

COOP SEED BENEFICIARY IN THE FRONTLINE FOR WELLNESS: VALENCIA DAIRY COOPERATIVE

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Micro cooperative like Valencia Dairy Cooperative (VADCO) of South Poblacion, Valencia, Negros Oriental is one the cooperatives that were given series of capability building seminars in 2018-2019 under the CDA-DTI COOP-SEED Partnership Program. The training equipped the officers and members to become farmer-entrepreneur vis-à-vis provides the opportunity for the cooperative to serve as the marketing channel of the products produced by the farmers.

COVID-19 pandemic extracted the best opportunity for the cooperative when the cooperative faced challenges in transporting their products due to lockdown.

VADCO enlisted in the municipality's agriculture supplier at the same time advertised through social media. Orders came in and sales became better. The cooperative was producing 30 to 50 liters a day through manual operation. Yet, some of the orders were refused due to lack of facilities and manpower. Sales recorded in March was P26,871 and in April P67,399.00.

Before becoming a COOP SEED beneficiary, VADCO was only a supplier of raw milk to a private processing plant. After COOP-SEED Program VADCO now grow to a small scale milk producers and processor. With the assistance and technology given to them, they have learned that they can be an entrepreneur of their own as a cooperative.

The story of VADCO is no different from other large cooperatives. Great things start from small beginnings. The officers, management staff and members *now* realized the importance of being a cooperative. More assistance are stored ahead from the Local

Government Unit of Valencia, national government agencies and big brother cooperative through the assistance of the Cooperative Development Authority.

A way of imparting their Community Development Fund in the amount of P1,377.99, the micro cooperative donated fresh milk to the front liners stationed at checkpoints.

VADCO is learning, advancing wellness at the same advertising their products.



VALENCIA DAIRY COOPERATIVE OFFICERS DELIVERED PASTEURIZED FRESHMILK TO CHECKPOINTS

