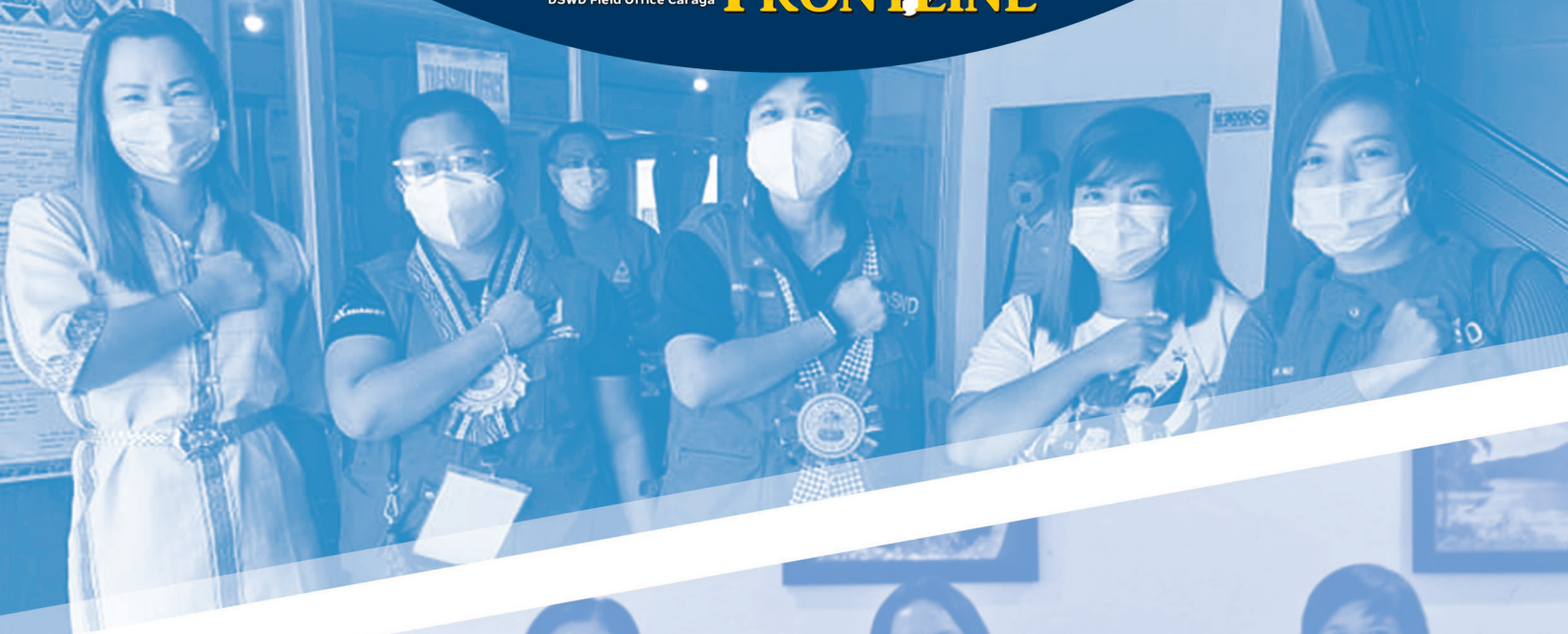


# Caraga

A quarterly publication of  
DSWD Field Office Caraga

## FRONTLINE

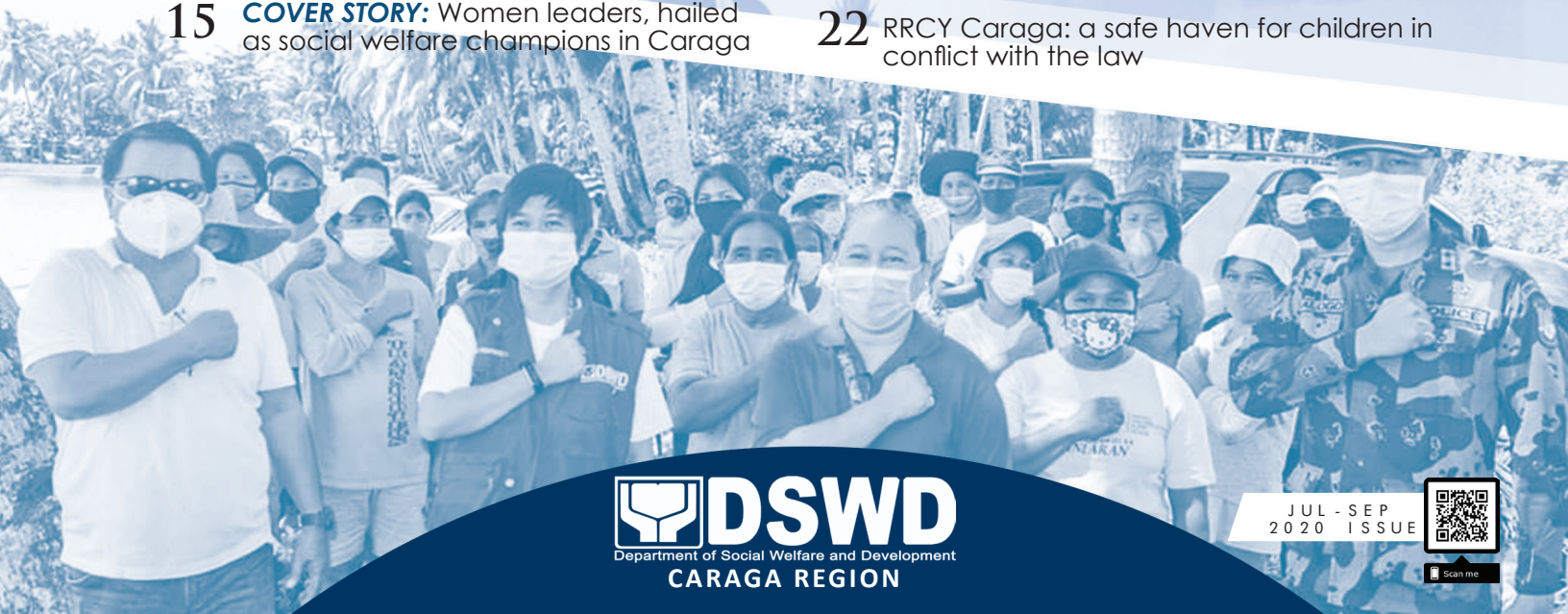


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**DSWD**

Department of Social Welfare and Development

**CARAGA REGION**

JUL - SEP  
2020 ISSUE



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# PSA, DSWD CARAGA TO PARTNER FOR NATIONAL ID SYSTEM PROJECT



OIC-PPD Chief Aldie Mae A. Andoy explain to PSA representatives the requirements in accessing the Listahanan Database on July 2, 2020 at DSWD Field Office.

The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA)-Caraga Region has tapped the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in the Philippine Identification System (PhilSys) implementation, by accessing the latter's Listahanan database.

Hermilando N. Paque, Jr, PSA Registration Officer I and Marjon C. Dalagon, Administrative Assistant II visited the Field Office on July 2, 2020 to discuss the Listahanan Data Sharing Guidelines which is currently managed by the National Household Targeting Section (NHTS) of the Department.

Aldie Mae A. Andoy, OIC of the Policy and Plans Division – Officer-In-Charge, and Listahanan Regional Field Coordinator explained process

and requirements in accessing the Listahanan database to the PSA representatives as compliance to Republic Act 10173 or the Data Privacy Act of 2012. This includes the forging of Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between PSA and the Department, as well as series of inspection meetings to ensure that the 2nd party is capable of handling and protecting sensitive personal information contained in the Listahanan Database.

Listahanan is an information management system that identifies who and where the poor are in the country. It contains demographic and socio-economic status of the identified poor households. It also provides complete information on poor households who will become beneficiaries

of the different anti-poverty programs and services of the government.

The PSA requested the list of poor families/households as they plan to start the pre-registration of the PhilSys project on September this year. PSA is targeting to provide one hundred forty thousand (140,000) Caraganons with the National ID by the end of the year.

President Rodrigo Roa Duterte signed into law the R.A. 11055, also known as the "Philippine Identification System Act". The act mandates the issuance of a national ID that will serve as valid proof of identify for all Filipino citizens and resident aliens. The law tasks PSA as responsible for the overall planning and management of PhilSys. #

# AGUSANON 4Ps BENES COME TOGETHER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN COMMUNITY

**“M**as maayo nga mutabang ta, kaysa kita ang tabangan. Swerte na kaayo kami kay nahimo ming membro sa 4Ps ug naa kami madawatan, samtang ang uban wala (It is better that we help rather than us being extended the help. We are very fortunate enough to have been part of the 4Ps, and that we receive the grants, compared to those who are not).”

These were the words of the 41-year old parent leader and daycare worker, Rona Fuentes. She is one of the 16 parent leaders of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program in Barangay Sampaguita, Veruela, Agusan del Sur.

When COVID-19 took its toll in the country, several Local Government Units provided relief assistance to its constituents. The BLGU of Sampaguita did the same when they delivered half-sack of rice to every household in their barangay. Lacking manpower, some of the 4Ps parent leaders volunteered to deliver the goods to their community.

Though the “new normal” scenario was still slowly sinking in to their system, just like wearing of face masks and maintaining physical





distance, they all were convinced that the need to be together and do something tangible and real was something they needed to do.

A similar situation happened in Barangay Doña Telesfora, Tubay, Agusan del Norte, wherein a group of Modified Conditional Cash Transfer (MCCT) beneficiaries also felt the bayanihan spirit which is innate to Filipinos especially during times of hardship and challenges.

*"Naninkamotgyud minamag-solicit sa mga kaila, kaparentehan, ug batchmates namo nga pwede makaabag luyo aning COVID-19 nga krisis (We took the initiative to solicit from our colleagues/batchmates and relatives who were generous enough to help amid this global crisis)",* Jerama Daug, one of the active MCCT-IP Parent Leader said.

Daug asked the other members to provide list of families (non-Pantawid) of their respective purok or sitio who were not able to receive the Social Amelioration Program subsidy of the government. By aiding a little amount of love and compassion, they were able to distribute rice packs to 100 families in their barangay.

In the Region, a total of 188,467 4Ps beneficiaries received the emergency subsidy under the SAP. This is a provision of the government through the Department of Social Welfare and Development to aid the most affected families because of corona virus disease (COVID-19).

The pandemic awakened a very unique spirit of community that has been in the Filipino culture for centuries. Truly, finding resources is not a big of an issue when done by willing and compassionate individuals and groups, who are willing to extend their hands, regardless of their differences.

*"Grabi ka mahinungdanon ang among panagkita. Bisan og nabag-uhan mi sa pag-social distancing, kay sauna magkumustahay ug magginaksanay gayud mi, pero nalipay gihapon kay nagkakitaay mi (It was a meaningful get together. Although maintaining the social distancing is awkward, because we always greet with a handshake or a warm hug, but we are still glad to see each other),"* Fuentes added.

More than the cash grants that they are receiving, the volunteer work gave them an opportunity to develop their capacities as beneficiaries such as decision making and planning. For this, they always considered themselves fortunate. #



Jerama Daug (in pink) hands the rice pack to one of the identified families in the barangay.



## SOCIAL PENSION FOR INDIGENT SENIOR CITIZENS PROGRAM

### EXPANDING SOCIAL BENEFITS FOR INDIGENT SENIOR CITIZENS (AS OF JUNE 2020)



# 157,587

Indigent Senior Citizens  
given cash grants

■ **93%** out of the **170,000**  
targeted beneficiaries for 2020

**Social Pension Program** is a government assistance of monthly stipend amounting to Php. 500.00 to augment daily subsistence and other medical needs of indigent senior citizen.

- RA 9262 of the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010. -

## SOCIAL PENSION PROGRAM 1ST SEM 2020 PAYOUT COMPLETED

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) field office XIII has already served 151, 735 indigent senior citizen beneficiaries of the Social Pension (SocPen) program amid the COVID-19 crisis as of June 2020.

Beneficiaries of the 73 municipalities of Caraga received their 6-months' worth social pension covering the months of January - June 2020 amounting to a total of P 455,205,000.00. To date, the total number of beneficiaries in Caraga is over 89% out of the targeted 170,000 indigent senior citizens to receive the P 500 monthly government pension for the first semestral of 2020.

The breakdown of the 151, 735 beneficiaries, including replacements, out of the five provinces are as follows: Agusan del Norte, 33, 574; Agusan del Sur, 38, 536; Dinagat Islands, 11,239; Surigao del Norte, 30, 354; and, Surigao del Sur, 38, 032.

The program is known as a non-contributory pension that aims to augment the daily subsistence and other medical needs of senior citizens. The government assistance of a monthly stipend amounting P 500 is one of the obligations of the government as to the full implementation of RA 9262 of the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010.

DSWD specifies the guidelines as to the seniors qualified to receive social pension as mandated by Memorandum Circular No.4 S. 2019. Hence, not all indigent senior citizens will receive the monthly P 500 pension from the government.

In a press release, DSWD assured the public that they are adhering the existing safe and health protocols to determine the best payout method to lessen the exposure of beneficiaries and personnel to the global phase of pandemic alert caused by corona virus disease. #



# ISLAND MUNICIPALITIES RECEIVE DISASTER AUGMENTATION SUPPORT

**T**he Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Field Office Caraga transported around 9000 Family Food Packs (FFPs) intended for the island municipalities in Surigao del Norte last July 15, 2020.

The FFPs, amounting to PhP 3,077,820.00, were requested by the municipalities of Dapa, San Isidro, and Socorro, Surigao del Norte. Each municipality were augmented 3000 FFPs to help provide relief to families affected by the community quarantine due to Coronavirus Disease-2019 pandemic.

The Disaster Response Management Division spearheads the augmentation implementation. To date, a total of PhP 20,561,790.08 worth of food assistance were provided by the Field Office to at least 23 Local Government Units (LGUs) namely; LGU of Butuan City, Jabonga, Las Nieves, Nasipit, Kitcharao, and Tubay, Agusan del Norte; Burgos, Bacuag, Claver, Sison, Malimono, Mainit, Del Carmen, Pilar, San Benito, Santa Monica, San Isidro, Dapa, Socorro, and Tubod, Surigao del Norte; Cagwait, San Agustin, and Tago, Surigao del Sur.

As of this time, the Field Office has 5,345 Family Food Packs available amounting to PhP 1,835,179.10. These are prepositioned in the field office's rented warehouses in Surigao City and Butuan City. Immediate relief is one of the many services of DSWD, as the Department upholds its mandate to provide social welfare to the vulnerable and disadvantaged members of society. With this, DSWD Field Office Caraga continues to coordinate and monitors the LGUs on their response and relief operations to ensure fast delivery of services during the COVID-19 pandemic. #



Family Food Packs were transferred from the DSWD wing van to another wing van bound for San Isidro, Surigao del Norte.





The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Field Office Caraga took part in the ground breaking ceremony of the Home Defense Village (HDV) Project at Sitio Amongon, Barangay Noli, Bayugan City on June 30, 2020, which was headed by the Police Regional Office XIII, in coordination with other National Government Agencies (NGA) who are part of the Regional Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (RTF-ELCAC), and the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Bayugan, Agusan del Sur.

The Home Defense Village Project is one of the banner programs and initiatives of the Philippine Government to end local communist armed conflict in the country. The 8.98 hectare HDV will serve as the new home or community to former rebels (FRs) and allow them to do different activities that can help improve their living condition and provide livelihood opportunities for their families such as farming and livestock raising.

Other than the FRs, police and military men will also be residing in the community to ensure the security of the beneficiaries and their families. In addition, teachers, nurses, and midwives will regularly visit the residents to hold classes for the children of the FRs and check their health conditions.

In the development of the HDV, different line government agencies will collaborate and work together to build the house of each of the families. Each house will have its own bathroom, electricity line, and water source. A Tribal Hall will also be constructed which will serve as a venue for gatherings and activities. On top of that, a school and health center will also be created.

# FIRST HOME DEFENSE VILLAGE A PLACE TO RESTART FOR FORMER REBELS



Members of the Regional Task Force – End Local Communist Armed Conflict (RTF-ELCAC) spearhead the ground-breaking ceremony of the Home Defense Village Project at Sitio Amongon, Barangay Noli, Bayugan City, Agusan del Sur.

Through this project, the FRs are given an opportunity to start over again and explore new opportunities. This will serve as an avenue for them to rebuild their lives together with their respective families.

In light of this project, the Field Office through the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) will also be providing financial assistance to the FRs and families which they can utilize as seed capital fund for their chosen micro-enterprise project or as allowance in looking for employment opportunities and in processing their pre-employment requirements.

DSWD FO Caraga, through the SLP will work constantly with the other NGAs and the community to further the reintegration process for the former rebels.

During the ceremony, DSWD Agusan Sur Provincial Social Welfare and Development Team Leader Sara Rose Salingay was present on behalf of the Field Office, together with the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) Project Development Officers. #



Simultaneous to the conduct of second semester payout to beneficiaries of the Social Pension Program for Indigent Senior Citizens in Magallanes, Agusan del Norte, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) also conducted a modified information caravan to strengthen advocacy on the agency's programs and services to the residents last July 23, 2020.

DSWD Field Office Caraga Social Marketing Section staff distributed flyers, brochures, and magazines to residents of Barangay Taod-oy, and answered queries about the agency's programs and services.

The information drive aims to educate Caraganons on the programs and services of the Department as well as to inform them of the Field Office's accomplishments. For this year's information drive, DSWD is facing quite a number of challenges with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. But the agency is making sure that the conduct of the payouts and information drive would follow strict health and safety protocols, just like social distancing, wearing of masks, and proper handwashing.

Aside from information drives in local government units, DSWD Caraga Social Marketing Section is also active in disseminating success stories and information materials on social media.

Netizens may follow DSWD Caraga on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/dswdcaraga](https://www.facebook.com/dswdcaraga), on Twitter at @dswdcaraga, and on Instagram at [www.instagram.com/dswdcaraga/](https://www.instagram.com/dswdcaraga/).

## DSWD REACHES OUT TO REMOTE VILLAGE IN MAGALLANES



DSWD Field Office Caraga Social Marketing Section staff distributes information materials during second semester payout to beneficiaries of the Social Pension for Indigent Senior Citizens Program in Brgy. Taod-oy, Magallanes, Agusan del Norte last July 23, 2020



After receiving their P3,000 stipends, beneficiaries of the Social Pension Program for Indigent Senior Citizens in Brgy. Taod-oy, Magallanes, Agusan del Norte read the Caraga Frontline, the official magazine of the Department of Social Welfare and Development Field Office Caraga last July 23, 2020.







# BAROBO SLP ASSOCIATIONS RECEIVE TOURIST, FISHING BOATS PROJECT





In pursuit of providing the poor, vulnerable, and marginalized communities with access to opportunities that will increase the productivity of their livelihood assets and improve their socio-economic well-being, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Field Office Caraga's Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) handed over tourist boats and fishing vessels to three SLP associations residing in coastal barangays in Barobo, Surigao del Sur.

The DSWD-SLP turned over one unit of tourist boat and four units of fishing vessels to the P4 Seafarer SLPA at Barangay Poblacion on July 11, 2020. The project amounted to a total of PHP 478,400.00. On behalf of the members of the P4 Seafarer SLPA, Association President Georgia G. Husain showed their gratefulness to the DSWD-SLP for bringing them livelihood opportunities. Husain envisions that with their association's commitment and collective efforts, their tourist boat and fishing vessels project will expand and may help boost the municipality's tourism industry and economy.

*"Magpasalamat mi sa DSWD-SLP sa gi-grant na kantidad sa among grupo. Akong grupo nga Pantawid nangandoy pa nga naa pay dugang na source sa panginabuhian. Cipili namo ni nga project kay kusog ang turismo diri sa Barobo. Daghang tourist spots diri sama sa Bogac, Cabgan Island, Turtle Island, ug daghan pa. Nagtuo mi na ma-sustain kini kay naglambo ang turismo diri sa Barobo (We would like to thank the DSWD-SLP for granting our group this project fund. Our group, composed of Pantawid Pamilya members, has long been hoping to have an additional source of income. We chose this project because tourism in Barobo is booming. Our municipality has a lot of tourist spots such as Bogac, Cabgan Island, Turtle Island, and a lot more. We believe that this project will sustain because of the richness of our tourism industry)," Husain said.*

On the other hand, the Kinayan SLPA and Kinayan Dos SLPA at Barangay Kinayan also received two tourist boats, respectively, on July 15. Each association was granted with an amount of PHP 450,000.00 to purchase the tourist boats and other equipment necessary for the business operations. The two associations opted to propose the said project because their barangay is one of the entry points for tourists who are bound for island hopping.

Kinayan DOS SLPA President Margie Ibañez, during her acceptance speech, expressed her gratitude to the agency and promised that they will nurture the project and work hard to ensure its sustainability.

*"Kami mapasalamaton sa proyekto nga gihatag sa DSWD Field Office Caraga*



**NEW VENTURE.** On July 11, P4 Seafarer SLP Association accepted the one-unit tourist boat and four units of fishing vessels from the DSWD Sustainable Livelihood Program.

*pinaagi sa SLP. Busa ang amo lang gyud ika-promise na amo jud ni ampingan. Aron pud kani maka-anak pa na proyekto. Aron pud maka-benefit ang uban na kaubanan namo sa komunidad (We are very grateful for this project given to us by DSWD Field Office Caraga through the SLP. Hence, we promise to take good care of this project so that it would expand in the future and give benefits to other members in the community)," Ibañez expressed.*

The SLP program participants also showed their appreciation to the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Barobo for its unwavering support and commitment to realize these projects. LGU Barobo, together with the Barangay Local Government Units of Poblacion and Kinayahan, pledged to continue monitoring the project and provide any kind of assistance to the SLPAs.

At present, these associations have already begun accepting bookings but only limited to local tourists. They will be following the 50% capacity during operations as mandated by the Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) and other healthy safety protocols stipulated in the omnibus guidelines such as wearing of face masks, washing of hands, and observing the 1 meter social distance.

These projects are huge livelihood opportunities for the program participants especially that several tourists visit the municipality of Barobo for its mesmerizing islets and islands such as the Cabgan Islets and Turtle Island. Although they can only accommodate local tourists as of the moment, this venture will still be of great help to them to get through this period of crisis.

Both turn-over ceremonies were attended by Barobo Mayor Joey S. Pama and Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer Marilou M. Godito. They were joined by the BLGU officials of Poblacion and Kinayan and the DSWD-SLP field staff.

SLP is one of the core programs of the Department which is centered on poverty-reduction and capacity-building. #

# 42nd NDPR Week successfully celebrated in Caraga



Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Field Office Caraga distributed assistive devices, food packs, hygiene kits and IEC materials to the Person with Disabilities of Caraga Region during the 42nd National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation (NDPR) week last July 17-23, 2020.



House-to-house distribution of assistive device, food packs, hygiene kit, and IEC materials to the Pantawid-PWD beneficiary at Las Nieves, Agusan Del Norte last July 21, 2020.

**T**he Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Field Office Caraga celebrated the 42nd National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation (NDPR) week with the theme: "Together we demonstrate that the rights of children, women, and senior citizens with disabilities to have access to foods, medicines, and assistive devices is important to us; Prioritizing it during this COVID 19 pandemic" on July 17-23, 2020.

DSWD FO Caraga, through the Protective Services Division (PSD) headed by OIC-PSD Chief Jessie Catherine B. Aranas, turned-over assistive devices to twenty-four (24) Persons With Disability (PWDs) during the duration of the celebration. The assistive devices were distributed to the

representatives for the localities of Tagana-an, Alegria, Tubod, Mainit, and Bacuag, Surigao del Norte, Cortes and Lianga, Surigao del Sur, Las Nieves and Magallanes, Agusan del Norte, and San Luis, Agusan del Sur. Aside from the assistive devices, such as wheelchairs, crutches, and walkers, food packs and Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials were also given to the beneficiaries.

Due to the quarantine protocols, representatives from the Province of Dinagat Islands were not able to attend the said turn-over, hence, they will have another schedule as part of the celebration.

The above-mentioned assistance were given to the beneficiaries on July 21, 2020

during the Simultaneous Turn-over of Assistive Devices to the Persons with Disabilities.

The week-long celebration culminated with an online activity on July 23, 2020. DSWD OIC-Regional Director Ramel F. Jamen gave the opening message and emphasized the importance of the role of the different agencies and organizations in furthering the advocacy of promoting the rights of the Person with Disabilities, especially during this time of the pandemic.

Engineer Emerito Rojas, Executive Director of the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA), gave the inspiring message for the said event. Representatives from





Barangay San Vicente, Butan City--House-to-house distribution of assistive device, food packs, hygiene kits during the 42nd NDPR week culmination program. (Photo taken by: Marietta Jandayan)



the local government units of Caraga region attended the program via Zoom and Facebook live.

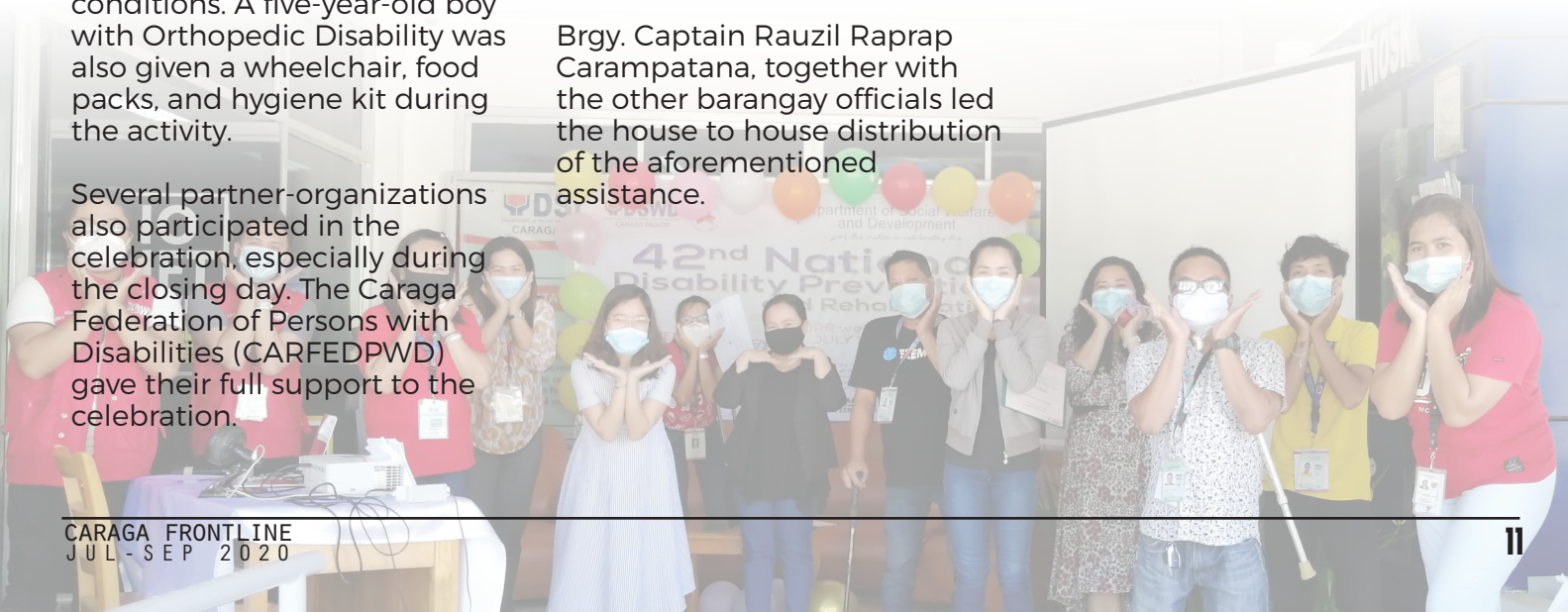
To close the celebration, eight (8) DSWD FO staff with disabilities were given certificates, food packs, and hygiene kits as a token for their dedication in serving the Agency despite their physical conditions. A five-year-old boy with Orthopedic Disability was also given a wheelchair, food packs, and hygiene kit during the activity.

Several partner-organizations also participated in the celebration, especially during the closing day. The Caraga Federation of Persons with Disabilities (CARFEDPWD) gave their full support to the celebration.

The group visited Barangay San Vicente, Butuan City where they distributed the monthly subsidy of the PWDs and children with special needs in the community, amounting to 3,000 pesos each (1st semester of CY 2020) – food packs, hygiene kits, and assistive devices were also provided to the PWDs from the said barangay.

Brgy. Captain Rauzil Raprap Carampatana, together with the other barangay officials led the house to house distribution of the aforementioned assistance.

DSWD FO Caraga along with its partners continues in doing its mission to lead in the formulation, implementation, and coordination of social welfare and development policies and programs for and with the poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged and encourages everyone to lead in ending the discrimination against the PWDs.#





# TILAPIA SLP PROJECT BRINGS GLIMMER OF HOPE TO FAR FLUNG COMMUNITY

Surigao del Sur is known for its abundant marine and aquaculture sector. With this, producing seafood and sea by-products became the province's vital source of livelihood.

Unfortunately, there are still communities in the province that do not have easy access to ocean food and other by-products. People residing in these areas have to spend a slightly hefty amount just on transportation in order to buy fish at the town proper.

Purok 4, Barangay Hinapoyan in the municipality of Carmen is one of the communities in the province that has experienced this circumstance. The community is located 5 kilometers away from the town proper and on top of that, the supply of fish in the area is scarce as well.

Because of the community's situation, this pushed the members of the Mabungahon-Mauswagong Sustainable Livelihood Program Association (SLPA) to propose a Tilapia Production project. The association members shared that they preferred the project because it would be very beneficial to the community and it can help the residents save money because they do not have to go to the town proper anymore to buy fish. The SLPA also deemed this project to be sustainable and feasible because they have no competition in the community yet, as they are the first ones to have this type of livelihood in their area.

Hence, through the Department of Social Welfare and Development's (DSWD) SLP, the SLPA was granted with their proposed project amounting

to Php375,000.00. The project was officially turned over to their care on July 04, 2020. The activity was attended by the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Carmen, Barangay Local Government Unit (BLGU) of Hinapoyan, and DSWD-SLP field staff.

On the same day, the Mabungahon-Mauswagong SLPA also had their first harvest of Tilapia.

Further, the residents and the SLPA members expressed their elation and gratitude to the program for hearing out their concern and providing their community with an additional source of income. Mabungahon-Mauswagong SLPA President Concordio R. Tejol promised that he and other members of the association will nurture



GLIMMER OF HOPE. On July 04, 2020, the DSWD Field Office Caraga through the Sustainable Livelihood Program turned over a Tilapia Production Project to the Mabungahon-Mauswagong SLPA Association at Purok 4, Barangay Hinapoyan, Carmen, Surigao del Sur. The activity was graced by LGU Carmen, BLGU Hinapoyan, and DSWD-SLP field staff.







FIRST HARVEST. An association member smiles as the Mabungahon-Mauswagon SLPA gathers their first bountiful harvest.

the project to ensure its sustainability and so as not to put it into waste.

*"Kami mapasalamaton sa Ginoo kay Iya kami gihatagan og grasya nga mamahimong benepisyaryo sa proyekto. Kami mapasalamaton usab sa DSWD Sustainable Livelihood Program sa paghatag sa amo og oportunidad aron makatagamtam og livelihood project. Kini amo pagaamomahon aron mulambo ug mamahimong mabungahon ug mauswagon (We are grateful to the Lord for He has given us a blessing to become the beneficiaries of this project. Also, we are very thankful to the DSWD Sustainable Livelihood Program for giving us the opportunity to have this livelihood project. We promise to tend to this project very well to make it fruitful and successful)," Tejol said.*

Even though the project has already been handed over to the SLPA, the DSWD-SLP will still continue to monitor the progresses made by the association. Meanwhile, the LGU Carmen also committed that they will also do their part in guiding the association by providing them support and technical assistance. BLGU Hinapoyan has also guaranteed that they will assist the association in any way they can. The Mabungahon-Mauswagon SLPA is composed of 25 Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) members – 11 of which belonging to the Indigenous Peoples (IP) sector. #







DSWD Asec Rhea Peñaflor visits the Municipality of Sison, Surigao del Norte to converse with Mayor Karissa R. Fetalvero-Paronia regarding their strategies in implementing SAP-ESP last July 25.



Tubod Mayor Richelle Romarate poses with ASEC. Peñaflor, together with DSWD Caraga staff and LGU staff during the visit.





# WOMEN LEADERS, HAILED AS SOCIAL WELFARE CHAMPIONS IN CARAGA

RRP-CCAM Project: Mayor Maria Clarita Limbaro and ASEC. Peñaflor visit one of the DSWD projects in the municipality of Bayabas.

**W**omen leaders of the Municipalities in Caraga region was hailed by Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Assistant Secretary Rhea Peñaflor as Social Welfare Champions, during her visit to Caraga last July 25 and 26, 2020.

DSWD Assistant Secretary for Specialized Programs, Rhea B. Peñaflor, together with a DSWD Field Office Staff visited municipalities in Caraga to revisit their initiatives and strategies in the implementation of the Social Amelioration Programs (SAP), specifically for the Emergency Subsidy Program (ESP), and the different programs and services of the Department.

The team visited two municipalities in Surigao del Norte, namely, the Municipality of Sison and Tubod (July 25) and Bayabas, Surigao del Sur (July 26). Peñaflor was

impressed of the initiatives done by the Local Government Units (LGU), specifically by the Local Chief Executives, Mayor Karissa R. Fetalvero-Parania (Sison), Mayor Richelle Romarate (Tubod), and Mayor Maria Clarita G. Limbaro (Bayabas), during the SAP implementation.

"I am thankful for our partners, who are empowered women mayors for championing social welfare programs for the benefit of your constituents especially in the efficient implementation of SAP," Peñaflor said.

The LGUs played an important role in ensuring prompt distribution of the financial aid to eligible beneficiaries of the region. In fact, Local Government Units (LGUs) of Caraga region were commended by DSWD in using different strategies and initiatives that hasten the distribution of SAP-ESP to low income-households who are

affected by the enhanced community quarantine brought by the coronavirus disease 2019 or known as COVID-19.

The strategies and initiatives crafted by the LGUs did not only hasten the distribution but also helped in the process of identifying the eligible beneficiaries of the program. Some of these strategies were addressing complaints and queries from their constituents, ensuring the needs of those who were not covered by the program, and many more.

With this, Caraga Region has been hailed as the Top Performing Region in the SAP-ESP distribution all over the Philippines. And this was made possible by the partner-stakeholders who made sure to deliver prompt social welfare services to Caraganons.#



# KALAHI-CIDSS DROP IMPLEMENTATION IN FULL SWING

**T**he Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Field Office Caraga's implementation of the Disaster Response Operation Procedure (DROP) to combat COVID-19 threats is now in full swing.

DROP allows DSWD's Kalahi-CIDSS-covered areas to shift its operations from regular developmental activities into a disaster response modality to immediately address issues related to early recovery.

Kalahi-CIDSS or Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan – Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services is one of the poverty alleviation programs of the government being implemented by DSWD. Employing community-driven development (CDD) as a strategy, Kalahi-CIDSS trains and engages communities together with their local governments (barangay and municipal) to choose, design, and implement development projects to address their most pressing needs.

"Sa DROP implementation, naa na ta karun sa MIAC (Municipal Inter-Agency Committee) technical review sa uban areas. Buot pasabot, after aning MIAC tech review, RFR (Request

for Fund Release) submission and downloading na dayun (In DROP implementation, we are now in MIAC technical review in some areas. Meaning to say, after this MIAC tech review, RFR submission and downloading will follow)," Kalahi-CIDSS Deputy Regional Program Manager Ester Villamor said.

At present, there are nine municipalities covered by Kalahi-CIDSS National Community-Driven Development Program (NCDDP). These are the towns of Barobo and Madrid in Surigao del Sur province; Placer, Taganaan, Anao-aon and Malimono in Surigao del Norte; Dinagat, San Jose and Basilisa in the Province of Dinagat Island.

The implementation of DROP is in response to Proclamation No. 929, which was issued last March 16, 2020, declaring a State of National Calamity for a period of six months for the entire country. The said proclamation also enjoined all government agencies and Local Government Units (LGUs) to render full assistance, cooperation and mobilize

the necessary resources to undertake critical, urgent, and appropriate disaster response aid and measures to curtail and eliminate the threat of the disease.

The KALAH-CIDSS, in its capacity to work with the people in the vulnerable community, is taking its experience to use the program to complement with all other efforts of different government agencies. The DROP is a temporary procedure that will be adopted to facilitate the implementation of the Community-Driven Development COVID-19 disaster response.

Sub-projects eligible for funding under DROP includes:

- Cash-for-work (CFW) for CVs/ residents for the cleaning and sanitizing public places and offices, communal livestock and/or vegetable/fruit gardening/farming, repacking of goods, manual hauling of food packs in GIDA.
- Training of Barangay COVID-19 Response Team

*Photo caption- Kalahi-CIDSS Caraga Deputy Regional Program Manager Ester Villamor delivers her message during the Municipal Orientation of NCDDP in Madrid, Surigao del Sur.*



with a considerable number of the participants (observing social distancing, provision of PPEs, and other locality guidelines on DOH protocols)

- Retrofitting or Refurbishing of identified public buildings like evacuation centers, barangay halls, school buildings, tribal halls, multi-purpose centers which can be converted as temporary isolation space for onward referral to the official treatment and monitoring facilities in accordance with DOH protocols

- Repair of water supply systems and facilities that were completed with previous project funding;

- Procurement of DOH-approved medical tools and equipment to be used in the COVID-19 response, communication devices like sound system for information dissemination, etc.;

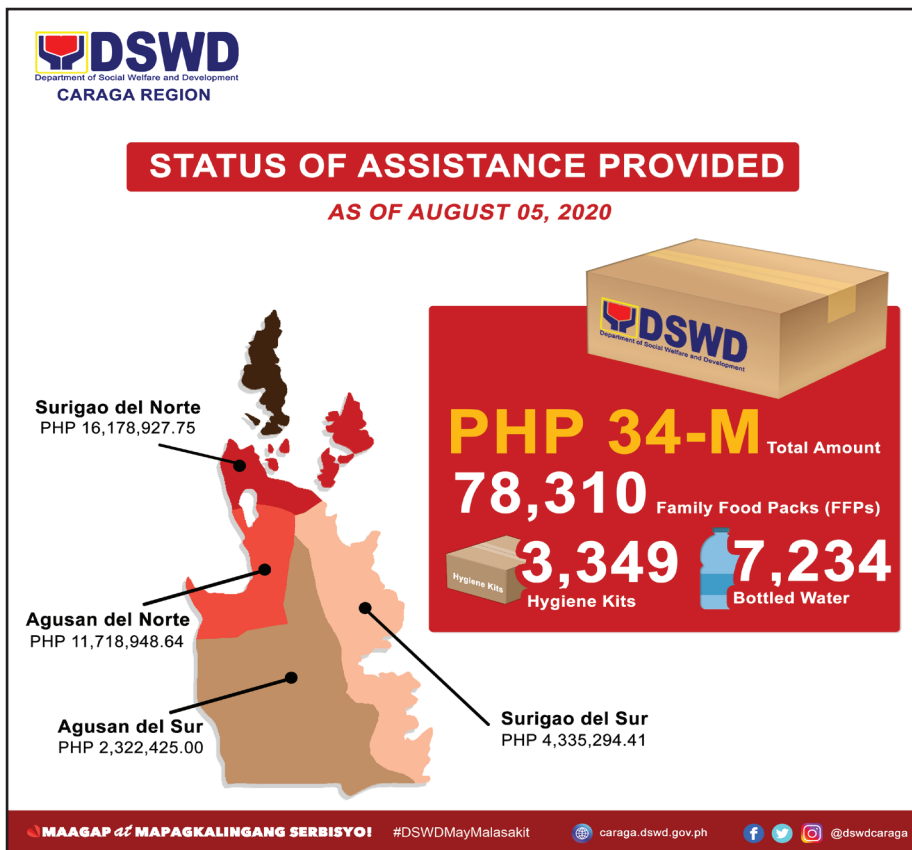
- Setting up of temporary facilities to deliver basic services for the affected communities, such as temporary health facility, mobile market, community kitchen, etc.;

- Rental of vehicles for implementation and monitoring COVID-19-related activities;

- Procurement of personal protection equipment (PPE), hygiene kits, sanitation and cleaning supplies e.g., detergent and disinfectant products, etc., in accordance to DOH standards;

The DSWD, being one of the key agencies tasked to provide assistance for the management of COVID-19 situation, is responsible for the implementation of social protection programs, projects and services for the poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged. #

## DSWD PROVIDES P34-M WORTH AID TO COVID-AFFECTED FAMILIES



As of today, a total amount of PHP 34,001,588.20 food and non-food assistance were already provided by DSWD Field Office Caraga, to wit:

78,310 Family Food Packs (FFPs) are delivered to 25 LGUs namely; LGU of Butuan City, Jabonga, Las Nieves, Nasipit, Kitcharao, and Tubay, Agusan del Norte; Burgos, Bacuag, Claver, General Luna, Sison, Malimono, Mainit, Del Carmen, Pilar, San Benito, Santa Monica, San Isidro, Dapa, Socorro, and Tubod, Surigao del Norte; Cagwait, Carmen, San Agustin, and Tago, Surigao del Sur as augmentation assistance to affected families of the community quarantine imposed due to COVID-19 pandemic.

3,349 Hygiene Kits amounting to PHP 5,555,572.38 were provided to the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) as assistance to Indigenous Peoples (IPs) during the pandemic.

7,234 500mL bottled water amounting to PHP 57,293.28 were also augmented for the returning Locally Stranded Individuals (LSIs) and Returning Overseas Filipinos.

DSWD will continue to address the needs of the people in this trying times. #

# DSWD FO Caraga extends kalinga at pagmamahal to LSIs and ROFs



The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Field Office Caraga, through the Protective Services Division, distributed hot meals and food packs to the locally stranded Caraganons from Luzon.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Field Office Caraga continues to serve the returning Locally Stranded Individuals (LSIs) and Returning Overseas Filipinos (ROFs) from Luzon.

The Hatid Tulong Program, of which the Agency is part of has already catered 5,805 LSIs and 541 ROFs as of August 3, 2020. The assistance given were meals upon arrival, family food packs, and cash assistance during their travel from Luzon to Caraga.

A total amount of Php1,219,019 (Php129,757 for hot meals and Php1,809,262 pesos for food packs) was given to the LSIs and Php140,760.50 pesos for ROFs (Php32,216.40 for hot meals and Php108,544.10 for food packs).

For LSIs and ROFs who still have different needs after going back to their respective cities/municipalities, they can still avail of the services of the Agency through the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) Program as long as they have the necessary documents in requesting for aid from the program.

DSWD FO Caraga continues in serving the people through its *kalinga at pagmamahal and may malasakit na serbisyo*.#



# Students, Partners Show Support Against Trafficking Through Artworks

Members of the Regional Inter-Agency Committee Against Trafficking- Violence Against Women and their Children (RIACAT-VAWC) Caraga, headed by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), highlighted the World Day Against Trafficking (WDAT) celebration with an Online Poster Making Contest last August 7, 2020.

This year's celebration *"Isang Bayan, Isang Paninidigan Laban sa Trafficking ng Mamamayan; Palakas in at mas lalong pag-ibayuhin sa panahon ng COVID-19,"* was given an artistic touch by the participants, as they crafted their work of arts to show support to the celebration.

The said Online Poster Making Contest had three (3) categories: Elementary, High School, and Local Government Units Level. Participants were judged based on the following criteria: (50%) for number of shares and likes on social media and (50%) according to the Judges' scores.

The grand winner of the contest received Php7,000 cash and Php1,000 worth of grocery items. The 2nd placer received Php5,000 cash and Php1,000 worth of grocery items. While the 3rd placer received Php2,000 cash and Php1,000 worth of grocery items. An additional amount of Php2,000 was given to the Most Shared photo on social media. All other participants received a souvenir shirt and a consolation prize worth 1,000 pesos and grocery items worth Php1,000.







The winners for the Online Poster Making Contest for the WDAT 2020 are as follows:  
Elementary Category:

First: Norman A. Jamorol Jr. from Amando A. Fabio Memorial School, Most Shared photo  
Second: Sylvester Max G. Uyanib from Bayugan Central Elementary School

Highschool Category:

First: Kelvin Ray O. Okut, Bayugan Comprehensive National High School, Most Shared photo  
Second: Jhulius Gin Trigo, Bayugan Comprehensive National High School  
Third: Jancynnah Timcang, Bayugan Comprehensive National High School

Local Government Units (LGU):

First: Eleazar Quirante of LGU Bayugan, Most Shared photo  
Second: Clarence M. Dingding of LGU Gigaquit

DSWD congratulates the above-mentioned winners and would like to thank its partners for making the event possible despite the challenges brought about by the pandemic.

The Agency also encourages everyone to participate in the advocacy activities of the Agency in terms of WDAT, and other related advocacies for awareness, specifically in social media wherein most of the people are active. #

Captions:

1. Elementary Category:  
First: Norman A. Jamorol Jr.  
Amando A. Fabio Memorial School, most shared

2. Elementary Category:  
Second: Sylvester Max G. Uyanib  
Bayugan Central Elementary School

3. Highschool Category:  
First: Kelvin Ray O. Okut, BNCHS, most shared

4. Highschool Category:  
Second: Jhulius Gin Trigo, BNCHS

5. Highschool Category:  
Third: Jancynnah Timcang, BNCHS

6. Local Government Units (LGU):  
First: Eleazar Quirante of LGU Bayugan, most shared

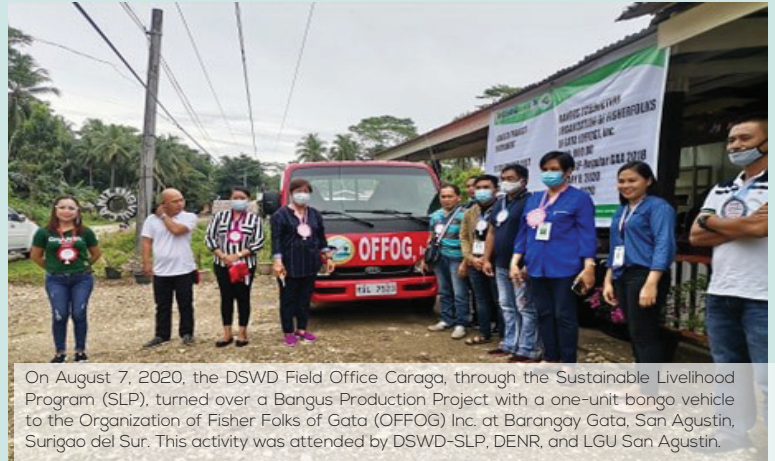
7. Local Government Units (LGU):  
Second: Clarence M. Dingding of LGU Gigaquit



# Bangus production, fish carrier project sparks hope for SLP Association



San Agustin Mayor Libertad O. Alameda (third from L) commits to assist the OFFOG Inc. and help the association in any way that the LGU can.



On August 7, 2020, the DSWD Field Office Caraga, through the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP), turned over a Bangus Production Project with a one-unit bongo vehicle to the Organization of Fisher Folks of Gata (OFFOG) Inc. at Barangay Gata, San Agustin, Surigao del Sur. This activity was attended by DSWD-SLP, DENR, and LGU San Agustin.

Even as the country continues to grapple with the Corona Virus 2019 (COVID-19), the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Field Office Caraga has tripled its efforts in ensuring that quality social services are still delivered efficiently and speedily to vulnerable and disadvantaged communities. In view of this commitment, the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) handed over a Bangus Production project to the Organization of Fisher Folks of Gata (OFFOG) Incorporated in Barangay Gata, San Agustin, Surigao del Sur on August 7, 2020.

The said livelihood project, amounting to PHP 900,000, is a result of the partnership between the DSWD-SLP and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). These two agencies have inked a memorandum of agreement on December 14, 2018, with the prime goal of promoting poverty reduction by capacitating and empowering vulnerable communities in the upland and coastal areas while protecting the environment. In addition, the project also

includes a one-unit bongo vehicle to guarantee that the milkfish produce of the association will be delivered and properly marketed to identified and other potential buyers.

According to OFFOG Chairperson Erwin Yngcong, their association has opted for this project because bangus is one of the most merchantable and affordable fish products in the market. They have also requested to include a vehicle because delivering their catch has always been their struggle even before becoming an SLP association.

*"Sauna maglisod mi og market sa among produkto na isda panahon sa pag-harvest. Mag-abang o mag-arkila pa kami aron masuroy ang isda (Before this project, we would have a difficult time marketing our fish producing during harvest period. We needed to rent a vehicle just to deliver the fish)." Yngcong narrated.*

In behalf of the association, Yngcong also uttered a message of gratitude to the DSWD-SLP, DENR, and the Local Government Unit (LGU) of San Agustin for helping

them realize this project. *"Daghan gyud kaayong salamat sa DSWD-SLP, DENR, ug sa atong local nga pamahalaan sa San Agustin nga natuman ang paghatag ani nga proyekto. Kabalo ko unsa ka malipayon akong mga kaubanon karon sa asosasyon (We express our much appreciation to the DSWD-SLP, DENR, and LGU San Agustin for making this project a reality. I know how happy my co-members in the association are)."*

Further, the Local Government Unit (LGU) of San Agustin also committed that they will constantly monitor the association and will provide any assistance that the SLPA might need along the way to make sure that the project will become sustainable. The turnover activity was graced by San Agustin Mayor Libertad Alameda and Vice Mayor Mamerta Milo. Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer Joji Abarca, Municipal Planning Development Coordinator Engr. Gremer Lamela, DSWD, and DENR staff were also present during the activity.#



# RRCY CARAGA:

a safe haven for children  
in conflict with the law

“Speak to your children as if they are the wisest, kindest, most beautiful and magical humans on Earth. For what they believe is what they'll become.”- Brook Hampton

The Regional Rehabilitation Center for Youth (RRCY) Caraga, a Residential Care Facility of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Field Office Caraga, located in Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur is continuing to provide a holistic approach in the rehabilitation of children in conflict with the law (CICL). RRCY Caraga, currently housing 41 residents, is the rehabilitation center for male Caraganon CICLs. The center is not a jail for minors; hence, it is their safe haven to become the better version of themselves, through rehabilitation processes, before being integrated back to the community.

According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) the term Children In Conflict with the Law (CICL) refers to anyone under 18 years old who comes into contact with the justice system as a result of being suspected or accused of committing offence. Most CICLs have committed petty crimes or such minor offences as vagrancy, truancy, begging, or alcohol use. Some of these are known as “status offenses” and are not considered criminal when committed by adults. In addition, some children who engage in criminal behavior have been used or coerced by adults. Too often, prejudice related to race, ethnicity or social and economic status may bring a child into conflict with the law even when no crime has been committed.



The Regional Rehabilitation Center for Youth (RRCY) Caraga residents on their daily activities at the center.





The Agency as the Department of the government that focuses on the social welfare and development of the Filipino people, is making sure to cater all the needs of the vulnerable and disadvantaged members of the society. The protection and assurance of excellent quality of life is also listed as one of the top priorities of the Agency. To combat the issues related to the plight of the CICLs, the government mandated the DSWD to come up with a program and services that provides alternative family care arrangements to the these CICLs.

One of the legal basis of the said program and services of the Agency is the Republic Act 5416, Providing for Comprehensive Social Service for Individuals and Groups in Need of Assistance, the Department shall set standards and policies to insure effective implementation of public and private social welfare programs, and accredit institutions and organizations, public and private, engaged in social welfare activity including the licensing of child caring and child placement institutions and provide consultative services thereto.

In the Child Protection Sheet: Children In Conflict with the Law of UNICEF, there were eight points in building a protective environment for children, and the following are as follows:

### Government commitment and capacity

RRCY Caraga, credited as a Level II residential rehabilitation center, follows the general standards that serve as guide for policy and program planning. The center has (a) administration and organization that indicates the desired outcomes for its residents and programs and services that is in line with the Agency's vision, mission, and goals (VMG), (b) program management wherein projects and activities are responsive to the needs of the residents, appropriate resources are allocated and utilized efficiently towards attaining the Agency's VMG as well as in improving the total well-being of the residents, (c) case management handled by social workers who are responsible for social work methods, innovative strategies/

approaches and processes in accordance with the assessment of their problems and written treatment plan and this also includes the systematic documentation of the helping process as basis for determining appropriate interventions and their effects on the residents being cared for, (d) helping strategies/interventions is the provision of any or a combination of services/interventions done by the social worker taking into the consideration the age, gender, nature of the case and the physical and intellectual attributes of the residents, and (e) physical structures and safety -physical facilities shall be kept in good condition and designed in such a way that will promote the physical, cultural, emotional and psycho-social well-being of the residents and staff.

### Legislation and enforcement

DSWD FO Caraga, as the lead agency of the Regional Inter-Agency Committee Against Trafficking- Violence Against Women and their Children (RIACAT-VAWC) and Regional Committee for the Welfare of the Children (RCWC), has the right partners in combatting human trafficking specifically with minors. It is an active committee that focuses on saving the children that are victims of Online Sexual Exploitation of Children (OSEC), abuse, rape, and other types of exploitation, and crime.

### Attitudes, customs and practices

Though the CICLs may be portrayed as wicked or threatening, RRCY Caraga has several methods that teach the children how to divert negative energy into a positivity. One of its activities conducted by the RRCY staff is Attitude of Gratitude seminar held last June 30, 2020 wherein the lecturer discussed about the benefits of showing gratitude.



The Regional Rehabilitation Center for Youth (RRCY) Caraga residents on their daily activities at the center.

The activity taught the residents the importance of being grateful in all the circumstances they've encountered.

Open discussion

CICLs are known to have a stressful life due to the challenges that they've encountered. Stress is a feeling of emotional or physical tension. It can come from any event or thought that makes you feel frustrated, angry, or nervous. RRCY Caraga generated a Stress Management activity on May 20, 2020 to help the residents cope with their stress especially in this time of pandemic.

### Children's life skills, knowledge and participation

RRCY Caraga is active when it comes to honing the skills of the residents. The center has daily Alternative Learning System (ALS) classes and sessions both for elementary and high school level facilitated by the center's ALS facilitator. Some of the activities are gardening, welding, and other basic life skills to help them prepare for their future reintegration to the community and their family.

### Capacity of families and communities

RRCY Caraga has scheduled visitation for its residents. This is a special time for the residents wherein they are given free time to bond with their families inside the facility. This is also part of the program and services of the center for the complete recovery of the residents.

### Essential services, including for prevention, recovery and reintegration

RRCY Caraga has its own clinic with a registered nurse and a psychometrician to check the health of the residents.

The center also partnered with different agencies to help and prepare the physical, emotional, and mental health of the residents for their recovery and reintegration. The services are patterned to the Agency's VGM that aims to achieve rehabilitation and avoid repeat offenses by the residents.

### Monitoring, reporting and oversight

RRCY Caraga's staff are all well-trained in monitoring the residents by making case studies, documentation of the status of the residents whether they are ready for reintegration or still needs improvement and guidance. RRCY Caraga, is now aiming for a Level III Accreditation to upgrade for a better quality of facilities and services.

DSWD FO Caraga encourages everyone to extend their kalinga at pagmamahal to the children especially those who are disadvantaged, vulnerable, and poor to help them become a better person – veering them away from taking the wrong path. "It takes a village to raise a child" and it's everyone's duty as part of the community to help in nurturing the youth, for the **youth is the hope of the future.**



The Regional Rehabilitation Center for Youth (RRCY) Caraga residents on their daily activities at the center.



# Toyo, Mantika, Asin: Batang 4Ps of Lanuza, SurSur perseveres to achieve his dreams



Julieto delivers the opening prayer during their schools Career Day.

**“***Ang pinakapaborito naming toyo, mantika, at asin ang siyang katambal ng kanin para maibsan ang nararamdaman naming gutom.”*

These were the words of 16-year old Julieto Espinola Jr. as he narrated the kind of life that he grew up with. Their living condition was difficult especially that they have six mouths to feed every day. His parents, Julieto and Gina, has no regular work, thus he considers their household as one of the poorest family in Barangay Bunga, Lanuza, Surigao del Sur.

In the past, his father used to fish in the suba (river) for them to have viand on the table. They can only taste chicken whenever a member of the family celebrated a birthday. Every time he goes to school, Julieto budgeted the P3.00

baon (allowance) for lunch, opting to buy ketchup as partner for rice. But even with this situation, he grew up to be healthy and smart, along with his siblings. They were raised as disciplined and respectful children. Their parents wanted them to finish their schooling, always reminding them to focus on studies and to never get married on an early age and be hampered from succeeding in life.

## Started with a knock

It was 2015, when an unexpected guest knocked at their door. It was one of the Listahan enumerators conducting the 2nd round household assessment, and surveying potential poor households that may benefit from the programs and services of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

By chance, Julieto's family qualified to be a beneficiary of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) – the Philippine's conditional cash transfer program and an answer of the national government to the never-ending and inter-generational poverty cycle in the country.

*“Sa kauna-unahang ayudang pinansyal na natanggap namin sa 4Ps, agad itong ipinambili ni Mama ng mga pangangailangan namin sa eskwela at pagkain sa araw-araw. Isa sa nagbigay ng ngiti sa aming magkakapatid ay ang pandesal, dahil noon ay bihira lamang kaming makakain nito (My mother bought our school needs and food when we had our first financial aid/grant from the 4Ps. A simple pandesal brought a big smile to our*

faces, since it was the only time we could afford to buy such – we could not buy it before),” Juliето shared.

But his smile was turned into sadness when he remembered a certain storm that passed after that. A tension between his parents and grandparents caused his mother and sister Carmerose to leave their family. When they left, all Juliето could hear were the cries of his siblings pleading, “Inay! ‘Wag mo kaming iwan, (Mother, don’t leave us)” but to no avail, their mother still left them.

Months passed, his father was able to buy a lot. With the help of the Program’s cash grants and some savings he got taking on jobs, the family was able to build a small house. And with the newly built house, they were also able to build back their family - his mother came back with their other sibling.

### **Molded to become better citizens**

Aside from the financial aid they were receiving, Juliето acknowledged the greater purpose of the Program to mold the beneficiaries to become better citizens. First, by encouraging them to put up a garden and maintain cleanliness in their surroundings. Second, by letting them attend the monthly Family Development Sessions (FDS) with various modules such as Responsible Parenting, Violence against Women and their Children (VAWC), and Women’s Rights, the same goes with Youth Development Sessions (YDS) tackling on Teenage Pregnancy, Drug Abuse, and Children’s Rights. Lastly, by instilling to them the importance of education.

*“Pinagtibay ng Programa ang aking mga pangarap, na kahit ano mang dagok*

*ang dumating at darating pa sa aming pamilya kaya namin itong lampasan sa pamamagitan ng matibay na pananalig sa Diyos, madalas na pakikipag-usap sa bawat isa o komunikasyon, at ang mataimtim na pag-aaral para sa kinabukasan* (The program concretized my dreams – amidst the hardship that came to our lives, and will still come in the future, we will be able to overcome them through our trust in God, proper communication, and focus on our studies),” he shared.

Little by little, their family was able to improve their living conditions. His father bought a tricycle to use for his business. His elder brother Paul John finished with a degree in Bachelor of Science in Information Technology major in Electronic Technology at Surigao del Sur State University and is now working in Cagayan de Oro City before the pandemic hit. His sister Carmerose is now in her sophomore year in college. His younger brother Yancy Mar is now in 2nd year high school. Juliето, on the other hand, is an incoming Grade 11 student this year.

### **Filled with hopes and aspirations**

Over the years, Juliето did his very best in school as he graduated as 1st honorable mention during his elementary days. He received awards and recognitions as the top placer and with highest honors in high school. He won various press conferences such as 1st place in Radio Broadcasting in the municipal level and Best in Talent in the district level.

Moreover, he was in-charge of their school’s Project SCION (Students’ Concern and Initiative on Nature), wherein they focused on the school’s cleanliness. He became the

President of the Barkada Kontra Droga (BKD) initiative, which focuses on how to veer students away from illegal drug use. Every school year, they conduct a symposium and recreational activities such as poster-making, spoken poetry, and jingle composition. He is often tasked to take part during programs and events of their school.

*“Para sa akin mahalaga ang makapagtapos upang makamit ko ang aking pangarap para sa sarili, pamilya, at sa komunidad. Iyong nakikita ko silang nakangiti at may maayos na kondisyon sa pamumuhay* (It is very important for me to finish my studies and reach my personal dream, my families dream, and my community’s dreams. I want to see them all happy of my achievements),” he exclaimed.

Juliето aspires to be a lawyer like his idol, the late Senator Miriam Defensor-Santiago. He wants to serve the Filipinos with all honesty and efficiency by giving them equal access to justice and fight for their rights. Through the help of his family and his perseverance in studying, he is positive that he can be successful in achieving this dream.

*“Masasabi kong nabago ang buhay namin ng kami ay naging benepisyaryo ng 4Ps. Tinulungan kaming makaahon sa kahirapan at sa makamit ng aming mga mithiin sa buhay. Kaya sa mga kapwa ko kabataan na nalulugmok sa kahirapan, ang tanging masasabi ko ay ‘wag kayong sumuko kahit anong hamon man ng buhay ang kailangan suungin. Dahil ang dating toyo, mantika, at asin... sa kalaunan ay magiging adobo rin* (I can say that our lives changed because of 4Ps. The program helped us reach for our dreams and achieve

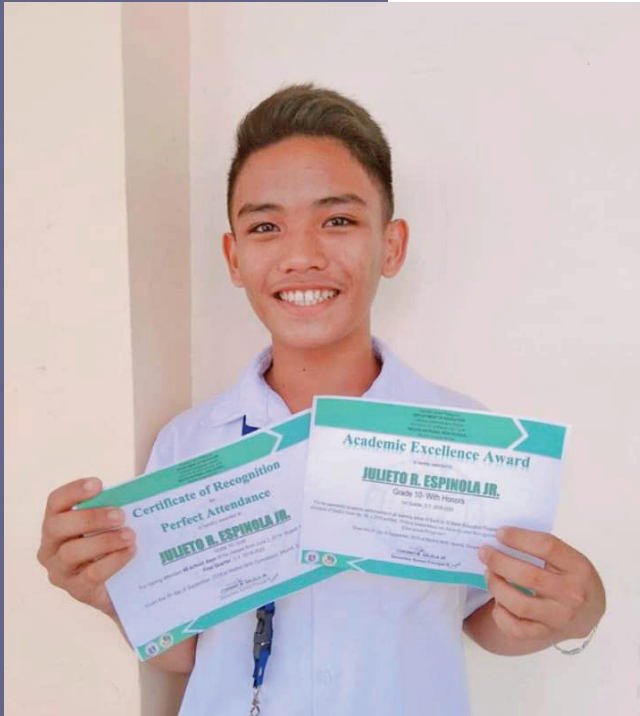


our goals in life. So for all of my fellow youth who are facing the different challenges in life and are facing hardship, do not be disheartened, and continue to face life's challenges. The soy sauce, cooking oil and salt we used to consume, will definitely be adobo in the future)." #

Captions:

1st & 2nd photo:  
Julieto excels both in academic and extra-curricular activities at Madrid National High School.

3rd photo:  
The Espinola family on the graduation of their youngest child Yancy Mar.





# BAYABAS TOWN COMPLETES QUARANTINE FACILITIES THROUGH KALAHI-CIDSS



“The municipality of Bayabas, Surigao del Sur has expressed its gratitude to the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) for the temporary health/quarantine facilities built in six of its seven barangays.

In a Facebook post by Bayabas Municipal Mayor Ma. Clarita Limbaro last September 11, she thanked the Department, including the Area Coordinating Team and Municipal Coordinating Team for the subprojects that were erected in barangays Panaosawon, Amag, Balete, Magobawok, La Paz and Cagbaoto.

Mayor Limbaro also thanked the barangay councils, community volunteers, and all those who were involved in the realization of the project.

The quarantine facility is a collapsible tent with 12 rooms, complete with beds, electric fan, table and chairs, and beddings.

The projects are under the Disaster Response Operation Procedure (DROP) of DSWD's Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (Kalahi-CIDSS) Program.

The implementation of DROP is in response to Proclamation No. 929, which was issued last March 16, 2020, declaring a State of National

Calamity for a period of six months for the entire country due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

DROP allows DSWD's Kalahi-CIDSS – covered areas to shift its operations from regular developmental activities into a disaster response modality to immediately address issues related to disaster early recovery.

Community projects proposed and funded range from Retrofitting/Refurbishing of dilapidated community infrastructures, Cash for Work projects, construction of Health facilities/amenities, procurement of Communication Devices for disaster operations, Construction of Communal Latrines, Construction of quarantine facilities, Construction of hand washing areas, Repair of water system, and fund Capability building activities relative to disaster.

Kalahi-CIDSS is one of the poverty alleviation programs of the government being implemented by DSWD. Employing community-driven development (CDD) as a strategy, Kalahi-CIDSS trains and engages communities together with their local governments (barangay and municipal) to choose, design, and implement development projects to address their most pressing needs.#



# ESGP-PA GRADUATES WITH LATIN HONORS RECEIVE CASH INCENTIVES

“Former grantees of the Expanded Students’ Grants-in-Aid Program for Poverty Alleviation (ESGP-PA), implemented through the Department of Social Welfare and Development’s (DSWD) Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program, received cash incentives from anonymous donors.

Vicselyn Bale, John Lasco, and Mary Joy Reyes, ESGP-PA scholars, who graduated Magna Cum Laude in 2018-2019, received cash gifts after the program was able to secure donations from anonymous benefactors amounting to Php59,000, specifically donated for Magna Cum Laude Graduates belonging to the scholarship program.

Though it was a bit challenging for the RPMO staff to facilitate the release of the cash incentives, especially during this time of pandemic, the disbursement was done successfully with the help of the Provincial Operations Offices.

“The cash was of great help to my family. I used it in purchasing daily necessities and goods. When I arrived home bringing with me the goods, I could see the genuine excitement and happiness painted in my family’s faces. I am forever grateful to the Philippine government for implementing ESGP-PA through DSWD,” Lasco, now a Licensed Professional Teacher, stated in his letter of gratitude addressed to the Field Office.

In 2016, a budget of P2.5B was allocated through Joint Memorandum Circular No. 01 to be used for tertiary education of poor but deserving students belonging to indigent households. The program prioritized the beneficiaries of 4Ps by providing them the opportunity to get college education, and in the process, increase their chance to get better employment in the future, and ultimately uplift the lives of their family so that they become contributors to national development. #



RPMO and POO staff hands the cash incentive for ESG-PPA graduates Bale, Lasco, and Reyes.

# DSWD Capacitates Secretariat teams to effectively carryout functions during new normal



“The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Field Office Caraga conducted a Two-Day Activity on Strengthening Regional Committee Secretariats’ Strategies in the New Normal Times from September 17 to 18, 2020 at the Conference Hall, DSWD Regional Office.

The two-day activity was attended by the regional representatives and/or focal persons of the Agency from the Regional Committee for the Welfare of Children (RCWC), Regional Juvenile Justice and Welfare Council (RJJWC), Regional Inter-Agency Committee Against Trafficking-Violence Against Women and their Children (RIACAT-VAWC), Regional Inter-Agency Committee- Filipino Family, Regional Inter-Agency Committee- Senior Citizen, Regional Committee on Disability Affairs (RCDA) Regional Disaster Response Committee (RDRC), and Youth.

Due to the pandemic that the country currently faces, those in government are challenged to come up with a strategic plan that will not hinder the operations of the different programs, services, and advocacies despite the mandatory health protocols on social distancing and limitations on social gatherings.

The activity served as a venue for the regional committees of the Agency to substantially discuss the needs and Key Action Points (KAP) generic to the tasks, functions, and operations of the committees in the New Normal.

DSWD FO Caraga came up with a plan to rightfully modify and adapt to such changes while applying appropriate and responsive



approaches and strategies without prejudice to the core mandate and functions of the existing sectoral committees.

The training was designed to understand the different challenges the participants faced and the Key Action Points needing attention. Highlighted during the activity were the Best Practices of the different committees for replication, assess the challenges encountered by the committees, identify areas needing improvement, and identify relevant digital skills useful or applicable during this time.

At the end of the activity, the participants were able to come up with a plan of action and strategies, and finalized an action plan that would concretize the tasks, functions, operations, time frame, and budget to fully operationalize the results of the activity.

Jessie Catherine Aranas, Protective Services Division Chief, expressed her elation on the conduct of the said activity during her closing remarks. She hoped that the participants would take into heart the learnings during the said training.

Aranas highlighted the word COVID which meant C -hange for what’s better, O -vercome any hindrance, V -irtual activities must be capitalized, I -nstitutionalize standards for new normal strategies, and D -velop more responsive approaches.

Despite the pandemic, DSWD FO Caraga is passionately crafting new ways and ideas to reach to the community and its beneficiaries and to never stop in giving the kalinga at pagmamahal brand of service, even with the different challenges.#

PHOTO 1 Caption: Jessie Catherine B. Aranas, Protective Services Division Chief discussed and led the strategic planning on Key Action Points during the Two-Day Activity on Strengthening Regional Committee Secretariats’ Strategies in the New Normal Times last September 17-18, 2020 at DSWD Field Office Caraga, R. Palma St., Butuan City.

PHOTO 2 Caption: Participants showing enthusiasm and their full participation during the Two-Day Activity.



# DSWD reiterates Guidelines for Social Pension Program

“Due to the high number of queries regarding the qualifications for the Social Pension for Indigent Senior Citizens Program, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Field Office Caraga reiterates that only Indigent Senior Citizens are qualified to receive the social pension as per recognition of the Republic Act (RA) 9994 also known as the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010.

The law specifies that seniors qualified to receive social pension are those who are frail, sickly or with a disability; without any pension from other government agencies; and without a permanent source of income or source of financial assistance/compensation to support their basic needs. Hence, only Indigent Senior Citizens are qualified to receive the monthly stipend amounting to Php500 to augment their daily subsistence and other medical needs which is distributed per semester at Php3,000 per semester or Php500 in six (6) months.

The SocPen program is implemented by the DSWD in coordination with the City or Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office(s) (C/MSWD) together with the Office of the Senior Citizens Affairs (OSCA).

According to the guidelines of the program, the Barangay of Senior Citizens Association may recommend or submit a list of potential beneficiaries to the OSCA Head or to the C/MSWD office(s). The OSCA shall consolidate the list of all potential beneficiaries that are certified by the C/MSWD office for submission to the concerned DSWD Field Office. After so, the DSWD shall then cross-match the consolidated list submitted with the available data from the Social Security System (SSS), Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO), and private insurances companies.

Inasmuch as DSWD would like to cater all senior citizens, the budget for the SocPen program is limited.

Having said all these, DSWD assures everyone that the agency is doing its best to ensure that only the rightful beneficiaries are provided with government assistance such as the Social Pension for Indigent Senior Citizens programs. DSWD also continues its validation as part of the efforts to ensure that only eligible seniors will receive the monthly subsidy.

If queries, concerns, and problems still come about, DSWD is open to cater all these through these numbers: (085) 342 -5619; 09094522711; 09061211856; they can also email their concerns at focrg.socialpension@gmail.com. #



DSWD staff of SocPen program assists one of the beneficiaries before she claims her P3,000.00 monthly government stipend at Magallanes, Agusan del Norte.

## Unsa ang Social Pension for Indigent Senior Citizens Program?



Ang **SOCIAL PENSION** usa ka programa sa gobyerno pinaagi sa DSWD, nga maghatag og tabang pinansyal, nga nagkantidad ug P500 kada bulan sa mga kabus nga mga tigulang. Katoyuan niini nga makatabang sa pang adlaw-adlaw nga panginahanglanong pinansyal ug medikal sa mga tigulang.

- Republic Act 9994 kon Expanded Senior Citizens Act 2010 -

## Kinsa ang KWALIPIKADO nga mahilakip sa programa?



Nagpangedaron og 60 anyos pataas.



Mahuyang, masakiton, o naay kapansanan.



Walay pensyon nga ginadawat gikan sa SSS, GSIS, PVAO o uban pang matang sa pensyon gikan sa gobyerno o sa mga pribadong buhatan.



Walay permanenteng tinubdan sa panginabuhian o tabang pinansyal gikan sa mga anak o paryente.



**Listahanan**  
TALAAN NG PAMILYANG NANGANGAILANGAN

## MORE THAN 276K HOUSEHOLDS INITIALLY IDENTIFIED AS POOR

“276,654 households in Caraga have been identified as poor - this was the result of the Data Collection and Analysis phase to the 491,203 households that were assessed by the Listahanan field workers of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Field Office Caraga last year.

The initial list of poor was generated using the Proxy Means Test, a statistical model used to predict the per capita income of a household based on observable characteristics that correlate with, but are easier to measure, than income.

The initial list is the result of the sacrifices and struggles of the enumerators who visited and interviewed households, and collected pertinent information using Household Assessment Forms (HAFs) during the Listahanan 3rd round household assessment.

From the initial list, the province of Agusan del Sur tops the list of having the most poor households with 81,425 households, followed by Surigao del Sur - 67,702, Surigao del Norte-53,494, Agusan del Norte- 41,832, and Province of Dinagat Islands - 11,798. Butuan City, the region's capital had a total of 20,403 households listed as poor.

OIC-Regional Director Ramel F. Jamen emphasized that the said list is only the initial and the figures can change once the Validation and Finalization Phase of Listahanan commences.

“The list of poor households is only partial and the figure can decrease or increase once we

will start our Validation and Finalization Phase of Listahanan. In this phase, we provide an opportunity for the community to review the list of poor households. If there are appeals or grievances, we will cater to them through our Area Supervisor,” Dir. Jamen said.

As of this time, the National Household Targeting Section (NHTS) is preoccupied in printing the initial list of poor households, which will soon be disseminated to the barangays. DSWD is encouraging everyone to check the lists and report for questionable names either on the list of poor households.

“With this, we are encouraging the involvement of the community by checking the initial list posted at the barangay hall as we want to ensure that we will have an accurate, credible and final list of poor households. This list is very important as this will be used by our partner-stakeholders in implementing social protection programs of their localities since it contains complete name and addresses,” Dir. Jamen added.

Initially, the receiving and resolving of grievance will commence next month after the completion of training of the field staff. The Area Supervisors will be assigned in the barangays, and will receive and process grievances. The grievances will be forwarded to the Barangay Verification Team (BVT) who will check first the merit of the grievances, then forward the grievances to the Local Verification Committee (LVC) who will resolve, check, identify and certify households that have not been assessed.#



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