

A P R I L - D E C E M B E R 2 0 1 4

# KALIPAY TODAY

A newsletter of Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc.



## OUR BABIES: KALIPAY'S NEW ADDITION TO THE FAMILY

Kalipay heard its first cry of a baby last September 12, 2014. We find ourselves with the urgent need to rescue babies. This is in line with our vision to give every child the opportunity to live in a caring and safe environment and to start right from the very first stage of life. We have opened our doors to these angels, and we are willing to do what it takes to make them feel safe and loved so that in turn, they grow up to be loving and great individuals.

These little angels are now safe from the dangerous environment that they were once in. They have undergone complete medical assessment upon admission at Haven Home since they were severely malnourished or were sick when they were rescued. The social workers and the house parents make sure that all the children in Kalipay are treated equally and are well-protected and provided for. Everyone in Haven enjoys spending time with the babies. They carry them around, play with them, and never get tired of showing them love and affection.

Above, on the left side, is Reggie who is now 1 year and 6 months old. Along with Jefferson, 1 year and 3 months old, he occupies the nursery room at Haven. Both are thriving, and are currently learning to walk and communicate.

Opening our doors to babies is an endeavor that is not without its challenges. However, what keeps us going is our desire to stay true to our goal which is to LEAVE NO CHILD BEHIND and the fact that while they are with us, THEY WILL NEVER KNOW ABUSE.



### WISH LIST:

- 1) Computers or Laptops
- 2) Reference books
- 3) Clothing hangers and clips
- 4) Diapers
- 5) Baby milk
- 6) School uniforms
- 7) School supplies

\*Sponsor a Kalipay child's education for a year and help them fulfill their aspirations in life. Email:

[kalipay@kalipaynegrensefoundation.com](mailto:kalipay@kalipaynegrensefoundation.com)

# KID'S ACTIVITIES



Reviving the Home Vegetable Garden



Christmas Party at Granada Eco Park



Learning Carpentry



Banana Tree Planting



Boodle Fight



Summer Camp



Math and Science Enrichment Activity



Mambukal Trip



Send-off Party for Volunteer Albert

## ONE YEAR AFTER TYPHOON YOLANDA: 80 HOUSES TURNED OVER TO RESIDENTS OF LAKAWON

It was November of 2013 when Typhoon Haiyan hit the Philippines. Locally known as Yolanda, it claimed thousands of lives and displaced even more—without homes, and means of survival. More than a year later, Filipinos are still struggling to move past what they have lost and to re-establish their homes and means of livelihood.

Last August 23, 2014, this goal came true for 10 families from the island of Lakawon, north of Negros Occidental. Gawad Kalinga gave 10 houses to these families in an official ceremony attended by the Local Government Unit of Cadiz City, Kalipay Negrense Foundation's Founder/President Anna Balcells, and representatives from TearFund, and Gawad Kalinga. Also in attendance were volunteers from France, Germany, and guests from Spain.

And on November 22, 2014, 30 more houses were turned over to the beneficiaries. Anna Balcells, Aldin Beta,

One of these communities included Lakawon Island, which is composed of approximately 300 households. Unbeknownst to many, the City of Cadiz declared that it was the island of Lakawon that suffered the greatest impact during the typhoon due to it being a small and open island, hence leaving most of its residents homeless and without any source of income. As more supporters put their trust in Kalipay, Balcells chose to adopt this island that her family often frequented for summer vacations.

In partnership with the Local Government Unit, a relocation site was chosen in mainland Cadiz Viejo for easy ingress and egress. Gawad Kalinga, a Philippine-based movement for poverty alleviation and nation-building and TearFund, a relief and development agency, agreed to build the houses for the residents. The International Labour Organization



Project Coordinator of International Labour Organization, Cadiz City Mayor Patrick Escalante, GK Negros Occidental Head Bobby Magalona, attended the second ceremony. 50 more houses have been turned over to the beneficiaries or a total of 80 houses to date.

The typhoon has paved the way for a whole new level of international camaraderie. Help has flooded the Philippines – financial assistance, relief goods, volunteers, and others. As aid came to the country, benefactors from different parts of the world looked for a trustworthy organization or individual through which they may course their donations through.

One of these organizations was Kalipay Negrense Foundation Inc., an organization that works for the causes of disadvantaged children – abandoned or neglected, physically or sexually abused, or were victims of child labor and trafficking. Headed by Anna Balcells, the organization reached out to communities in Negros Occidental and Panay regions.

provided the funds for the compensation of the residents as they provided the labor as their participation in the building of their homes. Kalipay has previously donated 33 boats to the community as most of them lost their fishing boats to the typhoon last year.

A Multi-Purpose Center was also built by Kalipay as a venue for seminars and trainings on livelihood projects with the goal to give the community opportunities to become independent. One of these is hollow-block making. Kalipay built the structure, provided the machines, as well as the materials needed such as the cement, and sand. These trainings also paved the way for the beneficiaries to start pursuing sewing and small-scale micro financing.

At present, the process of relocation and rehabilitation is still ongoing, more houses will still be built and will eventually be turned over to the families this year in the three-hectare relocation site that has been officially named as Kalipay Village.

# MONTHLY CELEBRATIONS

## NUTRITION MONTH

July is the month slated as Nutrition Awareness Month. For this school year, the theme of the celebration was: KALAMIDAD PAGHANDAAN: Gutom at Malnutrisyon Agapan. For Bethany Life Center Academy-RT it was a one-week celebration filled with fun and educational activities.



The teachers in their headdresses



Parade of Headdresses



## SCIENCE MONTH

The Math and Science month is celebrated every September. The pupils and students of Bethany Life Center Academy conducted simple classroom experiments using the Seven Steps of Scientific Investigation. The students were guided on how to formulate their PROBLEM, create their HYPOTHESIS, develop their METHODS AND PROCEDURES, conduct their EXPERIMENT, COLLECT DATA, INTERPRET DATA and finally APPLY the result in daily life.



Mixing the soil with different kinds of animal manure



High school experiment- How long does it take for rust to form in galvanized iron?



## SPORTS ACTIVITY

The Music, Arts, Physical Education and Health (MAPEH) class of the High School did their sports activity at the Lopues East bowling alley. Before the students did this activity they studied the rules and the procedures how to play the game. Finally on September 20, they applied what they have learned through a bowling game.

## SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS



We are happy that JR Canillo and Joenabelle Porden are moving from Recovered Treasures home to the Independent Living Program at Haven Home. They have graduated from High School last March 2014 and will be enrolling in a college course for the next school year.



Joenabelle plans to take up Special Education in the University of Negros Occidental - Recoletos while JR is planning to study Hotel and Restaurant Management in Carlos Hilado Memorial State College.



## BREAKTHROUGHS

### JAY AR



Jay Ar, after many years of being in special class, finally moves up to join the regular class because of his outstanding performance. He is now in the third grade level.

### BISOY

Scribbling is the first step to writing. Bisoy and the other little kids in Recovered Treasures, pencils and crayons in hand, have begun their journey towards literacy.



## KALIPAY WITNESSES ANOTHER LIFE TRANSFORMATION

Levi, one of Kalipay’s kids, has undergone two procedures to treat his Nasofrontal Encephalocele, a congenital defect caused by the failure of the neural tube to completely close during fetal development. The condition is generally operable, but is often treated shortly after birth as complications could be more severe if corrected later.



Last July 16, 2014, Levi went through the first procedure which was the installation of a Ventriculo-Peritoneal (VP) shunt to drain the fluid from the encephalocele. The procedure went smoothly, and afterwards, Levi was moved to one of Kalipay’s homes which was nearer to the hospital to better monitor his recovery.



**LEVI AFTER THE SECOND PROCEDURE**

On October 15, 2014, Levi underwent an 8-hour operation, which involved the removal of the sac, and the reconstruction of his nose. Prior to the procedure, the following risks were identified: hemorrhage, infection, and leaks. At the beginning of the surgery, Levi’s heart rate was very high, and the anesthesiologist had to make the necessary adjustments to stabilize it. As soon as he was stable, they proceeded with the surgery.

He is still being closely monitored in one of our homes. There is a great improvement in his moods since he no longer gets headaches. He is also able to drink straight from a glass or a cup whereas before he needed to use a straw to drink from a glass. These days, he enjoys doing art projects and spending time with the other kids of Kalipay.



**6 MONTHS AFTER THE OPERATION**

Kalipay wishes to extend its heartfelt gratitude for the overwhelming support that the Levi campaign received both from the local and the international community and also the team of specialists: Dr. Mario Marchadesch, Dr. Pamela Marchadesch, and Dr. Jesus “Bong” Paltriguera for offering their services for free.

### ANN AND ERNA

Siblings are expected to bond, but not all do. There are more than 10 siblings in Recovered Treasures and not all siblings show how they care for each other. Ann’s special care for her younger sister Erna is touching. Ann shows it to Erna consistently and to see such affection is very inspiring. Here’s a picture of the two of them together.



### BIMBOY

On August 26, 2014, Bimboy was presented for matching at Inter-country Adoption Board (ICAB) for adoption. He will finally be adopted by a childless couple in Italy. ICAB advised that he be given Italian lessons. Bimboy has received presents from his adoptive parents like a welcome album, storybooks and coloring books. He was delighted when he received the gifts. He can easily recall the names of his adoptive parents and immediate family members and shows enthusiasm in learning Italian.



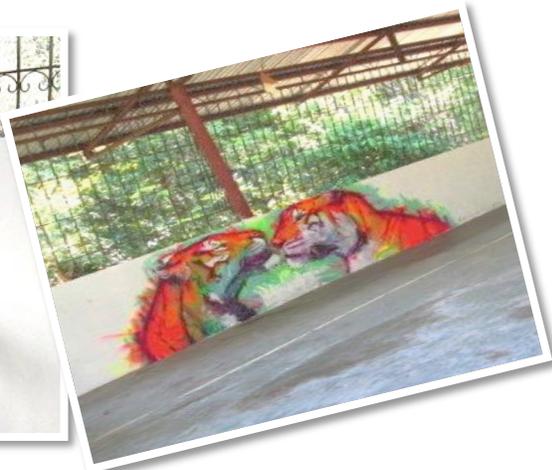
## Volunteer Initiatives and Activities



Treasured time with volunteer from Manila



Treasure Hunting with French Volunteers



Adrian Torres' Artwork at the Activity Center of Recovered Treasures



Basketball game with Spanish Volunteers



Sewing with Silke, another volunteer from Switzerland

## Volunteer Initiatives and Activities



Cap'Asie Volunteers from France helping out during a Kalipay event. They organized games for children. These included table bowling, darts, mini basketball, and face painting.

Before coming to the Philippines, the group raised funds and gathered donations for the kids of Kalipay. They raised awareness in Paris to generate more support for Kalipay's mission.



Henri Pinto, Construction Builder from Australia, painting the ceiling of the Dining Hall and walls of the Teachers' Quarters



Albert Badosa a physiotherapist from Barcelona, Spain stayed both in Haven Home and Recovered Treasures and spent a week in Cadiz to help with the construction of the houses.

## SPECIAL VISITS AND EVENTS

### Elizabeth Sy

Last June 14, Elizabeth Sy, one of our main benefactors, together with her daughter-in-law and two grandchildren, visited Kalipay Homes: Recovered Treasures and Haven. A luncheon was prepared and the children presented a short program with songs and dances.

During the program, the children sang songs they have composed on their own entitled: *You are the Reason* and *Because*. The House Parents of Haven Home and Recovered Treasures also gave their testimonies about how they came to the home and their experiences as parents to these children.

We were honored by the presence of Hon. Alfredo Marañon Jr., Governor of Negros Occidental, and Mayor Ramon Torres and Vice Mayor Nikki Yulo of Bago City.



Elizabeth Sy with Kalipay Board and Governor Alfredo Marañon Jr.

Welcoming Elizabeth Sy, her family and friends

## DENTAL CHECK UP AND PROPHYLAXIS



Nuria Obradors, a student of Dentistry and fellow volunteer Gloria Bonmanti (both from Barcelona, Spain) teaching the kids the proper way of brushing their teeth

## JULIUS AND JOSH

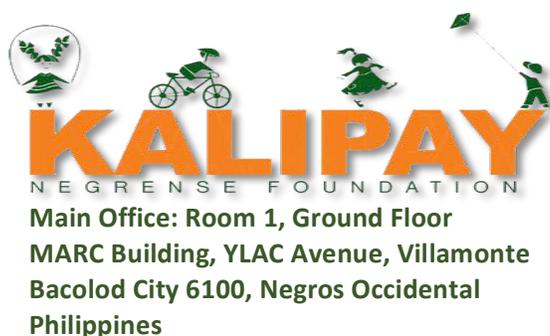


Julius and Josh (not their real names) were both physically abused. Julius' grandmother called the police to rescue her grandson from his father. For 3 days, he stayed at Balay Pasilungan, a temporary shelter, until the Department of Social Services and Development (DSSD) Social Worker decided to refer him to Kalipay. Angelica, Julius' older sister, is already in Recovered Treasures. She ran away from their home for the same reason.

Josh, another rescued kid, was brought to Kalipay by the DSSD and the police. He was covered with bruises and was very skinny when he arrived. He had a swollen nose because his mother struck him with bamboo sticks. The doctor found him positive for primary complex for which he had undergone treatment for 6 months. At a young age, Josh was exposed to a dangerous environment. His family scavenged for scrap materials and sold them to survive. Josh had never been to school until he arrived in Kalipay.

Now, both are safe and comfortable in Kalipay. Julius easily makes friends at his age. He attends tutorial classes and is now able to read words in English and Filipino. He is very attentive and actively participates in class discussions especially in Math. He always leads the prayer of thanksgiving before meals and joins the devotional led by the college students every night. Julius is excited to go to Recovered Treasures to be with his older sister, Angelica.

Josh, on the other hand, is now in pre-school and loves to mingle with other children. He is starting to understand the basics in learning like the alphabet and shapes. Josh's disposition has improved a great deal since he was rescued. Both have made remarkable progress and are looking at brighter futures.



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### HELP US RESCUE MORE CHILDREN, DONATE:

**Account Name:**

**KALIPAY NEGRENSE FOUNDATION, INC.**

**Bank:** Banco de Oro, Gonzaga Branch,  
Bacolod City, Negros Occidental, Philippines

**Account Number:** 00 0720 140 889

**Swift Address:** BNORPHMM

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

**Account Number:** 000 210021 214

**Swift Address:** UBPHPHMM

**PayPal:** [kalipay@kalipaynegrensefoundation.com](mailto:kalipay@kalipaynegrensefoundation.com)

We also accept donations via XOOM