

Youth Summer Peace Camp 2018



Photo by: Fr. Angel C. Calvo, CMF

Around 80 young minds coming from the different partnered secondary schools of Peace Advocates Zamboanga (PAZ) underwent training on healing during the annual Youth Summer Peace Camp which runs from April 22-24 at Our Lady of the Pilar Retreat House and Lay Formation Center, at Mercedes, this city with the theme "Sustaining the Journey for Peace".

"In our society now there are historical injustices and marginalized," Fr. Angel C. Calvo, CMF, president of PAZ said to the young audience which ages rang-

ing from 15 to 20 years old. The three day peace camp was jam-packed with in-door and out-doors activities which geared to widen and to enhance their perspective on peace and peacemaking, and most especially to learn healing.

"In our community there are many ethno-linguistic groups which sometime cause's conflicts," Fr. Calvo said. "Basically that is our concerns, the social cohesions," he added. To further enhance the skills and talents of the participants, they were grouped in accordance to their interest such as the: Theater dance, music, visual arts, arts and crafts, and journalism. Each of the groups has facilitators who came from the Youth Solidarity for Peace (YSP), the youth arm group of PAZ.

Fr. Calvo emphasized to them that the solution to this communal problem is through having a respect with the others. "If we want to make a world of peace, we have to respect the different flowers, appreciate each other," he said.

After the Youth Summer Peace Camp, another batch of campers is expected to undergo the same training but this time it will be for the children on May. (Albert F. Arcilla/ZABIDA)

Manos Unidas General Programs Manager visits Zamboanga City and Basilan



Isabel Vogel, the General Programs Manager of Manos Unidas, visited a couple of ZABIDA's partner-barangays both in Zamboanga City and in Basilan. She, together with Manos Unidas Convenio-Philippines Coordinator, Miguel Carballo and Manos Unidas Country Coordinator to the Philippines, Jessica Del Olmo, visited Barangay Bunguiao, Barangay La Paz, Barangay Ayala, Barangay Upper Calarian, Simariki Island for Zamboanga City and Tairan, Lantawan for Basilan. Manos Unidas is an International Non-Government Organization and a "development NGO of the Catholic Church and volunteers" based in Spain. The organization works with around 58 countries in Africa, South America and in Southeast Asia. Currently, it is working with the Philippines through ZABIDA in the implementation of the Convenio 2 Project supported by the Spanish Cooperation for International Development Agency.

The Zamboanga-Basilan Integrated Development Alliance, Inc. (ZABIDA) is a regional NGO operating in Zamboanga City and in Basilan. For the Convenio 2 Project, it is working with 54 Barangay Local Government Units on Participatory Governance, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management, Gender and Development and Peace and Security. Now, in its 4th and last year of Project Implementation, Manos Unidas through Ms. Vogel, wanted to personally conduct an impact assessment directly from the Right-Holders and Duty-Bearers.

In her 5-day visit last March 6 to 10 of this year, she had a conversation with the Federation of Zamboanga Upland Farmers Association, Inc. in Barangay Bunguiao, Eco-Farm, and assessed the work-in-progress Organic Farming Project. She also listened to the political concerns of the Women Sector from the Bellas Mujeres de Bunguiao Association together with their Barangay Chairperson, Hon. Nestor H. Atilano. Then, she went up to Barangay La Paz, this time together with the External Evaluators, Andrea Navazo and Inigo Gutierrez to assess the thriving flower business of the La Paz Flower Growers Association. The Association is composed of Women, Farmers and Youth Sector members that are supported by the Reach-Out to Others Foundation for Participatory Governance under the Convenio Project and by the ZABIDA-Financing Services Program which was supported by Manos Unidas. Also present during the visit was Barangay Kagawad Edgar Chavez, Committee on Agriculture. They also visited Islit Bakery in Barangay Ayala, one of the thriving private businesses that was supported by the ZABIDA-Financing Services Program. Thereafter met with the Hon. El King Omega, Chairman of Barangay Calarian who presented the Logistical Support they received. An Information Technology Computer Set that is providing digital processing of Barangay Clearance to the people in the community.

(cont.) **Manos Unidas General Programs Manager visits Zamboanga City and Basilan**

In Simariki Island, Manos Unidas together with the External Evaluators, Fr. Angel Calvo, ZABIDA President, and Executive Director, Ms. Esperancita Hupida visited the Housing and Bangka project support provided to community. For Tairan in Lantawan, Basilan, Ms. Vogel, Mr. Carballo, Fr. Calvo, Ms. Hupida together with the Nagdilaab Foundation Executive Director, Ms. Miriam Suacito participated in the inaguaration of the Evacuation Center and the Ginger Tea Production Center of the Women Sector in Tairan. Before her trip ended, Zamboanga City Mayor, Hon. Isabelle “Beng” Climaco-Salazar, welcomed and thanked Manos Unidas for supporting ZABIDA and visiting Zamboanga City. She then gave them a token of appreciation to bring back to Spain.

In one of Ms. Vogel’s message, she expressed her “fully gratitude for your commitment during all these shared years and also wish us a joyful long way forward...” and that her aim for her visit is to, “know even more about ZABIDA, in order to gain a better understanding of all your present and future interventions and make Manos Unidas close to you...” She left the Philippines bringing with her the stories of hardships, success and gratitude from our beneficiaries. (Deorenzie Frances L Carreon/ZABIDA)

DOLE supports Proposal Writeshop of CSOs

The empowerment of the Civil Society members is part of ZABIDA’s Human Rights Advocacy Campaign Program. Around 10 members from the Business Sector, Indigenous Peoples, Informal Settlers Sector, Workers Informal Sector, Senior Citizen Sector and the Women Sector participated in the 2-day Proposal-Writeshop conducted last April 11 to 12 in the Conference Room, Peace and Development Resource Center of ZABIDA.



To address Poverty Reduction, the proposal is for a Livelihood Project to be led and managed by the Federation of Zamboanga City Civil Society Organization, Inc. With this the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), through, Ms. Sylvia Delos Santos, LEO III, provided Technical Mentorship in the enhancement of the proposal collectively formulated by the participants. (Leo Christopher Gaspar/ZABIDA)

Verde Zamboanga Inc./ZABIDA participates in “Explore Nature for a Cause”



Together with other youth volunteers, members of the academe, security sector and the non-government organization sector participated in the “Explore Nature for a Cause” with the Ateneo de Zamboanga University-Social Awareness and Community Service Involvement (AdZU SACSI) last April 15, 2018. More than 50 participants went inside the Barangay Salaan Cave. They also propagated Bamboo Cuttings. (Karel B. Mellanes/ZABIDA)

3-Day Community-Based DRRM Training for NGOs



The Office of Civil Defense Regional Office IX organized a training on Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (CBDRRM) especially for Non-Government Organizations that are working closely with Barangays. ZABIDA, having to implement empowerment initiatives on DRRM to its partner-barangays sent more than 5 of its project staff to participate.

Regional Director, OCD RO IX Leoncio A. Cirunay, Jr together with the Training Resources Speakers; Engr. Emmanuel Suggang, Mr. Casmar Pajiji, Mr. Jonald Fernandez, Mr. Jeston Santisteban and Mr. Sonnyboy Simon join the participating groups in a photo. (Karel B. Mellanes/ZABIDA)

Barangay Sta. Maria Multi-Sectoral Group receives Logistical Support from KKI



As part of Katilingban Sa Kalambuan, Inc.'s (KKI) program support in Participatory Governance, they turned-over six (6) Singer Sewing Machines to the Sectoral Group of Barangay Sta. Maria. Their logistical support is entitled "SWIFPLY GARMENT" (SWIFPLY stands for Senior citizen, Women, Indigenous people, Farmer, PWD, LGBTQ and Youth Garment).

The turn-over took place at the Barangay Hall of Sta. Maria last March 9. Present during the turn-over were the sectoral groups member, Sta. Maria council member headed by the punong barangay Hon. Los Eli Angeles, Ms. Mary Albee Amores of ZABIDA, KKI Staff and Ms. Jessica del Olmo of Manos Unidas. The Logisitcal Support is from the Convenio 2 Project supported by the Spanish Cooperation for International Development Agency (AECID) and Manos Unidas of Spain. (Sosimo Eyas, Jr. RSW)

Barangay Sinubong harvests from "Bahay Kubo"



Katilingban Sa Kalambuan, Inc. (KKI) provided Gardening Tools to Barangay Sinubong last January of year 2017 as its Logistical Support. One year later, KKI monitors the movement of the vegetable garden dubbed as "Bahay Kubo" of the Barangay. The garden tools, as a logistical support, helps the Farmers Sector to cultivate its planted vegetables. Last March 7, KKI conducted a monitoring and evaluation on how are the garden tools utilized which was just in time for the harvesting of the Bell Pepper. The Logistical Support is a program support under the Convenio 2 Program supported by the Spanish Cooperation for International Government Agency (AECID) and Manos Unidas through ZABIDA. (Sossimo Eyas Jr., RSW)

GAD Storytelling and Writeshop



In connection to the celebration of the International Women's Month, ZABIDA conducted a Story-Telling and Writeshop for Healing and Advocacy last March 9- 11, 2018 at the Social Action Center (Euntes). More than 15 women leaders identified from the ZABIDA – GAD Partner Barangays and Line-Agencies such as the Philippine National Police, Office of the City Social Welfare and Development and Gender and Development City Office. The main objective was to capacitate trainers in developing potential facilitators for VAWC story telling and write shop as a strategy for women healing and rights Advocacy.

The participants underwent Healing Process facilitated by Ms. Mariam Suacito, Executive Director of Nagdilaab Foundation inc. (NFI) together with Ms. Rosie France Montojo, program coordinator of Peace Advocates Zamboanga Foundation Inc. (PAZ). An introduction on the Violence Against Women and Children Realities (VAWC) was discussed by Mr. Ronald Cervas of Office of City Social Welfare and Development, Women's Right for Protection and the role of Commission on Human Rights (CHR-IX) and as Gender Ombudsman, lectured by Mr. Daniel Paculanang and Mr. Roneale Ventus.

The participants have also shared their story through Creative Writing given by Ms. Frencie Carreon as part of the healing process and strategy for Story telling approach. The activity was in coordination with Katingban sa Kalambuan Inc. (KKI), Reach out to Others Foundation (ROOF), Peace Advocates Zamboanga Inc. (PAZ) and Nagdilaab Foundation Inc. (NFI). (Leo Christopher Gaspar/Human Rights Advocacy Campaign/ZABIDA)

Youth Leaders participate in the Philippine Good Governance Summit 2018



piners were convened to learn from honorable Resource Speakers in the fields of Education, Public Service, Policy-Making, Governance, Gender and Development and Human Rights.

Their participation will help them further develop ZABIDA's Youth Development Programs for both In-School and Out-of-School Youth. ZABIDA participants were Leo Christopher Gaspar, Project Staff for Human Rights Advocacy Campaign, Albert "Bobert" Putong, Program Staff for School-Based Culture of Peace, Jobel Henesy Foliente, Program Staff for MYDev, Deorenzie Frances Carreon, ZABIDA-RPMO Communications Officer and volunteers Egidio Muriedas of Brent College and Angelika Hupida of

Six (6) of ZABIDA's Youth Leaders and Young Professionals were sent to participate in this year's Philippine Good Governance Summit organized by the students of the University of the Philippines National College of Public Administration and Governance (UP NCPAG). Around 300 active Youth Leaders from different institutions in the Philip-

Assembly of the Federation of Civil Society Organization in Zamboanga City



CSO Federation for Poverty Reduction gathered to map out its future plans last February 19, 2018 in Grand Astoria Hotel, Zamboanga City

The Federation of Zamboanga City Civil Society Organizations, Inc. (FZCCSOI) was organized and legitimized in 2017 and recognized by city government as the Working CSO group in monitoring the Implemented and unimplemented BUB Projects and Non BUB projects under the City with continuously empowering the sectors of Women, IDPs, Fisher folks, Farmers, Youth, Children, PWD, Informal Settlers, Workers and Informal sector, Senior Citizen.

The Assembly aimed to strengthen the involvement of the Civil Society Organizations in its fight towards Poverty Reduction using the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as a guide in their long term plans also basing on the Community Base Monitoring System SDG indicators in Zamboanga City.

With the current leadership of ZABIDA through its Executive Director and the utmost support of the City Government, the members of the Federation are confident to pursue their plans towards Poverty Reduction. (Leo Christopher Gaspar/ZABIDA)

Assembly of the Federation of Civil Society Organization in Zamboanga City



Barangay Assemblies are organized as an opportunity for transparency and accountability to the constituents in every Barangay. This is the time in a year that the Barangay Officials provide detailed reports on the achievements and plans of the Local Government Unit. For year 2018, Reach-Out to Others Foundation Inc.'s (ROOF) partner barangays namely, Barangay Guisao, Barangay Salaan and Barangay Lamisahan

conducted their respective 1st Semester Assembly.

Barangay Salaan conducted its assembly last April 7, this City. Hon. Regalado Faustino, the Barangay Chairperson presented his accomplishments during his state of the Barangay Address or SOBA. This included the following; the on-going Infrastructure projects such as the “farm to market road”, the “rehabilitation of the covered court at the elementary school”. He then mentioned the logistical support that ROOF-ZABIDA provided, through the Convenio Project supported by the Spanish Cooperation Agency for International Development (AECID) and the Manos Unidas. Said support is for the Sectoral & Gender and Development (GAD) and Disaster Risk Reduction Management (DRRM). Hon. Faustino also mentioned that the Barangay Measurement Tool Ratings has already been posted in the Barangay Hall and he is encouraging his constituents to evaluate and see how their Barangay Officials are working. He is also encouraging comments for improvement from them.

On the same day, Barangay Lamisahan held its assembly at the Magsaysay Elementary School Covered Court. With the theme: “Kapit kamay tungo sa Pagbabago ng Barangay! Makiisa! Makilahok! Makialam!”. Mrs. Concepcion Tigas, President of Multi-sectoral organization, presented an update on the Logistical Support received from the ROOF-ZABIDA through the support of the Convenio Project. The support was an Animal Dispersal Program under the Sectoral Poverty Alleviation and Gender and Development. Said program was managed by the LAMSECO Multi-Sectoral Association headed by Mrs. Concepcion Tigas.

On April 8, Barangay Guisao gathered more than 200 of its constituents. Hon. Miguel Arquiza, Barangay Chairman – Barangay Guisao and Hon. Teodiver Arquiza, District 2 City Councilor were both present. (Rahsa Alberto and Khamar Amsain/ROOF)

NFI Participates in World Earth Day celebration in Basilan



Last April 19 of this year, NFI joined the celebration of World Earth Day 2018 through Tree Planting activity in Barangay Taberlongan and a Mangrove Planting at Calang Kapisahan Taberlongan Maluso, Basilan. The Activity also Re-launched the Anti illegal Logging Campaign, participated by the different line agencies of Basilan Province. (Ayara Jaimin/NFI)

Catering Service supplies turn-over to Sama Bangingi Women in Simariki



Through the Financing Services Program of ZABIDA, the Sama Bangingi Community in Simariki Island, Talon-Talon received Kitchen and Catering Services Supplies last April

14 of this year. Ms. Jahura Ganih, President of the Auka Ag Usaha Kitabi Association accepted the logistical support together with its tribal leader, Naser Ismula.

The said association is composed of the members of the Women Sector in Simariki Island. They are to open a Catering Services to people who are visiting their now open Island Beach services. Nujom Hadjibata, Program Coordinator of ZABIDA-Financing Services represented ZABIDA. The supplies will support the Women Sector's livelihood project in Simariki Island. (Raquel Divino/FSP-ZABIDA)

Barangay Representatives discuss NFI DRRM Logistical Support



Spearheaded by Ms. Deddette Suacito, Nagdilaab Foundation, Inc. Executive Director initiated a formal meeting to plan on the 2nd round of DRRM Logistical Support under the Convenio Project. The meeting was participated by twelve (12) representatives from three identified partner-communities namely; Barangay Lower Bañas, Switch Yakal and Shipyard Tabuk, at NFI Conference Hall, Lazaro Drive, Sunrise Village Isabela City, Basilan. (Ayara Jaimin/ NFI)

Conversation on Local Security gather members form various sectors



The Zamboanga Peace and Security Forum (ZPSF) a group of civil society organizations working closely with the security sector for issues relating to peace and security in the city and its neighboring island provinces has become a common ground for these two groups.

During the April 19 meeting entitled "Conversation on local Security" held in a hotel in the city, ZPSF together with the security sector shared information on peace and security issues circulating around the region. The group has roughly 60 members coming from the academe, religious, women, youth, civil society organization, and indigenous peoples (IPs)... (more on zabida.org)



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ZABIDA is a Consortium of four(4) Non-Government Organizations, namely; Peace Advocates Zamboanga, Katilingban sa Kalambuan, Inc., Reach Out to Others Foundation that is implementing in Zamboanga City and Nagdilaab Foundation, Inc. that is solely implementing in the municipalities of Basilan.

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