



# KALIPAY TODAY

A Newsletter of Kalipay Negrense Foundation, Inc. October - December 2022

Volume 5 No. 4



Kalipay children performing Kalipay Negrense Foundation's theme song You Are The Reason during World Children's Weekend in SM City Bacolod.

Founder & President Anna C. Balcells signing Kalipay's Protect Children Pledge Wall.

## KALIPAY HOSTS WORLD CHILDREN'S WEEKEND

Every year, children's organizations around the globe celebrate World Children's Day, marking the day with activities that focus attention on the rights of children. For 2022, KALIPAY invited all the Non-Government Organizations from the Province of Negros Occidental to meet and reconnect ties with each other. The event, which ran from Nov. 25-27, was held at the SM Bacolod North Atrium with the theme, "Protecting children's rights is everybody's business". Fifteen NGOs participated in the gathering, their representatives updating the audience about their programs for children. The two main objectives of the event were to further raise awareness of the current situation of children-in-need in the province, and a call for a collaborative mobilization of rescue efforts between NGOs and Local Government Units.

"Let there be no child left out on the streets by the end of the year" was the urge of KALIPAY founder and president, Anna Balcells, in her opening speech, as she encouraged the NGOs towards collaborating with each other to hasten the process of identifying and rescuing disadvantaged and abused children. To signify their support of this initiative, all participants, and the public, were encouraged to sign their names on the Pledge Wall.



Resource Speaker Butch Lavano with Kalipay kids during the seminar.

## Bagani Visits Kalipay

Bagani Community Center, is a Bacolod-based organization under the Love Yourself, Inc.- which is based in Manila. Love Yourself Inc.'s programs focus on creating an inclusive community, while Bagani advocates for HIV awareness and testing. Butch

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### FIRST LADY VISITS RECOVERED TREASURES



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# First Lady Visits Recovered Treasures

On October 22, Philippines First Lady Louise “Liza” Araneta Marcos, together with her son Vincent “Vinnie” Marcos, visited KALIPAY’s shelter, Recovered Treasures in Bago City. With them on this, their second visit to the shelter in 2022, were Presidential Social Secretary Bianca Zobel, Megaworld President Kevin Tan, and Narvacan, Ilocos Sur Mayor Chavit Singson, among others. Also returning to Recovered Treasures was the Next Gen team, led by Princess Go who facilitated a gift-giving activity for the children. Next Gen is a group of young leaders offering support for grassroots initiatives by bridging partnerships between the private sector and communities in need.

While the KALIPAY children entertained the guests with a presentation of traditional Filipino dances, the staff prepared party games for the visitors’ children. They stayed for the entire day, playing and bonding with the KALIPAY children. Television host Korina Sanchez was also present during the event to interview KALIPAY Founder and President Anna Balcells. She talked to several children to get more insights into their past experiences, and how their life was changed by KALIPAY. 🌱



## Bagani

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Lavaro, Bagani Hub Manager, visited Recovered Treasures on November 3 to give a talk to 18 KALIPAY teens on sexual awareness, HIV and other sexually transmittable diseases, and preventive measures.

This talk is aligned with KALIPAY's goal of providing the children with relevant information on concurrent issues affecting society. These informative discussions on political, social, economic, and cultural issues will offer the children a better understanding of the community outside the confines of the shelter, help them develop their critical thinking skills, and ultimately, make them good decision-makers. 🌱



## Strengthening the Teachers Team

On December 9 and 10, the seven teachers of the KALIPAY Learning Center had their team building activity in Pine Winds in Brgy. Patag, Silay City. As there are three new teachers joining the school this year, this activity was a great opportunity for the entire team to strengthen both their personal and working relationships. The first day was filled with activities focused on knowing oneself, and acknowledging one's strengths and weaknesses. To support this, they had team building activities that promoted trust and developed camaraderie, while the problem-solving activities taught them that they are most efficient when they work together. The workshop ended with an Awarding Ceremony that praised each one's unique abilities, acknowledging how they contribute to the great working dynamic of the KALIPAY Learning Center. Ultimately, this activity will help them work together towards the goal of providing quality education, and becoming role models for the KALIPAY learners. 🌱



## Kalipay Kids Celebrate Masskara Festival

It has been two years since the pandemic put a hold on the Masskara Festival of Bacolod City, but in 2022, the revelry was reinstated. From October 18 to 20, groups of KALIPAY children accompanied by their social workers traveled from Recovered Treasures in Bago City to Bacolod City to several festival sites, like the Lighting Ceremony in Ayala Central, and the fairs surrounding SM Bacolod where they played games and enjoyed the rides. The older teens were allowed to watch bands play at the New Government Center. The children expressed that they have sorely missed the Masskara, and are already looking forward to next year's celebrations. KALIPAY has always put a high value on cultural and recreational experiences for the children as this is a welcome respite from their days at the shelter. These trips are designed to be growth experiences for the children, from learning how to commute using public transport, budgeting their allowances for their fares and snacks, and other activities that would help them manage in the real world. 🌱



Kalipay staff with Resource Speakers Sr. Bienvenida C. Viovicente and Rowena Seblario during certificate awarding.

## Trauma-Informed Care Seminar for KALIPAY Team

From November 29 to December 3 the entire KALIPAY staff joined the seminar for Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) in Mambukal Resort. With KALIPAY as host, Sr. Bienvenida C. Viovicente, a licensed psychologist specializing in trauma-informed care and the current president of the Marian Missionaries of the Philippines, and Rowena R. Sebalario, RSW, MSSW, program officer of Consuelo Zobel Alger Foundation were invited to be the speakers. Due to the lockdowns, the last time KALIPAY had a TIC seminar was in 2020, hence, a lot of new home parents and staff have never undergone this training. For the first three days, all attendees were the new staff, while the old staff stayed behind in Recovered Treasures to look after the children. While on December 2 to 3, upon the commencement of the first batch, it was the turn of the old staff to come to Mambukal for a two-day refresher course on TIC. 🌱

## A Magical Christmas

For the second year in a row, the KALIPAY Board of Trustees, led by Founder and President Anna Balcells, surprised the children with a Christmas Party without them suspecting anything until the last minute. On December 6m the children were treated to an afternoon at Magikland, a theme park in Silay City. All 115 children and all the staff of Recovered Treasures were told that they were going on a trip without knowing the destination. When the buses rolled into the theme park, the children were already shouting with delight. The children spent most of the afternoon trying out all the rides. The day ended with a family dinner where Anna Balcells gave a heartwarming speech thanking everybody for the wonderful year, and how the entire KALIPAY family overcame the challenges of the year. She also expressed her gratitude for the support of the Board of Trustees, for always making sure that the children enjoy the best of what the foundation has to offer. 🌱





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**UNIONBANK**

Mandalagan Branch, Bacolod City  
Negros Occidental, Philippines

Peso Account No: 000 210021 214

Dollar Account No: 13 021 000 5089

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**BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS**

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Peso Account No: 1321032016

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**EURO ACCOUNT**

Account Name: Fundacion Kalipay Negrense España

**LA CAIXA BANK**

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Credit/Debit card:

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## Wish List

1. Milk
2. Formula Milk
3. Meat, Fruits, and Vegetables
4. Rice
5. Medicines and Multivitamins
6. Toiletries
7. Slippers
8. Underwear
9. T-Shirts Of All Sizes
10. Towels & Bed Sheets
11. Electric Fans
12. Computer Tables
13. Emergency Lights
14. Fire Extinguishers
15. Sports Equipment (Volleyball, Badminton, Ping Pong, Basketball etc.)



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