



# KALIPAY TODAY

A Newsletter of Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc. April - June 2021

VOLUME 4 NO. 2



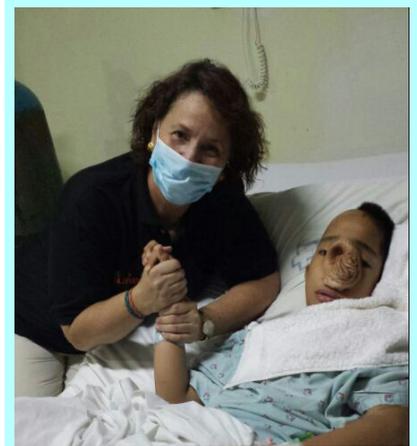
Kalipay kids forming the number 14 in honor of the anniversary.

## KALIPAY'S 14TH ANNIVERSARY

On June 28, 2021, Kalipay Negrense Foundation celebrated 14 years of rescuing and saving children who are victims of abuse in the province of Negros Occidental. What started in a makeshift office in the house of Kalipay Founder and President Anna C. Balcells, has grown into two homes and a school, saving over 500 children. It is the pride and joy of Kalipay to have successfully placed for adoption 14 children, now embraced by loving parents and families in different parts of the world, in addition to reuniting countless children with their families.

### KALIPAY Today in Numbers

- 2 shelter facilities,
- 96 children under our care,
- 28 are in the process of adoption,
- 63 enrolled in the Kalipay Learning Center for Basic Education,
- 18 teens in Senior High, and
- 5 in college, enrolled in various schools around the province.



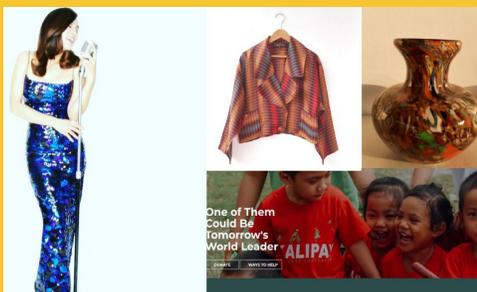
Anna C. Balcells comforting Levi before his surgery.

## LEVI'S JOURNEY

Levi, one of the oldest and most recognizable faces in Kalipay turned 20 years old last April 21. Ten years ago he was rescued while begging at the Bacolod Public Plaza. He had a mass on his forehead that obscured half of his face and was beginning to cause problems with his nose

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### KUHLECTION FOR A CAUSE



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### KALIPAY TEENS REGISTER TO VOTE



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Kalipay Social Workers, Psych Associate, Staff get their jobs of the COVID-19 vaccine.

## KALIPAY STAFF VAXXED

As Covid-19 victims multiply and new variants of the virus emerge, Kalipay has made it a priority to ensure the health and safety of its staff who are the primary carers of the children at Recovered Treasures Home. All employees have undergone their Covid-19 vaccinations. The first dose for the Admin Staff was administered on May 21 at the Brgy. Villamonte Gym in Bacolod City. Meanwhile, Kalipay Social Workers, Teachers, and Home Parents all had their first dose on May 26, 27, and 29, respectively, at the Manuel V. Torres Memorial Coliseum and Cultural Center in Bago City. Most of the staff received their second dose by the end of June. The rest, a small number, are set to get theirs in August. 🌿

## STAFF TRAININGS



Kalipay Learning Center Teachers attending UST Angelicum College's Online Thesis Writing Lecture Webinar in Kalipay's main office in Villamonte, Bacolod City.

Kalipay believes that in order for the staff to be able to give their best performance they must be at the top of their game with the latest information, skills, and techniques. Simply put, they must be continuously learning. All six teachers of the Kalipay Learning Center attended the online Thesis Writing Lecture conducted by UST (University of Sto. Tomas) Angelicum last April 16 via GoogleMeet. Meanwhile, staff of the Communications Department of Kalipay also attended two online workshops: ChatBots for Social Good conducted by the Association of Foundations (AF) last June 23, and Digital Transformation and Its Importance to Non-profits conducted by FuND Philippines (Fundraisers Philippines) last June 30, 2021. 🌿

## KUHLECTION FOR A CAUSE

Maria Soccoro Ledesma, popularly known as Kuh Ledesma, the OPM (Original Pilipino Music) Pop Diva, has been an avid supporter of Kalipay Negrense Foundation since 2018. In addition to headlining several concerts for the benefit of Kalipay, Ms. Ledesma has helped organize and host Bring Joy, an online benefit concert held at the peak of the pandemic in 2020, to help raise money for Kalipay despite the lockdowns. Recently, in May, she launched KUHlection on Facebook, an online sale and auction of pre-loved items from her own personal collection of beautiful clothes, gowns, bags, glasswork, fine china, and home accessories. All proceeds are donated directly to Kalipay Negrense Foundation. 🌿

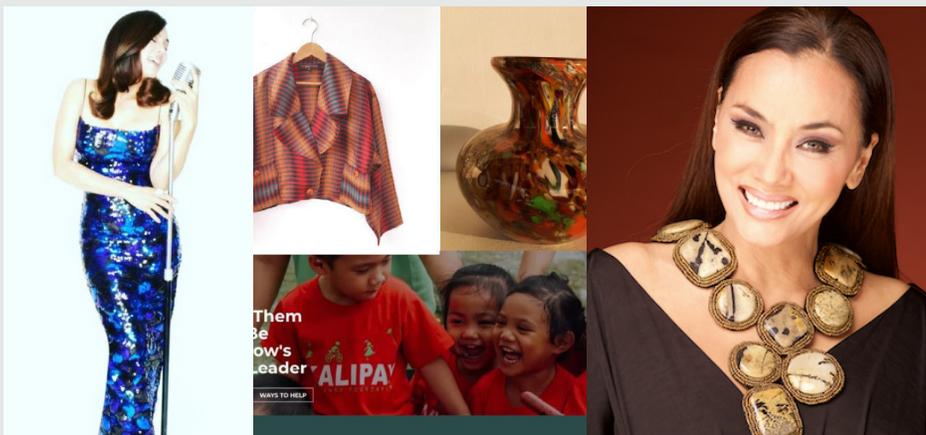


Image by Ms. Kuh Ledesma via KUHlection Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/KUHlection](http://www.facebook.com/KUHlection)

# LEVI...

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and eyes. But through the fundraising efforts of Kalipay Founder and President, Anna C. Balcells, enough money was raised to finally have the mass removed; the first surgery was in Oct. 15, 2014 and the second in Oct. 30, 2018. The procedure was life-changing for Levi. Levi never had an education prior to his rescue. He started school only when he came to Kalipay, and by then he was already 10. Despite that, he has grown to be a very self-confident and outspoken young man. He is currently enrolled in the Special Education Program of the Kalipay Learning Center. Apart from his schooling, he has become skillful in tasks at the Home; he is a capable kitchen assistant, and an avid gardener.



Levi before his surgery in Recovered Treasures.

# KIDS IN PRAYER



Kalipay children found in the prayer room during their free time.

Fr. Julius Habana, Kalipay's Spiritual Adviser, has been celebrating mass at Recovered Treasures since March of this year. After the mass, Fr. Julius would spend some time with each cluster of children (small kids, young kids and big kids) to just listen to them and give advice on certain matters that the children want to talk about. This dialogue has encouraged the children to turn to prayer. The Home Parents were delighted to find a significantly increased number of children who voluntarily visit and pray in the Prayer Room. Their nightly Devotional, which includes singing, sharing, and thanksgiving, has also gotten more meaningful as the children were able to express their feelings better. 🌿



Levi with Founder and President Anna C. Balcells during his 20th birthday.

Levi's wish is to be able to have some days at the main office to help the Admin Staff. The idea of him being useful around the home and the office was something Levi really wanted as he wished to give back to the people who have taken care of him all these years. His Tita Anna was happy to oblige his request. 🌿



Levi's first photo post surgery.



Little Levi bonding with Tita Anna over snacks.



RT staff and kids during harvest day.

## LITTLE GREEN THUMBS

One of the projects of Kalipay is to grow our own vegetables and fruits in Recovered Treasures Home to provide fresh produce for the children’s meals and to help lessen food expenses. Although they have always planted around the grounds of the home, they have doubled their efforts in planting an even wider variety of vegetables in the past months.

They have had success in growing okra, string beans, squash, eggplant, camote (sweet potato), patola (luffa gourd), alugbati (malabar spinach), tugabang (jute), and monggo (mung beans). The children have also harvested fruits like papayas, saba bananas, and Indian mango, which grow abundantly around the home.

The bigger kids took charge of tilling the soil to prepare it for planting, while the other kids helped water and care for the growing crops. Harvesting is perhaps their favorite part of the project, as all of them participate, even the little ones. All tasks are supervised by Home Parents. 🌱



Top Photo: Kalipay teen boys loading monggo beans harvest unto a container.

Bottom photo: Kalipay kids diligently harvesting monggo beans.

## PAYING LOVE FORWARD



Kalipay staff and ILs with barangay officials during donation drop off.

The family of Kalipay knows how to show love because it has received love from so many generous donors. And so, when disaster hits, Kalipay pays love forward. As part of the community outreach program of Kalipay, last April 30 food items and several boxes of used clothing and personal items were donated to the people whose homes were razed by the fire at Barangay Singcang-Airport on April 26. It was reported that 26 families lost their homes to the fire. With the coordination of Amie Magalona of Singcang DSSD (Department of Social Services and Development) and Kagawad Edsel Talaban, the donation was turned over by Kalipay’s Case Management Team, led by Adelle Lemay, to the temporary evacuation center at JR Torres Elementary School in the said barangay for proper distribution to the victims. 🌱



Independent living children proudly showing proof of voter's registration.



Top Photo: Kalipay teen girls filling out voter registration forms.

Bottom photo: "Mitch" affixing her thumb prints.

## KALIPAY TEENS REGISTER TO VOTE

All Kalipay teens of voting age registered themselves on June 29 at the COMELEC Office in Bago City. The 17 teens were accompanied by Adelle Lemay, Kalipay's Head of Social Services, and Social Worker Reshelle Aringa. Voter registration is a part of Kalipay's vision of having its beneficiaries grow up to be responsible citizens, emphasizing the importance of the right to vote and choose leaders capable of leading the community forward. At Recovered Treasures Home, children are encouraged to follow current events and the news to get a better grasp of who they can vote for and what changes and improvements they want to see. All the newly-registered voters have expressed excitement, as well as a sense of responsibility, for the upcoming elections in 2022. 🇵🇭

## KALIPAY TEENS CAMP 2021

For four days in May, 15 Kalipay teen girls camped out in a private resort in Brgy. Bubog, Talisay City, to immerse themselves in a series of character-building activities. They were accompanied by Kalipay teachers who served as camp counselors. Activities were specifically created to teach them important life skills, such as decision-making, taking responsibility, and accepting accountability, traits that build self-confidence and independence. Prior to the camp, the girls were involved in planning and budgeting their meals, as well as purchasing all the necessary things for the trip. They pitched their own tents where they slept at night and prepared all of their meals on their own. The participating teen girls all gave the Kalipay Teens Camp a positive feedback, saying they had a lot of fun and learned a lot about themselves and their fellow campers. 🇵🇭



Kalipay teen girls with their teachers striking a happy pose after a fulfilling outing. Face masks were briefly taken off for photography.



The girls setting up camp during the first day of the outing.



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

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**WEBSITES:**

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

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

**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: BOIPHHMM

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

**Credit/Debit card:** <http://submit-form.kalipay.org/>

## 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. Electric Fans
11. Reference Material  
(Dictionaries, Encyclopedias, etc)
12. Emergency Lights
13. Fire Extinguishers
14. Sports Equipment  
(Volleyball, Badminton, Ping Pong, Basketball etc.)



## SOCIAL MEDIA



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