



Kabataan Kontra Kahirapan!

In a display of their steadfast commitment to youth empowerment and community engagement, the Rotary Club of Central Surigao and its affiliate, the Rotaract Club of Central Surigao, joined forces to send Mr. John Joseph Soques, the capable Associate Secretary of the Rotaract Club of Central Surigao, at the esteemed Regional Sectoral Assembly of the National Anti-Poverty Commission - Youth Sector. This significant event took place in the Durian Capital of the Philippines - Davao from September 19 to 22, 2023. This collaborative endeavor epitomized a shared vision aimed at promoting active involvement and meaningful participation of young leaders like Mr. John Joseph Soques in critical dialogues concerning poverty alleviation and socio-economic development.

Mr. John Joseph Soques, with his unwavering dedication to community service and an ardent passion for creating positive societal change, was selected as the representative for this pivotal assembly. His selection was based on a combination of his demonstrated leadership skills, a profound understanding of pressing socio-economic issues, and a track record of actively engaging with the local community in Central Surigao. Mr. Soques had consistently exhibited his commitment to the core values and mission of both the Rotaract Club and the larger Rotary Club. This made him an ideal candidate to represent the youth and bring their perspectives to the forefront in discussions on poverty eradication.

The Regional Sectoral Assembly of the National Anti-Poverty Commission - Youth Sector served as an exceptional platform for bringing together like-minded individuals, organizations, and stakeholders dedicated to combatting poverty and uplifting the marginalized sectors

of society. This event was designed to foster dialogue, collaboration, and the sharing of innovative ideas to address the multifaceted challenges associated with poverty. Attendees included youth leaders, policymakers, government representatives, non-governmental organizations, and civil society groups, collectively striving to make a tangible difference in the lives of the underserved.

The decision to send Mr. Soques to represent Central Surigao at this gathering was emblematic of the Rotary Club of Central Surigao's and the Rotaract Club's proactive approach to nurturing young leaders and providing them with opportunities to engage at regional and national levels. This strategic move highlighted their belief in the potential of youth to be agents of change and their determination to support and develop these youth leaders. Through the financial and logistical support extended by both clubs, Soques was not only able to attend the assembly but also actively contribute to discussions, share insights, and network.

With influential figures in the field of poverty alleviation. This exposure was invaluable, providing him with a broader perspective on the challenges and opportunities present at the national level concerning poverty eradication. The assembly itself was structured to address a wide array of topics, ranging from education and employment to health, environmental sustainability, and social inclusion. Mr. Soques was an active participant in these discussions, presenting the unique socio-economic landscape of Central Surigao, sharing success stories from local initiatives.

The decision of the Rotary Club of Central Surigao and the Rotaract Club of Central to send Mr. Soques to the Regional Sectoral Assembly of the National Anti-Poverty Commission - Youth Sector was a strategic and visionary move. It showcased their dedication to empowering youth, providing them with platforms for growth and advocacy, and promoting community engagement. a testament against the fight to eradicate poverty.



Para sa Kabataan, mula sa Kabataan: a transformative journey amidst the Queen City of the South

A CONVERSATION

“Buckle up, I've got a story for you—a journey that unfolded like pages turning in an adventure novel. It all began in Surigao City, where I, represented the Rotaract Club of Central Surigao, geared up for a ride through Mindanao's diverse landscapes. Picture this: I boarded the bus, excitement brewing in the air like the first chapter of an epic tale. The wheels rolled, bidding adieu to Surigao's coastal charm, and suddenly, we were on a path winding through Mindanao's heart. The landscapes shifted like scenes in a movie—the flat plains giving way to rolling hills carpeted in shades of green. Valleys unfolded before our eyes, serene streams painting picturesque landscapes. It was like flipping through pages of a storybook illustrated by nature itself.

And oh, the transitions! Mindanao sure knows how to play with its landscapes. The terrain changed once more, showcasing its rugged side—rocky formations hinting at tales of resilience etched in every crevice. We made a pit stop in Butuan City, of course, I slept there—a bustling junction where cultures intermingled, each street corner juttied histories and traditions. It was a pause to absorb the essence of Mindanao's diversity before gearing up for the next leg of our adventure.

You see, each moment of that journey wasn't just about moving from point A to B, it was about experiencing Mindanao. The landscapes weren't merely scenery, they were chapters in an unfolding story—a story that would set the stage for the incredible experiences waiting for us at the summit

Arriving at Cebu City was like stepping into a buzzing hive of energy and aspirations. The summit venue pulsed with the enthusiasm of a thousand youthful minds, all eager to learn, collaborate, and craft a vision for the Philippines' future.

Day one unfolded as a kaleidoscope of workshops and discussions. The conversations around peace and security, with a specific focus on Mindanao, were profound. It was enlightening to witness diverse viewpoints converging, peeling away misconceptions, and illuminating paths toward reconciliation. Hearing personal narratives and experiences brought depth to the complexities of fostering peace in our region. Civic participation took center stage, igniting fervent discussions and idea exchanges. The atmosphere crackled with shared dreams of fostering community stewardship and shared responsibilities. It

wasn't just about dialogue; it was about nurturing a collective consciousness—a vision for a more engaged and responsible citizenship.

Youth empowerment became the heartbeat of the summit. It wasn't just a concept; it was a mantra echoing through each conversation and workshop. The realization that our voices, united and impassioned, have the power to carve new narratives and drive transformative change ignited a fire within each participant.

Deliberative democracy—now that was a mind-bending journey! It was about embracing a mosaic of viewpoints, transcending differences to shape a holistic narrative of our nation's identity. Discussions painted a vivid canvas, weaving threads of understanding and unity, despite diverse backgrounds and perspectives.

And then, the crescendo—the spotlight on food security. It wasn't merely about sustenance; it was a reflection on the soul of our society. Conversations delved deep into the intricacies of providing equitable access to nourishment, touching upon dignity, equity, and the very essence of social fabric.

So, there we were, gathered in this grand hall buzzing with excitement. And guess what? Each coalition, was about to unleash their unique presentations. It was like stepping into a showcase of creativity and passion, a medley of voices ready to captivate our hearts and minds. First up, one coalition took the stage with a musical performance. Then, another coalition stepped forward. But instead of music, they expressed themselves through cultural dances. I'm telling you, it was breathtaking! As the curtains closed on this showcase of talent and advocacy, the memories lingered—a testament to the impact of art in fueling conversations and driving transformation. And when the last performance wrapped up, the applause wasn't just for the showmanship; it was a thunderous ovation for the collective commitment to drive change. It was a finale that left us inspired and fired up to step into a future where every story, every voice, plays a vital role in shaping a world we all dream of. “



> Members of the Tambayayong Changemakers Coalition presenting their Arangkada group project



>The one Mindanao Coalition (TCC, LUPAD and DILAB) posing for a picture after completing their booths



>TCC members during their arrival at the venue



>TCC members during arrival at Cebu City



>TCC Before departure

Pictures are credited to Youth-Led and TCC*



>Pathways to 21st Century Civic Engagement



>Governance and Active Citizenship



>Agriculture and Food Security



Speak. Inspire. Transform: O-Rotary Unleashes Surigao's Potential!

Basic Education and Literacy

The Rotaract Club of Central Surigao has continuously shown what it means to be engaged, service-oriented, and intellectually curious. Driven by a desire to positively impact their society, this dynamic group of young professionals has consistently looked for novel approaches to promote individual and collective growth. Under the constant direction and assistance of their parent organization, the Rotary Club of Central Surigao, they embarked on a very arduous journey that introduced the groundbreaking initiative — "O-Rotary: An Oratorical Contest."

The main objective of the event is to motivate people and serve as a lighthouse for discourse and articulate speech, demonstrating the life-changing impact of words. "O-Rotary" has a multidimensional perspective. Participating in community service, environmental protection, education, mental health, or any other significant topic would be encouraged among the contestants. By doing this, the event would support Rotary's concept by developing the youth's oratory talents as well as their strong sense of social responsibility.

The idea for "O-Rotary: An Oratorical" sprang about as a result of these two significant organizations in Surigao sharing an agreed-upon objective. The Rotary Club and Rotaract Club of Central Surigao had been that are associated with community service for a considerable amount of time, and both groups understood how serious the environmental problems were in their area. They aimed to light a spark of environmental consciousness among the local community by utilizing the power of lobbying and oratory. Under the skillful direction of Mr. Ramon Gotinga, the Rotary Club of Central Surigao was well-known for its dedication to community development and charitable endeavors. The meeting continued with other pleasantaries, furthered the dialogue that would encompass the O-Rotary, they deliberated and managed to end in a consensus, which is to use O - Rotary as a medium to cascade literacy, and to prosper environmental awareness among the participants.



Cultivating Hope: The Journey of the Rotary Club of Central Surigao

Situated in the hub of Surigao, the Rotary Club of Central Surigao is a ray of hope in a community full of diverse cultures and determined individuals. This prestigious organization, which traces its modest beginnings to a vision ignited years ago, has had a tremendous impact on the lives of many individuals. It is driven by a passion for good change and is rooted in a legacy of service.

Early in the 2004s, a group of innovative leaders from the Rotary Club of Metro Surigao saw a golden chance to establish a group devoted to promoting goodwill and lasting change, which planted the seeds for the eventual establishment of the Rotary Club of Central Surigao. They established this prestigious club with a steadfast dedication to service.

The club nurtured in scope and addressed more general socioeconomic issues under the leadership of succeeding leaders, all the while maintaining strong ties to the area it served. They led campaigns to support environmental sustainability, advance literacy, and fight poverty. Their steadfast dedication to putting others before themselves became a guiding concept ingrained in each project they worked on.

As the club ushered in a new term, President Ramon Gotinga stepped into leadership, encapsulating optimism and vision. President Gotinga outlined a compelling theme for the term, "Create Hope in the World," with a strong sense of purpose and steadfast determination. The motif struck a deep chord with the club's values, indicating a revitalized dedication to promoting hope in the face of adversity. It captured the group's goal to intensify their endeavors and encourage others to support them in bringing about real, long-lasting change. President Gotinga presented bold concepts and calculated measures. The club, working with local partners, initiated a number of large-scale projects that complemented the theme: programs that promote mental health awareness, empower marginalized populations, and encourage economic sustainability through skill-building.

Throughout the years, people continue to be inspired to strive for positive change by the club's unwavering pursuit of compassion and its path. The Rotary Club of Central Surigao is an everyday reminder of the tremendous influence that service, hope, and group effort can have on creating a brighter future for everybody.