

# **Re-creating and Empowering Lives**

Re-create Self-Image Re-claim Self-Respect Restore Self-Worth

# **KALINGA REPORT: 2020**

# **Background**

Vision: Recreating and empowering the lives of the street dwellers and wounded

Mission: Provide dignified, systematic and holistic care

### Objectives:

At the end of calendar year, the Arnold Janssen Kalinga Center (AJKC) served 2,500 homeless and their family members through its threefold program.

- 1. To provide quality food and hygiene along with coaching and affirmation and various activities (Phase 1A).
- 2. To provide a safe place to stay for the night, free from threats to security and vulnerability brought by various elements, natural or otherwise (Phase 1B).
- 3. To explore creative ways of acquiring new knowledge and skills through alternative learning systems (ALS) and skills-building for gainful work. (Phase 2)
- 4. To create at the community level spaces and opportunities where they will take care of other poor people in their neighborhood like AJ Kalinga has done for them. (Phase 3)

#### **Desired Results:**

- 1. An average number of 250 homeless and their family members have accessed AJ Kalinga center meals and sanitation facilities during Kalinga Day
- 2. An average number of 50 homeless and their family members have accessed AJ Kalinga Panatag temporary night shelter.
- 3. 25 to 30 homeless and their family members have accessed AJ Kalinga Alternative Learning System (ALS).
- 4. 100 homeless and their family members have accessed AJ Kalinga livelihood program.
- 5. 100 homeless and their family members have accessed AJ Kalinga values formation and counseling.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Through the years since 2015, the Arnold Janssen Kalinga Center has established its niche core program, that is, the "*Kain-Aral-Linis-NG-Ayos*". Anchored from the Gospel of Matthew 25:35-36, the program was popularized by its founder, Fr Flavie L. Villanueva, SVD in the *AJKC*, Tayuman. It offers a unique systematic mode of caring through a 7-Station process that each homeless beneficiary diligently follows, namely:

Station 1: Welcoming Station 2: Profiling Station 3: Clothing Station 4: Bathing

Station 5: Grooming and Affirmation Station 6: Meals and Bonding

Station 7: Sending-off

Around 200-250 homeless people, young and old, queued during Kalinga Days to enjoy the dignified care with the support of the Beneficiary-Volunteers (Be-Volts) of AJKC.

In March 2020, the national government imposed enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) in Metro Manila due to the unexpected onslaught of the deadly COVID-19. Despite following proper Department of Health regulations, the AJKC was forced-closed, the street dwellers inhumanely driven away and leaving them more vulnerable to the pandemic. As a response, AJKC expanded its effort to provide the street dwellers with their most immediate needs to be able to combat the virus and opened a "Safer Spaces for Street dwellers" program during the lockdown.

From March 22 to June 14, the program housed over 500 street dwellers across 8 temporary safe shelters. The **Arnold Janssen Kalinga Safe Shelters** were organized in partnership with the following:

- DLSU Enrique Razon's Sports Center
- St Benilde Covered Court
- Bahay Tuluyan of San Benito of the Sisters of St Scholastica College
- Paco Catholic School Gymnasium
- Paco Catholic School 7<sup>th</sup> Floor
- Malate Catholic School Gymnasium
- Espiritu Santo Parochial School
- Arnold Janssen Kalinga Center (Tayuman)

Through generous donors, partners, and friends, healthy food, supply of proper hygiene and sanitation goods and services were continuously provided. On June 14, our temporary Safe Shelters had to close operations and our dear homeless went back to the streets. Among those we had provided care in our safe shelters, we identified 65 to 71 street dwellers who were willing to commit to changing their lives. In an effort to support their heartfelt desires, the idea of the *Arnold Janssen Bahay Kalinga* was founded.

# Kalinga sa Kalye (Feeding Program)

From April 25 to December 31, 2020 (and still on-going), the Arnold Janssen Kalinga Center has provided dignified packed meals to the street dwellers in the areas of Luneta, Kalaw, and Lawton in the City of Manila.

- Feeding Days: 190 days
- No. of Meals Served: 126,066 dignified packed meals
- No. of Street Dwellers: 250 pax in April 25, 2020; rose to 600 in June; 750 in Sept; 850 in Oct; 1000 in November & 1100 December 2020
- Cost of Meals: Php 5.04M

A team of 9 beneficiary-volunteers helped in marketing, cooking, packing and distributing dignified pack meals to the street dwellers, 20 days a month.

#### Arnold Janssen Bahay Kalinga in 2020: (on-going)

Fast forward to 2020: Although we have been serving our beneficiaries for more than five (5) years, we have realized that we could do more for them, given a bigger and more complete facility. And truly God provides to support this dream. The Foundation has been blessed with a site from the Passionist community (formally known as the Congregation of the Passion of Jesus Christ) in Bagong Silang, Caloocan City, which can house the 60 street dweller beneficiaries. The Arnold Janssen Bahay Kalinga, or Bahay Kalinga, had a soft opening and blessing in July 16, 2020.

Arnold Janssen Bahay Kalinga (AJBK) follows the mission of providing a holistic care for street-dwellers committed to reform and renew their lives. Through the Integrated Human Development Programs designed to respond to their basic needs, AJBK accompanies our beneficiaries in recreating and empowering their lives anew.

From July to December 2020, Bahay Kalinga in Bagong Silang welcomed 71 street dwellers beneficiaries from the "Safe Shelters". They were the pioneering Batch and first residents of Arnold Janssen Bahay Kalinga. Based from experience and research, consultation and prayer, we crafted an Integrated Human Development Program for the pioneer residents. On its first six months, the Bahay Kalinga: House of Formation and Hope for the street dwellers, has accomplished the following:

- Offered an Integrated Human Development Program specifically on the areas of: Values formation; Alternative Learning Skills and Skills Training; and, Livelihood, Job Preparation & Employment
- Coming from the "Safe Shelters," the First Batch of 71 street dweller beneficiaries, 8 have been re-integrated with their own families/12 hired by external companies/5 endorsed to other institutions, 7 Locally Stranded Individuals have returned home, a total of 32 pax have turned their lives around.
- Batch 2: Fourteen (14) street dwellers have joined Bahay Kalinga for their formation & skills training.

In pursuit of our **Vision** to re-create and empower the lives of the homeless, the **Mission** of AJ Kalinga Foundation Inc *in providing dignified*, *systematic and holistic care* among the homeless people has become *steadfast amidst the challenges* of the contemporary sign of the time – the COVID19 pandemic in 2020.

# **KALINGA's Response to COVID19 Pandemic**

Under the initiative of Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) of the Society of the Divine Word (SVD) — Philippine Central Province, the AJ Kalinga Foundation Inc. has worked vigorously in "recreating and empowering the MOST — *Marginalized, Oppressed, Suffering, Tormented* in our society." To further *Empowerment*, one of JPIC's three (3) pillars, we have designed program interventions, helping particularly two of the most neglected and non-recognized sectors in our society today, the street dwellers and victims of extra-judicial killings. These programs are: *Kalinga sa Kalye, Kalinga Center, Bahay Kalinga, Kalingaan sa Panahon ng Unos*, and Program *Paghilom*.

Below is a summary of our response to COVID19 Pandemic:



**Accomplishments of Project Objectives:** 

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ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS	RESULTS / OUTPUTS
1. To provide quality food and hygiene along with coaching and affirmation and various activities (Phase 1A).	An average number of 250 homeless and their family members have accessed AJ Kalinga center meals and sanitation facilities during Kalinga Day.	An average number of <b>220</b> homeless were served every Kalinga Day during the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2020 - average number of 187 beneficiaries were served in January; 210 beneficiaries were served in February; and 200 beneficiaries were served in March. The Center served a total of <b>9,933</b> dignified meals to the homeless.
2. To provide a safe place to stay for the night, free from threats to security and vulnerability brought by various elements, natural or otherwise (Phase 1B).	An average number of 50 homeless and their family members have accessed AJ Kalinga Panatag temporary night shelter.	An average number of <b>37</b> homeless were served every Panatag Night Shelter during the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2020 - average number of 37 beneficiaries were served in January; 35 beneficiaries were served in February; and 30 beneficiaries were served in March. The Center served a total of <b>1,631</b> dignified meals to the homeless.
3. To explore creative ways of acquiring new knowledge and skills through alternative learning systems and skills-	25 to 30 homeless and their family members have accessed AJ Kalinga Alternative Learning System (ALS).	The number of ALS learners went down to 7 during the first quarter of 2020.

building for gainful work.		
4. To create at the community level spaces and opportunities where they will take care of other poor people in their neighborhood	100 homeless and their family members have accessed AJ Kalinga livelihood program.  100 homeless and their family members have accessed AJ Kalinga values formation and	Twelve (12) beneficiary-volunteers attended skills training in rosary-making and benefitted for their personal needs.
like AJ Kalinga has done for them.	counseling.	

The *key results of OUTPUTS 1&2* show that the targets of Kalinga day and Panatag Night Shelter had negative variance of 12% and 26% respectively during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2020. However, it was a usual trend to have their numbers reduced due to the assumption that a big percentage of the homeless people have returned to their relatives during the Christmas holiday season. Apparently, the activities changed and evolved during the succeeding quarters due to the onset of world health issue on the Covid19 pandemic.

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a pandemic. The national government implemented the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) that forced the AJ Kalinga center to stop its Kalinga Day operation where the homeless were driven away for queuing on "Kain-Ligo."

As 'compassion knows no time & boundaries, it just gives,' AJKC insisted to find a way to help the homeless and street dwellers. It was in mid-March 2020 when AJKC partnered with seven (7) institutions that opened their doors to give safe spaces to the homeless amidst the Covid-19 pandemic. The safe shelters served as temporary homes to around 500 street dwellers from March to June 2020. However, aware of the conditions of the homeless people who were left behind in the streets, the Arnold Janssen Kalinga Center simultaneously started the feeding in the street or "Kalinga sa Kalye" in April 2020 with a total that reached between 250 to 1,100 homeless people until December 2020.

Moreover, in the middle of 2020, the AJ Kalinga Foundation continued to be relevant by opening the Arnold Janssen Bahay Kalinga in Bagong Silang, Caloocan City in partnership with the Passionist Fathers. It accommodated 71 homeless people and the same were provided with temporary shelter and dignified care. The AJ Bahay Kalinga remained, to date, with 30 residents as of December 2020.

The Foundation continued the implementation of the programs at the Bahay Kalinga in three Phases, namely:

**Phase 1A:** Food and Nutrition - this Phase focuses on recreating their self-image by providing freshly cooked meal of two viands and unlimited rice, served in food trays with complete table service; and a shower facility complete with soap and shampoo, for its homeless residents.

**Phase 1B**: **PANATAG Night Shelter** – this provides our residents the experience of a true home, however temporary: a refreshing bath before dinner, and a good and peaceful sleep in a clean and safe place.

**Phase 2:** Education – KALINGA's Alternative Learning System (ALS) offers its residents the opportunity to study again, and to continue one's education in a non-formal educational setting. ALS focuses on helping its members **reclaim their self-respect**.

**Phase 3:** LIVELIHOOD – KALINGA offers feasible opportunities for livelihood and employment to those who have shown zealous cooperation and transformation through the months of being with the Bahay KALINGA. Phase III is concerned in aiding them **restore their self-worth**.

# **Challenges of 2020**

The adverse impact of COVID19 pandemic was the ultimate challenge in the lives of the homeless people. Due to the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) restrictions, the homeless people were prevented to queue at the Arnold Janssen Kalinga Center and have been rounded up by the local government authorities and agencies for violating rules on mass gathering, social distancing, and curfew hours.

### A. Addressing the various levels of needs of the homeless

The street dwellers who have committed to stay at the Bahay Kalinga are guided through a series of Integrated Human Development Programs.

However, the street dwellers have diverse backgrounds and needs. Because of their distressed conditions, various issues and concerns emerge day by day. These include conflict between groups or gang affiliations, craving and addiction for prohibited drugs, cigarettes and liquors, psychological and emotional mal-adjustments, health concerns of elderly people, and healthcare for children and family, among others. Thus, Bahay Kalinga seems to cover a combination of two or more objectives such as correctional, orphanage, elderly home, rehabilitation, and mental institution. As such, Bahay Kalinga staff were challenged to create or adopt programs to be able to address the various needs of the homeless residents.

# B. Establishing the appropriate Bahay Kalinga Structure to meet its objectives

Given the various issues and concerns of the homeless residents, Bahay Kalinga established a structure that involved a full-time staff complement consisting of a Program Director, a Formator, an Operations staff and an Admin & Finance staff and engaged representatives from the different committees or task groups of homeless residents to participate in implementing the programs and services. The demand for a Registered Social Worker and a Psychologist became more evident. One hindering factor in engaging more full-time staff is the imposition of lockdown or quarantine restrictions.

#### C. Implementing the Bahay Kalinga Programs and Services

The purpose of the Bahay Kalinga is to facilitate an Integrated human development program consisting of values formation, ALS, skills training and livelihood & job preparation & employment for the homeless residents.

Out of **71** street dwellers (Batch 1), 8 have been re-integrated with their own families/12 hired by external companies/7 locally stranded individuals have returned home/5 endorsed to Institutions, a total of 32 pax have turned their lives around. About 40% of the residents chose to exit voluntarily due to unfounded expectations regarding immediate provision of employment and the inability to follow rules, structure and tasks.

As we are challenged to go to the frontiers and peripheries, we seek to serve the **most** around us: **m**arginalized, **o**ppressed, **s**uffering and **t**ormented. We embrace them the way the Triune God would love them. We accept them by providing dignified, systematic and holistic care for the poor.

Just as "street dwellers" seek a home and purpose, the mission of the Arnold Janssen Kalinga Foundation through its Kalinga Center and Bahay Kalinga programs shall continue to unfold.