



Rotary Club of Calbayog Celebrates Virtual Christmas with SOS Children's Village Calbayog

By Sec. Irene Pastrana Obong

Contagious laughter and smiling eyes were evident to some eighty two (82) kids of SOS Children's Village Calbayog when they received their Christmas presents from their uncles and aunties in the Rotary Club of Calbayog and from their Kuyas and Ates in the Rotaract Club of Ibatan-Calbayog last December 22, 2020.

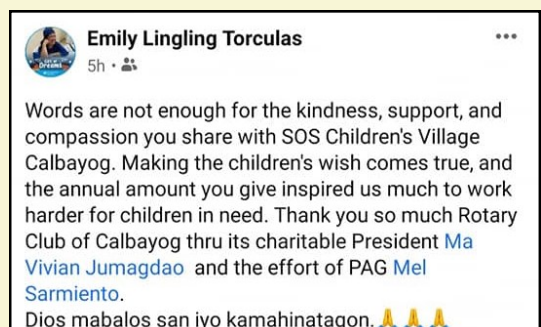
A virtual program was prepared by SOS, including a virtual house tour and virtual intermission numbers from the kids, youths, Nanays and even the staff of SOS Children's Village Calbayog. In addition, a small girl opened her present and said thank you during the virtual program. The rest of the kids who attended the virtual program also gave their thanks (as a group).

Coinciding the Annual Gift Giving was the Annual Donation of the Rotary Club of Calbayog to SOS Children's Village Calbayog. In her message, Transforming President Vivian Jumagdao reiterated the club's commitment to continue supporting SOS in all its programs and activities.

In return, Village Director Emily Torculas, happily thanked the Rotary Club of Calbayog for the support and kindness. She said that the donation will help them much more in their Community Outreach and Family Strengthening Programs.

Furthermore, PADG Mel Sarmiento who is also the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of SOS Children's Village Philippines, delivered the Closing Remarks, thanking the Rotary Club of Calbayog for sharing the same passion with SOS. He said that the continuous collaboration which has started in recent years will open to achieving a better next normal.

The Christmas treat for kids was made extra special with the spaghetti meal delivered by McDonald's Calbayog courtesy of the Rotary Club of Calbayog. Merry Christmas everyone!





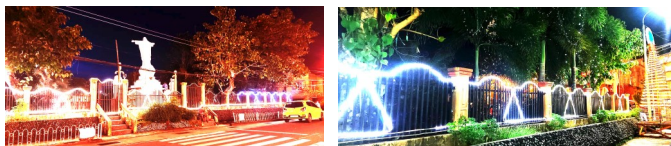
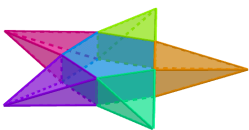
HIV/AIDS Awareness Campaign

December 5, 2020

Almost 60 participants, including SK officials, from Tarabucan, Alang-Alang, Obo-Ob, Capacuhan and Cagbayang, City of Calbayog, attended the HIV/AIDS Awareness Campaign organized by the Rotary Club of Calbayog in Tarabucan National High School, Brgy Tarabucan, last December 05, 2020. Transforming President Vivian Jumagdao gave the Rationale of the activity, while Mrs. Wilma Reyes, School Head of Tarabucan National High School, delivered the Welcome Remarks. In addition, Jomar Pillon, Brgy Tarabucan SK Chairperson, also gave a short message. After which, the participants watched a short Audio-Visual Presentation about HIV/AIDS. An Open Forum followed the presentation with Dr Richard Alovera, an active Rotarian, acting as moderator. Subsequently, Noime Clerigo, Vice-President of the Student Supreme Government of Tarabucan National High School led the Candlelight Ceremony. The main purpose of the activity is to educate the community, especially the youth, about HIV/AIDS specifically its causes, symptoms, treatment, prevention, and the like. The activity is in line with one of Rotary International's Areas of Service: Disease Prevention and Treatment.



RC Calbayog Installs Christmas Lights to Bring Joy to the People of Calbayog Amid Pandemic



Pasko sa Plaza (Christmas Village) has been part of Calbayog's Christmas tradition with the Rotary Club of Calbayog as the main initiator. But this year, with the threat of COVID-19, the Rotary Club of Calbayog decided to forego its annual Pasko sa Plaza tradition to safeguard the public from the virus; in compliance to the city's local health protocol. Nevertheless, the spirit of Christmas remains in the air. And to show solidarity with the whole community and the church in celebration of the Christmas Season (minus the big crowd and mass gathering), the Rotary Club of Calbayog installed Christmas lights around the Sacred Heart Plaza. It may not be as grandeur as the previous years, but the thought of giving joy and happiness in these trying times make us hopeful and optimistic that next year will be a better year for all of us.



2nd Club Assembly



The Rotary Club of Calbayog organized its 2nd Club Assembly last December 19, 2020 at the MSSS Resource Center in Brgy Payahan, Calbayog City. The attendance was highly unexpected given the health protocols enforced in the locality. But with the careful preparation of the event, the members decided to gather face to face under strict compliance of the local AITF guidelines. The whole day activity was extra special with the participation of the Rotary Club of Catbalogan led by President-Elect Bing Baranda and the Rotaract Club of Ibatan-Calbayog led by its President, Warren Yabao. Transforming President Vivian Jumagdao, in her message, thanked all members of the club for their support and commitment, giving time, resources and other means to accomplish goals. Since the start of RY 2020-2021 last July 2020, the Rotary Club of Calbayog has accomplished more than its targets, as reported by Club Secretary Irene Obong. The 2nd half of the Rotary Year will be as productive as the 1st half with more projects and activities coming. In addition, new set officers for RY 2021-2022 was elected, together with the Pres-Nominee for RY 2022-2023. More importantly, the Rotary Club of Calbayog is ever thankful for its service partners for financially helping the club reach its goals. Correspondingly, the Rotary of Calbayog is grateful for all partner agencies and organizations for the successful partnerships in organizing and implementing various high impact activities that benefit communities in and out of Calbayog. Amidst the presence of the COVID-19 virus, and albeit the challenges in connectivity, mobility and limited resources, the Rotary Club of Calbayog commits to continue serving communities, in line with Rotary International's Areas of Focus.

RC Calbayog Turns Over Handwashing Station to Tarabucan National High School




A letter from teachers of Tarabucan National High School was received by the Rotary Club of Calbayog requesting assistance for the repair of the school's handwashing station. Then, a team of Rotarians personally went to Brgy Tarabucan to check for themselves the current status of the handwashing station. Upon the team's recommendation and the BOD's approval of the project, the Rotary Club of Calbayog decided to construct a new handwashing area with twelve (12) faucets so more school children can utilize the station at the same time. On December 05,2020, the Rotary Club of Calbayog led by Transforming President Vivian Jumagdao and Project Chair Rtn Nestor dela Pena, officially turned over the handwashing station to Tarabucan National High School. Transforming President Vivian Jumagdao delivered her message, thanking the school for the opportunity given to the club. She made an emphasis that helping school children not only in Basic Education and Literacy Programs, but also in educating them on the importance of clean water, oral care and proper hygiene through frequent handwashing to avoid diseases and sickness, is extremely important to the Rotary Club of Calbayog. In return, School Head Wilma Reyes thanked the Rotary Club of Calbayog for the assistance and help extended to the school. She reiterated the importance of available handwashing stations in schools. The school also made a commitment for the sustainability of the project with the help of the community






DECEMBER IS DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT MONTH

Disease prevention and treatment takes on many forms, supporting studies to helping immunize people to improving drinking water and the sanitation infrastructure.

Rotary  TAKE ACTION: Join a Project

CORONAVIRUS SAFETY 








Follow these easy steps to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

-  Disinfect surfaces around your home and work.
-  Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds.
-  Sneeze or cough? Cover your mouth.

COVID-19 Prevention Tips

- WASH** Wash your hands frequently - for at least 20 seconds.
- COVER** Use tissues when you cough or sneeze and dispose of them immediately, use your elbow if a tissue not available.
- AVOID** Do not touch surfaces and then your mouth, eyes or nose.
- DISTANCE** Practice social distancing by not shaking hands, hugging, etc.
- ISOLATE** Stay home if you become ill and prevent the spread of the illness.

ROTARY 7 AREAS OF FOCUS

-  WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE
-  PEACEBUILDING AND CONFLICT PREVENTION
-  BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY
-  MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH
-  COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
-  DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT
-  ENVIRONMENT

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Rotary Club of Calbayog Leads Virtual Curriculum Development Meeting with the Department of Education Division of Calbayog and PCCI- Greater Calbayog Chamber of Commerce and Industry

A first time for the Rotary Club of Calbayog, but will definitely not be the last, as the club initiated its first ever Curriculum Consultative Meeting with the Department of Education Division of Calbayog and the PCCI-Greater Calbayog Chamber of Commerce and Industry on December 03,2020 via Zoom. The Department of Education was represented by no less than the Schools Division Superintendent, Dr Thelma Cabadsan - Quitlig, together with Dr Renato Cagomoc (Chief of Curriculum Implementation Division) and Mr. Oscar Billate (DepEd Calbayog Monitoring and Evaluation). Mr Dave Murjani (President) and Mr Basilio Togonon, Jr (Past President), represented the PCCI-Greater Calbayog Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Both are active members of the Rotary Club of Calbayog. PADG Mel Sarmiento led the team of the Rotary Club of Calbayog, together with PAG Isagani Togonon, Pres Vivian Jumagdao, IPP Margarita Sajul and Club Sec Irene Obong. The main purpose of the meeting was to discuss the status of the K to 12 Program in the City of Calbayog; and how to address job mismatch, underemployment and even unemployment in Calbayog City. More importantly, the meeting was an eye opener for all participants that it is still a long way to go to accomplish the program's goals. Some concerns raised were the lack of textbooks, connectivity, accessibility, transportation to distribute school materials, among others. Despite the limitations, DepEd has been flexible, innovative and resourceful. In the same manner, the Rotary Club of Calbayog has been active and committed on its Basic Education and Literacy Program, even extending support to ALS and TESDA related programs. The meeting also focused on how the Rotary Club of Calbayog and the PCCI- Greater Calbayog Chamber of Commerce and Industry can help DepEd on its K to 12 programs and activities especially in improving the OJT System, on being more responsive in helping Grades 7 and 8 students, and on assisting in the review and evaluation of skills needed in the local business industry. Other suggestions and recommendations mentioned were interconnectivity in schools, accessibility in barangays (on-going project to connect all barangays in Calbayog), hiring of Grades 11 and 12 students in local business and industry to help address unemployment and giving them incentives, and to recommend youth entrepreneurship. According to Sec 6 of RA 10533 or the Enhanced Basic Education Act, a Curriculum Consultative Committee shall be created and chaired by DepEd with members composed but not limited to representatives from the business chamber, CHED, other agencies, which shall oversee the review and evaluation on the implementation of Basic Education Curriculum and may recommend to DepEd the formulation of necessary refinement in the curriculum. Hence the active participation and involvement of the Rotary Club of Calbayog in DepEd's Enhanced Basic Education Program.

