



KALIPAY TODAY

A Newsletter of Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc. July - December 2020

VOLUME NO. 3



A Different Christmas for KALIPAY

Planning for Christmas amidst a pandemic is a challenge, to say the least, especially for Kalipay, where the kids are used to a steady stream of visitors at the homes during the holiday season. Due to the strict precautionary measures we have in place, both Haven and Recovered Treasures have practically sealed themselves off as a safe bubble, of sorts, to protect everybody residing in them. No visitors were allowed inside the homes and even the office staff had very limited access to the children; the home parents and teachers were quarantining with the children as well.

Then came the difficult decision of putting off our annual Christmas Party this year, as we felt that it would be an expense that could be shifted towards the operational costs of the homes, considering the number of donors have drastically dropped. This decision became a key teaching moment for the home parents- a chance to explain to the kids that sometimes things just don't go as planned and that there will always be times of hardship- but despite this, life goes on and with the help of each other, everybody moves forward. The kids took the news in stride, albeit a bit downcast. We were so proud of them for understanding the situation, and on how wise they were for their years.

But Christmas was not at all cancelled at Kalipay. Our celebration may have been modest, but it was so meaningful as it taught the kids that Christmas is more than just parties, gifts, food and festivities. It proved that simple acts of togetherness like playing team games, making handmade decors, and sharing a simple meal surrounded by people who love and care for you is so much more important. Hopefully, years from now, the kids will look back at their pandemic Christmas and will think to themselves that it wasn't so bad, that despite the situation, they were happy and filled with gratitude for everything they had. Now isn't that the true essence of Christmas?

Wish List

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



(L-R) Josephine Aquino, Jed Ambong, Mayette Mijares, Cheryl Tuazon, Joenabelle Porden

World Teacher's Day Celebration

Teachers and educators play a vital role in the lives of children. They help mold young minds and encourage students to challenge themselves to achieve goals.

On October 5, the children of Kalipay paid tribute to their teachers: Josephine Aquino, Jed Ambong, Mayette Mijares, Cheryl Tuazon, Joenabelle Porden, Donato Ma-at, and Shiobe Ty, thanking them for their dedication. As Kalipay shelters were sealed off to protect the children against the threats of Covid 19, teachers were compelled to live in the shelters. Especially for those who had their own families, this was a great sacrifice, one that the children of Kalipay could not let pass unnoticed.

Kalipay Documentary Awarded at International Film Festival

In June of 2020, Spanish film maker Federico Cardelus' documentary KALIPAY: ANNA'S DREAM premiered on RTVE's Documentos TV, one of Spain's largest television networks and has reached over 300,000 people. And in October 22, 2020 it was awarded the first prize in the Human Rights Category Bilbao International Invisible Film Festival which was received by Director Federico Cardelus and Video Editor Desiree Hernandez.

To make the documentary, Federico Cardelus, or Fede as he is fondly called, followed Ms. Anna Balcells around Negros Occidental for a month. The documentary featured the breadth of work Ms. Anna Balcells does for KALIPAY. Moving scenes include rescuing a baby from the hospital, accompanying a KALIPAY child to her court case against her assailant, and the beautiful reunification of Ms. Anna Balcells with Romela, a former KALIPAY child.



Desiree Hernandez and Federico Cardelus during Bilbao International Invisible Film Festival receiving their award for Kalipay.



bringjoy

November 28, 2020, 8PM (Philippine Time)

An online concert celebrating National Children's Month
via [facebook.com/ kalipaynegrensefoundationpage](https://facebook.com/kalipaynegrensefoundationpage)



Kuh Ledesma • Jose Mari Chan • Ian Veneracion • Jett Pangan • Joey Albert • Karylle • Christian Bautista



Isabella • JM Rodriguez • Clara Benin • Cecile Azarcon • Tim Pavino • Joaquin Valdes • Jam Morales

Banking Partner:



Special Messages from:

Ambassador Harald Fries • Senator Sonny Angara • Senator Juan Miguel Zubiri • UB Chairman Justo Aboitiz Ortiz • Mdm. Rhonda Robinson • Astrid Hocking
Rev. Fr. Raymond Fernando Jose • Etienne Baudon • Mhel Enderes Sillador • Timothie Williamson Sy • Federico Cardelus • Dr. Josephine Grace Rojo

Kalipay Celebrates National Children's Month with BringJoy Concert

As COVID-19 held the world hostage, Kalipay could no longer hold its traditional fund raising concerts. Out of that challenge arose "BRINGJOY".

On November 28, fourteen artists including the inimitable Kuh Ledesma who volunteered as host, gave their time and talent to put on a great online concert. It was amazing to see the artists singing their hearts out from the comforts of their homes and studios. It gave off a more personal vibe, making it all the more special.

The online fund-raiser also featured messages from our partners and friends, including Justo Aboitiz Ortiz of Union Bank, Senator Juan Miguel Zubiri, Senator Sonny Angara, Swedish Ambassador to the Philippines Harald Fries, and Secretariat of Spouses Heads of Mission (SHOM) Rhonda Robinson, and Honorary Trustee and President of Hearts and Hands Community Development Astrid Hocking among others.



Jose Mari Chan



Amb. Harald Fries
Sweden



Christian Bautista



ASTRID HOCKING
President
Hearts and Hands Community Development



MIGZ ZUBIRI
#TRABAJADOR NG SENADO



Jett Pangan



Karylle



Justo Aboitiz Ortiz
Unionbank



Strategic Planning Seminar

While everyone else took advantage of the long weekend last November 29-30, Kalipay staff and Board of Trustees spent our Sunday and Monday in Bubog, Talisay consolidating and improving Kalipay's five year program plan.

The team discussed details on how to improve the programs and structural facilities in Kalipay shelters for the betterment of the children's home life and education.

Core values were reviewed to make them sensitive to contemporary times. The term "guardians of hope" was coined by Atty. Julianna Carbon. And with the guidance of Alan Gensoli, the entire Board of Trustees helped create the acronym for HOPE: H-Happy, O-Outstanding, P-Passionate and E-Empathic. These are the four attributes that the Board of Trustees and the rest of the Kalipay team must embody in order for them to be role models and champions of the children under the care of Kalipay.

Everyone also got the opportunity to get to know one another a little better through team building exercises.



TOP, L-R: Swenly Sotelo, Nemia Millendez, Anna C. Balcells, Alan Gensoli, John Gayoso, Jade Limsiaco, Ligaya Abelarde.
 BOTTOM, L-R: Francis Campos, Chinky Hechanova, Mayette Mijares, Gelime Fia Lumawag, Ginnette Dumancas, Adelita Lemay, Johanna Daroy, Atty. Julianna Carbon, Mhel E. Sillador
 *Masks were taken off for photo.

Kalipay Joins the World in Jerusalema Dance Craze

It all began when the dance-loving Founder and President Anna C. Balcells saw the viral video challenge of Jerusalema on Youtube. She found the beat so catchy and the dance steps irresistible. She immediately thought that the Kalipay kids could join in on the fun.

With a bit of research she found out that the song was about the artist's (Master KG) deep longing for his home and it was his prayer to be able to go back and it also just so happened that one of the home parents, Joel Arabelo, was a choreographer- it felt serendipitous.

It was no easy task for Joel as he had to choreograph different dance steps for sixty kids, of different ages, to a song in a foreign language. After a month of practicing, the kids were finally ready to show the world their Jerusalema video challenge which is viewable on Kalipay's official Youtube channel and website.

The kids were filmed on different locations at Recovered Treasures, culminating in the covered court.





DONATE.

VOLUNTEER.

SHARE.

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www.kalipayspain.org

**HELP US RESCUE MORE CHILDREN!
YOU MAY DONATE THROUGH:**

Account Name: **Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc.**

BANCO DE ORO

Gonzaga Branch, Bacolod City,
Negros Occidental, Philippines
Peso Account No: 00 0720 140 889
Swift Address: BNORPHMM

UNIONBANK

Mandalagan Branch, Bacolod City
Negros Occidental, Philippines
Peso Account No: 000 210021 214
Dollar Account No: 13 021 000 5089
Euro Account No: 13 021 000 5703
Swift Address: UBPHPHMM

BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

Capitol Branch, Bacolod City
Negros Occidental, Philippines
Peso Account No: 1321032016
Swift Address: BOPIPHMM

EURO ACCOUNT

Account Name: **Fundación Kalipay Negrense España**

LA CAIXA BANK

Barcelona, Spain
Account Number: ES87 2100 1366 1602 0032 9890

PayPal: kalipay@kalipaynegrensefoundation.com
Credit/Debit card: <http://submit-form.kalipay.org/>



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