



KALIPAY TODAY

A newsletter of Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc.



Several people have already dismissed Valentine's Day as another commercial gimmick. A more common opinion is that this day is for the celebration of romantic love.

But for the children of Kalipay Negrense Foundation, it was a chance to show their love and appreciation for someone who continues to brave the apathetic world and fight for their rights.

Anna was brought to Recovered Treasures, one of the homes that Kalipay runs, thinking that she was there to attend a staff meeting. But when she walked into the open space, she was greeted by cut-out hearts and red bears arranged to form a big heart. Then one by one, the children walked around the heart and serenaded Anna with the song "Yesterday's Dream." The children then proceeded to give Anna the cards that they made, and to give her hugs. Anna, moved, hugged them all back with tears in her eyes.

"Tita Anna, thank you for the love," the children said in chorus, reading the poem they wrote especially for the occasion.

Anna's love for the children has catapulted Kalipay towards the organization that it is right now—one that gives equal opportunities to children who would have otherwise remained victims of tragic experiences. Wrapped in Anna's love, however, these children get to have someone to hold their hands as they heal, and get what they deserve – a happy childhood.

"I am so touched," said Anna, commenting on the surprise orchestrated by the kids with the help of the staff. "I can't believe it. It's still sinking in that this actually happened."

But of course, the children and the staff are all one in saying that Anna deserved it, and so much more.

WISHLIST

1. Infant Formula
2. Eggs and Milk
3. Meat, Fruits, and Vegetables
4. Rice
5. Medicines and Multivitamins
6. Toiletries
7. Underwear
8. Computers
9. Reference Materials (Dictionaries, Encyclopedias, etc)
10. Emergency Lights
11. Fire Extinguishers
12. Sports Equipment (Volleyball, etc.)

Turning of Tassels: 18 Kalipay Kids Graduate



CJ and Jan graduate Kindergarten



The graduates with Anna, and Bethany Life Center Academy Principal, Directress, Former Director, and Officer in Charge

It was an emotional day for the Kalipay family. The sight of the children clad in green togas, with ear-to-ear smiles was enough to move everybody present during their Moving Up and Graduation Ceremony held last March 28, 2016.

With awards such as Academic Excellence Awards, Multi-Intelligences Awards, Most Improved, etc., the children proudly marched up the stage to receive medals and certificates, applauded by the other children, staff, and guests.

One of the highlights of the ceremony were the Valedictory Speeches delivered by Joey, Jericho, and Janveer. All three were emotional as they recounted the hardwork that it entailed to get to where they are now -- top of their classes and about to take on the next challenge. They also took the opportunity to thank their school, teachers, friends, Kalipay, and their Tita Anna.

The graduates stood proudly as they are presented to the audience. And with the turning of tassels, is another step taken. Another step closer to their dreams.

The entire Kalipay family would like to thank all the sponsors, and partners, and everybody else whose been journeying with us to help these children make their dreams possible.



Haven Home staff and volunteer throw a dinner party for Rosalee who received her diploma for her Bachelor of Science in Social Work.

KIDS' ACTIVITIES



Teacher Mafe and volunteers present certificates and awards to the students at Haven Home during their Moving Up Ceremony



Kids with staff and volunteers at Campuestohan Resort



Children's Sunday bonding at Recovered Treasures

KALIPAY REACHES OUT TO FIRE VICTIMS



On the first day of March, the city of Bacolod was woken up by sirens of fire trucks rushing to a big fire in Banago, one of the city's districts.

Few of the residents were able to salvage possessions, and most had nothing else except the clothes they were wearing that day.

The Kalipay team, upon learning of the fire, immediately launched a campaign, appealing to the community to give whatever they can for the victims of the fire.

The same afternoon as the tragedy, the Kalipay team with some of its children went to the school where the fire victims were temporarily staying. There, they served them food, and gave whatever they were able to gather.

"It was a refreshing sight to see our children, who have difficult pasts share with the less fortunate," said Mhel Sillador, Kalipay's Executive Director.

The fire razed almost 200 houses just as the Bureau of Fire and Protection kicked off its month-long campaign for March, which is Fire Prevention Month.

TWO CITY GOVERNMENTS GIVE RECOGNITION TO KALIPAY



The cities of Bago and Cadiz presented awards of appreciation to Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc. for the work that it does for the children and community.

We share this award to everybody who continues to support and journey with us, and with a promise that we will continue to strive to bring happiness to children.

(L-R) Mhel Sillador receives award on behalf of Kalipay, and the plaques from the Cities of Bago and Cadiz

EVENTS AND VISITS



SM Cares Team turns over the bears collected through their Bears of Joy Campaign to the children of Kalipay



Feed The Hungry Foundation from USA visit Haven Home and Recovered Treasures

Julie Ann San Jose performs in a concert organized by Big Eyes Events and Production for the benefit of Kalipay and visits the children at Haven Home

NANAY JEN



"It was difficult at the beginning. I didn't know how to handle the children under my care," shares Jen, on her first weeks on the job. "There were nights when I just cried and told myself I will quit."

Jen started as a Child Care Worker until she became one of the houseparents at Recovered Treasures.

"But I decided to give it a try. Then I decided to stay for the children. It remains a challenging job. But I like being in the position to help the children and see how much they have grown and changed over the years. It also feels good to be appreciated. Because the children really make you feel that you are important to them."

Jen celebrates her 4th anniversary with Kalipay in July this year.

WELCOME HOME, MAC*



At the hospital before rescue

It was Sunday morning when Kalipay received a call.

A 7- month old boy had been brought to the hospital for Bronchopneumonia. After merely 7 months of living in the world, he was already dying.

A team from Kalipay, headed by Executive Director Mhel Sillador, rushed to Cadiz City, located North of the Negros Island.

When they got to the hospital, the grandfather was crying, begging the team to take his grandson. Weeping helplessly, he said that the child's mother had died shortly after giving birth, and since then, the old couple had been taking care of him.

Both elderly, and sickly, they found themselves unable to find a way to cater to the growing needs of the child. Kissing his grandson on his forehead, he begged the team to take his grandson and give him the good future he and his wife would never be able to give him. So the team bundled up the kid, and took him home as the 4th kid to be rescued in just three days.

It has been three months since the rescue. Since then, Mac has fully recovered, and has become a joy for the staff and older children at Kalipay.

**The name was changed to protect the child's identity.*

Donate.

Volunteer.

Spread The Word.



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HELP US RESCUE MORE CHILDREN! YOU MAY DONATE THROUGH:

Account Name: Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc.

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Bacolod City, Negros Occidental,
Philippines

Account No: 00 0720 140 889

Swift Address: BNORPHMM

Bank: Union Bank, Araneta Branch, Bacolod City,
Negros Occidental, Philippines

Account No: 000 210021 214

Swift Address: UBPHPHMM

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