

COOPERATIVES ALL OVER THE COUNTRY GOING THE EXTRA MILE TO SERVE THEIR MEMBERS AND COMMUNITIES AMIDST COVID-19 PANDEMIC: REPORTS FROM THE **CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION**
#CoopsAgainstCOVID19

THE SHOW OF SOLIDARITY MAKES THE COUNTRY A BETTER PLACE AMIDST THIS CRISIS

The Cordillera Administrative Region is now placed under General Community Quarantine (GCQ), which means that while certain temporary measures have been relaxed, the movement of the people is still limited in order to prevent the rise of COVID-19 cases.

As the crisis continues to prevail, so does the “bayanihan” spirit continue to live on. Cooperatives devised courses of action to be able to help in any way they can.

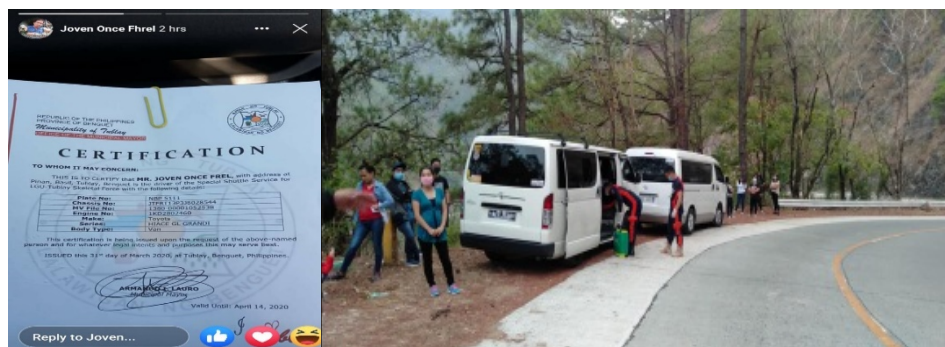
In the transport sector, transport cooperatives in the region played a vital role in alleviating the plight of its members and even non-members.

In Baguio City, the **Joint Baguio Movement Transport Multipurpose Cooperative**, a transport cooperative accredited by the Department of Tourism, has been servicing stranded foreign tourists like Swedish, Japanese, and German nationals, from Ifugao, Kalinga, and Baguio City to Manila airports for their safe return to their respective countries. The cooperative also serviced stranded Kalinga students from Baguio City to the province, and have hauled vegetables coming from LGU Kalinga to Baguio City.



The **Polaris Transport Service Cooperative** allowed three of its cars to be utilized to transport health workers and response teams in 3 barangays in the City of Baguio. The cooperative also assisted 11 identified members and 39 residents of Baguio by providing cash, rice, and grocery items.

The **Baguio-Benguet Transport Service Cooperative** assisted also the DOH-CAR in ferrying their health workers from their residence to office and vice-versa. It also transported staff and dialysis patients as well as farm products of Tublay municipality.



The **Bokod Transport Cooperative** ferried stranded residents of Bokod from La Trinidad to Bokod for free as posted last March 20, 2020 FB funpage of LGU-Bokod.

Further, due to regulated movement, various transport cooperatives made initiatives to aid the local government units (LGU), their communities and members.

The **Conner Apayao Movement Transport Service Cooperative** gave food to checkpoints' frontliners in Conner, Apayao, and Rizal, Kalinga. It also provided water pump to Barangay Boluan, Conner, Apayao.

The **Kaaruba Transport Service Cooperative** distributed relief goods to its members and some residents in the community. **Union Cab Transport Service Cooperative** also distributed relief goods to its 25 members and 45 non-members with a total cost of Php22,000.



The **Baguio Tomay Jeepney Operators and Drivers Association Multi-Purpose Cooperative** distributed relief goods to 10 barangays in La Trinidad, Benguet, with the total amount of P19,212.00 charged to the coop's CDF. It also donated P10,000.00 to the LGU.



The **BODA Multipurpose Cooperative**, represented by its Manager Mr. Miguel Luma-ang, donated Php50,000 to the LGU of La Trinidad, which was used for the municipality's COVID-19 operations.

In Ifugao, the **Ifugao Transport Service Cooperative** prepared and distributed 100 packs of 25 kgs of rice to the operators, drivers and employees of the cooperative, while in Kalinga Province, the **Kalinga Transport Services and Development Cooperative** donated food to the frontliners in the whole Bulanao area, San Juan, Appas, Dagupan Centro, Laya West, Laya East, and Cabaruan of Tabuk City.



Aside from these transport cooperatives, other cooperatives continued to ease the burden of the people through their donations. The **Baguio Entrepreneurs Credit Cooperative** donated cash assistance of P10,000.00 to the Baguio Correspondents and Broadcasters Club, Inc. for its relief activities.



The **BAVESCO Multipurpose Cooperative** gave 10 kgs of rice to 34 beneficiaries from micro and small enterprises coming from groceries, parlors and eatery groups. The cooperative also distributed 100 packs of assorted vegetables, 2 kgs of rice and 1 kg of sugar to residents of Barangay T. Alonzo.



The **Lagawe Multi-Purpose Development Cooperative**, represented by Ms. Jarette W. Widwidan, turned over Php20,000 cash donation to the Municipality of Bontoc as financial assistance for the LGU's Corona virus disease - 2019 (Covid -19) operations.



As the people are starting to adjust to the new normal caused by this pandemic, the cooperative movement has not changed its concept on the implementation of the "Concern for the Community" principle, a universal principle in the cooperative sector. Further, the leaders of the movement have not forgotten the "Bayanihan" culture the Filipinos are famous for. In spite of the crisis we are experiencing, we continue to carry on because of the support we get, not only from the government but also from the private sector which includes the cooperatives. ***FRC