

KALIPAY TODAY

A Newsletter of Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc.

2016 NEWSLETTER VOLUME NO.3



Executive Director, Mhel Sillador with other awardees



FOUNDER GIVEN AN AWARD

Anna Maria Claparols Balcells,

a descendant of two courageous Negrense heroes Gen. Aniceto Lacson and Gen. Juan Araneta, has been chosen by the Province of Negros Occidental as an Outstanding Negrense, dubbed as the "Pasidungog sa mga Bag-o nga Baganihan," in the field of Community Service for the year 2016.

Anna continues the legacy of her Negrense forebearers as Kalipay's Founder and President. Never in her life did Anna imagine that an incident a decade ago would lead her to establish a foundation like Kalipay.

Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc, is a non-profit foundation working for the causes of disadvantaged children - the homeless, physically and sexually abused, malnourished, out of school and special children. Anna and her team believe that Kalipay is a story of miracles - reaching this far and growing everyday.

Kalipay currently owns and manages two homes - Haven Home in Bacolod City and Recovered Treasures in Bago City taking care of 105 children. Anna and her team has rescued over one hundred children over the years. Some have graduated from college and now working, others reunified with their families and others have found new families through adoption.

Everyone believes that this recognition is a well-deserved award for Anna. Congratulations, Anna!

The awarding ceremony was held last November 5, 2016 (Negros Day) at the Provincial Capitol Social Hall. Mhel Sillador, Executive Director received the award in her behalf since Anna was out of the country. He was joined by Rose Jessica Octaviano, Communications Manager and Neil Begasa, Development Officer.



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 Material
(Dictionaries, Encyclopedias, etc)
10. Emergency Lights
11. Fire Extinguishers
12. Sports Equipment
(Volleyball, Badminton, Ping Pong, Basketball etc.)



(A photo taken after a volunteers meeting)

50 VOLUNTEERS BROUGHT JOY TO THE CHILDREN

A total of fifty volunteers came to share their time and talents with the Kalipay children beginning July. Most are new volunteers and a few were previous volunteers. They joined the two German volunteers who arrived in 2015.

Most of Kalipay's volunteers were from Europe – 26 from Spain, 17 from France, 2 from Germany, 1 from Switzerland, 1 from Czech Republic, 1 from Great Britain, 1 from Belgium and 1 from the Philippines.

They organized a mini-sportsfest, shows, games, a bowling tournament (for the college students) and brought the kids to the mall to watch a movie. They also helped in the vegetable garden and in the kitchen. They helped the staff in chores like cleaning the rooms and preparing the children for school.

The volunteers also took over the children's classes whenever the staff and teachers attended seminars.

Most of the volunteers were referred by friends and previous volunteers who encouraged them to come to help and to reach out to a third world country. All had memorable experiences. With some volunteers they learned about Kalipay by searching for homes for disadvantaged children in the internet.

They came not really sure what to expect but ended up having a "time of their life," playing with the children and spending time with them.

Going home was always hard for them, some were reluctant to leave. They learned to love the children and many cried during the farewell party prepared by the staff and children for them on their last night. The children serenaded them with songs and gave the volunteers little notes.

Almost all said they want to come back and promised to share the Kalipay experience with their friends. They also expressed that they will continue to support Kalipay through donations and joining fund-raising events for Kalipay in their countries especially in Spain and France. A number of volunteers became sponsors of the children.

MAKING MIRACLES HAPPEN FOR ANNABELLE



Making Miracles Happen

A Special Campaign for **INDAY**

- a child who is five years old
- a child who was born with Crouzon Syndrome, a genetic condition wherein the bones of the skull closes, affecting the normal growth of the brain
- a child who was sold to a criminal syndicate
- a child who was exploited and used to beg on the streets
- a child who was rescued by Kalipay and now needs your help for major surgery
- a child with a condition which doctors say rarely live beyond six years old unless operated on

YOU CAN SAVE HER LIFE!
Let us make miracles happen.

For more details visit or contact us: www.kalipaynegrensefoundation.org

KALIPAY
NEGRENSE FOUNDATION

RM 1, G/F MacBldg., YLAC Ave., Villamorre, Bacolod City 6100, Negros Occidental, Philippines
TEL: +63 34 4352 696 MOBILE: NO: +63 917 700 2345

You can donate thru:

KALIPAY NEGRENSE FOUNDATION, INC.
Account # 001 0720 140 889
Bacolod General Branch
Bacolod City, Negros Occidental, Philippines
Swift Address: BNGRPHMM

UNIONBANK
Account # 000 210021 214
Bacolod General Branch
Bacolod City, Negros Occidental, Philippines
Swift Address: USRPHPHM

LA CAIXA (SPAIN)
Account # 100 0548 11 0208804129
IBAN: ES21 2100 0548 1102 020804129

PAYPAL
kalipaynegrensefoundation.com

Annabelle or INDAY as we fondly call her is one of Kalipay's treasures.

She was born with Crouzon Syndrome, a condition wherein the skull prematurely closes thereby affecting the normal growth of the brain.

One day, due to extreme poverty, her mother SOLD Annabelle to a child trafficking syndicate.

Annabelle, at almost 3 years old, looked pitiful – bulging eyeballs and very malnourished. She was exploited and forced to beg in the streets. A few days after being rescued the doctors had to remove her badly infected eye.

She was still suffering from horrible headaches due to the pressure on her brain and she was at risk of losing her good eye unless proper care is done.

From a stroke of fate, Gonzalo Erize, a 29 year old volunteer from Argentina found Kalipay and met Annabelle. She was the first child he saw when he visited the home. He knew then why he came to Kalipay – to help Annabelle.



Gonzalo had been travelling around the world to help those in need. He gave up his savings and raised more funds to make miracles happen for Annabelle. He went to Manila and looked for ways to change Annabelle's life. He found the Noordhoff Craniofacial Foundations Philippines, Inc. (NCFPI), a non-government organization dedicated in helping children and adults to receive holistic care, and met with Dr. Bernard Tansipek, a specialist in crouzon syndrome.

Gonzalo met several times with Anna Balcells, Kalipay's Founder and President. Together they decided to bring Annabelle to Manila for medical check ups at the Philippine General Hospital in Taft Avenue, Manila. She was evaluated by two physicians – Dr. Tansipek, a plastic surgeon; and Dr. Salonga, a neuro surgeon who recommended that she undergo a series of surgeries to primarily prolong her life.



Annabelle's first major surgery was on October 20, 2016 at the Philippine General Hospital. The surgery was to prevent the closure of sutures of the skull which was affecting her brain's development. This would expand and reshape the skull which will give room for the brain to grow. The doctors say the surgery went well and she amazingly recovered very quickly.

After three years of living in a Kalipay Home, with one blind eye, Annabelle remains a happy and loving child. She loves to sing and dance. She smiles a lot and has developed a strong personality. She has started school which she enjoys and is getting good grades.

She is scheduled to go back to Manila for regular check-ups. The fight is still not over. Another medical procedure might be scheduled soon.

The Kalipay Board of Trustees, Staff, Volunteers and Children are deeply grateful to Gonzalo Erize, who made everything possible, her medical team and to all of Annabelle's donors, who gave their best efforts to give her a better quality of life.



29 KIDS BAPTIZED

Last July 18, twenty-nine of Kalipay's children were baptized by Fr. Rolly Albert Escubido, Parish Priest of Immaculate Conception Parish and Shrine in Villamonte. The staff and the volunteers stood as godparents.

With their baptism as Christians and members of the Catholic Church, they received their baptismal certificates, their first ever identification papers. Many of the children in Kalipay did not have birth certificates when first brought to the homes of Kalipay.

Marc Hallynck, one of our French volunteers, shared that being a godparent was his most memorable experience in Kalipay. This was the first time he ever witnessed a baptismal ceremony.



STAFF DEVELOPMENT



Whole Brain Self-Mastery Training by Professor Cecilia Manikan on August 2016 at Planta Hotel



Case Management Training organized by **Consuelo Foundation** at Nature's Village Resort on August 31 - September 2, 2016



Trauma Informed Care Training by **Consuelo Foundation** conducted the on September 20-23 at Palmas Del Mar Resort Hotel



Healing Invisible Wounds by **Astrid Hocking and Deborah Palmer** in October

Fund Raising: I GIVE YOU MY ART Exhibit

The Provenance Art Gallery at the Shangri-la at the Fort ended 2016 with a bang as they launched I GIVE YOU MY ART, an art show which presented 50+ Filipino contemporary artists, wherein a generous portion of the sales was donated to Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc. Raul Francisco, the Owner/Director of the gallery and his wife Joanna Presyler-Francisco are close friends of Anna Balcells and supporters of Kalipay.

Joanna said that: "This is a foundation that's very close to our hearts, and you will surely be touched by the work they do in changing the lives of innocent children!"

The exhibit ran from December 10, 2016 to January 3, 2017.

The Board of Trustees led by Anna together with Ginnette Yanson Dumancas, Cookie Montenegro, John Gayoso and Mhel Sillador, Executive Director, were there during the opening salvo. Many people attended the event and purchased the artworks knowing that it was for a worthy cause.

Kalipay Negrense Foundation is truly grateful to Raul Francisco and his wife Joanna Preysler-Francisco for organizing this successful event.

We also would like to thank the artists who donated their art. Names are listed in the photo.



KALIPAY CHRISTMAS PARTY 2016 celebrated at Plantazon Club House, Talisay City



VOLUNTEERS CORNER

Astrid

Astrid Hocking is one of the amazing ladies of Hearts and Hands, a non-government organization, based in Australia that has been partnering with Kalipay for many years now. Astrid, together with Lynne Balcells and other ladies have been visiting the Philippines, specifically Negros Occidental, to lend us a hand and also helps out in other communities such as Felisa Garbage area in Bacolod City and IRC up in the mountains of Cabacungan, Kanlaon City. They also donate toys, appliances, and helps find sponsors for the children.

Astrid conducts trainings on how to handle trauma to the home and office staff. She is also a friend and confidante to everyone. She has a degree in special education and has taught until 1998 in government schools in various locations around Australia. She finished her Masters in Social Science in 2013.

Astrid is happily married to Frank for 42 years. They are blessed with two boys and a granddaughter.

She first visited Kalipay in July 2013 – which changed her life's direction. After her visit in Kalipay, she started the Umbrella Hearts Ribbon Campaign (colored ribbons with umbrellas as a symbol of protection) and has been launched both in the Philippines and Australia officially as a Child Protection/Awareness campaign, with the slogan "It's not ok to hurt a child, every day it's not ok."

She has always had a passion for protecting and loving children and this continues both at home and in Kalipay. She says that, "Kalipay and meeting Anna has changed my life and taken it in a whole new direction." The staff are always happy when she visits with other women of Hearts and Hands. She is wonderful to them and is loved by all for her thoughtfulness, dedication and kind heart.



KALIPAY STAFF

Joel



Joel Arabelo started working in Kalipay in October 2014 as a Child Care Worker and became a housefather late in 2016.

Tatay Joel is proactive and works beyond his responsibilities, always with a smile on his face. He is liked by many as he is someone who is easy to work with. He is a good dancer and helps choreograph our children's presentations during Kalipay's events.

He said that Kalipay gave him a chance to grow spiritually, emotionally and mentally and he has learned to be very patient and understanding.

He loves working with Kalipay because everyone is very supportive and enjoys bringing joy to the children.

WELCOME NEW ANGELS



MYRNA,
referred for protective custody. She was allegedly abused by her guardian's father.



GARY,
was found abandoned in a street in Bacolod at about ten days old.



ELSA AND ANNA,
were referred for protective custody. They were sexually abused by their father.



JOSEPH,
was left behind in a laundry woman's house but the alleged mother did not come back for him.

Names have been changed to protect their identity



DONATE. **VOLUNTEER.** **SPREAD THE WORD.**

Main Office:

**Room 1, Ground Floor, MARC Bldg.
Ylac Avenue, Barangay Villamonte
Bacolod City, Negros Occidental,
Philippines, 6100**

**Tel.No.
+6334 435 2496
Mobile No.
+63917 700 2345**

**Email:
kalipay@kalipaynegrensefoundation.com**

**Website:
www.kalipaynegrensefoundation.org**

SOCIAL MEDIA



facebook.com/kalipaynegrensefoundationpage



[@kalipaynegrensefoundation](https://www.instagram.com/kalipaynegrensefoundation)



[@knfi_pilipinas](https://twitter.com/knfi_pilipinas)



youtube.com/kalipaynegrense2007

HELP US RESCUE MORE CHILDREN! YOU MAY DONATE THROUGH:

Account Name: Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc.

Bank: Banco de Oro, Gonzaga Branch
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

PayPal: kalipay@kalipaynegrensefoundation.com
We also accept donations via XOOM

