

**RfP Philippines Youth Committee**  
**Multi-religious Humanitarian in response to COVID-19**  
**TO GET THERE: REACHING OUT TO THE UNHEARD**

**THIRD WEEKLY REPORT**  
**24 to 30 May 2020**

**PROJECT BACKGROUND**

This project by the *Religions for Peace* Philippines Youth Committee is a response to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic to the different communities in Metro Manila, Philippines who are receiving less attention and help in this time of crisis. The Youth Committee aims to provide food packages and/or sanitation essentials to the communities of garbage collectors, indigenous communities, street sweepers, informal settlers, displaced contractual workers and small Churches, Mosques, and Buddhist temples.

In order to efficiently provide aid to the target communities, the Youth Committee has organized a special team to work on the project. This team is further divided into two to distribute the different tasks needed to be accomplished for the success of the project. This team is both supervised and involved in by the two project heads, Louise Obispo and Kaye Jimenez, and the Subcommittee of the Projects and Advocacies Chair, Ricks Santos.

The first team, the Food and Sanitation Essentials Team (FSET), are composed of Selena Lim and Fatima Lotoc. While the second team, the Point Persons Team (PPT), is composed of Gino Sanchez, John Medina, Ciara Piñol, Ricks Santos, Fatima Lotoc, and Kaye Jimenez.

An online meeting was held with the project heads and the volunteers of the project to discuss updates from each team. They shared news regarding their tasks as well as the challenges and concerns they have. Solutions were brainstormed on and discussed by the whole team. The project heads also shared reminders for the project and important practices for the safety and well-being of each member.

The FSET has encountered a challenge with the supplier of canned goods and the distributor of the body soap, detergent bar, and alcohol. The team, together with the project heads, is already working on a solution. Another supplier for canned goods is being looked for and open communication is being kept with the distributor of the mentioned sanitation essentials. Meanwhile, funds have been transferred for the payment of the body soap, detergent bar, alcohol, the 2nd half of the rice and the trucking service for its delivery, and the eco-bags and its delivery fee. By this week, the eco-bags and the rice have already been delivered.

Aside from the LGBT's Christian Church Inc. and the Al Huda Mosque, the PPT was able to include 2 churches and 2 masjids that the project can help. The Good Shepherd Cathedral, the Grace Life Church of Payatas, Masjid Al-Khair, and Masjid Hadji Salik are now beneficiaries of the project. With these additions, there are now a total of three churches and three mosques as beneficiaries of the project. Reaching the two masjids was possible through the help of the Bio-Fil Pharma Marketing Corp. With the Buddhist temples, there is still a challenge in finding ones that the team can help. To counter this, the team has contacted the Fo Guang Shan Mabuhay Temple to ask for their help.

## **A. FOOD AND SANITATION ESSENTIALS TEAM**

### **a. Items**

This week contained a number of challenges for the team. First, the initial supplier the team intended to purchase canned goods from has informed them that the items are already out of stock. This has prompted the FSET and the project heads to look for other suppliers or distributors who are selling canned goods that fit the budget and other criteria needed such as the ability to deliver to a certain location.

The second challenge is that the distributor for the body soap, detergent bar, and alcohol we have ordered from has communicated difficulty in gathering the number of alcohol we have requested and they promised to deliver. From their recent update, the challenge is due to the high demand for the product from the supplier.

As a team, it was planned to give them one week, as agreed upon with the supplier, to confirm whether or not they will be able to provide the alcohol initially agreed upon or not. While waiting, the team is looking for other suppliers or distributors of alcohol just in case the original distributor cannot deliver their committed number and price.

### **b. Funds**

This week, funds were requested and transferred for the payment of alcohol, body soap, detergent bar, and eco-bags. The second half of the payment for the rice was also transferred.

There was also a delivery fee for the eco-bags and a trucking service fee for the rice. These were initially paid for by Ricks Santos and Fatima Lotoc but were later reimbursed.

### **c. Delivery**

There were changes in the plan for the delivery of items from the supplier to the PPT members. Items destined for all target communities will be delivered to one location only, instead of delivering them to multiple locations. This change is brought about by the feasibility of the suppliers or distributors to deliver to certain locations and the cheaper cost of delivering to different communities from this single location.

Items for the Dumagat community will come from this location, but the coordination with the community and the courier is still assigned to Kaye Jimenez. Items that will go to the Good Shepherd Cathedral and the Grace Life Church of Payatas for repacking and distribution are also collected in this location. Transportation of the items to their respective churches will be done through a delivery service or through the private vehicles of members of the team. This will be coordinated by Fatima Lotoc, the PPT member who is coordinating with the Grace Life Church of Payatas, and Ricks Santos, who is coordinating with the Good Shepherd Cathedral.

Last May 26 and 27, the eco-bags and rice were delivered respectively to this location. While on May 29, items for the garbage collectors, street sweepers, and informal settlers were transferred to the Good Shepherd Cathedral to prepare for repacking.

## **B. POINT PERSONS TEAM**

As mentioned in the previous report, the team has prepared a pledge that will serve as an agreement between the beneficiaries and the Youth Committee. This pledge was modified to include more information about the project. Information such as the presence of other beneficiaries, an acknowledgment that they have received flyers on proper handwashing and COVID19 myths, and consent for obtaining information about the community's demographics were included.

### **a. Mosques or Masjids**

Bio-Fil Pharma Marketing Corp., a pharmaceutical company, has offered to connect the team to two masjids namely, Masjid Al-Khair and Masjid Hadji Salik Muhammad. The team has sent them a letter of intent to further explain the background, purpose, and beneficiaries of the project.

The company will also help in delivering the sanitation essentials to the masjids. John Medina, the PPT member in charge for the mosques, will arrange the delivery of the five gallons of disinfectant solution and 50 pieces of 250 ml alcohol to their company. Furthermore, they have initiated to add multivitamins to the package for the masjids.

With the initiative of the Bio-Fil Pharma Marketing Corp., the project will now be extending help to three mosques instead of two. Together with the Al Huda Mosque, the two masjids will also receive sanitation supplies that can help them in reopening after the Community Quarantine.

### **b. Churches**

The Good Shepherd Cathedral, the church that will help in repacking and distributing the food packages and sanitation essentials to the garbage collectors, street sweepers, and informal settlers, will now be a beneficiary of the project.

The Grace Life Church of Payatas, the church that will accompany the team in repacking and distributing the food packages and sanitation essentials to the displaced contractual workers, will also be a beneficiary of the project.

In summation, the project will now help three churches including the LGBT's Christian Church. This was decided on during the online meeting held with the whole team over the weekend. This decision was brought by the difficulty encountered in reaching out to other churches. Due to the Community Quarantine, most of the churches are closed and are not operating, therefore they couldn't be contacted. Moving forward, Gino Sanchez, the PPT member in charge for the churches, will coordinate with Fatima Lotoc and Ricks Santos.

A letter of intent was sent to both churches to formally invite them to be part of the project as well as to explain in detail the nature of the project. The team is also strengthening its relationship with the Good Shepherd Cathedral through helping in their own donation drives. Ricks Santos is currently helping in repacking and distributing packages for residents in Fairview, Quezon City. Volunteers from the church, as well as Ricks, practice a number of safety measures throughout their activities. They wear face masks, sanitize themselves before entering the church, and practice social distancing.

### **c. Buddhist Temples**

During the online meeting, PPT member Ciara Piñol and Project Head Louise Obispo, have expressed the challenges they are facing in looking for Buddhist Temples that the team can help.

The challenges they face include the lack of response from most Buddhist Temples contacted or the limited number of Buddhist Temples that have their contact information online.

As a contingency plan, they have reached out to Fo Guang Shan Mabuhay Temple for help in reaching out to temples that the project can help. A letter of intent was sent to them explaining the background, purpose, and beneficiaries of the project. The team is also preparing to contact Hindu Temples just in case there will still be no Buddhist Temples that the project can offer help to.

### **C. DISSEMINATING COVID-19 RELATED MESSAGES**

During the team's meeting, it has been decided to share COVID19 related messages in Filipino through flyers, posters, and emails. The communities, except the Dumagat Community, will be receiving a flyer that is a quarter-page size. This will be included in the food packages and sanitation essentials given to them. As for the Dumagat Community and worship facilities, they will receive a one-page poster instead. In addition to the posters, emails will also be sent to the target facilities and the Bio-Phil Pharma Marketing Corporation.

The team intends to share information on the proper handwashing technique and the myths about the Coronavirus Disease in Filipino. This will incorporate the use of the sanitation essentials the team will be providing. The website of RfP with information on COVID19 will also be shared in the flyers, posters, and emails for more information.

To produce these materials, the Project Heads have asked the Youth Committee's Subcommittee on Communications and Media for assistance.

### **D. PHOTO AND NARRATIVE DOCUMENTATION**

Since the members of the team have started to receive the different items for donation, these members have also documented this through photographs. These are shared with the whole team and uploaded in a single platform for easy tracking and access.

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**RfP Philippines Youth Committee**  
**Multi-religious Humanitarian in response to COVID-19**  
**TO GET THERE: REACHING OUT TO THE UNHEARD**

**FOURTH WEEKLY REPORT**  
**31 May to 6 June 2020**

**PROJECT BACKGROUND**

This project by the *Religions for Peace* Philippines Youth Committee is a response to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic to the different communities in Metro Manila, Philippines who are receiving less attention and help in this time of crisis. The Youth Committee aims to provide food packages and/or sanitation essentials to the communities of garbage collectors, indigenous communities, street sweepers, informal settlers, displaced contractual workers and small Churches, Mosques, and Buddhist temples.

In order to efficiently provide aid to the target communities, the Youth Committee has organized a special team to work on the project. This team is further divided into two to distribute the different tasks needed to be accomplished for the success of the project. This team is both supervised and involved in by the two project heads, Louise Obispo and Kaye Jimenez, and the Subcommittee of the Projects and Advocacies Chair, Ricks Santos.

The first team, the Food and Sanitation Essentials Team (FSET), are composed of Selena Lim and Fatima Lotoc. While the second team, the Point Persons Team (PPT), is composed of Gino Sanchez, John Medina, Ciara Piñol, Ricks Santos, Fatima Lotoc, and Kaye Jimenez.

The FSET was able to overcome a lot of obstacles this week. First, they were able to resolve the complication with the supplier of the body soap, detergent bar, and alcohol. The supplier would be able to provide the body soap and the detergent bar. As for the alcohol, they will be refunding the payment made to them. The team was able to look for another supplier that met the project's needs, although readjustments in quantity to be distributed were made. The team was also able to finalize and order canned goods from a new supplier as well. Lastly, an additional of the disinfectant solution was ordered, delivered, and paid for.

The PPT was also able to overcome an obstacle this week. After trying to contact and invite a number of Buddhist Temples, one has finally agreed to be part of the project. The Soc Yan Temple from Tondo, Manila City is now a beneficiary of the project. There was also progress in the repacking of goods for the garbage collectors, street sweepers, and informal settlers. With the help of the Good Shepherd Cathedral, 26 sacks of rice were divided into 235 eco-bags containing 6 kilograms each.

Further preparations for the project were also made. The flyers for the communities and the posters for the facilities were drafted, made, and finalized. This was possible with the help of John Medina, the Communications Officer of the RfP PH Youth Committee. Certificates for the Good Shepherd Cathedral, the Grace Life Church of Payatas, and the Bio-Fil Pharma Marketing Corp. were also prepared with the help of Jasmin Batac, the head of the Media Team of the Youth Committee.

## **A. FOOD AND SANITATION ESSENTIALS TEAM**

### **a. Items**

As mentioned in the previous report, the supplier for the body soap, detergent bar, and alcohol had some issues in gathering the quantity needed per item. After a week, they informed Selena Lim, an FSET member, that they would be able to provide the quantity of body soap and detergent bar needed. As for the alcohol, they weren't able to provide the item that fit the budget, quality, and quantity needed. This has prompted the supplier to return the payment made for the alcohol.

The team has pooled other suppliers of 250ml isopropyl alcohol. After making a compilation of the suppliers and their offers, the team has deliberated on whom to purchase from. The team considered the price of each item and its impact on the overall budget, the quantity available, and their efficiency in production time. The team was able to decide on the new supplier. They have also decided to make adjustments in the quantity to be given to each facility. The increase in the prices for alcohol, due to its demand, pushed the team to make such changes.

Primarily, the team intended to provide 50 pieces of alcohol to each church, mosque, and Buddhist Temple, 25 pieces of alcohol to each masjid, and one for each family. To clarify, the two masjids were supposed to receive only half of the intended amount per facility, because it was relayed by the Bio-Fil Pharma Marketing Corp. that it would be enough.

After computing the changes in the budget, the team together with the project heads and the Deputy Chair, decided that each facility would now receive 40 pieces of alcohol, with each masjid receiving 40 as well instead of 25, and each family will still receive one. This reduction allows the team to allot more of the budget into the deliveries that will be made to the different beneficiaries.

As for the canned goods, the team looked for new suppliers with offers that fit the budget and other criteria. Prospect suppliers were contacted, and their offers were compiled and deliberated on by the whole team. After taking into consideration their offer, the ease of communicating with them, and their efficiency in production time, the team has decided on a new supplier for the canned goods.

### **b. Ordering**

After finalizing the new supplier for the alcohol and the adjustments in quantity, the team went ahead and placed an order. The supplier only sold the alcohol per box and the project needed 720 pieces in total for all communities and facilities. To accommodate the quantity needed, the team placed an order for 15 boxes of alcohol that contained 48 bottles of isopropyl alcohol each.

The team also proceeded to place an order for the canned goods. Two kinds were ordered from the supplier in equal amounts, 2000 pieces of meatloaf and 2000 pieces of sardines. These variations were chosen based on their price and weight. Having two variations also ensures that what the communities would receive will have some variety and therefore more likely for them to consume.

In the previous report, it was also mentioned that there is an increase in the number of worship facilities the project initially planned to help. Currently, the whole project will be helping three churches, three mosques, and one Buddhist Temple. Each facility would receive five gallons of disinfectant solution and 40 pieces of 250ml isopropyl alcohol. Previously the team only ordered disinfectant solutions for two churches, two mosques, and two Buddhist temples. As for the additional church we will be helping, the team has ordered an additional five gallons for them. The two masjids we will be helping, Masjid Al-Khair and Masjid Hadji Salik Muhammad, will receive a share of the disinfectant solution allotted for one facility, and 40 pieces of 250ml alcohol each. This is because Bio-Fil Pharma Corp., the company that has connected us to them believes that the items will be enough for both of the facilities.

**c. Funds**

For the additional five gallons of disinfectant solution that the team ordered, funds for the payment was requested and transferred on the 2nd of June. The payment was directly transferred to the supplier's bank account for a more efficient process.

Payment for the canned goods ordered was also requested this 4th of June. These funds were transferred to Ricks Santos, for the payment will be made once the products are delivered.

Meanwhile, the payment made to the previous supplier of the alcohol was refunded to Fatima Lotoc. This is for an easier transaction to the new supplier of alcohol.

**d. Delivery**

This week, on the 2nd of June, the delivery of the additional disinfectant solution was made to Ricks Santos' residence. The body soap and detergent bar for the communities was also delivered to the same location on the 5th of June. Documentation of these deliveries were shared to the whole team.

**B. POINT PERSONS TEAM**

This week, beneficiaries of the project are already on standby for the delivery or distribution of goods. In preparation for the distribution of food packages and sanitation essentials to the communities of garbage collectors, street sweepers, and informal settlers, Ricks Santos together with the volunteers from the Good Shepherd Cathedral has repacked the rice into bags containing six kilograms. They were able to repack 26 sacks of rice 235 eco-bags on the 1st of June.

Another accomplishment that the team was able to achieve this week, was that one Buddhist Temple has agreed to be a beneficiary. The Soc Yan Temple, with the help of Ciara Piñol and Louise Obispo, has agreed to be part of the project. This temple is located in Tondo, Manila City. They were able to provide a number of contact persons to help the team in coordinating the delivery of donations and in answering any concerns the team may have.

**C. DISSEMINATING COVID-19 RELATED MESSAGES**

With the teamwork of the RfP Ph YC's Communications Officer, John Medina, and the Deputy Chair and the Project Heads, the flyers for the communities and posters for the facilities were drafted, refined, and finalized. Most of the content was sourced from the previous COVID19

online campaign initiated by the Youth Committee, and the other information needed for the facilities was researched by the team.

Both the flyers and the posters contain information on the myths and facts about COVID19. The flyers for the communities contain information on proper handwashing, while the posters for the facilities contain information on how to keep their establishments clean. These materials are ready to be printed by select team members who have volunteered to do so. A copy of these is also shared among the team for easy access and retrieval.

#### **D. TOKEN OF APPRECIATION**

Certificates that will act as tokens of appreciation for the Good Shepherd Cathedral, the Grace Life Church of Payatas, and the Bio-Fil Pharma Marketing Corp. was also prepared this week. The Project Heads and the Deputy Chief drafted the content of these certificates. Drafting the layout was possible with the help of Jasmin Batac, the head of the Media Team and the whole Executive Board of the Youth Committee.

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