COOPERATIVES ALL OVER THE COUNTRY GOING THE EXTRA MILE TO SERVE THEIR MEMBERS AND COMMUNITIES AMIDST COVID-19 PANDEMIC: REPORTS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

#CoopsAgainstCOVID19

LESLIE UNION CREDIT COOPERATIVE SHOWS CARE FOR THE COMMUNITY AND ITS MEMBERS

Empathy and perspective what separates them both? **Empathy** helps understand what you prospective donor is feeling. **Perspective** helps you understand why they are feeling it. Both are indeed essential when facing



decision that is of utmost importance. To further elaborate between these two, let us look at a certain cooperative that answered the call to help those who are in need.



Last April 8, 2020

Leslie Union Credit

Cooperative (LUCC)

distributed relief packs to their
members and their community
as well. Headed by their
energetic Chairperson Mr.

Jayson Malaluan and his
staff, each member was given

a relief pack consisting of ½ kilo of sugar, a bottle of cooking oil, 10 pcs. of Great Taste Coffee and Kopiko, 1 pack of Alaska/Bear Brand powdered milk, 1 pack of Biscuits (Wafrets/Magic Flakes), 2 pcs. of Ramen, 2 pcs. of Yakisoba, 4 cans of corned beef, 4 cans of meatloaf, 5 pcs. of laundry detergents, a bottle of shampoo, 2 bars of soap, and 10 kilos of rice (dinorado). Every household in the community received ½

kilo of sugar, a bottle of cooking oil, 5 pcs. of 3 in 1 coffee, 1 pack of biscuits, 2 cans of corned beef, a can of meatloaf, 2 pcs. of pancit canton, and 3 kilos of rice. They also distributed relief packs to the frontliners in the area of Paranague.





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Q Search

The said cooperative's target is 200 members and 300 household within their 4 areas of operation. They operated within San Pedro Laguna, Canlubang Laguna, Paranaque, and Mabalacat Pampanga.

Last April 15 and 16 LUCC distributed relief packs to the Paranaque plant and nearby communities located near their office.

In making a decision, a leader must balance between Empathy and Perspective but be governed mostly by LOVE. True to test, the LUCC displayed such as they demonstrated the cooperative principle which is *Concern for Community*. By: SKS

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"Business cannot be successful when the society around them fails"

This quotation is what ASA Philippines Credit Cooperative (APCC) believes in and it is essential not only for their members but also to the society and community in light of the current Luzon Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ).

They are doing the extra mile when they delivered last March 25 disinfectants, alcohol, hand

sanitizers and vitamins to the Philippine National Police Center for Police Strategy Management Office in Camp Crame, San Juan City. These will then be distributed to the different checkpoint areas for the sanitation and immune system boosting of our police officers on duty who are enforcing ECQ to avert the threat of COVID-19.





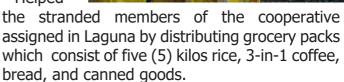


ASIAPRO MULTI-PURPOSE COOPERATIVE CONDUCTS COMMUNITY SERVICES AMIDST LUZON'S LOCKDOWN

Here are some of the activities that the cooperative had undertaken amidst the Enhance Community Quarantine imposed in the entire Luzon:



1. Helped



Provided accommodations and conducted feeding activities to at least one thousand (1,000) members in their housing facilities

located in Makati and Taguig, Metro Manila because the lockdown hindered their members from working in construction.

COOPERATIVES OF PASIG CITY REMAIN OPEN TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY DURING THIS COVID-19 CRISIS

Amidst this time of uncertainty, many sectors in the community continued to help hand in hand in the fight against the pandemic. One of these is the Cooperative sector which made sure that it will continue to serve its members and community. The cooperatives did not hesitate to place a high level of care and compassion as they extended help.

The **Pasig-Mandaluyong-Quiapo Operators and Drivers Alliance Transport** Service Cooperative (PAMAQODA TSC) is one of the cooperatives in the City of Pasig that continuously served the community at this time of Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ). Since the pronouncement of the government placing the entire Luzon under PAMAQODA TSC tirelessly offered its free services in transporting our great frontliners who rendered duties at the Philippine General Hospital (PGH) in Manila.



Three (3) mini buses owned by the cooperative were regularly stationed in PGH and were used as service vehicles in transporting back and forth the frontliners to the different hotels where they are temporarily staying --- Sogo Hotel in Quirino and Victoria Court in Malate, Manila.



Aside from the above, the cooperative also distributed free food packs to the residents who are currently staying in Kalinga Center of Delpan, Tondo, Manila as well as the frontliners of San Lazaro Hospital and Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center. *by: HGM*





PAMAQODA TSC headed by the Chairperson distributed free food packs to the residents staying in Kalinga Center, Delpan, Tondo, Manila.

Another cooperative Pasia City, the in Maybunga Multi-Cooperative **Purpose** showed its concern for the community by extending cash donation to Maybunga Parish Church in the amount of Five Thousand Pesos (Php5,000.00) from Community Development Fund (CDF).





Said donation has

been utilized by the church in the procurement of grocery items which they distributed to the residents of Brgy. Maybunga, Pasig. The coop also participated in the repacking and distribution of grocery items to the beneficiaries.

COOPERATIVES IN THEIR RESPONSE TO CURRENT STATE OF NATIONAL HEALTH EMERGENCY

In this state of national health emergency, we are uncertain as to how long we should wait for this crisis to end. In these trying times, it is of great pride that the cooperative sector contributed much effort in fighting this pandemic.

The Medical **Providers** Care Coperative of Maybunga Pasig City intensified its effort in delivering series of health services care in answering the needs of society. Recently, through the collaboration

of *St. Camillan family*, the cooperative conducted a medical mission which includes free distribution of medicines to our brothers and sisters in Malate, Manila.

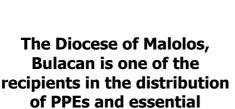
The cooperative also received donations from its different partners, namely: *The*





Lay Camillian Family (LCF) under Our Lady of La Paz Parish, Makati City, the Department of Health (DOH) and Cleanfit Technologies International, Inc. With the donations they received, they were able to reach-out both to medical and community frontliners by providing PPEs. Among the community frontliners are food vendors in the market, police and security guards, quarantine checkpoint volunteers and barangay workers.

The picture above shows the Personal Protective Equipments (PPEs) that were distributed to St. Camillus Medical Center in Pasig City.



They also visited the elderly people who are currently living in poor condition. They shared their love by giving

commodities



foodpacks which contained three (3) kilos of rice, onedozen eggs, and assorted vegetables.

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The *Makati City Employees Cooperative (MACEMCO)* recently donated cash to the City Government of Makati amounting to *Five Hundred Thousand (Php500,000.) Philippine Peso.* The cash donation will serve as an additional emergency fund to the City Government of Makati in the procurement of health essentials and PPEs to address the needs of the frontliners who are putting their lives in danger during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Shown in the pictures are Makati City Administrator, Atty. Certeza, DRRM Officer-Mr. Richie Rodriguez, City Health Officer – Dr. Sese, MACEMCO Chairperson Alvin Gamulo (signing the check), Coop Treasurer Atty. Sucion and coop staff.

The **MAYA Neighborhood Multi-Purpose Cooperative** of Brgy. Rizal,

Makati City also showed their concern for the community by providing food packs and grocery items to *fifty-nine* (59) households within their area of operation.

Kudos to the officers and members for a great job.



The **Responsible Operators and Drivers Transport Service Cooperative (ROAD TSC)**Olympia, Makati City, also extended support to our frontliners. Being in the transport group, they never failed to provide services in transporting food packs intended to the medical professionals of Sta. Ana General Hospital in Manila. By: HGM



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"Unity is strength...when there is cooperation and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved" – Matti J.T. Stepanek

In these unprecedented and trying times, amidst the Enhanced Community Quarantine crisis, the government is implementing urgent measures to alleviate the adverse impacts posed by the outbreak of COVID-19. Along with other sectors in our economy, cooperatives also played a relevant role in accelerating economic recovery caused by this pandemic.

Despite the fact that business operations of cooperatives were affected by this pandemic, they found ways to continue delivering services for their members, employees and the community.

On March 20, 2020, the *Philippine Army Finance Center Producers Integrated Cooperative (PAFCPIC)* in the City of Taguig, donated cash in the

of **Five** amount **Fifty** Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php550,000.00) to assist the Philippine the Army in of procurement ventilators to be utilized under COVID-19 operations.



Said donation was of great advantage since the PA was able to purchase several units of paraPack Plus ventilators - models 300 and 310, necessary in transporting patients to a hospital under emergency.

The Pateros-Fort
Bonifacio Transport
Service Cooperative
distributed Two Hundred Fifty
(Php250.00) pesos worth of
poultry items to its members
affected by the Enhanced
Community Quarantine (ECQ)
imposed in the entire Luzon
area.



The **Bicutan** Upper Transport and Multi-Purpose Cooperative conducted community services amidst the health national emergency situation by disinfecting the community where they are operating. The cooperative also provided transportation health workers in going back and forth to the hospitals.



The *Top Form Multi-Purpose Cooperative* of Central Signal Village, Taguig City, continuously distributed rice to its members.



COVID-19 ADVISORY

The SAFETY of our MEMBERS is our TOP PRIORITY.

Although the Coop Office is closed in compliance with the community quarantine, HPPEMC operation continues. Alternative methods have been implemented, such as email submissions and online applications, to continue to address members' financial needs as we all try to live through the pandemic.

Please visit the website or email us for more information. Stay safe.





The *HPP Employees MultiPurpose Cooperative (HPPEMC)* of Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, continued serving its members

through *Work From Home* arrangement.

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The Smart Employees Multi-Purpose Cooperative of Makati City as reported by its General Manager, Jovilyn G. Fragata, donated cash assistance in the amount of Seventy-Five Thousand Pesos (Php75,000.00) to the UP Medical Foundation as additional source in the purchase of Personal Protective Equipments (PPEs) to be used by the PGH COVID-19 frontliners.

Emergency Response and Rescue Task Group Cooperative in Action

The **Emergency Response and Rescue Task Group Cooperative** in Marikina, showed its untiring support by responding to the call for help in this situation where lives of frontliners are being threatened, particularly those of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). The cooperative also distributed face masks to members of the AFP. The team believes that in these trying times, we will soon win and be healed as one.



Shown in pictures is the BOD Chairperson distributing facemasks to members of the AFP who are enforcing checkpoint standards in Metro Manila.

Global Trustees MPC Supports Its Community in the Call for Social Responsibility

In adherence to the Cooperative's 7th Principle, "Concern for Community", officers and members of Global Trustees Multi-Purpose Cooperative in Brgy. San Antonio, Quezon City joined in packing rice for distribution to the community where the cooperative operates.

Headed by its Chairperson, **Jessah Mangalindan**, they were able to finish repacking five hundred ten (510) packs of rice from the thirty (30) sacks which the coop bought from the local market in Quezon City. They generously distributed it to residents/households of the aforementioned barangay last Sunday, March 30, 2020. According to the Chairperson, it is indeed an accomplishment of the cooperative to be able to extend its help to the barangay in its own little way.



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Makati City Cooperatives Intensify Support in Addressing the Community's War Against Covid-19 Crisis

With the emergence of the current pandemic around the globe, there was an immediate pronouncement of a lockdown where everyone should stay at home and minimize contact with other people. Particularly here in Luzon, since the Enhanced Community Quarantine started mid-part of March, the government implemented strict health measures to fight the COVID-19 pandemic ordering the temporary closure of many institutions. In effect, this brought adverse economic impacts to families of workers and to the community as a whole, hence, a strong unity and solidarity are

most important during this adversity.

In the City of Makati,
Metro Manila, the PLDT
Employees Multi-Purpose
Cooperative (PECCI)
showed its unmeasurable
kindness and generosity by
donating food supplies to our
frontliners who are rendering

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duties at the National Center for Mental Health in Mandaluyong City and Asilo San Vicente de Paul, Manila.

The **Solidaritas Credit Cooperative** of San Carlos Pastoral
Formation Complex in Guadalupe
Viejo, donated cash worth *Four Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php400,000.00)* to Caritas Manila,
Inc. Said cash donation was distributed
in a form of gift checks to the
vulnerable families of Tondo and other





depressed areas of Manila. Other beneficiaries are the parishioners of Sacred Heart of Sta. Mesa, Manila

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The **Ayala Multi-Purpose Cooperative** of Makati City donated twenty (20) boxes, equivalent to a total of seven hundred twenty (720) packs of rice-soy fortified meal pack to St. Martin de Porres Parish in Bacoor, Cavite and to Don Bosco Parish in Makati that fed seven thousand seven hundred twenty (7,720) children.



The coop also paid for the wages of four (4) workers who served on a no-work-no-pay basis for the entire ECQ duration and also provided foods to all security guards assigned in the whole Ayala complex.

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The **Pfizer Multi- Purpose Cooperative** of Rockwell, Makati also participated and showed valuable efforts in heeding the call for action. They provided free vehicle service for transporting drugstore staff from Makati to where they are staying during this ECQ condition.



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The **Barangay Rizal Multi-Purpose Cooperative** of J.P. Rizal St., Brgy. Rizal, also initiated the provision of foods and laundry products to its members and the community.

It is in these trying times, everybody should work together in delivering basic needs and services to our society.



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"Collaborative Efforts Extended by Different Coops of Mandaluyong City Amidst Manila Lockdown"

Twenty (20) families of Brgy. Addition Hills, Mandaluyong City received cash and rice donations through the collaborative efforts and generosity made by the different cooperatives of Mandaluyong City, namely: Avon Independent Managers MPC, Day by Day MPC, Parish of our Lady of the Abandoned MPC, VPRMC Credit Cooperative and



San Felipe Neri Savings and Credit Cooperative. These were distributed with the help of SAMANA-FA MPC through its Chairperson, Mr. Edwin Manoza.

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BAYANIHAN NG KILUSANG KOOPERATIBA LABAN SA COVID 19! – Every Bigas is a Blessing

Through the initiative of *Marikina Cooperative Development Office* (*MCCDO*) headed by Ms. Hazel Mascariña, in coordination with *Marikina City Cooperative Development Council (MCCDC)* led by its Chairperson Lino de Guzman, Marikina City cooperatives were able to establish a special project called **Bayanihan ng Kooperatiba Laban sa Covid 19 - 'Every Bigas is a Blessing'**.

Every cooperative in the City was encouraged to donate rice to the Bayanihan Center of the Local Government of Marikina. The collected rice was then distributed to the less fortunate residents of Marikina City affected by the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) imposed by the government.

Cooperatives who donated and gave support to the project were the following:

- 1. 6681 Development Cooperative
- 2. Barangka Credit Cooperative
- 3. Barangka Elementary School MPC
- 4. Cooperatice Union of Marikina City
- 5. Fortune Elementary School Teacher MPC
- 6. IMCO Multi-Purpose Cooperative
- 7. Kalumpang Elementary School Teachers Employees MPC
- 8. Marikina City Federation of Public School Teachers Cooperative
- 9. Sta. Elena High School Teachers and Employees MPC
- 10. St. Gabriel Credit Cooperative
- 11. Tañong High School Teachers MPC
- 12 Industrial Valley Elementary School Multi-Purpose Cooperative
- 13 San Roque Elemetary School Teachers MPC
- 14. MARISCI Multipurpose Cooperative
- 15. Kapitan Moy Elementary School Teachers and Employees MPC
- 16. SSVES Multipurpose Cooperative
- 17. Leodegario Victorino Elementary School Teachers MPC
- 18. H.B.E.S. Teachers Multi-Purpose Cooperative
- 19. Parang High School Teachers Multi-Purpose Cooperative
- 20. Parang Elementary School Teachers Multi-Purpose Cooperative
- 21. Nangka Elementary School Teachers Multi-Purpose Cooperative
- 22. Nangka High School Teachers Multi-Purpose Cooperative
- 23. Fortune High Consumer Cooperative
- 24. Marikina High School Teachers Employees Multipurpose Cooperative
- 25. Malanday Elementary School Teacher's Multi-Purpose Cooperative *Amended 9/22/08
- 26. Concepcion Integrated School Teachers Multi-Purpose Cooperative



Shown in the pictures are the collaborative forces of MCCDO and MCCDC as they endorsed sacks of rice to the LGU.

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Sta. Elena High School Teachers and Employees' Multi-Purpose Cooperative Taking Valuable Action in Response to the Current Crisis

Sta. Elena High School Teachers and Employees' **MPC** quickly responded to the need of the Local Government of Marikina City by offering its service vehicles to be used in the immediate distribution of relief goods to the affected communities of Marikina durina Enhanced City the Community Quarantine (ECQ).



Concepcion Vendors Development Cooperative provided cash assistance to its members during NCR's Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ)

Amidst the Enhanced Community Ouarantine (ECO)

imposed in the entire area of Luzon, cooperatives operating particularly in the National Capital Region (NCR) continued serving its members, thus, they never let their members be left behind .

Early yesterday, St. Luke's the Medical Center Multi-Purpose Cooperative in Quezon City is one of the cooperatives that provided the extra mile to its members through distribution free facial masks and other



essentials necessary in fighting the dreaded

COVID-19. The distributing team yesterday stationed intentionally at the employee's entrance of the hospital to ensure that other health care volunteers who are non-members of the cooperative could also be provided.

Another cooperative in Quezon City who also gave support by providing to members and clients sanitary essentials is the *TOPSPOT MPC*. They also disseminated health care information necessary in combatting



COVID-19 by posting on their Facebook page.

LOVE CORPS COVENANT MPC, SHARING LOVE IN A COOPERATIVE WAY

In these most trying times, several cooperatives promptly responded the call for the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act since it was enacted last March 25. In fact, even before it was formally passed, there were already cooperatives who truly showed the value of sharing and caring not only to their members but also to their communities.

The Love Corps Covenant Multi-Purpose Cooperative of Pinagbuhatan, Pasig City is stepping up in initiating ways to serve the community where they operate.



Last April 17, 2020 they were able to serve one hundred sixteen (116) beneficiaries in their barangay where they distributed three (3) kilos of rice each. Said beneficiaries are the different households

including community frontliners who also extended help to the coop in the maintenance of peace and order. They also strictly observed social distancing procedures even during the repacking up to the actual distribution. *By HGM*

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"Barangka Credit Cooperative of Marikina, Its Way of Serving the Community Amidst This State of Enhanced Community Quarantine"

In light of the current Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) imposed in the island of Luzon, the *Barangka Credit Cooperative in the City of Marikina* is generously doing extra mile along with 2999 Online Shop, Inc. and through the untiring support of Kagawad Boyet Mascariña and Nestor Borja. They initiated a two-category inter-



purok challenge. The categories are the "*TikTok Challenge Family Edition"* and "*The Stay at Home and Win Grocery Items Challenge"*, participated by the residents of Brgy. Barangka, Marikina.

The daily grand prize of the *TikTok Challenge* is *Five Hundred Pesos (Php500.00)* cash and the two (2) consolation prizes consist of five (5) kilos of rice. For the second category, winners will receive grocery items with three (3) kilos of rice. Prizes in these activities are donation

from the BCC. Indeed, this is their unique way of delivering support to the community amidst this pandemic.

This also highlights the contribution of BCC to the safety measures implemented by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Managing of Emerging Infectious Disease (IATF-MEID), by urging everyone to stay at home to defeat COVID-19. While staying safe at home, they will also be receiving goods by joining the activities.



Another cooperative which doing beneficial contribution to its members and the community, is the Centennial Village Multi-Purpose **Cooperative** of Taguig City. The cooperative provided rice and consumer goods to the community where the coop



is operating. One hundred ten (110) households have availed already of their relief assistance.

Lately, they also provided their members some basic necessities and relief goods. According to its General Manager, by this week, they will be utilizing their Community Development Fund (CDF) to release relief goods to the qualified beneficiaries who have undergone pre-assessment conducted by the homeowners' association.

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The Philippine Navy Finance Center Multi-Purpose Cooperative, also in the City of Taguig, is continuously serving its members and showing its response to the call of RA 11469, "The Bayanihan to Heal as One Act". The PNFC MPC temporarily suspended the collection of loan payments which was usually done through automatic payroll deduction. The cooperative announced that no penalties or surcharges will be imposed and that the maturity dates shall be adjusted.

ANNOUNCEMENT!!!

To all of our cooperatives, our salute and appreciation. Hope you will all continue to be an inspiration to everyone. By: HGM

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MAPAG-AMPON PARISH MPC PROVIDES RELIEF TO MEMBERS AND **COMMUNITY**

"What drives people to do what they do?" is a common question frequently asked. The motivations can be summed up into two --- intrinsic and extrinsic. To further elaborate on this, here is a story about a certain cooperative.

The Mapag-ampon Parish Multi-purpose Cooperative distributed Interest on Share Capital (ISC) and 5 Kilos of Rice per member. The cooperative's office was open from March 30-April 7 with shortened office hours from 8am to 1pm. This allowed the members to claim their Interest on Capital and Patronage Refund. All precautionary measures were observed by the cooperative while transacting with their members like social distancing, wearing of masks, using thermal scanner prior to entrance, spraying alcohol on hands and disinfecting. In the case of a member who cannot personally claim his/her ISCPR, an authorization letter and IDs (member) must be presented by his/her representative.

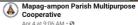
Now, to further elaborate if what drives a cooperative is intrinsic motivation, it should

members guided by the principles of cooperative and the esteemed



belongingness to the organization (cooperative). Extrinsic motivation, on the other hand, is thru rewards in the form of ISC/PR and giving relief packs to members. Both are essentially important in balancing between compliance and serving members. *By: SKS*





MAPAG-AMPON PARISH MPC DISTRIBUTES ISC

*BALANCING BETWEEN COMPLIANCE AND SERVICING MEMBERS. That's what Mapag-ampon Parish Multi-Purpose Cooperative (Muntinlupa) does amidst this crisis due to COVID-19 – while observing government orders on social distancing, wearing of masks, using thermal scanner, spraying alcohol on hands, etc., the Cooperative – on a shortened time between 8 AM to 1 PM, Monday thru Saturday from March 30 to April 7 – releases interest on share capital and gives away five (5) kilos of rice per member. If the member cannot come, only authorization letter and his ID are required from a representative."



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MAGCOOP DISPLAYS PASSION IN SERVING THE COMMUNITY AND MEMBERS

"Nothing great has ever been achieved without enthusiasm" -Ralph Waldo Emerson

Last April 7, 2020 Magsaysay Multi-Purpose Cooperative (MAGCOOP), in cooperation with Homer Foundation, Inc. (HFI) and Magsaysay – Mitsui O.S.K. Marine, Inc. (MMM), donated a total of 200 sacks of rice to Barangays 666 and 667 in Manila to help uplift the community where it operates. The sacks of rice were repacked and distributed to families whose sources of income were severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Also MAGCOOP took steps in helping members and employees during COVID-19:

For Members

- 30-day grace period for loan payments (as mandated by the Bayanihan to Heal as One Law) with waived interest, no late payment charges and accrued interest (interest on principal) as an act of good will.
- Release of interest on share capital and patronage refund.

For Employees

- Full release of March 30 payroll despite of Temporary Office Closure notice on March 17.
- Early release of 50% of 13th month pay.

- Hazard pay to frontline employees including MAGCOOP-Ministop crew and MAGCOOP House front desk staff.
- Free meals, mask, alcohol, lodging, and transportation to frontline employees.
- Free load for mobile hotspot for work-from-home employees who do not have internet connection at home.

MAGCOOP accommodated the Magsaysay seafarers who were greatly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to its transient houses, the MAGCOOP House and The Cabin. Despite the challenges of operating such a facility amidst the pandemic, MAGCOOP continues to provide a feeling of "home away from home" to the Magsaysay community especially to those who were repatriated, sent home, and unable to book flights back to their provinces due to the Enhanced Community Quarantine.

Free meals were also served including breakfast, lunch, and dinner to a total of 74 guests and employees. Aside from free meals, delivery services for purchased goods at the MAGCOOP-Ministop such as extra food, medicines, toiletries and other items were also offered for free.

With the on-going fight against the pandemic, all we can hope for is that everyone will unite and help each other in this time of crisis. This is why cooperatives, such as MAGCOOP continues to display such enthusiasm and passion to heed the needs of the community and its members. *By: SKS and Magcoop Digital Marketing*







This picture shows MAGCOOP giving free meals to guests and staff. The MAGCOOP Transient Houses served as a Quarantine Facility for the Magsaysay Crew.



"CHALLENGE ACCEPTED!"

"Kindness can transform someone's dark moment with a blaze of light. You'll never know how much your caring matters. Make a difference for another today."

This challenge, which was given by a best selling author and medical intuitive in the person of Amy Leigh Mercree, has been accepted by a great number of cooperatives in light of the Corona Virus outbreak that hit nations across the world.

To name one is the Bagbaguin Multi-Purpose Cooperative, from Valenzuela

City, which initiated a program to provide rice packs to its members to help them cope during the enhanced community quarantine due to the COVID19 pandemic. Since everyone was enjoined to stay at home to stop the spread of the disease, food on the table



became a major concern of every family especially the vulnerable sector of our society. With the assistance provided by the said cooperative to their members, they became confident that their basic needs will be met.

PHILIPPINE STATISTICS EMPLOYEES MPC (PSEMCO) REACHES OUT TO ITS MEMBERS AMID COVID19 CRISIS

Mahatma Gandhi once uttered these words: "Service which is rendered without joy helps neither the servant nor the served. But all other pleasures and possessions pale into nothingness before service which is rendered in a spirit of joy."

As our nation continues to battle with the COVID19 pandemic, we see cooperatives in the whole country serving with such joy and compassion to their members and to their communities without any hesitation. This is despite the limitations they themselves are facing.

One of such coops is the Philippine Statistics Employees MPC (PSEMCO) in Quezon City. Through its Board of Directors and Management, the said cooperative launched a program to assist their members in the midst of the crisis brought about by the corona virus outbreak. A cash assistance amounting to PhP1,500 each was credited to the Landbank accounts of all PSEMCO qualified regular members to help the members cope with the present challenges due to the pandemic and considering that the whole of Luzon is on an extended Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) until April 30. On the other hand, all associate members will receive a cash assistance of PhP500.00 each once the ECQ has been lifted. The funds for this purpose will be charged to their Optional Fund.

SELLERS' COOPERATIVE IN ACTION AMID COVID19 CRISIS

"In every crisis, doubt, or confusion, take the higher path — the path of compassion, courage, understanding, and love." - Amit Ray

Among our cooperatives in Quezon City who truly took this higher path mentioned by Amit Ray is the Sellers' Cooperative or SELCO. This cooperative has exerted much effort to be of service to their members as well as to the community in the midst of the COVID19 outbreak.

Here are the details of the assistance they have extended to their beneficiaries as reported by the coop:

"With the enhanced community quarantine being implemented in the country,







Last April 19, SELCO's Vice Chairperson Mr. Hermie Laroa, Board member Ms. Vicky Francisco, together with the staff Ms. Jennifer Bilog, Amalia Sunga, Guillermo Barcelo and with the help of Mr. Reynan Bilog distributed 300 food packs to its members. The team also donated food packs with gloves to the volunteer frontliners in the different checkpoints during the distribution. Each food pack costs Php205.00 and the cooperative allotted a total of Php65,000.00 from its Community Development Fund.

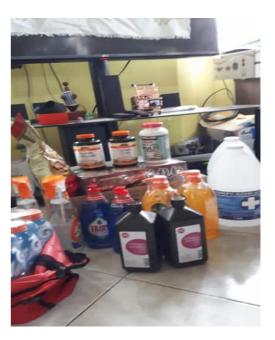
Aside from the food packs, Vice Chairperson Mr. Laroa, together with Ms. Sunga and Mr. Barcello purchased and distributed rice as loan to the members. This is to ensure that SELCO members will have food to eat during ECQ. SELCO officers understand that during the ECQ, they will not be able to work nor earn a living. Mr. Laroa and the other officers and Board of Directors of SELCO allowed the employees to have cash advance as well, for them to be able to buy food and other necessities during the ECQ.

First and foremost, the welfare of its members are in the minds and hearts of SELCO officers and staff. This is in line with the seventh (7th) cooperative principle, which is helping the community."

THE BAYANIHAN SPIRIT LIVES!

Time and again, when our nation is faced with overwhelming challenges, the Bayanihan Spirit is very much alive and is manifested by the Filipinos. To include in the list of those who have ingrained in their hearts and minds the Bayanihan Spirit, are the cooperatives in the whole country which continuously go out of their way to make a difference in the life of their members and the community they tirelessly serve.

In Quezon City, where most number of cooperatives in NCR come from, one of the cooperatives which paved the way in bringing the much needed assistance to our frontliners and to their members is the NFA Multi-Purpose Cooperative.



To serve the community and their members, the cooperative has extended these types of assistance:



- Provided Vitamins, Soap, Alcohol, Noodles, Gatorade and other essentials to the frontliners of Brgy. Vasra;
- Donated to NCRL Federation for PPE;
- Provided 1 month basic salary loan to be paid in Nov. 2020 through online application and online deposit of approved loans;
- Implemented moratorium for the month of April for existing loans;
- Provided financial assistance to their deceased member worth 15,000 pesos deposited through account;

May this Spirit continue to shine bright in all of us as we move towards the road of triumph against the COVID19 pandemic through the grace of God Almighty!

PINAGKAISA AT NAGKAKAISANG MANGGAGAWA NG HORTALEZA MPC "HAS A WILL AND HAS A WAY"

"When there's a will, there's a way" is a proverb that dates back to the 1600's.

In these times, when challenges are real and there are restrictions and limitations in the midst of the ECQ that is being implemented to stop the spread of the corona virus pandemic, a big number of cooperatives went out of their way to rise above the possible obstacles just to pursue their desire to help their members and community.

In Quezon City, the Pinagkaisa at Nagkakaisang Manggagawa ng R. Hortaleza MPC ensured that their members would be able to cope with the challenges during the enhanced quarantine period by extending financial assistance to them. Through this program of the cooperative, 80 members



benefitted with cash assistance sent through money remittance to them. The budget for this amounted to a total of Ph 600,000.00. The temporary closure of the coop office during the ECQ, together with the restrictions they are confronted with, did not hinder the cooperative in reaching out to their members at such a time when help is most needed. Indeed, if there's a will, there would always be a way.

KAMPILAN MPC SUPPORTS OUR "MODERN-DAY HEROES"

As our nation continues to wage war against the corona virus outbreak, our frontliners courageously risk their lives as they serve their fellowmen. To name some of our "modern-day heroes", whom we ought to applaud and appreciate for their



selfless acts of service, are the healthcare workers such as doctors, nurses, security guards, market vendors, media personnel, garbage collectors, non-medical staff in the



hospitals, military, police, barangay, grocery stores, food service sector, and many others who are in the frontline of this battle against the unseen COVID19.

To express their support and help ensure the protection of our frontliners, the KAMPILAN MULTI-PURPOSE COOPERATIVE in Quezon City, headed by its Chairperson PCol. Vincent S. Calanoga, initiated a community service program. The management staff, supervised by the Chairperson, distributed 500 face

shields to the frontliners particularly the market vendors of Farmers and Murphy Markets, security guards, housekeeping personnel, barangay officials in Brgy. Socorro, Q.C., and police personnel in Camp Crame on April 7. The funds used for this program was charged against the Community Development Fund of the cooperative.

Just like the Kampilan MPC, let us also do our share to support our frontliners in this battle in whatever way we can. They need our cooperation and prayers as they continue to fight the good fight for all of us. Let us all look forward to that day, in God's perfect time, when our nation will rise above this crisis and once again be COVID free!



YAKULT EMP. CREDIT COOPERATIVE DONATES TO THE FRONTLINERS, GIVES AID TO MEMBERS

"One cannot lead a life that is truly excellent without feeling that one belongs to something greater and more permanent than oneself." —Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi

To help fight the pandemic COVID-19, Yakult Employees Credit Cooperative donated 2,400 bottles (500ml.) of water to Sta. Ana Hospital frontliners. Also the said cooperative pledged P 15,000.00 worth of plastic drawers to be used as storage for PPEs and other medical supplies by the frontliners. Purchase of which is on-going, and is expected to be delivered soon by the supplier to the hospital. Moreover, the cooperative donated P 25,000.00 to their chosen federation (NCRL-PFCCO) for COVID-19 Frontliners.

Prior to ECQ, the cooperative already distributed their Interest on Share Capital and Patronage Refund to their members for the year 2019. Details of which are illustrated below.

| PROGRAMS | Optional Fund | Community Fund | Member's Benefit |
|--|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Financial Assistance to Members | 1,023,750.00 | | |
| Advance Release of Birthday Cash Gifts | | | 241,000.00 |
| Donation to Federation (NCRL-PFFCO) for COVID-19 Frontliners | | 25,000.00 | |
| 2000 Bottled Water Donation to Sta. Ana Hospital | | 10,000.00 | |

| Interest on Share Capital | 3,054,062.73 |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Patronage Refund | 964,440.86 |

Other assistance was provided to members such as postponement of deduction of all regular loans for the payroll period of March 16-31, April 1-15, and April 16-30. By:

SKS

