

# **COOPERATIVES ALL OVER THE COUNTRY GOING THE EXTRA MILE TO SERVE THEIR MEMBERS AND COMMUNITIES AMIDST COVID-19 PANDEMIC: REPORTS FROM REGION 10**

#CoopAgainstCOVID19

## **Cooperativism Fights the Darkness of CoViD 19**

From the very beginning of this global health crisis, a number of cooperatives have already donated and initiated several relief efforts to combat this pandemic.

In the small island of Camiguin, the Bacnit Sagay Multipurpose Cooperative is working tirelessly to provide assistance to their members. The cooperative personally delivered a sack of rice for their members.

Meanwhile, the Medina Gingoog Operators and Drivers Transport Cooperative in Misamis Oriental has extended its assistance to the public by providing Libreng Sakay Program for the medical health workers aside from giving relief assistance to its members and drivers. Also, the Paceman Multipurpose Cooperative in Medina, Misamis Oriental distributed 1,000 face masks and rice packs to their members.

The Luz Banzon Multipurpose Cooperative in Jasaan, Misamis Oriental and Claveria Municipal Federation of Cooperatives in Claveria, Misamis Oriental have successfully delivered food packs to the frontliners manning the checkpoints in their areas.

In Lanao del Norte, seeing the plight of their members, cooperatives continued to share their blessings.

Members of the Taguranao Water Service Cooperative of Taguranao, Tubod, Lanao del Norte, and the community as well, received their rations of rice and groceries. The Iligan Bay Drivers Operators Transport Service Cooperative also distributed basic commodities to their members. The Lanao del Norte Cacao Producers Cooperative of Poblacion, Tubod, Lanao del Norte distributed rice at 5 kilos each to their members. SUFAMCO of Brgy. San Isidro, Upper Lala, Lanao del Norte distributed rice to their members and the community. The Filvinyl MPC of Iligan City in their second wave of distribution gave processed food packs for their 96 members.

The giving of basic commodities to the cooperative members and their community is truly the meaning of the biblical verse, "*man does not live by bread alone.*" Man has to live with compassion, with concern, with love. The spirit that continues to manifest during this most trying time is the spirit of cooperation and bayanihan, the spirit that allows us to hope that as we live through the new normal, the best is yet to come.

With the assistance given by the cooperatives, History would tell us that this crisis highlighted the importance of cooperativism. The impending threats brought about by COVID-19 has been an opportunity for cooperatives to become important instruments in cushioning the pandemic's negative effects on the lives of their members and their communities.

Since the time that President Rodrigo R. Duterte placed many parts of the country under the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ), cooperatives in Region 10 have been responding in different ways to be of help. Support has also been extended to frontliners. They come in different forms, namely, in cash, in kind, transport services for frontliners and other relief granted to members, such as the immediate release of the Interest on Share Capital and Patronage Refund (ISC/PR), waiving of penalties and surcharges for delayed loan payments, and the extension of loan term. All of these for the purpose of easing some of the economic burdens brought about by the ECQ.

The case of Oro Integrated Cooperative (OIC) is another source of inspiration. OIC, located at Tiano-Yacapin Sts., Cagayan de Oro City, a community-based, large sized cooperative has allocated about TWENTY MILLION FOUR HUNDRED FORTY-SEVEN THOUSAND PESOS (Php 20,447,000) from its Community Development Fund (CDF) to extend support to 14 barangays of Cagayan de Oro City, in the form of equipment and disinfecting supplies, cash and in-kind for its members and other population in the communities where its fourteen (14) branches are located in Mindanao and Visayas. Other forms of relief for its members were also given. These came in the form of waiver of penalties and surcharges for delay in loan payments and extension of the term of the loan. A complete picture of the extent of contribution in the different cooperatives in Cagayan de Oro City and other parts of Region 10 will be reported soon.



Blessed Savior Credit Cooperative in Tubod, Lanao del Norte



Bupharco - Bukidnon  
Pharmaceutical Multipurpose  
Cooperative in Valencia City

A group of people are gathered under a banner that reads "STOP COVID-19" and "Corona Cases". The banner also features a logo and the text "Be safe". A man in a red shirt and a woman in a yellow shirt are standing near a green table with a water dispenser and a bottle of Corona beer. The woman is wearing a face mask and a backpack. The background shows a dirt road and some trees.

A group of people, including children and adults, are posing in front of a large, modern building. The building has a sign that reads "LOVE PINK" in large, colorful letters. The group is standing on a grassy area, and the building is in the background. The sky is blue with some clouds.



Medina Gingoog Operator and Driver Transport Cooperative in Misamis Oriental extended assistance during the COVID19 pandemic.



Cepalco Community MPC in Cagayan de Oro City distributed cash assistance to its members and distributed 400 packs of goods to the community.



MSU IIT N MPC in Iligan City distributed food packs to frontliners in Iligan, General Santos City, Davao City, Cagayan de Oro and Lanao del Norte.



Iligan City Government Employees MPC initiated a rolling sari-sari store for members and non-members. The vegetables are from Sikyop Agriculture Coop from Rogongon, Iligan City.





This picture shows the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) wave of the giving of seeds from the Department of Agriculture to 50 members of Iligan Dealers MPC. (April 23, 2020)

Candis Water Service Cooperative at Candis, Tubod, Lanao del Norte distributed rice to 300 households both to members and non-members.



LNCAPCO- Lanao del Norte Cacao Producers Cooperative of Poblacion, Tubod, Lanao del Norte distributed 5 kilos of rice to their members.



DMPI Twin Cooperative





Lambaguhon-Barinaut MPC gave 5 kilos of rice and grocery items to their 54 members.



Taguranao Water Service Cooperative at Taguranao, Tubod, Lanao del Norte distributed rice and groceries to their members.

First Community Cooperative (FICCO)



Luz Banzon Multi-Purpose Cooperative in Jasaan, Misamis Oriental





Claveria Municipal Federation of Cooperatives (CMFC) in Claveria, Misamis Oriental



Springside "ARB's" Irrigators and Farmers' Cooperative SIFAMCO MPC in Maramag, Bukidnon gave rice to their community.

DAR Employees of Mis. Or. Multipurpose Cooperative extended assistance to their members and community.



1st Valley Credit Cooperative and 1st Valley Bank gave relief goods as assistance to the homeless at Pagatpat Evacuation Center together with the Community Improvement Division and CSWD.





Integrated Operators & Drivers Assistance MPC in Valencia, Bukidnon distributed 226 food packs to members and non-member drivers in the city.



The Iligan Bay Drivers Operators Transport Service Cooperative, a new transport coop in Iligan, gave 5 kilos of Rice to their 38 members



Bacnit Sagay Multipurpose Cooperative in Sagay, Camiguin extended assistance to its members.

Paceman Multipurpose Cooperative in Medina, Misamis Oriental issued PPE (1,000 facemasks) and distributed rice to all their members.





MORESCO II Employees MPC in Medina, Misamis Oriental extended rice assistance to both members and non-members in the community.



SIUFAMCO-SAN ISIDRO UPPER FARMERS MPC in San Isidro Upper Lala, Lanao del Norte extended assistance to their members.

Filvinyl MPC in Iligan City gave another round of food pack to their 96 members last April 28.

