



THE UCMPFI NEWSLETTER

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Reviewing, Reorienting, Resolving

The coming of a new year is as good a time as any to look back on the events of the past year and look toward the future with the hope of becoming better and doing better. In this first month of 2024, the Foundation's activities were focused on evaluating programs, acquiring new or updated ideas to implement them, and reminding everyone about our mission and purpose.

CENEP performance check

On January 5, CENEP staff from the three sites (Mandaluyong, Project 8, and Marikina) got together to share experiences, offer comments and suggestions, and consider new approaches to improve the program and enhance the learning of the CENEP children. With guidance from Foundation trustees and working committee members, the participants—program coordinators, teachers, and cooks—looked into aspects of classroom management, food preparation and distribution, conduct of special school activities, and relationships among people involved in the program, including the parents of the children.



This first meeting was followed by a workshop of CENEP staff held on January 13. Facilitated by Teachers Pam Andal Tira and Boots Paculan Andal, owners and instructors of Cornerstone Learning and Playcare Center, the workshop covered a review of classroom procedures and curricula and provided additional pointers on planning classroom activities and preparing materials for more effective ways of teaching lessons and stimulating children's interest in learning.



Volunteers' Reorientation

Also on January 5, the dedicated and hardworking volunteers of the Foundation also gathered for reorientation, updating, and fellowship. For our readers' information, these are the tasks that volunteers perform.

- CENEP (Child Education and Nutrition Enhancement Program) – Arrange random visits to CENEP sites and submit observation reports on the conduct of classes; attend special activities as speaker or observer.
- GEESE (Grace Enough to Ensure Secondary Education) – Assist in scholar development programs such as Bible studies; interview scholars on their school performance as well as other concerns and prepare feedback reports.
- TRACE (Teodoro Regala Assistance for Continuing Education) – Interview scholars and prepare feedback reports; encourage greater involvement of scholars in the Foundation.
- LACE - (Literacy and Accreditation for Continuing Education) – Conduct random visits in learning sites preferably once a month.

The volunteers were also required to update their Volunteer Information Form and sign off on the Child Protection Policy. Copies of the Volunteer's Activity Guide were provided to the attendees for their guidance in carrying out their tasks.



Back to work

After the holidays, the Foundation's scholars returned to their routine. Resolving to complete the Bible Study series on Rick Warren's Purpose Driven Life, 28 GEESE scholars and 1 TRACE scholar attended the session on January 6, facilitated by Trustee Lily Torrente and volunteer Cora Cabaron. Volunteers Mila Salvador and Helen Olermo assisted and prepared the food plates for the attendees.

In the afternoon, ten volunteers pitched in to interview all 29 of the scholars and submitted their accomplished monitoring and evaluation forms that would become part of the scholars' record.



Scholars' updates

We are very pleased to report that our Foundation scholars who have graduated are gainfully employed. Here's a quick rundown on their whereabouts.

- Judy Ann Alvez – Teacher, STI Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City
- Russel de Guzman – Fraud and Claims Operations Specialist, Wells Fargo, Makati City
- William Robert Silva – Teacher, Ateneo de Manila University, Quezon City
- Joje Ariego – Central Procurement Associate, Megaworld Corporation, Uptown Bonifacio, Taguig City
- Tricia Isabel Hernaez – Agent, Teleperformance Philippines, Makati City
- Richard See – Gaming Associate, Newport World Resorts, Pasay City

Do visit our website www.ucmphilfoundation.org to know more about the Foundation's activities and to participate in continuing to provide a better life to these children and young people. For your inquiries, please call (63 2) 8812-6062 or 8812-5609 or email us at info@ucmphilfoundation.org.