAS:**

### ***A showcase of nutrition and health actions for sustained nutrition improvement***

**F**ormerly known as Nagaba, the municipality's name was changed to Jordan in the 1900's after the biblical Jordan River where Jesus was baptized. Besides its biblical name, Jordan in the province of Guimaras shines anew in the field of nutrition as it joins the roster of winners of the Consistent Regional Outstanding Winner in Nutrition (CROWN) Maintenance Award.

The Jordan Municipal Nutrition Committee chaired by its able Mayor Cresente P. Chavez, Jr. recognizes good health and nutrition as vital components to development. As such, continuing efforts are being done to ensure that children, pregnant and lactating women receive quality nutrition and health care and related services.



The Jordan Nutrition Complex Center is among the showcases of Jordan's commitment to good nutrition. Transformed from a vacant lot beside the main rural health unit in Barangay San Miguel in 2006, the Center showcases the innovations of the Municipal Nutrition Committee and serves as the headquarters of the Municipal Nutrition Action Officer and 14 Barangay Nutrition Scholars. As headquarters, the Center hosts the BNS monthly meetings, seminars and nutrition education activities. The Center displays on its walls the reglamentary spot map, problem tree on malnutrition showing its immediate and underlying causes, quarterly

monitoring wallchart, and nutrition and related information and education campaign materials found in local nutrition offices. The Center houses the well-kept photo-documentation of the municipality's innovative nutrition projects mounted on a revolving board. Various awards along health and nutrition received by the municipality from the provincial, regional and national levels are also displayed in the Center. The complex also showcases the municipal vegetable and herbal garden of maintained by the Center staff. Harvests from the gardens are shared to visiting patients of the nearby main rural health unit, community and Center staff.

The Nutrition Complex also houses the Jordan Nutri-Production Center where Insumix and veggie-breads are made. The Insumix is a nutrient-dense mixture of rice, mongo and sesame used as base ingredient for feeding underweight preschool and school children. Jordan is the sole distributor of Insumix in the entire province of Guimaras. Veggie-breads, on the other hand, are made of vitamin A and iron-fortified flour and further enriched with either squash or malunggay. The breads are prepared and baked every day to ensure freshness, and delivered daily to all barangays nutrition centers and elementary schools for the targeted 117 underweight preschool and 337 undernourished school children. Both Insumix and veggie breads are also available to the public at Php 15.00 per pack for Insumix and Php 2.00-4.00 per piece of veggie-bread. Workers of the production center were hired by the Municipal Nutrition Committee and were trained on food preparation, food handling, and packaging by the Food and Nutrition Research Institute of the Department of Science and Technology.





At the barangay level, barangay nutrition centers were also built through co-sharing of resources between the barangay and the municipality. The barangays provided the lot and the labor while the materials and equipment were supplied by the Municipal Nutrition Committee. The barangay nutrition center, located within the compound of the barangay hall and barangay health center, serves as venue for nutrition activities such as Barangay Nutrition Committee meetings, conduct of OPT Plus, nutrition information and education classes, supplementary feeding and seminars on livelihood and food production. BNC records and other documents prepared by the BNS are kept inside the nutrition center.



Under the DOH's Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Nutrition program, the Jordan Rural Health Unit was certified as Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care Provider in 2010. Consequently, the Jordan Birthing Center was built with funding assistance from the DOH and maintained by the Municipal Health Office. To support the policy prohibiting home deliveries, an ambulance is on standby 24/7 to fetch and ferry pregnant women from their home to the birthing center for delivery. For 5 years in a row, Jordan has a track record of zero maternal mortality.

With all these sustained initiatives, investments on nutrition infrastructure, the passion and commitment and hard work of nutrition workers and volunteers, the Jordan MNC was able to reduce undernutrition among preschoolers from 3.9% in 2011 to 2.2% in 2013 and among schoolchildren from 8.3% to 7.2% in the same period. Soon, the municipality of Jordan will not only be a showcase in Western Visayas but to the whole nutrition community, nationwide.



# CROWN

1ST YEAR MAINTENANCE

*Award*



## **JAGNA, BOHOL:**

### ***Making a Difference in Nutrition through Empowerment at the Grassroots***

Considered as the gateway to Mindanao serving routes to Butuan City, Nasipit, Camiguin and Cagayan de Oro City, the municipality of Jagna is one of the commercial trading centers in the province of Bohol. Farming, trade and industry and eco-tourism make up its major economic sector. Local industries include sinamay, saguran and sawali weaving, hollow blocks manufacturing and production of native rice cakes and food products. With more than 10 kilometers of irregular coastline, fishing is also an important industry in Jagna.



Led by the Municipal Nutrition Committee Chair Mayor Fortunato R. Abrenilla and supported by the 33 barangay nutrition committees, Jagna is also making a difference in nutrition through the integrated implementation of agriculture, livelihood, health and nutrition programs.

With microenterprises comprising more than 90% of the registered enterprises in Jagna, the municipality through the Gender Code established the Jagna Sustainable Microenterprise Development (JaSMED). It provides assistance to micro-entrepreneurs along skills training, promotion and marketing, business registration, as well as in product research and development. It was later reinforced by virtue of Municipal Ordinance No. 3-03 S. 2012 “Creating the JaSMED Unit”, making it a government entity and providing funds for its operations. In the same year, the Common Service Facility (CSF) for the makers of calamay, a local delicacy, was completed.



Similarly, the MNC adapted the Purok System initiated by the province of Bohol. Purok Centers were established which served as venue for meetings of the purok officers and as feeding center for children. The system also required puroks to maintain a spot map and health and nutrition and agriculture information data board and monitor various programs such as vegetable and herbal gardens and waste segregation.

Philos Health, a US-based non-government organization and longtime NGO partner way back in 2004, supported supplementary feeding using Manna Pack, a supplementary mix of fortified rice and soy protein. In 2013, 3,559 preschool children, 270 pregnant mothers, 778 lactating mothers and 600 senior citizens benefitted from the program. Philos also opened a satellite rural health center providing primary health care services and birthing facility. The non-government organization also equipped the main rural health unit with facilities to enable conduct of minor surgery and provided free medicines to their clients and other relevant medical services.

The community radio station, DYJP Jagna 100.1 FM, established in partnership with Philos Health features news, announcements and entertainment for the town. It also served as medium for disseminating correct nutrition information through the weekly “Nutrition on Air” and through the LGU hour.



In support of the food production initiatives at the barangay and purok levels, the municipal government provided assorted vegetable seeds, seedlings and other planting materials, organic inputs as well as technical assistance to 150 purok centers and 27 public elementary schools and high schools. Selected barangays were assisted for organic rice farming, ube production and banana production. A full-time food technologist was also hired to assist in the development and testing of new food products to add to the existing selection of local delicacies such as calamay, tableja, golden cookies, noodles, to name a few. Further, the Municipal and Barangay Nutrition Committees each maintained a communal garden that served as source of planting materials for the communities. The Bunga Mar Elementary School concretized the Food Always in the Home (FAITH), Herbal Ornamental Plant Enhancement (HOPE) and Chicken Always Raised in the Yard (CHARITY) concept and expanded to seed propagation, duck-raising and egg production and went further by using the egg production for the feeding of school children.

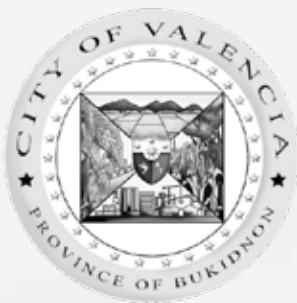


Toward the promotion of infant and young child feeding practices strategy, the municipality of Jagna put up lactation stations in the JaSMED Office near the public market and in the seaport. It also conducted Pabasa sa Nutrisyon classes in all 33 barangays. Related advocacies of the Jagna Nutrition Committee in the 33 barangays was the implementation of a Solid Waste Management project to encourage cleanliness in the entire municipality.

With these efforts of the Municipal Nutrition Committee to strengthen the nutrition program at the grassroots by complementing barangay initiatives, Jagna's nutrition situation has improved. From 2.41% in 2011, the prevalence of underweight among preschool children went further to 1.58% in 2013 and among school children from 8.15% to 6.48% in the same period proving once more that empowering the grassroots will indeed make a difference in nutrition.



**CROWN**  
1ST YEAR MAINTENANCE *Award*



## VALENCIA CITY: *Levelling Up for Improved Nutrition Program Management*

**B**lessed with lush forest and fertile agriculture lands, Valencia City is known as the City of Golden Harvest. Centrally located in the province of Bukidnon, it is also the center of trade and commerce in the province.

Guided by the vision of a healthy citizenry for Valencia City, the City Nutrition Committee now led by Mayor Azucena P. Huerves is laying the foundation for a sound nutrition program and toward a high standard of performance in nutrition. Valencia City established a Nutrition Office, with a full-time City Nutrition Action Officer, two Registered Nutritionist-Dietitians as District Nutrition Program Coordinators and three support staff and allotted Php5 million for the City Nutrition Office, in addition to the existing nutrition and related programs. Barangay Nutrition Action Officers were also designated to supervise the Barangay Nutrition Scholars.



The Valencia City Nutrition Committee sustained capacity-building efforts for 61 BNSs and 31 Barangay Nutrition Committees. In 2013, a team building activity and an orientation on enterprise development was attended by the BNSs while the 31 Barangay Nutrition Committees participated in the barangay-based planning workshop initiated by the City Nutrition Committee through the assistance of the Central Mindanao University Extension Service.

Geared towards becoming a major producer of organic rice, the city of Valencia promotes and assists farmers in shifting to and sustaining organic rice farming. Integrated rice-duck farming system was implemented in 16 barangays, in partnership with the Philippine Agrarian Reform Foundation for National Development (PARFUND). Ducks are released in the rice paddies to control pests, remove weeds, and fertilize the soil, allowing farmers to produce rice without inorganic fertilizer, pesticides and herbicides.

Ten (10) barangays also benefited from the vermiculture and composting project while all barangays were targeted for the campaign on Diversified Barangay Organic Garden (DBOG). Vegetable seeds were distributed under the OK4 (*Otonan sa Kabarangayan, Kasityuhan, Kapurokan ug Kabalayan*) benefiting 348 families with underweight preschool children, 2,104 pregnant women and lactating mothers and 56 public elementary schools. Native chicken were also distributed to 41 families with underweight preschool children while tilapia fingerlings were distributed to 58 farmers with fishpond.

And to promote better understanding of the role of nutrition in overall health and well-being, the city conducts *Pabasa sa Nutrisyon* to increase the knowledge and improve nutrition practices of poor families and those with underweight children. A copy of the Nutri-Guide is given to successful graduates

as incentive. In 2013, 384 parents of underweight preschool children, 1,953 pregnant and lactating mothers attended the *Pabasa sa Nutrisyon* training. Tarpaulin posters on the Nutritional Guidelines for Filipinos were distributed to all 56 schools and 31 barangays. The local radio station, DXVM Radio Ukay was also commissioned by the city to air nutrition trivia and spots for nutrition plugs.



Recognizing the need for programs promoting healthy lifestyle to reduce risk factors for non-communicable diseases, the Valencia City Nutrition Committee took measures to educate its constituents through conduct of seminars and symposia on weight management, diabetes and obesity. Diabetic and Hypertensive Clubs were formed to serve as support groups and facilitate conduct of counseling sessions with volunteers from medical societies. The Healthiest Loser Competition, Hataw sessions and Nutri-Family Run were also sustained by the city.

The city sustained its supplementary feeding and livelihood projects. In 2013, the 1-Meal Plus program of the city providing one additional meal to undernourished children for 120 days benefited 359 preschool children and 45 school children. The city sustained its muscovy duck dispersal project benefiting 102 families with underweight preschool children.

With these interventions well in place, anchored on a strengthened nutrition structure and human resource, the city achieved a reduction in the prevalence of underweight preschool children from 1.96% in 2011 to 1.51% in 2013 and in the prevalence of undernourished school children from 6.24% in 2011 to 3.68% in 2013. Mabuhay Valencia City!



# CROWN

1ST YEAR MAINTENANCE

# Award



## QUIRINO PROVINCE:

### *Nutrition-sensitive development programs*

### *The life of Quirino's improved nutrition situation*

**F**orty-one years since its founding in 1972, the province of Quirino has made great strides in governance, economic development and delivery of basic services to its constituents. Honorable Junie E. Cua, Governor and Chairperson of the Provincial Nutrition Committee (PNC) is the prime mover behind Quirino's new era of progress and development, and the pursuit of a well-nourished Quirino.



With the banner program "I♥QUIRINO", the Provincial Nutrition Committee of Quirino delivers a package of direct nutrition services combined with nutrition-sensitive multi-sectoral development projects for and by the families with underweight children and pregnant women in the province. Introduced in 2007, the I♥QUIRINO serves as the framework for addressing the economic, environmental, social, health and nutritional needs of Quirinians.



The CARAVAN (Comprehensive Approach in the implementation of Relevant and Accessible projects, activities and services Vital for community's Advancement and progress through Networking) component of I♥QUIRINO brings medical and dental services and social services to the people in far-flung and disadvantaged areas of the province. The CARAVANs also served as venue to promote good nutrition. Nutrition assessment of young children was followed by counselling of their mothers. A total of 4,151 preschool children were weighed and 919 pregnant women were given breastfeeding leaflets in the most recent round of CARAVAN. In addition, 29,680 families

received rice packs and 123 women received pregnancy nutrition package. Outside the CARAVANs, *Pabasa sa Nutrisyon* classes composed of 10 modules covering basic nutrition and food preparation were held, and information materials on the Nutritional Guidelines for Filipinos were distributed by the local media group *Balay ni Agkuan*.

Another component, the Quirino Livelihood For Everyone (Q-LIFE), is intended to provide families with better nutrition through income generating projects. Through mutually sustaining livelihood projects, an economic value chain was established. The provincial government buys the corn produced by Q-LIFE farmers and process them into animal feeds. The feeds in turn are provided as inputs for the Q-LIFE beneficiaries of the livestock dispersal program. Fresh milk and meat from the animal dispersal are sold to Q-LIFE beneficiaries who in turn are engaged in Q-LIFE's meat processing project. In addition, as the small animals produce offsprings, at least 1 head small animal is reverted to the project as loan payment for redispersal to beneficiaries. To date, Q-LIFE has helped a total of 2,931 households from 2009 to 2013, with 486 of them served in 2013. Additional earnings ranged from Php 1,200 to Php 2,000 per month.



Other complementary nutrition-related programs of I ♥ QUIRINO, include the provision and maintenance of potable water supply in 170 schools and 132 barangays, and deployment of medicine-vending machines for low-cost drugs at P5 per pack. Students in 170 schools were given free haircut and delousing services through *Eskwela Gwapa* and *Bantay Kalusugan sa Paaralan*. Hand washing facilities are likewise maintained and hot meals given to 4,614 day care pupils and 1,276 thin school children through partnership with the Philippine Red Cross Quirino Chapter and a beverage company.

To encourage pregnant women to initiate and continue exclusive breastfeeding, an annual Buntis Party and deployment of breastfeeding support groups are held in the province. Breastfeeding breaks are observed by lactating mothers in government and non-government offices. In addition, breastfeeding corners are established in rural health units and barangay health stations and market place, which together with other promote breastfeeding activities increased prevalence of exclusive breastfeeding to 83%.

The province also takes pride in the Quirino Experiment Station (Demo Garden), established in 1978 in partnership with the regional office of the Department of Agriculture. Trainings are conducted on vegetable and ornamental landscaping, and preparation of vegetable seeds and seedlings. The Station provided almost 1,600 families with free seeds/seedlings for backyard and communal gardens. Vermiculture and organic fertilizer production as well as raising of fish, poultry, organic rabbits, goat and swine are also showcased in the station.

All these initiatives toward delivery of nutrition and nutrition-oriented development programs have reduced the underweight preschool children from 2.45% in 2011 to 1.82% in 2013. Prevalence of thin school children has also gone down from 5.93% to 4.99% in the same period. This merits the province of Quirino the 2nd year CROWN Maintenance Award. Mabuhay Quirinians!



**CROWN**  
2ND YEAR MAINTENANCE

*Award*



## **POLANCO, ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE:** *Toward a Poverty and Malnutrition-Free Polanco*

**P**olanco, a third class municipality in the province of Zamboanga del Norte is considered to be one of the country's fastest developing and rising municipality. Located in the northeastern part of Zamboanga del Norte, Polanco is known for producing high-value crops and vegetables. And to move toward its vision of "A Poverty- and Malnutrition-Free Municipality by 2030", local government officials, civil society and residents are working together to build on gains along improved access to quality health and nutrition care and economic development.



The Polanco Municipal Nutrition Committee led by Mayor Roberto I. Uy, Jr. with strong collaboration with the office of the Municipal Agriculturist, farmers cooperative and the Polanco Employees Cooperative (POEMCO) helped in ensuring food security and livelihood for its residents. Through these partnerships, various livelihood activities related to production and processing of cassava and cacao and vegetables benefited all of its 30 barangays.



The regional office of the Department of Agriculture provided a cassava grater to POEMCO to help mechanize and increase production of cassava flour, an ingredient for breads and cakes. Aside from cassava flour, production of planting materials and growing of cacao and coffee are being encouraged. With its latest economic venture, "Cacao Bugtong Paagi", cacao production is further stepped up among farmers' cooperatives to meet the quota of a Davao-based multinational company.

Vegetables produced in Polanco are also much in demand and reach markets in Dipolog City and adjacent towns. About 2.8 hectares of land is allotted just for production of kangkong. Through training on the use of planting calendars and technical assistance from the agriculture office and the DA-Agriculture Training Institute, the supply as well as price of vegetables and agricultural products are stabilized. A demonstration farm in Barangay Sianib serves as training ground for 4H Club members and as source of income for the workers who maintain the demo farm. The local agriculture office also funded the dispersal of carabao and swine. Furthermore, since 2009, three (3) Barangay Food Terminals operate in Polanco supplying its communities with fresh and affordable fruits and vegetables and other agro-based products.

Along health and nutrition service delivery, Polanco was declared champion for Garantisadong Pambata (GP) and Orally-Fit municipality by the DOH in 2013. And for 10 years now, Polanco boasts of zero maternal mortality rate. Thanks to the all-out campaign of the municipality on maternal and child health and nutrition. There are four birthing facilities constructed to ensure access to quality health care by pregnant women. A money-saving Buntis Bank for pregnant women was created at the main Rural Health Unit and in every barangay health station to help mothers in their birth delivery and newborn screening expenses. Pabasa sa Nutrisyon sessions are done by trained peer counselors while Infant and Young Child Feeding counselling sessions are conducted by the BNS every quarter in their respective barangays.



Another initiative of the MNC was the Buntis Congress conducted in 2013 which reached 265 pregnant and lactating mothers with nutrition education on basic nutrition, care for the mother and child and correct feeding techniques including demonstration on correct breastfeeding positioning and latching.



To support supplementary feeding, a series of resource generation activities was held including the “Tabang Para sa Batang Kulang sa Timbang which in 2013, generated almost P40,000. The Itulak Mo Ric which stands for itlog, tulakhang or dilis, mongo and rice provided supplementary food to 201 underweight children. This was further supplemented by the social welfare and development office with the budget of P1.69 million for hot meals for children in the day care center. Other resource generation activities of the municipality include solicitation from POEMCO and the Polanco Poultry Farmers Association that donated rice and egg, respectively. Relatedly, the Tindahan Natin sells fortified foods bearing the Sangkap Pinoy Seal and the Botika ng Barangay affordable primary health care medicines.

Capacity development activities were conducted for BNSs such as cooking lessons of nutritious recipes like Pansit with malunggay and butche with malunggay which were attended by all BNSs. Other health workers particularly the breastfeeding community support groups underwent reorganization through a refresher course participated in by parent leaders, mother volunteers and peer counselors. This was supported by a resolution issued in 2013 supporting the activation and reorganization of IYCF and Breastfeeding Support Groups in every barangay.

Not surprisingly, the Polanco Municipal Nutrition Committee was able to reduce significantly the prevalence of underweight preschool children from 4.57% in 2011 to 3.30% in 2013 and among school children from 7.4% to 5.5% for the same period. With truly committed people and sustained efforts to provide their constituents with quality health, nutrition and livelihood support services, the municipality of Polanco is certainly on its way to becoming a poverty and malnutrition-free municipality!



# CROWN

2ND YEAR MAINTENANCE

# Award



## IFUGAO PROVINCE: *IPUGO – elements of a Nutrition Champion!*

The *Ipugo* or “people from the hill” referring to the sturdy people who carved the majestic rice terraces has again carved anew a masterpiece, this time on the quality of life of their fellow *Ipugo* and in the nutrition landscape. And just as the *Ipugos* were able to preserve their culture, they were able to sustain their nutrition program meriting them the highest award, the Nutrition Honor Award!

Once asked on the irony of being the least malnourished province in the country but having the most number of poor, Governor Denis B. Habawel, the chair of the Ifugao Provincial Nutrition Committee (PNC) stressed that malnutrition is not only about the inability to buy food but the lack of knowledge on the right food to eat.

The elements of the success of the Ifugao Provincial Nutrition Committee in sustaining their nutrition program can be summarized in **IPUGO**, the original name of the Ifugao:



- Involvement of the community such as the *Nutri-Challan* (nutri-walk) promotion of healthy lifestyle to prevent the emerging lifestyle-related diseases; deployment of additional of volunteer workers (in addition to health and nutrition workers) to monitor the nutritional status of children; the regular segments of the Municipal Nutrition Committees and the Barangay Nutrition Scholar (BNS) hour in the *Nutriskwela* community radio station *Radyo Kiphodan*; and Incentive systems to ensure that nutrition activities are sustained such as the Search for the Most Healthy School among public elementary schools and the Search for Most Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Committee and the zero-malnutrition reward system.
- Partnership and networking with a state university, business corporations, private foundations and even migrants and overseas Filipino workers to sustain the implementation of nutrition projects such as *Tudok Ahin* and Operation “pichit” (pinch of salt) in the 11 elementary schools, and school supplementary feeding.
- Uniquely Ifugao – some innovative strategies that were implemented in the province and municipalities include:
  - a. establishment of OTOP (one town, one product) to promote unique Ifugao products as well as provide livelihood;
  - b. bottle-bricking, a method of recycling PET bottles by filling them with shredded foil packages and made into bricks;
  - c. management by embarrassment for community members who refuse to participate or cooperate with local activities, e.g. garbage disposal, installation of toilets;
  - d. HEMPFAHLAE program or Household Empowerment through Moral development, Parenting, Family Advancement, Healthy Lifestyle, and Awareness of the Environment, a convergence program conceptualized and implemented by different municipal departments to empower couples to produce quality families; and



- e. inter-barangay visits for Barangay Nutrition Scholars and Barangay Health Workers to allow exchange of good practice between barangays;
- **Good governance** – all activities particularly those that involve collection of money were reported by documenting collections and recognition ceremonies to acknowledge contributors, e.g. Barya Para Sa Malnutrisyon.
- **Organized resource generation** – a number of income generating activities were implemented to generate support for the nutrition program: AdaM's (Adopt a Malnourished) Child and Barya Para Sa Malnutrisyon (for malnourished children); "Piso Mo, Piso Ko, Salun-at Tayo" (Your Peso, My Peso for our Health), LGU-household counterparting arrangement for Philhealth coverage (with conditionalities); Comprehensive Livelihood, Enterprise and Marketing Development Program (CLEMDP), provision of zero interest financial assistance to families that incorporates values orientation with financial management; Nutri Challan and Serenade for a Cause (fundraising activity for the malnourished children); and the BNS Mortuary Aid, assistance given to families of deceased BNS.

All these activities were implemented by the members of the local nutrition committees, 195 barangay nutrition scholars, 800 barangay health workers and 185 Ayod-Oban Community Health Teams. And the result is the continuous improvement in the nutrition situation of preschool children from 3.63% in 2011 to 2.91% in 2013 and schoolchildren from 2.69% in 2011 to 1.9% in 2013.

For a province that is geographically and financially challenged, the sturdy Ipugos have proven that challenges can be overcome and can even be literally rewarding!



# NUTRITION HONOR

## *Award*



## LAL-LO, CAGAYAN:

***Nutrisyon sa Lal-lo, LAL-LOng progresibo, LAL-LOng panalo!  
(Nutrition in Lal-lo, more progressive, more outstanding!)***

**F**ormerly known as Nueva Segovia, the municipality of Lal-lo was the seat of the Diocese and the capital of the province of Cagayan until the 18th century. At present, having received various awards and recognition in governance, trade, environmental sanitation, service delivery and the highest award for nutrition program management, Lal-Lo, Cagayan can now be considered as the seat of nutrition excellence.



The journey of Lal-lo, Cagayan for the Nutrition Honor Award started in 2006 when former Mayor and now Board Member Maria Olivia Pascual committed to reverse the nutrition situation of Lal-lo, which then occupied the second highest prevalence in underweight children in the entire Cagayan Province. Six years hence, with the tandem of Lal-lo Mayor and chair of the Municipal Nutrition Committee (MNC) Florante C. Pascual and Board Member Olivia Pascual at the helm, the journey ends but begins anew with sustaining the highest nutrition recognition, the Nutrition Honor Award!

The Lal-Lo Municipal Nutrition Committee takes on a progressive approach in addressing malnutrition. Nutrition is linked with environment conservation and livelihood. The implementation and management of their nutrition program is improved further through a strong monitoring and evaluation system dubbed as *Nutribantay sa BNS/BHW ng Barangay*. The system empowers communities, including barangay officials and volunteers, to solve identified issues and problems. A reward system for outstanding performers is used to generate and motivate participation.



The participation of civil society organizations, women's associations, senior citizens, Rural Improvement Clubs, Women's Club, and Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) support groups in community development and nutrition component projects is a valuable resource for the municipality. Retired school teachers and officials manage a communal garden showing the same discipline as one would see in a classroom – every fruit, vegetable, seed catalogued and seed distribution properly documented. The Spouses Unite for Nutrition - Families Caring Partners (SUN-FCP) Club is another valuable resource

for the Lal-lo Municipal Nutrition Committee. The spouses of elected officials organized themselves to raise funds for the nutrition program in addition to having their own projects. Networking and partnership with the Cagayan State University (Lal-lo campus) produced researches to improve home food production, product development and nutrition advocacy.

The mechanism of the Lal-lo Municipal Nutrition Committee for nutrition advocacy takes on many forms. Being a predominantly agricultural town, the radio is still the most effective medium to disseminate correct information on nutrition and other concerns. The community radio advocacy on nutrition continues to air *Tarabay ti Salunat to Health*, *Magtanong kay Doc* and *Erling in the Morning* over DWRL FM. The *Batang*

*Radyo sa Nutrisyon*, an initiative of the regional office of the National Nutrition Council that started airing in 2012 is hosted by trained elementary students from different schools in Lal-lo targeting the younger set of audience. The Nutritional Guidelines for Filipinos, in Ilocano and Ibanag versions, is painted on nutri-walls or posted in strategic locations in town. Nutrition messages can be read in mud guards of *nutri-cycle* and *nutri-liglig* and heard from Info on Wheels.



The school is another strategic venue because of its captive audience, not only for nutrition messages but also on the importance of hygiene and sanitation. The messages are supported by the distribution of essential health packages with liquid tooth paste, toothbrush and soap under the *Kalusugan Pahalagahan, Ugaliing Maghugas ng Kamay at mga Ngipi'y Sipilyuhan* project.

Recognizing the health threats of modern lifestyle, the Lal-lo Municipal Nutrition Committee spearheaded programs that promote healthy lifestyle such as *Hataw/Zumba* and Walk for a Cause for LGU officials and employees, students and teachers and the *Heart Mo, Labs Mo* to raise awareness on heart disease. Those with elevated blood pressure are issued badge of *Heart Mo, Labs Mo* and are advised to have regular check-ups at the health center.

The LAWIN (Lal-lo **A**gainst **W**aste **I**n any form **N**ow) Project, Balik-bayong Project and strict implementation of the “No Segregation, No Collection” Policy, are the banner municipal initiatives to ensure proper solid waste management. The Eco-savers project which was started when the province of Cagayan itself was a contender for the Nutrition Honor Award in 2008 continues to be implemented.

The team leadership of Mayor Pascual and BM Pascual and the support from the members of the municipal and barangay nutrition committees further reduced the prevalence of underweight preschoolers from 0.73% in 2011 to zero in 2013 and thin schoolchildren from 3.25% in 2011 to 0.92% in 2013. There were no reported new cases of overweight preschoolers since 2011 while overweight school children decreased from 0.05% in 2011 to 0.02% in 2013.

No words can describe the feat the Lal-lo Municipal Nutrition Committee has accomplished and it is only right to say: *Nutrisyon sa Lal-lo, progresibo, panalo!*



# NUTRITION HONOR *Award*



## MAASIN CITY: *Aksyon, Solusyon, Inisyatibo para sa Nutrisyon!*

In 2008, Maasin City was unsuccessful in maintaining its CROWN award for the 2nd year. This did not dampen the spirit of the Maasin City Nutrition Committee (CNC). Between 2008 and 2011, when the Maasin CNC won another CROWN award, the members of the committee pursued anew with determination and passion their journey to reach the height of excellence in nutrition – the Nutrition Honor Award – and their actions certainly paid off.



The Maasin City Nutrition Committee is ably led by its dynamic and self-motivated chief executive, Mayor Maloney L. Samaco. He is the orchestra conductor and his 13-point agenda provides clear direction for the implementation of a comprehensive program that encompasses market and business improvement, agriculture production, livelihood assistance, orderliness and peace, nutrition and health service, education for the masses, youth empowerment, sport excellence, anti-illegal drugs campaign,

mangrove and forest protection, advocacy for tourism, concreting and maintenance of roads and over-all barangay development or simply MALONEY.

Every member of the city nutrition committee know their roles in the nutrition program by heart, and they all took action, provided solutions and initiated change for nutrition improvement, unveiling the city's inherent strengths:

1. Appreciation and understanding by the mayor and the members of the nutrition committee on the role of nutrition in development; and that nutrition improvement cannot be sustained without understanding and addressing its causality. For instance, Mayor Samaco's determination to turn the city into the "No Smoking Capital of the Philippines" is not only brought about by the intensive and extensive campaign and success of the anti-smoking drive of the city but the knowledge that healthy lungs can only be achieved if we have a clean environment.
2. Increasing investments in nutrition evident in the budget approved for the nutrition program from Php18 million in 2011 to Php24 million in 2013. This excludes contributions from non-government organizations and individual donations amounting to Php 365,000.00
3. Adherence to good governance principles as manifested by the conferment to the city of the Seal of Good Housekeeping in 2012 by the Department of the Interior and Local Government for sound fiscal management.
4. Sustained partnerships and networking with the:
  - a. Academe for modeling new agricultural technology such as the use of coco peat as flooring for the pig housing resulting to a clean and odorless environment where small livestock can thrive and for researches such as determinants of malnutrition in various settings; and for accepting deserving but poor children of Barangay Nutrition Scholars and Barangay Health Workers under the full scholarship program of the city government.

- b. Nongovernment organizations for direct interventions for malnourished children such as the Adopt a Malnourished Child where the number of children to be “adopted” until full rehabilitation depends on the department or office where the benefactor is from. The mayor “adopted” 3 children while every member of the city council adopted one child. Each child has an allocation of P30/day for 150 days amounting to P427,500.00 for 95 identified recipients.
  - c. National agencies and development partners such as NAMRIA and GTZ for the modeling of the Reduce Emission of Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) Project where Maasin City is one of the modeling sites in the country. The project aims to improve forest policy for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.
5. Harmonious relations between the District Representative, the City Mayor and the barangay captains ensured among others, continued implementation of the Management Inputs for Agricultural Networking (MIAN) Project, since 2005. Project MIAN provides agricultural inputs, technical assistance on post-harvest and marketing to farmers. The Moving Ahead for Sustainable Agriculture in Maasin City (MASAM) project, on the other hand was also sustained over the years and continues to provide agricultural assistance for livelihood to farmers.



The gains of more than 6 years of consistent and sustained hard work could not be discounted. This is evident in the continued reduction in the prevalence of undernutrition to 4.14% in 2013. While the prevalence of malnourished schoolchildren continues to challenge the Maasin City Nutrition Committee, it has likewise gone down and now averages to 7.06% in 2013.

Maasin City has come a long way. The Maasin City Nutrition Committee was challenged when it failed the first time. But it has bounced back and the Nutrition Honor Award is its just reward. But Maasin City Nutrition Committee will not rest on its laurels. Instead, Aksyon, Solusyon, Initiatibo para Nutrisyon will remain its rallying cry!



# NUTRITION HONOR *Award*



## **MS. EFIGENIA G. JAVIER:** **Barangay Maharlika East, Tagaytay City**

### ***Passion and compassion - drivers of excellent public service***

Efigenia “Feny” Javier is a 52-year old mother of four and a wife to a public school principal. BNS Feny is not new to public service, much less, interacting with children and their parents. She worked as a day care worker for 12 years before she was recruited into the world of volunteer work in 2008 as a Barangay Nutrition Scholar in Barangay Maharlika East by its Punong Barangay, Joel B. Tibayan.

BNS Feny has a quiet demeanor that belies a passion for public service that matches evenly with her compassion to help the vulnerable in her barangay, the children in particular. Banking on this passion, she methodically implements the Barangay Maharlika East nutrition action plan along with the members of the barangay nutrition committee led by an equally passionate public servant Punong Barangay Tibayan.



Using barangay funds augmented by various income generating activities such as ukay-ukay (selling of used clothes collected from the community), Buntis Alkansya and selling of recyclable materials (joy in a bottle), BNS Feny was able to successfully implement a number of activities targeting pregnant women and lactating mothers as well as generate funds on reserve for the Home of Nutrition project.

Aptly called Ugat ng Kalusugan ni Baby (root of baby’s health), the ukay-ukay was able to raise an additional amount of P3,000.00 to buy commodities for the Alay kay Nanay activity. Alay kay Nanay activity provides

hygiene kits to 78 pregnant women and lactating mothers and a starter supply of diapers as incentive for mothers who completed the required number of pre-natal visits. The activity also includes home visits and one-on-one nutrition counselling to reinforce the importance of proper nutrition during the First 1,000 days of a child’s life, a child that would eventually fall under the care of BNS Feny. She also gives iodized salt to pregnant women in exchange for recyclable materials.

In addition to the home visits and nutrition counselling sessions with the pregnant women and lactating mothers, BNS Feny implements the Buhay at Kalusugan ni Baby and the Tutok Bantay sa Batang Mababa angTimbang projects to ensure that the nutritional status of children under her care is regularly monitored. This was done by setting up an early childhood care and development (ECCD) monitoring board at the entrance of the barangay health center. Each child’s ECCD card are is placed in slots to be referred to



every time the child and his or her mother children visit the center, either for weighing, immunization, deworming or to avail of health and nutrition services. Children who are under the special care of the Barangay Nutrition Committee have their own Aklat ng Buhay at Kalusugan ni Baby that contains the profile of the child and the services provided them. BNS Feny also has two weighing scales, with a capacity of 25-kg and 50-kg for bigger and heavier children less than five years old. Her weighing station has adjustable screws attached to the ceiling to easily adjust the length of the handle of the weighing pants. These were provided by the Barangay Nutrition Committee to facilitate the orderly and safe measurement of the weights of children in the barangay.



BNS Feny's supplementary feeding sessions are both preventive and promotive in nature as she conducts 3G feeding (Go, Grow and Glow food groups) for 120 days for children with special medical needs, sick children, kids who are borderline underweight pregnant women. Her feeding sessions also serve as venue for the members of the Barangay Nutrition Committee and members of their families show their spirit of volunteerism as they are encouraged to supervise feeding sessions and read stories to the children.

She also has the Home of Nutrition (Teaching, Learning and Caring Center) set up in Purok 97, the farthest purok in the barangay from the poblacion. It serves as an evacuation center and venue for feeding and nutrition education activities. She also maintains a vegetable nursery that utilizes different gardening technology, such as container gardening and magic square meter garden, both as source for ingredients for feeding and as a demonstration garden.

BNS Feny's passion for public service is not limited to Barangay Maharlika East. She makes her services available too as resource person on Pabasa sa Nutrisyon in nearby barangays like Barangays Kaybagal Central, Kaybagal North and Kaybagal South.

Truly, a person's passion for public service cannot be contained – it has to be shared and it has to be nurtured, just as BNS Feny's compassion has nurtured Barangay Maharlika East. The same passion that now recognizes BNS Feny's accomplishments with the 2013 National Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar award.

**NOBNS**  
*Award*





## **MS. RONELY S. MARANIA**

### **Barangay Canan, Cabatuan, Isabela**

#### ***Education, the way to good nutrition***

**R**onely S. Marania, better known as Jing-Jing, has been a Barangay Nutrition Scholar in Barangay Canan for only two years, having been appointed as BNS only in January 2012. BNS Jing is a native of Solano, Nueva Vizcaya but poverty drove her to Cabatuan, Isabela to live with a close relative who promised to finance her studies. Romance intervened and with just a year remaining before she



graduated, BNS Jing decided to obtain a marriage degree instead. When the former BNS of Barangay Canan decided to leave the country to work abroad, BNS Jing was requested by her mother-in-law, Punong Barangay Marianita S. Marania to take the place of the former BNS, anyway, work entailed “just” weighing children. BNS Jing obliged readily to the request of her mother-in-law, not realizing that in addition to weighing, there were many other activities to undertake, reports to prepare and submitted monthly. She almost quit but she was challenged with the other aspects of BNS work, so BNS Jing stayed on.

Being an undergraduate college student of B. S. Elementary Education, BNS Jing knows the value of education and her records and files show the organization and discipline of a would-be teacher. Her academic foundation in education also made her decide to harness political support for her initiatives in nutrition from the Sangguniang Barangay committee on education.

Results of her annual weighing of children puzzled BNS Jing when she observed that aside from the underweight preschool children, the number of malnourished school-age children was twice that of the preschoolers. Further analysis by the Barangay Nutrition Committee supported by direct observation during her home visits, showed that some children did not go to school because they were hungry and had not eaten breakfast, and that some children were embarrassed to attend classes if they were not able to bring school supplies for projects required by their teachers.



Thus, as an ardent supporter and advocate for waste segregation, BNS Jing used the ecological solid waste management program to raise funds for malnourished school children. She encouraged people in the barangay to segregate their garbage and bring recyclable materials to the material recovery facility that was built with the help of the Rural Improvement Clubs of Barangay Canan. Pupils of the Canan Elementary School brought at least three plastic bottles a day and surrendered these to the material recovery facility. Through the sustained implementation of projects on “*Basura Mo, Ayusin Mo, Ilagay Mo sa Wasto*” and “*Basurang bigay mo, pagkain para sa kalusugan mo*” the material recovery facility was able to raise more than P4,000 to buy food commodities for the malnourished schoolchildren resulting to a 40% rehabilitation rate in 9 months.



Believing that education is key to addressing malnutrition and poverty in her barangay, BNS Jing implemented the “Edukasyon, Sagot sa Malnutrisyon” project which provided school supplies to 20 elementary schoolchildren who were frequently absent from school for one reason or another. She also solicited school supplies from members of the Barangay Nutrition Committee, other officials, friends and members of the community. As a result of this initiative, five of the schoolchildren have graduated from elementary while the rest of the children are still in school.

As a BNS, Jing sets herself as a model. She has set up her own family vegetable and fruit garden, and continues to campaign for the establishment of Food Always in the Home (FAITH) gardens in schools, puroks and backyard especially among families with malnourished children and children in borderline malnourished status. Under the project on “Gulay para sa Buhay”, target families with malnourished children were able to put up their vegetable gardens, malunggay trees were planted in the barangay and BNS Jing was able to distribute vegetable seeds, seedlings and other planting materials through seed retention efforts.

When BNS Jing first became a Barangay Nutrition Scholar, she embarked on a learning journey - learning to weigh children properly, compute for ages in months and nutritional status correctly, and also, how to help the people in her community. She also learned to do things she would normally rely on her husband to do, like learning to ride and operate a motorcycle. She treats challenges as learning points and approaches them with a positive attitude.



For BNS Jing, education is a valuable tool for improving one’s self. And that is why she continues to learn. According to BNS Jing, some of the painful experiences in her life are things she does not want others to experience. Thus, she has personally invested in her work as BNS, for whatever gain she gets from being a BNS will improve her craft and benefit the community she works for. As BNS Jing proudly commented, “Pagiging BNS, I Love it!” and that love has been rewarded by her inclusion in the roster of outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar for 2013.



## **MS. AURORA H. SEDORIFA:** **Barangay Lawang Bato, Valenzuela City**

### ***Selfless Service is public service***

Aurora H. Sedorifa has been a Barangay Nutrition Scholar (BNS) of Valenzuela City since 1997 but was assigned to Barangay Lawang Bato for the last 4 years only. BNS Au, as she is fondly called, holds an A.B. Economics degree and held a number of jobs before settling in as BNS. She believes that service is not only for the “higher up” but more importantly for those who are less fortunate; and that there is no good BNS without a supportive barangay nutrition committee.

With this tenet, BNS Au strives to make sure that the less fortunate in Barangay Lawang Bato has access to health and nutrition services available in the barangay. This is the reason BNS Au recommended to Punong Barangay Romeo Acuña and the barangay nutrition committee of Lawang Bato the construction of a short steel bridge to connect sitio Dulong Mulawinan in Purok Ulingan East to the main barangay. The bridge allows entry of services to Dulong Mulawinan, one of the sitios with a high number of malnourished children and indigents. The bridge was constructed from March to May 2013. Before the bridge was constructed, people going in and out of the purok had to go through another barangay before they can get to Dulong Mulawinan.



BNS Au's services extend beyond the boundaries of Barangay Lawang Bato as she participated in the conduct of the breastmilk letting conducted in November 2013 for the children survivors of Typhoon Yolanda. The breastmilk collected by the drive was transported to the Philippine Children's Medical Center in Quezon City for safekeeping and distribution.

Even though Valenzuela City is considered highly urbanized with limited space to put up a vegetable garden, BNS Au was able to encourage families with malnourished children, barangay health workers, and senior citizens to put up home gardens. Barangay Lawang Bato also established its community container garden (nutrisyon sa lata) as source of seeds and seedlings for distribution as well as ingredients for the various feeding activities of the barangay.

The barangay, which is located in the industrial area of the city, is fortunate to have the resources to conduct feeding programs in three sites: barangay-based and barangay-funded feeding program for

50 preschool children for 90 days utilizing commercially prepared food commodities; day care-based feeding for the 125 day care children with packed lunch provided by the Chikiting Food Patrol of the city government; and the home-based feeding in Purok Dumigpi for 60 preschool children of which program expenses are shared between the barangay and the city government.



Moreover, BNS Au has her own nutrition info campaign cum income generating activities as well. She sells iodized salt the proceeds of which was used to defray expenses for the Christmas party held for malnourished children. She was able to link parents of underweight preschool children to livelihood activities such as home production of dishwashing liquid and fabric conditioner.

BNS Au also conducts community lectures twice a month covering topics such as the Nutritional Guidelines for Filipinos, basic food groups, sources of nutrients, and importance of proper nutrition. She also conducts early childhood education playgroup sessions for preschool children using teaching materials provided by the Save the Children International.



In addition to nurturing the physically malnourished, BNS Au also teaches catechism to the spiritually malnourished both young children and adults.

Prior to her assignment in Barangay Lawang Bato, there were 67 underweight preschool children. At the end of 2013, 97% of the children were rehabilitated.

BNS Au is a picture of a person that derives fulfillment in service – to God, to the people, and for the people. Such unselfish service deserves a fitting reward that of being recognized as one of the best nutrition volunteers in the country for 2013.

**NOBNS**  
*Award*



**Ms. Ronely S. Marania**  
37 years old, 2 years in service  
Brgy. Canan, Cabatuan, Isabela  
Region II



**Ms. Efigenia G. Javier**  
41 years old, 5 years in service  
Brgy. Maharlika East, Tagaytay City, Cavite  
CALABARZON



**Ms. Aurora H. Sedorifa**  
50 years old, 17 years in service  
Brgy. Lawang Bato, Valenzuela City  
National Capital Region



**Ms. Lotis L. Okit**  
34 years old, 6 years in service  
Brgy. Kalasungay, Malaybalay City, Bukidnon  
Region X



**Ms. Junelia E. Domel**  
51 years old, 14 years in service  
Brgy. New Iloilo, Tantaran, South Cotabato  
Region XII

**Ms. Vilma M. Oronce**  
41 years old, 5 years in service  
Brgy. San Miguel, Calumpit, Bulacan  
Region III



**Ms. Josephine R. Balingit**  
36 years old, 6 years in service  
Brgy. Devilla, Sta. Cruz, Marinduque  
MIMAROPA



**Ms. Myrna M. Opinion**  
47 years old, 8 years in service  
Brgy. Calades, Alicia, Zamboanga Sibugay  
Region IX



**Ms. Mary Jane M. Novabos**  
46 years old, 19 years in service  
Brgy. San Miguel, Island Garden City of Samal,  
Davao del Norte  
Region XI



# NOBNS

## *Finalists*

## **V**ISION

NNC is the authority in ensuring the nutritional well-being of all Filipinos, recognized locally and globally, and led by a team of competent and committed public servants.

## **M**ISSION

To orchestrate efforts of government, private sector, international organizations and other stakeholders at all levels, in addressing hunger and malnutrition of Filipinos through:

- Policy and program formulation and coordination;
- Capacity development;
- Promotion of good nutrition;
- Nutrition surveillance;
- Resource generation and mobilization
- Advocacy; and
- Partnership and alliance building

**NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL**

*Vision, Mission Statements*

## **I** NTEGRITY

We conduct our work and relate with our various stakeholders and partners with deep sense of honesty and openness.

## **Z** EAL

We serve with enthusiasm and dedication characterized by versatility and dynamism, discipline and strict adherence to work ethics.

## **E** XCELLENCE

We provide high quality and timely service characterized by a unified, innovative and competent performance.

## **S** ENSITIVITY

We respond to the needs of our employees and various publics with love and respect and recognize the valuable contribution of each member of the organization.

## **T** RANSPARENCY

We conduct our business with openness and truthfulness with strict adherence to existing laws, rules, regulations of government and the principles of good governance.

**NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL**

*Core Values*





The NNC, as the highest policy making body on nutrition, is committed to ensure improved access to quality nutrition and related interventions through formulation and coordination of policies and programs with excellence, integrity and transparency.

We shall endeavor to continually improve the quality management system to satisfy the needs and expectations of clients with strict adherence to existing laws, rules and regulations.

# NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL

## *Quality Policy Statement*

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Secretary of Agriculture and  
Vice-Chair, NNC Governing Board

**HON. MAR A. ROXAS**  
Secretary of the Interior and Local Government and  
Vice-Chair, NNC Governing Board

**HON. CORAZON JULIANO-SOLIMAN**  
Secretary of Social Welfare and Development

**HON. BRO. ARMIN A. LUISTRO, FSC**  
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II	Ms. Charlotte M. Aggabao	Department of the Interior and Local Government
CAR	Ms. Jocelyn A. Rojo	Department of the Interior and Local Government
III	Ms. Margarita C. Santos-Natividad	Department of Health
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IX	Ms. Greta F. Martinez	Department of Social Welfare and Development
X	Ms. Marietta V. Deiparine	Couples for Christ-Handmaids of the Lord
XI	None yet	
XII	Ms. Eden C. Ridao	National Economic and Development Authority
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ARMM	None yet	

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