



# KALIPAY TODAY

*A quarterly newsletter of Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc.*

## BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE



### **WISH LIST:**

- 1) **Computers / Laptops (20)**
- 2) **Closed-circuit television (CCTV)**
- 3) **Toiletries**
- 4) **Beddings**
- 5) **School supplies**
- 6) **Baby milk**
- 7) **Diapers**
- 8) **Medicines**

**\*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)

Kalipay dreams of providing its children quality education. True, there are several schools in the province that have already been accredited as providers of quality education. But they all lack one primary need of our children – a venue where they could work on reaching their potentials without being encumbered by their pasts.

Studies have shed light on the importance of a safe, conducive environment to maximize learning among children. For a child to be able to focus on retaining knowledge and skills learned, it is imperative that the child first feels safe. Kalipay's endeavor to promote holistic growth and development for its children has led to the urgency of having a school within its premises. This is to make sure that the children are protected from those who have exploited or abused them, and as well as the bullying tendencies of today's youth.

Our children are in the process of healing. No longer called victims, but survivors. It is Kalipay's wish to go beyond merely providing them with their basic needs, but also to give them room for growth where they can discover and pursue their interests, harness their skills, and be whoever they dream to be. A school within its premises is more than just a needed building, but a place to catapult our children to reach their dreams.



# KID'S ACTIVITIES



Search for Mr. and Ms. BLCA 2015



Gipa Gatuslao's Birthday Party Celebration with the children of Recovered Treasures



BANTAYAN FESTIVAL - Booth viewing, fun and games at the fair



Bethany Life Center Academy, Inc. Graduation and Moving Up Ceremony



JCI Bacolod Executive and Communication Arts students from USLS visit Recovered Treasures



Weekend getaway at Shelton Beach Resort

## Nanay Nemia

Upon entering Haven Home, it would be Nanay Nemia, usually with a kid on one hip, and at least another one in tow, who would greet you with her wide smile and her trademark “Welcome to Haven Home”.

Nanay Nemia had been a volunteer even before she joined Kalipay in 2012. It was by chance that she and Anna Balcells met at one of their volunteering initiatives. After some time, Balcells invited Nemia to join Kalipay as the housemother. And as the cliché goes, the rest is history.

Haven Home is the entry point: where the newly-rescued kids are placed while their cases are managed by the social workers.



*“I get to be their mother.”*

When asked what the hardest part of her job is, she took a moment to think before responding, *“It’s when kids that I have taken care of have to leave Kalipay for good (either adoption, or reunification with family). Of course, that is what is best for them but for me, it also means probably never seeing them again and not knowing how they would turn out.”*

She considers her job challenging but fulfilling, *“Knowing what these kids have been through and being the one to take care of them as they adjust to a new environment is hard work.”* But when asked what makes her get up to go to work every day, without hesitation she replied, *“I get to be their mother.”*

Nanay Nemia considers it as a blessing to be a part of the children’s lives, despite the fact that eventually some of them would move on from Kalipay. *“Being able to cook for them, or to just spend time with the children is enough for me. Because even if this job means a lot of work, it also means that I get to see how the kids heal little by little – I get to witness lives being transformed.”*

## Belle



Belle was born with Crouzon Syndrome, a genetic disorder wherein parts of the skull close too early that it affects the growth of the brain. Due to her pitiful appearance, she was used by a criminal organization to beg on the streets of Manila, Bacolod, Cebu, etc.

When she was first rescued in 2013, Kalipay found out that she was released back to the streets. After a nationwide search for Belle, she was finally rescued and brought to Kalipay. By then, one of her eyes was severely infected that it had to be surgically removed.

Belle has been with Kalipay for 2 years now. Since her rescue, she has gone through a remarkable transformation. She has a cheerful disposition, is very eager to learn, and readily assumes the role of a big sister to the newly rescued children in Haven Home. She enjoys learning songs, dancing, drawing, and especially doing puzzles with the other children.



Anna Balcells with Javier Cuervo

Javier, an entrepreneur from Madrid, Spain, volunteered in Kalipay for a month. He organized several activities with the children such as camping, Spanish lessons, and much more.



Jordi and Sandro with two kids in Recovered Treasures

Jordi and Sandro, who first volunteered a few years back, came back to surprise the children at Recovered Treasures. They donated art supplies and toys for the children, and spent a day with them.

## Lucie and Marie

Lucie and Marie, volunteers from Germany, have been with Kalipay for almost a year. Both acknowledge that it was indeed a big challenge to be fully integrated in a culture far different than what they are accustomed to.

Marie and Lucie have gone past the initial struggles and have since then established relationships with the children and the rest of Kalipay's team. Now, both enjoy and treasure the moments they have with the kids.



Marie (left), and Lucie (right), work the entire day to finish printing, compiling, and manually binding 80 Annual Reports.

They continue to organize activities for the children: German lessons, theater classes, tutorials, and so much more. Both of them and as well as the kids look forward to the bigger activities they have in line for this coming summer.

Marie and Lucie are scheduled to go back to Germany in a few months, and although both are saddened by the prospect of leaving, they are also looking forward to coming back in the near future to see the children again.

## SPECIAL VISITS AND EVENTS



A Concert featuring Jed Madela and Fifth Gen for the benefit of Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc. was held on March 27, 2015 at the SMX Convention Center.



Marilyn Tinsay of SPOSA Child from Netherlands visits Kalipay



Consuelo Zobel Alger Foundation visits the Kalipay children



Nuria "Nunu" Balcells, a returnee volunteer, together with her parents Jose Luis and Tere Balcells, spent time with the Kalipay children. Tere, is a board member of Kalipay Spain.



## SPECIAL FEATURES



Hope G.K. Sibol Elementary School Cabatangan Extension in Talisay City



The Cabatangan community is presented with a symbolic key during the ceremony

The community in Cabatangan received the key to the Hope G.K. Sibol Elementary School Cabatangan Extension in a symbolic turnover held last February 11, 2015.

Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc., donors Dan and Bunny Oñate, Tony and Denise Vandenhurk, and the Department of Education, Talisay City Government, Gawad Kalinga Hope Village, and the other Gawad Kalinga beneficiaries attended the ceremony.



Stephan (left), and Wolfgang (right) with Haven Home housemother, Nemia

World Horizon, supported by the German government through the program “Weltwärts”, aims to support young people from Germany volunteering in developing countries. Every year, more than 3,000 young volunteers are sent to Latin America, Africa, Asia, or Eastern Europe.

In 2014, a partnership between World Horizon and Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc. was established – World Horizon as the organization sending volunteers and Kalipay as the hosting organization. So in August of the same year, Kalipay welcomed its first World Horizon volunteers- Marie Bossert and Lucie Künitz.

As part of the efforts to strengthen the partnership, Stephan Obermayer (Board of Trustee and Program Manager of the Southeast Asia Projects) Wolfgang Ihloff (Supervising Board and Mentor to the Philippines) of World Horizon came to visit Kalipay last January 10-14, 2015.

On the other hand, Tella Marie Glaraga, Development Officer of Kalipay, along with other representatives from the other partner organization, was invited for a workshop held in Berlin, Germany last January 29-February 1.



Tella Marie Glaraga (front-center) of Kalipay together with the participants of the Partner Workshop held in Berlin, Germany

# WELCOME HOME, TOM



Tom in an inflated pool during playtime in the afternoon

When Tom was rescued, he was small for his age, and was sickly. His mother, who had gone through several institutions, was only 13 when she got pregnant by a 60-year old man. After giving birth, she and Tom lived at the public plaza because they had nowhere else to go.

Tom's mother finally decided to give him up because she was scared that he might die from malnutrition. It was indeed a difficult decision on her part, but as she had no other means of sustaining her son's needs, she decided to entrust him to the care of Kalipay.

At present, Tom can be seen enjoying with the other children at Haven Home. He is able to follow simple instructions, and likes to listen to nursery rhymes. He likes to run around, and play with blocks and balls.

He is yet to speak more than a few syllables, but is showing steady progress.



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[www.youtube.com/kalipaynegrense2007](http://www.youtube.com/kalipaynegrense2007)

[www.twitter.com/knfi\\_pilipinas](http://www.twitter.com/knfi_pilipinas)

## 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

### OR

**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)

**Main Office:** Room 1, Ground Floor  
MARC Building, YLAC  
Avenue, Villamonte  
Bacolod City, Negros  
Occidental, Philippines 6100

**Tel:** +63-34 435 2496

**Mobile:** +63 917 700 2345

**E-mail:**

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

**Website:**

[www.kalipaynegrensefoundation.org](http://www.kalipaynegrensefoundation.org)

