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2ND HALF 2021 - A

SMFI KABALIKAT SA KABUHAYAN

Pasay farmers graduate from SM's sustainable
agriculture training



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SMFI KABALIKAT SA KABUHAYAN



PASAY FARMERS GRADUATE FROM SM'S SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE TRAINING

"If you give a man a fish, you feed him for a day. If you teach a man to fish, you feed him for a lifetime."



Some KSK Pasay graduates with their quality produce

This is what SM Foundation (SMFI) believes in as it touches the lives of farmers across the country through its Kabalik sa Kabuhayan (KSK) on sustainable agriculture program. For SMFI, its social good efforts should uplift the lives of its stakeholders which would later create a ripple effect that would also be beneficial for their communities.

Recent graduates of its KSK program are the 50 urban farmers from Pasay City under its Batch 225-A (Brgy. 144) and 225-B (Brgy. 198). The farmer-

graduates underwent a 14-week long agri-training program that taught them basic and advanced organic farming techniques and agripreneurship.

The said effort was made possible through a sustained social good collaboration between the SM Prime Holdings (SMPH), SMFI, City Government of Pasay, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).



SMPH, SMFI, City Government of Pasay, TESDA, DA, DSWD, and DTI worked together to bring the SM's KSK on Sustainable Agriculture program to 50 Pasay urban farmers

BEGINNING OF SOMETHING 'GREATER'

In her message, SM Prime AVP for Public Relations Rida Reyes underscored that the program doesn't end on their graduation, rather it's just a start for their continuous improvement:

Office of the Pasay City Mayor's Chief-of-Staff Peter Eric Pardo

"Hindi nagtatapos ang lahat sa araw na ito. Yung lahat ng inyong pinag-aralan, natutunan, at lahat ng mga pinaghirapan niyo, yan pa lang ang simula. Umaasa po kami na magagamit niyo lahat ng natutunan niyo sa programang ito."

reminded the graduates, "Alam niyo po 'yang certificates na mahahawakan ninyo mamaya, magkakaroon lang po yan ng halaga depende sa magiging bunga, kung paano ninyo gagamitin sa mga susunod na panahon ang natutunan dito. Hindi lang yan simpleng papel dahil yan ay inyong pinagpaguran at pinag-alayan niyo ng labing apat na linggo para mayroon kayong mapakinabangan sa mga susunod na panahon."



SM Prime AVP for Public Relations Rida Reyes

A NUDGE FOR BUDDING AGRIPRENEURS

SM Foundation trustee Engr. Chito Macapagal further highlighted that SM, together with its partners, are pledging their continuous support for the farmers to ensure the sustainability aspect of the program.

"Ang programa pong ito ay binuo ng SM Foundation at hatid sa inyo ng SM Prime Holdings para po sa benepisyo ng mga taga-Pasay. Atin pong pagsusumikapan sa hinaharap na mapag ibayo pa ang ating programa nang sa gayon ay madagdagan pa ang inyong oportunidad na pangkabuhayan. Ang labis nating ani ay maari nating iadalok o itinda sa mga kalapit komunidad na nangangailangan ng mga sariwang prutas at gulay."

Aside from giving them the knowledge on urban farming, each KSK graduate also received a KSK Farmer Starter Kit composed of a trowel, transplanter, cultivator, garden sprayer and pruning shears - which intends to help them in their urban farming ventures. SM Prime will also

provide a livelihood grant for each farmer group for them to be able to start their own agri-enterprises.

SM's Kabalik Sa Kabuhayan (KSK) aims to bring modern and sustainable farming skills in both rural and urban communities to help farmers have food on their table and have potential economic opportunities. To date, the program has trained more than 28,100 farmers from more than 900 cities/municipalities nationwide.

"Magbabahagi kami sa inyo ng mga gulay mula sa SM Prime upang magamit ninyo bilang panimula sa inyong magiging negosyong gulayan. Mula doon mag-uumpisa ang inyong panibagong hanapbuhay." SMFI AVP for Outreach and Livelihood programs Cristie Angeles shared.



SMFI AVP for Outreach and Livelihood Programs Cristie Angeles

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE: KEY TO ACHIEVING FOOD SECURITY IN URBAN COMMUNITIES



SMFI KSK farmers set up their urban farm space

The future of food security lies greatly on sustainable agriculture. It is a given that practicing sustainable agriculture in the urban areas comes a bit harder compared in the rural zones because of the availability of land for farming.

While it is true that a healthy, spacious land plays a vital role in attaining sustainable agriculture, our urban dwellers need not to worry as various farming techniques and innovations are currently available to augment their resources in farming.

It is in this light that the SM Prime Holdings (SMPH), through SM Foundation (SMFI), recently mobilized its efforts to bring the SMFI's Kabalik Sa Kabuhayan (KSK) on Sustainable Agriculture program to 50 Pasay City residents.

GROWING TOGETHER WITH ITS HOST COMMUNITIES

Speaking before the farmer-participants and representatives of its partner organizations through a virtual platform, SMFI Trustee Engr. Ramon Gil Macapagal underscored the Foundation's goal and ambition for its host communities: "Palagi naming inaasam sa SM Foundation ang ganitong panahon na aming maisusulong sa ating komunidad ang isang programang gaya nito pong KSK. Kami ay may ambisyon na tayo ay umunlad sa pamamagitan ng ating likas kaya na pamamaraan."

Macapagal also highlighted how SM sees the significance of growing the business together with its host communities, "Ang gusto po natin ay tayo ay lumago na kung saan ang SM ay makapagdaragdag ng benepisyo sa ating lipunan. Gusto po naming lumago sa pamamaraan na ang ating bansa ay makapagpo-produce ng mga mamamayan na handa sa kanilang mga haharapin sa buhay."

DAVAO TEACHER TOUCHES LIVES THROUGH AGRICULTURE

Jeffrey Toleran, a high school teacher from Davao City, exemplifies how an SM Foundation (SMFI) Kabalik Sa Kabuhayan (KSK) on Sustainable Agriculture farmer-graduate put into good use all the learnings acquired from the said training program.

Teacher Toleran was designated as Gulayan Sa Paaralan Coordinator at Emilio Ramos National High School. With just a little knowledge on farming, Toleran exerted efforts to equip himself with the skillsets needed to run their school's gardening initiative—that's when he joined SMFI's KSK training program under Batch 211 in 2019.

Carrying his learnings from the program, this teacher-farmer put up a Junior Farmers organization at their school to teach their learners about farming, "Nais kong ibahagi sa aking mga estudyante ang kaalaman na natutunan ko mula sa KSK ng SM. Nagpursigi akong turuan sila kung paano sisimulan ang pagtanim hanggang sa pag-ani. Natutuwa ako dahil nakikita kong sila ay natututo at nagbabahagi rin ng kaalaman sa iba."

REAPING THE FRUITS OF HIS EFFORTS

With what he has cemented in their school in terms of their Gulayan sa Paaralan project, it's no surprise that Teacher Toleran was recognized not just at the school level but also on the regional level.

"Hindi ko rin akalain na sa lahat ng aking nagawa ay gagawaran ako ng parangal at mananalo pa ang aking gulayan sa iba't ibang kategorya. Ginawaran ako bilang Lunhaw Awardee at nakakuha ng 1st place sa Cluster Level, 1st place sa Division Level, at 3rd place sa Regional Level Gulayan sa Paaralan," he further narrated.

MOVING BEYOND HIS INITIAL PLANS

While continuing what he has started at their school, Toleran also expanded his platform and established the Barangay Angliongto Organic Practitioner Association (BAOPA) in his community.



KSK graduate Jeffrey Toleran

in partnership with



SM PIONEERS ENTERPRISE BASED TRAINING PROGRAM WITH TESDA

SM Foundation (SMFI), in partnership with TESDA, DOLE, DSWD, SM Supermalls and SM Markets launched the first ever National Certificate (NC) training program for Customer Service at SM City Pampanga on November 19, 2021. Dubbed as the SM Asensong Pinoy Program, the project aims to strengthen the qualifications of the Filipino workforce and ultimately address various employment issues in the customer service sector.

The program's curriculum is designed to produce industry efficient retail under the supervision of SM Markets. The first batch of qualified apprentices will train in SM Supermarket, Pampanga, San Fernando, Savemore, Malhacan, Baliwag, SM Hypermarket Clark and Marilao. Those who successfully complete the training course will undergo TESDA's Customer Care NCII assessment and passers will be offered an opportunity to continue employment with SM. From there, SM and partner agencies will evaluate the program's eligibility for expansion to other regions.

The program is open to 18-28 years old females who have completed at least senior high or 2nd year college levels of education. Trainees under the program will undergo technical, values formation, and hands on training for eight hours a day, six days a week. They are to receive a minimum wage allowance as well as accident insurance coverage, and free NCII assessment fees. Those who successfully complete the program will receive an SM Partnership Certificate of Training and TESDA's NCII Certificate of Completion, as well as the opportunity to get hired in by the SM Retail group. The certification will also make them eligible for other local and international employment opportunities in the future.



- SM Supermarket
- Pampanga
- San Fernando
- Savemore
- Malhacan
- Baliwag
- SM Hypermarket Clark
- Marilao

"Customer Care is one of the most important functions of retail operations and we are very happy to be partnering with TESDA, DOLE and DSWD in sharing our training capabilities to interested individuals. We believe that nurturing the skills of our Filipino workforce will be very beneficial to the whole industry as we all work together to jumpstart our economy." said SM Supermarket President Jojo T. Tagbo.

REQUIREMENTS:

18-28 year old females

completed at least
senior high or 2nd
year college level

TRAINING:

technical values
formation

hands-on training for
eight hours a day, six
days a week



SM Foundation, in partnership with TESDA, DOLE, DSWD, SM Supermalls, and SM Markets, launched the first ever National Certificate (NCII) training program for Customer Service at SM City Pampanga



HEALTH AND WELLNESS



SM SUPPORTS PAF FRONTLINERS THROUGH ITS EMERGENCY QUARANTINE FACILITY IN PASAY

At the onset of the pandemic in 2020, CSR was proven to bring greater impact as companies and various organizations work together to help fight the spread of this unfamiliar, invisible enemy—COVID-19.

Staying true to its commitment to spreading social good amid this difficult time, SM hastened its efforts to complement the government's COVID-19 response. One of these efforts was to put up various emergency quarantine facilities (EQFs) that aims to house COVID-19 patients who are asymptomatic or those with mild symptoms.

Funded by SM Foundation (SMFI), the EQFs were built by the SM Engineering Design and Development (SM EDD) and WTA Architecture and Design Studio. One of the EQFs that were built is at the Villamor Air Base in Pasay City, which remains to be operational.

This EQF in Pasay has 15 beds and is complete with fans, exhaust fans, toilets and a nurse lounge. To date, the said EQF has already catered to more than 500 confirmed cases of COVID-19

among the Philippine Air Force (PAF) uniformed and civilian personnel.

PAF Chief Surgeon Colonel Maria Socorro Posadas said, "This donated EQF helped the PAF in sustaining the quarantine facility requirement of the PAF COVID-19 cases. This helped our COVID-19 positive personnel to recover faster."

Aside from the EQF in Pasay, SM also constructed five more EQFs at the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Health Service Command – V. Luna and Camp Crame in Quezon City.



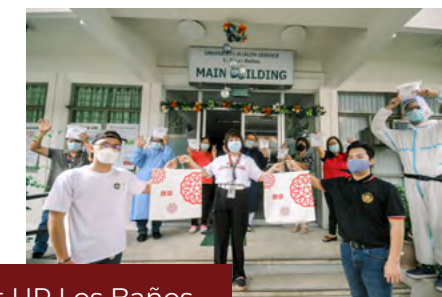
Through the joint efforts of SM's subsidiaries, corporate social responsibility arms, and partners, SM has donated Php30.4 billion for its total COVID-19 group-wide response composed of essential medical supplies and equipment, relief goods, and direct assistance to its tenants, employees and host communities.



SM's insulated emergency quarantine facility in Pasay City



Distribution of UNIQLO DRY T-shirts and masks at UP Los Baños.



SM FOUNDATION, UNIQLO SPREAD SOCIAL GOOD IN UPLB

Staying true to its commitment to spreading social good, SM Foundation (SMFI), in partnership with UNIQLO Philippines, recently reached the frontliners of the University of the Philippines - Los Baños in Laguna.

Through the assistance of UPLB College of Human Ecology and UP Beta Sigma Fraternity, SMFI was able to distribute 500 UNIQLO DRY T-shirts and 2,000 disposable masks to UPLB professors, frontliners, and the UPLB medical team.

This social good collaboration is in time with the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, allowing the implementation of limited face-to-face classes in schools and universities.

More so, this effort aims to bring smiles to the brave frontliners and partners in the academe who continue to dedicate their time and effort despite the hardships brought by the COVID-19 pandemic. Their selfless acts indeed deserve to be recognized and rewarded.

SOCIAL GOOD COLLAB WITH UP BETA SIGMA

This recent initiative is just one of the many collaborations between SMFI and UP Beta Sigma Fraternity. It can be recalled that during the onset of the pandemic, the two teamed up to distribute relief packs to 1,200 dormitory residents inside the UPLB premises. One relief pack consists of basic necessities such as food, toiletries, and other hygienic supplies. That helped aid the students who were stranded in their dormitories when the government declared the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) in 2020.

Moreover, the two also partnered for Battle Royale IX: "Fight for #SocialGood," which is a fundraising event for various social good project of the said Fraternity.

SMFI, through its #CollabForSocialGood initiative, has been partnering with various government and private organizations in order to reach more Filipinos and build a culture of social good—especially in grassroots communities.



SM FOUNDATION CONDUCTS BLOOD DONATION DRIVE

SM Foundation, in collaboration with the Department of Health - Philippine Blood Center (DOH-PBC), conducted a bloodletting activity at the SM Central Warehouse in Paranaque and in grassroots communities in Nasugbu, Batangas and Cavite. This social good initiative of SMFI aims to help address the depleting supply of blood needed by those with medical emergencies.



SM employees
donate blood at
the SM Central
Warehouse



SM FOUNDATION, GOLDILOCKS PROVIDE TREATS FOR YOUNGSTERS OF SISTERS OF MARY SCHOOL

SM Foundation (SMFI) and Goldilocks continue the run of its sustained social good collaboration as they provided the youngsters of the Sisters of Mary School – Girlstown and Boystown in Silang, Cavite with premium cakes for their joint birthday celebration.

More than 4,000 Goldilocks premium cakes were distributed to the said students, all of whom are residing at the school's dormitory. This gathering is one of the most awaited events of the students of the Sisters of Mary School as they get to celebrate their special day together. SMFI and Goldilocks are



both delighted to be able to share this joyful day with them.

It can be recalled that aside from this collaboration, SMFI and Goldilocks previously partnered in the distribution of food packs and sweet treats for the COVID-19 frontliners—as a way of showing their appreciation for the new normal heroes.

Aside from the continuous run of its social good programs, which all intend to improve the quality of life of Filipinos, SM Foundation—the corporate social responsibility arm of SM—also actively partners with organizations and government agencies to further strengthen its reach to those in the grassroot communities.



SM FOUNDATION EXTENDS ASSISTANCE TO GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS

SM Foundation (SMFI) continues to support government hospitals in the fight against COVID-19 through the donation of various medical equipment and supplies such as ventilators and masks. Among the recent recipients of this social good initiative are the Camiguin General Hospital, Davao Regional Medical Center, Southern Philippines Medical Center, and Camarines Norte Provincial Hospital.

To date, SMFI has supported 230 hospitals and institutions in fighting the spread of COVID-19. P105 million worth of medical equipment and machines from SMFI's COVID-19 response have already been distributed to its hospital beneficiaries.



Camarines Norte Provincial Hospital donation



Davao Regional Medical Center donation



Camiguin General Hospital donation

OPERATION TULONG EXPRESS



THE POWER OF COLLECTIVE EFFORTS: SM'S OPERATION TULONG EXPRESS

In times of calamities, SM always ensures to be one of the first responders that provide immediate relief to affected individuals and families. Through its corporate social good arm, SM Foundation (SMFI), SM activates Operation Tulong Express (OPTE) as the need arises.

Just before the year 2021 ended, Super Typhoon Odette struck the country and left thousands of families homeless. Staying true to its commitment, SM Foundation, together with SM Supermalls, SM Markets, and other SM affiliates and partners, immediately mobilized its disaster response.



SM City Butuan employee volunteers join community partners in unloading and distributing Kalinga Packs for Siargao and Dinagat Islands.



Employee volunteers and community partners distribute Kalinga packs to families affected by Super Typhoon Odette in Brgy. Binaliw, Cebu City.

NO ONE LEFT BEHIND

As of writing, more than 33,000 Kalinga packs have been allocated for the victims of the typhoon. The said Kalinga packs consisting of rice, bottled water, and other basic essentials were distributed to over 35 barangays in the Visayas-Mindanao region, which were heavily devastated by typhoon Odette. Included in the recipient areas are Butuan, Cebu, CDO, Iloilo, Palawan, among others.

"We are one with the nation in bringing normalcy back to the lives of families affected by Super Typhoon Odette in the VisMin region. It's already part of our culture in SM to always extend a helping hand to those in need, especially in grassroot communities," SMFI executive director Debbie Sy said.



SM Supermalls and SM Foundation provide Kalinga packs to the affected Aeta Community and residents of Brgy. Lanit, Jaro, Iloilo City.

HIGHLIGHTING THE *BAYANIHAN* SPIRIT

Aside from its relief efforts under OPTE, SMFI also partnered with the Philippine Red Cross in providing aid to families affected by typhoon Odette through the donation of P5 million. The cheque donation was turned over to PRC Chairman Richard Gordon and PRC Secretary General Elizabeth Zavalla. Through this initiative, SM hopes to reach more affected families by partnering with other humanitarian organizations to fast track and meet the post disaster needs in critical areas.

Sy further expressed her gratitude to all partners and SM employee-volunteers who went the extra mile and dedicated their time and efforts for the mobilization of OPTE.

"As a company that has been committed to social good since it was founded, it is part of SMFI's vision to engage our employees through volunteerism. Regardless of their location or role, our volunteers are all about giving back - spreading social good in the communities where they personally live and work. We thank our employees and partners in collaborating with us in aiding those who were affected by the typhoon. Through our collaborative efforts, we will be able to help our country rise above this crisis" Debbie Sy added.

Filipinos here and abroad can also donate through direct deposit to the Philippine Red Cross by scanning the PRC QR on SM Supermalls' posters. For more information, visit www.smsupermalls.com.



(L-R) PRC Secretary General Elizabeth Zavalla, SM Foundation Executive Director for Health and Medical Programs Connie Angeles, and PRC Chairman Richard Gordon during the turnover of the P5M donation from SM Foundation to the Philippine Red Cross



SM FOUNDATION DISTRIBUTES KALINGA PACKS TO FIRE VICTIMS IN OLONGAPO AND TAGUIG

SM Foundation, through its Operation Tulong Express Program (OPTE), distributed Kalinga packs to families affected by the fire incident in Brgy. Pag-Asa, Olongapo and in Brgy. Bagumbayan, Taguig City. OPTE is a social good program of SM Foundation in collaboration with SM Supermalls and SM Markets which aims to address the needs of communities during calamities and crises.



Olongapo



Taguig

SM PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO PWDS

Through its social good collaboration with Nova Wellness (Reszostar Corp.) and SM City North Edsa, SM Foundation (SMFI) distributed 30 wheelchairs to the PWDS from Brgys. Sto Cristo and Pag-Asa in Quezon City, and from the Alliance for PWDS organization in Caloocan City.

SMFI aims to uplift the lives of Filipinos through its social good programs in health and wellness, education, sustainable agriculture, and relief operations.



FOUNDATION
2ND HALF 2021 - B

SMFI SCHOLARSHIP

New batch of SM Scholars: A step closer to
their dreams



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SCHOLARSHIP



NEW BATCH OF SM SCHOLARS: A STEP CLOSER TO THEIR DREAMS

As the famous saying goes, “Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.”

This is what the SM scholars believe in—that education is their key to uplift not just their own, but also their family’s economic status.

Just recently, SM Foundation Inc. (SMFI), the corporate social responsibility arm of SM, welcomed 250 new college students to their SM College Scholarship Program for school year 2021-2022 which was streamed on SMFI’s official Facebook page.

With the addition of these college freshmen, the total number of current SM scholars is now at more than 1,300.

SM SCHOLAR LISLIE JOY LEOCADIO

One of the 250 new SM scholars for this batch is Lislle Joy Leocadio of Pangasinan. She’s taking up Bachelor of Science in Accountancy at the Kingfisher School of Business and Finance. Her father is a tricycle drive while her mother works as a canteen helper.

At a young age, Lislle witnessed how her family struggle to make ends meet. This fueled her desire to finish her education and later on land a good paying job. “*Elementary pa lang ako ay random ko na ang hirap ng aking magulang sa pagpapa-aral sa amin. Alam ko pong mahirap magpaaral sa kolehiyo kaya naghanap ako ng scholarship na makatutulong sa amin. Doon ko nalaman ang tungkol sa SM Foundation,*” Lislle shared.

“The more you realize how poverty limits your opportunities in life, the more likely you are to feel down. But for me, there is no room for giving up. At ‘yan ang aking pinanghahawakan up until now,” she said.



SM SCHOLAR MARJORIE CO

Another SM scholar is Marjorie Co of Pasay City is taking up Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering at the Asia Pacific College. Her father works in the Pasay City hall while her mother is an on-call masahista.

“Ako po ang panganay, kailangan po na laging mag-tiyaga, maging masipag para makapag-aral din po sa magandang school ‘yung dalawa ko pong nakababatang kapatid,” she added.

“Pagnaka-graduate na po ako, gusto kong makapasok sa isang magandang kumpanya, kumita at makapag-apon para magkaroon kami nang sariling bahay. Ngayon pokasinagrenta lamang kami. Pangarap ko po na mabigyan ko sila ng magandang buhay para ‘di na magtrabaho nang sobra sina papa,” Marjorie tearfully ended.

SMFI, through its Scholarship program, provides deserving and qualified students with access to college education and technical-vocational studies since 1993.



#SpreadingSocialGood

SM, PASAY WELCOME 20 TECH-VOC SCHOLARS

SM Prime Holdings, Inc. (SM Prime), together with SM Foundation (SMFI), Don Bosco One TVET Phils. Inc., and the city government of Pasay recently welcomed 20 deserving scholars to the SM-Pasay Technical-Vocational Scholarship Program via an online conferencing platform.

The said scholars—all came from financially challenged families residing in Pasay City—underwent a tedious screening and selection process. They were awarded a full tech-voc scholarship, covering tuition fees, monthly allowance, and various enrichment activities.

The 15-month training is composed of 10 months in-campus academic learning and 5 months On-the-Job Training (OJT) for the following tech-voc courses:



**Automotive
Servicing NC I**



**Mechatronics
Servicing NC II**



**Electrical
Installation &
Maintenance NC II**



**Shielded Metal
Arc Welding
(SMAW) NC II**



Machining NC II



**Refrigeration and
Air Conditioning
NC II**

During the event, SM Prime AVP for Public Relations Rida Reyes formally welcomed the scholars, as well as their parents, to the program. *“Alam niyo po ba yung kasabihang daig ng maagap ang masipag? In this case, ito pong 20 scholars na kasama natin ngayong hapon na ito ay mga maagap. Dahil hindi ninyo pinalampas ang opportunity na makapag-aral upang ma-improve ninyo ang inyong mga sarili. At dahil diyan, proud kaming lahat sa inyo,”* Reyes said.



A STEP CLOSER TO HIS DREAMS

Ryan Nofiez, one of the new tech-voc scholars, expressed his gratitude to SM, Pasay LGU, and their partners for this opportunity through a video message. Nofiez—the seventh child among the 13 siblings—lives inside a cemetery in Pasay. His father is a construction worker, while his mother is a cemetery caretaker. Set to take a course in Automotive, Nofiez sees this opportunity as his ticket to a more stable and comfortable life, where he'll be capable of helping his family as well.

SM SCHOLAR ALUMNI BRING HOPE TO DESERVING YOUTHS

More than anyone else, SM scholar alumni know how important education is in uplifting one's economic status. Knowing the struggles of a student who lacks resources for education, SM scholar-graduates established the SM Scholar Alumni Fund in order to pass on the kindness shown to them by SM by supporting deserving youths.

One of the scholar alumni who support this social good initiative of SM Foundation (SMFI) is Lilibeth Ejercito Jose, a BS Computer Engineering graduate from the University of San Jose-Recoletos in Cebu City. She is now based in Berlin, Germany working on software implementation specific to finance and accounting.

SM scholar alumni like Lilibeth understand where these economically challenged students are coming from. They know that an extra boost and assistance will help them go places and eventually make their own names in their chosen paths.



GRATITUDE BEYOND WORDS

"I am happy and proud to be an SM scholar alumna! I am happy that now, I am able to help SM Foundation spread social good by sending more students to college," said Lilibeth.

SM SCHOLAR ALUMNUS RANKS 4TH IN CIVIL ENGINEER BOARD EXAM

"You can reach your dreams if you put your mind to it."

Engr. Joshua Mangila, an SM scholar alumnus, proved this to be true as he ranked 4th at the recent Civil Engineer licensure examination.

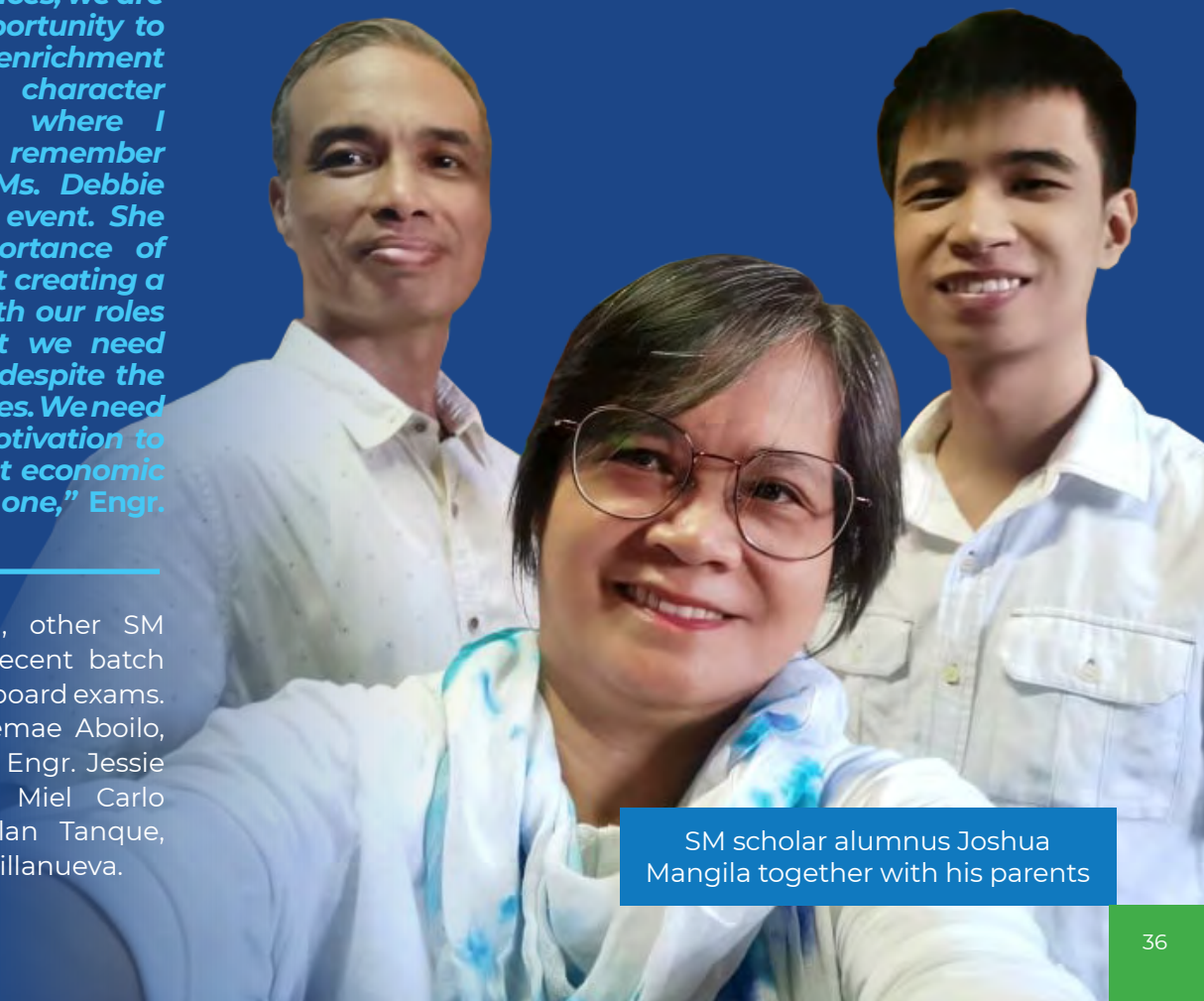
Engr. Joshua is a son to a hardware store worker and a housewife from Caloocan City. He was able to finish his degree in Civil Engineering from the FEU Institute of Technology through the SM Scholarship program. Even though he is an only child, Engr. Joshua and his parents experienced hardships as they make ends meet.



A GOOD TRAINING GROUND

"As an SM Scholar, we don't only receive scholarship grants and allowances, we are also given the opportunity to join their various enrichment activities for character building. This is where I learned grit. I still remember the message of Ms. Debbie Sy in one scholar event. She stressed the importance of grit - that it's about creating a higher purpose with our roles and passion. That we need to propel forward despite the setbacks and failures. We need to have a deep motivation to change our current economic status to a better one," Engr. Joshua added.

Aside from Joshua, other SM scholars from the recent batch also passed the said board exams. They are: Engr. Elgemae Aboilo, Engr. Fatima Belale, Engr. Jessie Mari Cerera, Engr. Miel Carlo Reganit, Engr. Froilan Tanque, and Engr. Kenneth Villanueva.



SM scholar alumnus Joshua Mangila together with his parents



YOLANDA SM SCHOLAR-GRADUATES LOOK BACK TO THEIR STORIES OF HOPE, TRIUMPH

In November 2013, one of the strongest typhoons to hit the Philippines, Yolanda, caused widespread destruction to the country, particularly in the Visayas area. Aside from winds speeds of more than 300 km per hour, storm surges of more than four meters were also recorded. It left the Philippines ravaged—crops, homes, and lives severely wrecked, leaving a widespread damage worth P95 billion.

THE FOUNDATION'S JOURNEY

To equip the youth of the region with education that they may use to rise from the economic turmoil brought upon by the disaster, a lean team of seven development workers from SM Foundation flew to Leyte to conduct preliminary screening of new scholars for the school year. SM Foundation welcomed 100 additional college scholars from Yolanda-stricken areas into its Scholarship Program.

Eight years after the onslaught of Yolanda, SM's college scholars already graduated and are now employed and are now changing the economic status of their families. Below are some of their stories.



SM SCHOLAR DENCHRIS LOPEZ

"Being a Yolanda survivor and becoming a scholar of SMFI gave me the hope that I almost lost after the devastation of Super Typhoon Yolanda. SMFI became the light that guided me to where I am now. Big thanks to SM Foundation Inc for the opportunity," Lopez said.

Lopez finished Bachelor of Science in Accountancy at the Saint Paul School of Professional Studies. She now works in the Accounting Division of Department of Education Region VIII Office. "Hopefully in the near future I can be part of the foundation and work under SMFI," she stated.



SM SCHOLAR FELICISIMO CASTROVERDE

Felicisimo P. Castroverde is a teacher by profession but has ventured to become an entrepreneur at the same time.

After graduating from Leyte Normal University (LNU) with a degree of Bachelor in Secondary Education Major in Biological Sciences, he taught for two years in a private international school in Tacloban and later moved to LNU as an Instructor.

Today, he owns a mini grocery and a small resto bar.



SM SCHOLAR CAMILLE MALATE

The whole journey as a scholar of SM Foundation is unforgettable for Camille Malate, a Bachelor of Science in Accountancy graduate from the St. Paul School of Professional Studies. "My favorite part was when I received the news that I passed the interview and qualified for the scholarship. It came like a lifesaving news for me," Malate recalled.

Now employed, she helps with the family expenses. She is the Branch Internal Auditor of Fast Distribution Corporation-Leyte but will soon join Mancera Group of Companies as Accountant In-charge.

The strength of typhoon Yolanda that hit the Visayas region was not enough to extinguish the fiery spirit of these SM Scholars. The whole world wept but with the grit of these scholars, they were able to stand and pick up the broken pieces left by the typhoon and start building their lives all over again - together with SM Foundation.



SM FOUNDATION BRIDGES DAVAO SCHOLARS TOWARD BETTER LIVES

SM scholars may come from different provinces nationwide and schools, but there's one thing they sure have in common—their aspiration to uplift the economic status of their lives and of their families.

SM Foundation serves as a bridge to its scholars toward realizing their dreams. Its scholarship program stretches from Luzon up to Mindanao. In one of the covered areas in the South, the Davao Region, the program has produced 75 SM scholar graduates.

To help them in providing quality education to scholar beneficiaries, SM Foundation partnered with esteemed universities in the said region. Among the partner universities are the Ateneo de Davao University, University of Immaculate Conception, University of Mindanao – Main, Tagum, University of Southeastern Philippines, and University of the Philippines Mindanao - Davao City. There are 45 SM scholars currently enrolled in these schools.

Some of the current SM scholars and alumni from Davao shared how the program helped uplift their lives—setting them and their families free from the intergenerational cycle of poverty.



SM Scholars in Davao

April Madarang Salazar graduated with a BS Electronics and Communications Engineering degree in 2007 from the Ateneo de Davao University.

Aside from her college diploma, the scholarship opened many opportunities for Salazar even while she was still a student. As a 5th year ECE student, she qualified for three companies during the university job fair. After passing the board exam, she joined a Japanese manufacturing company in Cebu and had the opportunity to be trained in Japan. She went back to Davao after four years and started teaching at the Ateneo de Davao University-Electronics and Communications Engineering Department.

She was also given a chance to take up her masters' degree at the Ateneo de Manila University. She is currently the Chairperson of the Scholarship, Retention and Recruitment Committee of AdDU School of Engineering and Architecture.

"These opportunities wouldn't have come my way if not for the scholarship I received from SM Foundation. SM has provided me with a solid foundation that enabled me to pursue higher learning, since aside from the free tuition and allowance, they also have various activities that molds us to be better - to dream and do well in our chosen fields" she said.



SM Scholars in Davao

SCHOOL BUILDING



SM FOUNDATION ENSURES HOLISTIC APPROACH FOR ITS SCHOOL BUILDING PROGRAM

SM Foundation (SMFI) understands the importance of executing a holistic approach for its School Building program and that its commitment to providing a conducive learning environment for Filipino learners does not end on the turnover of SM school buildings to grassroots communities.

As an active partner of the Department of Education's (DepEd) Adopt-A-School program, SM Foundation helps address the classroom shortage in the country through its School Building program. The program intends to address overcrowding in schools since SMFI believes that this is one of the biggest challenges that our public education faces today. That class size reduction in the early grade helps students achieve because there is a greater opportunity for individual interaction between student and teacher in a small class—allowing Filipino learners to reach their fullest potentials. To date, SMFI has built and refurbished more than 270 school buildings in grassroots communities nationwide.



Cabanatuan City

As a sustainability strategy, SMFI involves various SM Business units in its social good programs - such as the SM Engineering Design and Development (EDD) which is the architectural and engineering arm of the retail and mall properties of SM. Equipped with the modern engineering expertise of SM EDD, SM Foundation regularly conduct visits to previously donated school buildings to take note of repairs needed to be undertaken—ensuring that each SM School building nationwide are in excellent condition.

For the year 2021, the school buildings that were donated in 2016 were repaired. These are the Bakod Bayan Integrated School in Cabanatuan City; San Francisco Elementary School in Concepcion, Tarlac; Lucban Elementary School in Baguio City; Jujan Elementary School in Consolacion, Cebu; and Northern Tacloban National High School in Tacloban City.

Meanwhile, repairs at the Ibajay National High School in Ibajay, Aklan are underway. The school building, which was the 73rd SM school building was donated by SM Prime through Foundation in partnership with BDO Foundation. The said school building is currently undergoing roof and ceiling replacement and is expected to be completed by mid-July.



Consolacion, Cebu



Baguio City



Tacloban City

FELICIDAD T. SY FOUNDATION

The Felicidad T. Sy Foundation Inc. (FTSFI) is a personal foundation of the SM matriarch, “Nanang” Felicidad T. Sy. Aside from infrastructure projects, FTSFI also supports the restoration and building of Catholic churches, provides SM employees with spiritual development programs, and carries out special projects enabling church leaders and ministers to spread social good through spiritual wellness and promotion of culture.

Felicidad T. Sy Foundation is an affiliate of SM Foundation.



FELICIDAD SY HALL: A MULTISPECIALTY BUILDING SOON TO RISE IN UP PGH

The University of the Philippines-Philippine General Hospital (UP-PGH) recently held a groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of the multispecialty building, Felicidad Sy Hall.

Funded by the Felicidad T. Sy Foundation (FTSFI), this is the second medical building that the Sy family supported for UP Manila - PGH. Back in 2019, the family, through their Henry Sy Foundation collaborated with the University of the Philippines Medical Alumni Foundation Inc. (UPMAFI) to support the construction of an 11-story Medical Sciences Building.

According to UP-PGH Director Dr. Gap Legaspi, the 15-story building will house the neuroscience department as well as other specialties such as orthopedic, dermatology, oncology, laboratory, psychiatry, ICU, and ophthalmology, among others—to bring quality medical services to the Filipino people.

He also said that this building is designed to be the first pandemic-ready building and will have the most advanced laboratory in the country.

“Putting up this building is not only an infrastructure achievement - it’s a big achievement for anyone who dreams big for UP. Our alumni and current UP students always have a big dream for the university and the hospital. Through this kind of collaboration, we can realize that there’s always a way to do it and achieve our dreams,” Dr. Legaspi stated.

Through a video message, Ms. Teresita T. Sy conveyed Nanang’s excitement and commitment for the said project: *“My mom is excited that her personal foundation was invited into this worthy project. She’s always happy when her foundation is supporting developments that are focused on health and wellness issues.”*

UP President Danilo Concepcion also expressed his gratitude to the FTSFI and the Sy family for supporting this infrastructure project for the betterment of Filipino people in need of medical interventions.

“Lubos po ang ating pasasalamat sa FTSFI at sa Sy Family sa kanilang kabutihang loob sa pagsuporta sa pagpapatayo ng gusaling ito. Gusaling kailangang kailangan natin upang maparami pa natin ang mga doktor na ating sasanayin dito sa PGH at upang dumami pa ang mga pasyenteng magagamot at mapagsilbihan natin. Makasisiguro kayo na ito po ay aming pagyayamanain para sa taumbayan,” Concepcion said.

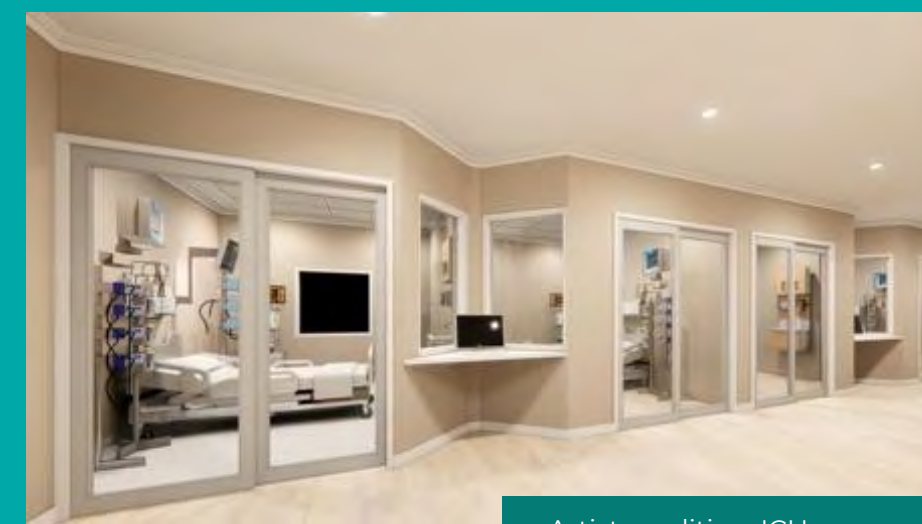
Furthermore, UP Chancellor Carmencita Padilla underscored the importance of collaboration

for making this effort come into fruition: *“At the end of the day, we cannot come up with these big things around us without collaboration. This is a big day not only for UP Manila and PGH community, but also for the Filipino patients. It is indeed a fruit of collaborative planning and the philanthropic spirit of the Sy family.”*

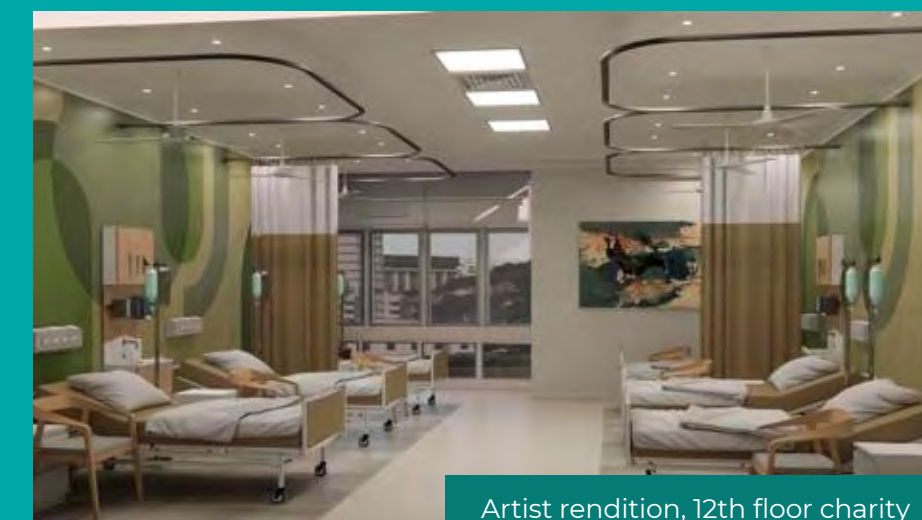
“This Felicidad Sy Hall will be a place of healing, innovation, compassion, wisdom, and courage! Thank you to our donors and partners who have continuously trusted us to be the hope and beacon of our people,” Padilla concluded.



Ground-breaking ceremony of the Felicidad Sy Hall in UP PGH



Artist rendition, ICU rooms



Artist rendition, 12th floor charity nursing units, six-bed ward

Artist rendition of the Felicidad Sy Hall in UP PGH