

SDC *bulletin*



A Blessed New Year!

Activities Conducted

Jan. – March 2009

A) *Organizational:*

1. Housekeeping –

- ✓ Assessed the 2008 specific plan of activities and consolidated the list of accomplishments
- ✓ Reviewed and discussed the 2009 Streetchildren Development Center (SDC), Inc. Strategic Program Plan
- ✓ Finalized the plan of specific activities for Jan. 2009 to June 2009
- ✓ Renewed legal requirements for FY 2009:
 - a. Brgy. Business Permit
 - b. Q.C. Business Permit
 - c. BIR Registration
- ✓ Filed 2008 Financial Statements at:
 - a. Bureau of Internal Revenue
 - b. Securities and Exchange Commission
- ✓ Filed the 2008 Fourth Quarter Report at:
 - a. SSS Cubao, SSS Contribution
 - b. Quezon Ave., Philhealth Contribution
 - c. 15th Ave, Pag-ibig Contribution
 - d. BIR for report on Expanded Taxes
 - e. BIR for report on Withholding Taxes

2. . Board of Trustees/ Staff Encounter –

Last 1 October 2008, the SDC Board and staff met at Café Molinari to discuss the projected departure of the two staff, Nerry Fadriquela (Nerry) and Noemi Labaydan (Noemi), as well as their career plans and options. A follow-up discussion was held at Max, Gateway, Cubao, Quezon City sometime end of October to discuss SDC's administrative adjustments after their departure.

The Board decided to immediately start the hiring process for new staff. In February 2008, three applicants were interviewed by the Executive Committee. More applicant interviews were scheduled ahead.

3. Staff Member Status –

Two of the staff, Nerry and Noemi, resigned from the SDC by the end of March, for professional growth and greater financial stability. A simple despedida party was held for the two staff in recognition of their contribution to SDC's mission of helping rebuild the street children's personhood. The event was also an occasion to touch base with the SDC family – the members, staff and board members. The SDC Bulletin 4th Quarter issue (Oct –Dec 2008) was also distributed to the members.

GOD speed Nerry and Noemi. Thank you for your selfless and untiring service for the cause of child's rights and welfare. We will miss you!

B) *Updates on the Programs & Services:*

1. Family and Com. Integration Program (FCIP) –

✓ **Group Meeting/Sharing** - Eight community children from Multi-Gender Youth (MGY) eagerly discussed the forthcoming Lecture/Workshop on "Mga Gabay sa Paggawa ng Desisyon", scheduled on January 31, 2009, and to be participated in by street and community children beneficiaries of the Girl Child Development Program (GCDP), the Values Formation Education Program (VFEP), and the Family and Child Integration Program (FCIP). Tasks were assigned to the participants after the meeting.

Jeric and Realyn Barizo of MGY – Welfareville group are enjoying in the company of their friends during the group session activity at Brgy. Additional Hills Nipa Hut.



Niday R. Mayor, Executive Director, cracks jokes to keep the street & community children alert during the session on “Mga Gabay sa Paggawa ng Desisyon”.

Jeric Barizo confidently leads the opening prayer during the seminar on “Mga Gabay sa Paggawa ng Desisyon”.



✓ **Lecture/Workshop** – The lecture/workshop on the topic, “Mga Gabay sa Paggawa ng Desisyo” was held on 21 February 2009 at Brgy. Pinagkaisahan Multi-Purpose Hall, Cubao, Quezon City. This was attended by the community and street children beneficiaries of the GCDP, the VFEP, and the FCIP. The FCIP was the lead program in the conduct of the lecture/workshop.

✓ **Group Sharing/Discussion** – A group sharing on the topic “Why celebrate Valentine’s Day?” was held on 7 February 2009 at Brgy. Addition Hills Nipa Hut. Seven MYG members attended the group session on the topic. Nerry facilitated the session.

✓ **Group Meeting** – The meeting was held on 28 January 2009 at Brgy. Additional Hills Mandaluyong, City. Fourteen (14) parents attended the meeting to discuss the forthcoming activity on “DISTRESSING”, where Petra Brenig-Klein and Maria Cristina Eggers from Katharina Werk of Switzerland were expected guests.

✓ **Parents’ Distressing Activity** – This activity was conducted last February 21, 2009 at the Quezon City Memorial Circle, participated in by 24 parents from Calbayog, Welfareville communities. Petra and Kristina, representatives from Katharina Werk of Switzerland, attended the activity and enjoyed the game that they participated in. The parents enjoyed themselves and went home smiling ear-to-ear.

✓ **Lecture/Discussion** – The lecture/discussion on Basic Human Rights was held at the Brgy. Hall (extension) Brgy. Highway Hills, Mandaluyong City. Atty. Don Lapesura, the Chair of the SDC, was the resource speaker during the session. The parent-participants eagerly shared their experiences and insights on the rights and obligations discussed by Atty. Lapesura. Barrage of questions from the participants were patiently answered by Atty. Lapesura. Due to time constraint, Atty. Lapesura entertained only a few more questions before the lecture was concluded.



Atty. Don Lapesura stresses a point in his discussion on the basic human rights, and then patiently listens while Nanay Rose Atienza (standing) asks a question.

✓ **Home Visitations/Sharing Discussions** - Home visits and sharing discussions were undertaken with the FCIP beneficiaries. About 30 parents and 15 youth were recipients of these activities. The purpose of these visits and sharing is to be able to monitor the family’s situation and strengthen SDC’s relationship with the beneficiaries.

2. Girl Child Development Program (GCDP) –

✓ **Sharing sessions and individual counseling** – The Community Educator (CE) held sharing sessions and individual counseling to some 15 girl children. Home and school visitations were also undertaken in order to monitor their school performances and their relationships with their families and communities.

3.

Values Formation Education Program (VFEP) –

✓ **Home/Street Visits** – The Street Educator (SE) undertook regular home and street visits to some 27 street children in order to strengthen rapport with them. One-on-one sharing with counseling sessions concerning problems were also undertaken with the children. Values concerning health and safety of these street children are always the focal point of every group discussion undertaken, but discussions include sharing on the current situation and needs of the children, as well as their active participation in the upcoming SDC activities.

✓ **Individual Counseling** – About 10 street children received one-on-one counseling for the first quarter of 2009. Among the topics that were tackled during the counseling were on studies, relationship with parents and peers, dangers and difficulties in street life, and participation in SDC activities.

✓ **Re-tracing** – Noemi was able to trace the house of Edward and Teody Ramos, SDC's street children beneficiaries found along Mindanao Avenue, Quezon City. Their family was evicted from their former house because of inability to pay the rent regularly. Finding their new location was vital as there was a need to continue the home visits in order to monitor the children's situation.

4. Advocacy and Networking Program (ANP) –

✓ Coordinated with government organizations (GOs) and officials of Local Government Units (LGUs) in successfully finding Nerry's lost uncle, Edwin Vargas Novenario, who is considered a special child.

✓ Tapped the computer skills of Cito Capistrano, a former STI student and employee of Philippine Information Administration (PIA), to provide computer maintenance services.

5. Direct Service Program (DSP) –

✓ Provided educational support assistance to a girl child, Jessica Roberto, a 2nd year computer student at St. John Bosco Institute of Arts and Sciences, Mandaluyong City; and to a street child, Mara Barbacena, a Grade 5 student of Marcelo H. Del Pilar Elementary School, Kamuning, Quezon City.

Words of Wisdom:

Children will not remember you for the material things you provided but for the feeling that you cherished them. -- Richard L. Evans

*MAY BUKAS NA SA ATIN DIN
leo d.b.*

Bagong Taon, Bagong Buhay!

Masagana ba't makulay?

Bawat araw na magdaan?

Ano kaya'ng hahantungan?

Iskandalo sa gobyerno?

Pagtaas ng mga presyo?

Pagtapak sa karapatan?

Abuso sa kalikasan?

Anuman ang sasapitin,

May bukas na sa atin din.

Sa sikap, pagkakaisa,

Ginhawa ri'y matatamasa.

Hanapbuhay at pabahay,

At kapayapaang tunay,

Bayang puspos sa sagana,

Ligtas sa mga sakuna.

Happy Birthday: KAMPAY



Maricar	-	January 13
Love	-	February 21
Chloe	-	March 17
Niday	-	March 23

Upcoming activities/ Announcements:

- ✓ 15th General assembly in May 2009
- ✓ 15th Anniversary Celebration in June 2009

ERRATUM: The word "binabatuk-batukan" in the poem of leo d. b. titled, Kami Man ay Mga Bata Rin, which appeared in SDC Bulletin 4th Quarter, 2008, should have been spelled "binabatuk-batokan".

Special Feature: EMILY ATIENZA

My life, experiences and dreams

By Emily Atienza, SDC Volunteer

"All things work together for good.... Rise up and go beyond!"

This passage is my guiding principle in pursuing what I wanted to become in life. As I go through my day to day journey in life, I end up spending my precious moment inside a four-sided polygon, a classroom. I never expected that I will be one of the mentors to the youth group.

I am proud to say that I chose a very noble profession. As a teacher, I spend a lot of time dealing with students who have different views and attitudes. Everyday to me is a success if I am able to hold my temper and not be affected by the students' unruly behavior. As a young teacher, my life is difficult as I journey to become a full grown adult. Looking back, I am reminded of who I was before I came to be who I am now. I can not afford to forget all the people who have been there to guide and support me on my way to reaching my cup of success in life.

Going back to where I started, it was all just a dream -- my dream of becoming a lawyer when I was in grade school. I dreamed big for me and my family even though, at the back of my mind, it was impossible due the financial constraints that my family was experiencing. But then, it did not deter me from giving my best effort in school and finally finishing high school in spite of my family's financial difficulties.

The knowledge and self-awareness I have learned as a girl child beneficiary of the Streetchildren Development Center (SDC), Inc. have strengthened my conviction to reach the success I have now. Looking back, the SDC, an organization of concerned professionals, adopted our community in the hope of preventing the children from becoming street children. One of its programs is the Girl Child Development program Program (GCDP), which aims to reach out to community girl children of Welfareville and Calbayog street of Mandaluyong City.

Before I finished high school, I became an active member of the GCDP. I thought of not going to college then due to financial problems, but the SDC was a blessing in disguise. The SDC paved the way for me to take scholarship examination at St. Joseph College, Quezon City, a private Catholic school. It was almost June and classes were about to start, yet I still don't know where or what school I am going to enroll in. Ms. Nerilyn N. Fadriquela, one of the staff members of the SDC, facilitated my examination at St. Joseph's College. Having successfully passed the examination, my journey in college began.

My deepest gratitude to SDC because I was able to change a lot of things in my life and realized that nothing is impossible, after all. Their help didn't end when I

graduated, earning a Bachelor of Education, major in Math. The SDC was still there for me when I took my Licensure examination to be a full-pledged teacher. How thankful I am to them because God used them as a channel for me to see my purpose in life -- to touch other young people's lives as a teacher.

At present, I and Margie Dadovo, also a former SDC girl child, volunteer as tutors in the Literacy Sessions for the women of Welfareville and Calbayog community in Mandaluyog City. This is one of the SDC's community-based activities for parents of girl children and other youth.

Now is our time to share our skills and knowledge in support of the SDC's Vision, Mission and Goal for the children, especially the street children. As the saying goes, all things work together for good. **THANK YOU SDC at Mabuhay!**



*Many thanks to the Contributors:
Atty. Leo Battad & Emily Atienza*