

Sinagtala

ISYU 4 NOVEMBER 2019

Pagsibol ng bagong tinig

Iisang naratibo lamang ang nakikita natin sa mga ipinapalabas sa midya. Iisang itsura lang ng Mindanao ang nasa telebisyon, pelikula, at kahit na sa mga newsfeeds. Dahil dito, 'pamilyar' na ang mga tao sa katotohanan sa Mindanao at Bangsamoro kahit na hindi nito naipipinta ang kabuuhan ng larawan.

Ayon sa mainstream media, dito raw laganap ang mga giyera, gulo, at bombahan. Kung isa kang taga-Maynila, malamang ay may isa kang kakilala na takot sa Mindanao o di kaya sa mga Muslim. Bakit? Dahil halos wala na itong pinagkaiba sa salitang “terorista.”

Higit pa rito ay ang kawalan ng representasyon. Ang mga balita ay binibigkas ng mga hindi nakaiintindi ng mga lokal na lenggwahe at isinusulat ng mga malayo sa tunay na pinagmulan ng balita.

Mas binibigyang pansin ang mga nakasanayan na. Wala nang espasyo para sa iba pang mga kaganapan at iba pang realidad sa Mindanao. Walang espasyo para sa ibang boses at mga perspektibo. Ito sana ang magbabalanse sa mga sinasabi ng midya, ngunit wala ring espasyo upang ipagtanggol ang sarili at ang kulturang kinalakhan.

Mahalagang tandaan na ang midya ay hindi lamang dapat nag-uulat, ito dapat ay nagmumulat.

Tignan ang Marawi. Matapos ang halos dalawang taon ay wala paring nangyayari sa rehabilitasyon. Ang mga kapwa natin Maranao ay napupuno na ng galit at poot sa mga kinauukulan. Sa paligid nila ay nanatiling wasak ang lungsod at wala paring maayos na plano para sa kabuhayan.

Ngunit hindi alintana ng kasalukuyang estado ng midya ang kanilang paghingi ng pananagutan at ang nakabibingi nilang mga hinaing.

Tignan ang Maguindanao. Hindi kahit kailan natapos ang pagbabakwit at hanggang ngayon ay wala parin

ang mga residente sa pamilyar nilang mga tahanan. Maraming pamilya ang nilalagay na lamang sa kanilang mga kamay ang pagbangon. Marami sa mga bakwit ay naghahabi na lamang ng banig upang maibenta sa pang-araw-araw.

Walang espasyo sa kasalukuyang estado ng midya ang malikhaing mga gawa.

Dumadagundong ang kanilang mga boses ngunit hindi parin ito sapat upang umukit ng kapingangot na espasyo.

Isang malaking hamon ngayon para sa midya ang umalpas sa simplistikong paraan ng paguulat. Hamon sa kanila ang pakinggan ang daluyong ng pagbabago at bigyan ng boses ang matagal nang tinatalikuran at kinakalimutan.

Ngunit ang hamon na ito ay hamon

rin para sa mga kabataan ng Mindanao at Bangsamoro. Sila ang henerasyon na maaaring magbago ng mga nakasanayan.

Mula pa noon ay nangahas na ang ibang mga kapatid na mag-ulat at magmulat. Noong 1992, nagkaroon ng Mindanao Section sa Philippine Daily Inquirer. Noong 2006, samasamang itinaguyod ng mga Moro ang Moro Times. Sumulpot man at biglaang nawala, ang mahalaga ay may nangahas na bumalikwas.

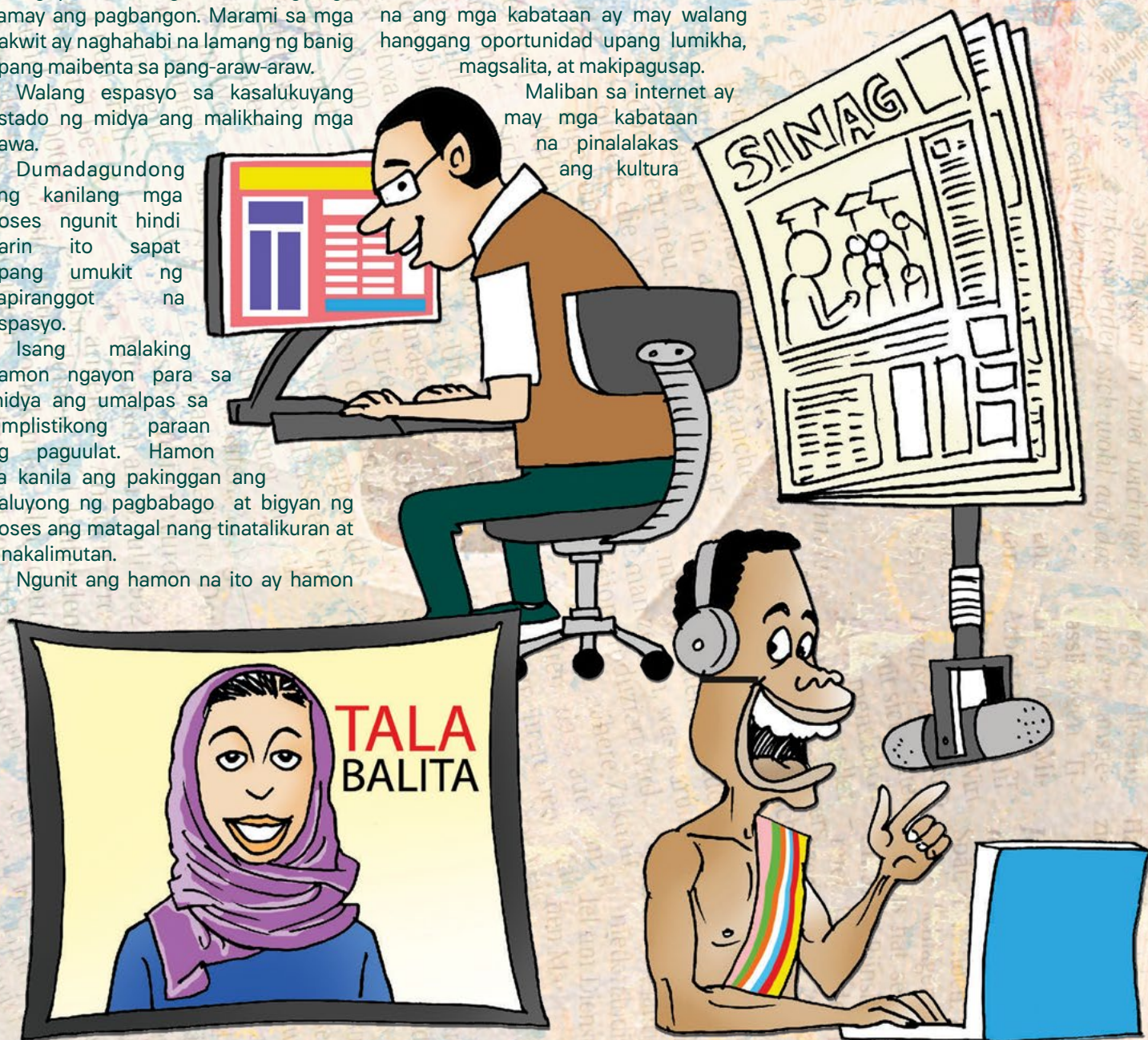
Lahat ng tao ay may boses, ngunit hindi lahat ay may plataporma upang magsalita. Ngunit sa lumalakas na puwersa ng internet, nakikita natin na ang mga kabataan ay may walang hanggang oportunidad upang lumikha, magsalita, at makipagusap.

Maliban sa internet ay may mga kabataan na pinalalakas ang kultura

ng radyo, dyaryo, o di kaya ay teatro. Lahat ng uri ng maglikha ay maaaring gamitin upang mag-ulat at magmulat.

Hindi nauubos ang mga oportunidad natin upang ipalaganap na mayroong mga alternatibo sa karahasan. Hindi nauubos ang mga plataporma upang magsalita at paigtingin ang mga isyu ng lipunan.

Ngunit ang ating tatandaan ay hindi tayo lumilikha para lamang sa sarili, ngunit para sa mga komunidad na pinagkaitan ng plataporma't espasyo sa sariling tahanan. ■



Watchdog: “Marawi doesn’t matter to the government”

■ Norhanifah O. Mangotara

Frustrations grow as Task Force Bangon Marawi failed, yet again, to give a comprehensive report on the status of the Marawi Rehabilitation during the subcommittee hearing at the House of Representatives last November 5.

Local monitoring groups and civil society organizations from Marawi attended the consultation. TFBM’s Head Secretary Albert Del Rosario and agency supervisors are noticeably absent while their representatives failed to comprehensively answer questions from the Marawi residents.

Development Assistant Team Director Atty. Khalid Dimakuta Ansano said that this subcommittee hearing further revealed that TFBM interventions are “slow, insufficient and a failure.”

During a press briefing last November 7, watchdog group Marawi Reconstruction Conflict Watch (MCRW) also expressed their anger over the government’s empty promises.

“We’ve seen how much the government is in disarray when we attended the hearing. They have been feeding us for so long with practically nothing about the status of the rehabilitation,” said MRCW member Dr. Rolanisah Dipatuan.

Some of the issues tackled by the subcommittee members were the inclusion of renters in livelihood programs, the over Php 70 million unused budget for septic tanks in transitional shelters, and the prioritization of roads, water, electricity, and drainage in relation to the rehabilitation.

Moreover, legislators also noted the untouched P4.4 billion of the P10 billion allocation in the national budget for the rehabilitation which will expire this 2019.

“Naiintindihan ko ang mga taga-Marawi kung anu-ano pinagsasabi nila kasi hindi natin kayang iinform sila nang tama. Dapat, before kayo (subcommittee members) pumunta dito, kung sino ang pumunta noong nakaraan, hingin ninyo ang mga information. ‘Yon yong tama sa isang organization kasi hindi ito individual problem. This is an institutional arrangement,” argued Congressman Mujiv Hataman.

He said that he was dismayed that accomplishment reports were not

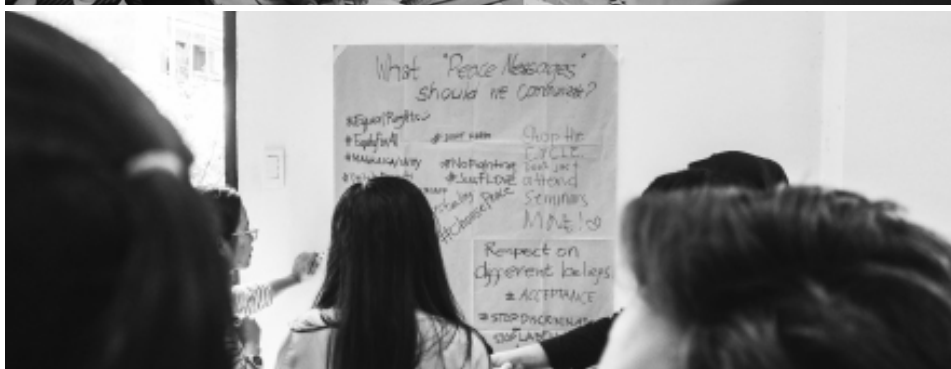


WHAT NOW? Lack of transparency and empty promises fuel the frustrations of Marawi residents. Task Force Bangon Marawi was established in the aftermath of the Marawi Siege, but residents are yet to see any sign of rehabilitation and recovery. Photo by Dada Grifon.

presented and delivered properly by the concerned departments during the activity.

The meeting was chaired by the Lanao del Sur 1 Congressman Ansaruddin Abdul Malik “Hooky” Alonto Adiong and it was attended by government officials and sectoral leaders which include Lanao del Norte Congressman Khalid Dimakuta Dimaporo, Lanao del Sur 2 Congressman Yasser Alonto Balindong, Amin Partylist Congresswoman Amihilda Sangcopan, Siyap Ko Pagtaw Executive Director Aslani “Toti” Montila, ulama Maulana Mamutuk, and businessman Elian Macala, among others. ■

MAY MGA KWENTO, LARAWAN, O TULA KA BANG NAIS IBAHAGI? ANG SINAGTALA AY TUMATANGGAP NG MGA KONTRIBUSYON! Mag-PM lamang sa S’bang Ka Marawi o S’bang Ka Maguindanao Facebook Page.



MEDIA FOR PEACE. Young journalists construct their own peace messages and peace story pitches during the Alternative Classroom Learning Experience. Photos by Dada Grifon.

100 young journalists attend media for peacebuilding workshop

■ Jerico Daracan

At least a hundred senior high school students, aspiring campus journalists, and community patrollers participated in a media literacy and journalism seminar held in Mindanao State University (MSU) Marawi and Maguindanao campuses on Oct. 26 and 30 respectively.

The seminar aims to challenge and inspire the youth of Mindanao to become responsible media users, creators, and advocates for peace.

“Meron tayong pwedeng gawin para makapagpabago ng ilang mga bagay sa komunidad natin, sa buhay natin, without being violent,” said Carlos Bautista, Station Manager of the Notre Dame Broadcasting Corporation.

The speakers talked about the roles of the youth and the media in promoting positive changes in conflict areas such as Marawi and Maguindanao.

“Despite our personal weaknesses

and complicated realities on the ground, it is up to you, the youth, to decide on how we can achieve and enact positive changes that are most relevant to your communities,” said Mikhaela Dimpas, Media Officer of IDEALS.

The Alternative Classroom Learning Experience (ACLE) is a joint partnership among the Initiatives for Dialogue and Empowerment through Alternative Legal Services (IDEALS), Equal Access International Philippines, and the Mindanao State University. ■



During the launching of the third Messaging Hub at the College of Social Sciences, Mindanao State University. Photo by Equal Access International Philippines.

Ranaw Messaging Hub launched, Davao node eyed

Val Amiel Vestil

In its bid to create regional nodes that aim to develop and promote positive alternative messages of peace, EAI-PH continues to round Mindanao to establish and launch its Messaging Hubs (MH).

Last October 11, EAI-PH launched its third MH at the lobby of the College of Social Sciences, Mindanao State University, Marawi City.

The Ranaw MH is hosted by the Communication and Media Studies Department of MSU-Marawi led by Professor Sorhaila Latip-Yusoph.

“The Communication and Media Studies department of MSU is the heart of information and communication and the office that has the function to reach out to the people We wish to see the new Marawi with peace in its community’s heart,” she said.

Prior to the launching, a strategic planning led by EAI-PH was held at MSU-Marawi’s Ranaw Council Center attended by members of the Technical Working Group which included representatives from Duyog Marawi, MSU-Marawi Faculty, Youth Peace Campaign Lab, Student Action Force - MSU Chapter, AMIN-TACI, PLGU Lanao del Sur, Iligan Medical Center College - Center for Community Extension and Social Development Services, Inc., THUMA, Inc., Peace Crops, Consortium of Bangsamoro Civil Society, and Tech Camp alumni among others.

“Peace Crops linked with EAI-PH’s Ranaw MH to empower emerging youth leaders to help their grassroots communities, victims of war (IDPs), and rebel returnees to have an inclusive development through agroenterprise that can pave the way to a sustainable

peace not just in Lanao provinces, but also in Mindanao,” Field Manager Rey Anacleto shared.

Peace Crops is a youth-led organization that aims to stem the growing threat of violent extremism in Lanao del Sur by engaging the community in productive agroenterprise activities.

Following the Ranaw MH Launching was the strategic planning for the Davao MH last October 28 at the Ateneo de Davao University (AdDU).

Davao’s MH is hosted by AdDU’s Al Qalam Institute for Islamic Identities and Dialogue in Southeast Asia. Al Qalam is an institute for understanding Islam, the Muslims, and peoples of Mindanao that are culturally linked to other Southeast Asian communities. It actively contributes toward fortification of spirituality and nurturing a society founded on social justice, gender equity, multiculturalism, religious pluralism and sustainable peace and human development.

The Davao MH is set to be launched in celebration of the Mindanao Week of Peace this November.

The MH is a convergence platform for positive social change movements in Mindanao. It seeks to collaborate with stakeholders in the region to create a venue for knowledge-sharing, build an information ecosystem, capacitate peace influencers, and create powerful advocacies for peace. ■

Ikatlong kaso ng polio, naitala sa Maguindanao

Sittie Almirah Kadir

Matapos ang dalawang dekada ng pagiging polio-free, naitala naman muli sa bansang Pilipinas ang kaso ng polio.

“Hindi natin itatago o ikakaila na ang pangatlong kaso ng polio ay naitala sa Maguindanao, nakakalungkot na isang batang babae edad apat na taong gulang ang nakararanas ng ganitong uri ng sakit,” ani Karen Kadatuan, Nurse III ng Integrated Provincial Health Office Maguindanao sa kanyang panayam sa programang S’bang ka Maguindanao.

Ang sakit na polio ay nakakahawa at karaniwang umaatake sa nervous system ng isang tao at madalas na tamaan nito ay ang mga bata.

Kinumpirma rin mismo ni Health Secretary Fransisco Duque III na ang kasong naitala ay partikular sa Datu Paglas, Maguindanao at ayon sa kanya, ang nasabing bata ay hindi nakapagpabakuna o nabigyan ng oral polio vaccine o OPV.

Kasunod nito naglunsad ng massive vaccination laban sa polio ang Ministry of Health - Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (MOH-BARMM) at Integrated Provincial Health Office - Maguindanao (IPHO-Maguindanao) partikular sa bayan ng

Datu Piang at Datu Paglas, Maguindanao noong Nobyembre 4.

Kasama rin sa pagpapatupad ng massive vaccination ang mga barangay officials, municipal mayors at councilors. Nakatulong din ang mga Muslim religious leaders sa pagpapaintindi sa mga magulang na ang ibibigay na bakuna ay ligtas at hindi ito ikapapahamak ng kanilang mga anak.

“Nakakatakot ang sakit na polio, wala itong gamot at tanging paraan lamang upang makaiwas ang inyong anak ay ang agarang pagbabakuna sa kanila” ani Kadatuan.

Upang makaiwas sa sakit na ito, mas mainam na makapaghanda ang bawat magulang sa pamamagitan ng pagbibigay ng OPV sa kanilang mga anak. Ito ay ipinapatak lamang sa bibig ng pasyente edad zero hanggang limang taong gulang

Dagdag pa ni Kadatuan, ugaliin din ang pagiging malinis sa loob at labas ng bahay, magkaroon ng sariling palikuran, at siguraduhing malinis ang tubig at pagkain. ■



BOSES NG KABATAAN, ILAW SA MGA ISYUNG PANG-KAPAYAPAAN. Sinagtala features the stories of the Bangsamoro youth and their struggle for a just and lasting peace in Mindanao.

TRANSFORMING CHALLENGES TO INSPIRATION

■ Nur-saleha Dadayan



From work on children's education to food security, Johaniah Yusoph never ceases to help diverse communities in need.

"If you can share (yourself) with non-Muslims, what more with fellow Muslims?"

This was a realization she had upon becoming a grand chancellor at the University of Mindanao in Davao City. Although she was the only Muslim in the place, Johaniah was chosen by her fellow students to lead. This inspired her more than ever to deepen her commitment to peace and development work.

As such, one of her longest-running advocacies is access to education for children. For five years now, Johaniah continues to volunteer at Soar High Mobile Library to bring books and teach children in remote communities across Lanao del Sur.

"It's not only to teach the kids to love the reading but more of injecting value. Basically, it's more of integrating Islam values reformation," shared Johaniah.

Currently, her work extends to food security – a common advocacy shared with the Department of Agrarian Reform where she currently works as an information officer.

Johaniah explained that food security should include support for land tenure and landless farmers by giving soil to work on, providing them seedlings and farm equipment among others. She further relayed, peace is associated with food security because peace and development cannot be attained without first ensuring food.

"Kahit maging modern tayo, kahit gaano pa tayo ka successful, we cannot leave the farmers behind. Farmers should be part of whatever plans that we

"If you can share (yourself) with non-Muslims, what more with fellow Muslims?"

have because they are very necessary," emphasized Johaniah.

Juggling her various advocacies, Johaniah isn't without challenges but she continues to power forward and draw strength in her belief of Lillah – that she is doing things for the sake of Allah, contributing to the Ummah, and the spirit of volunteerism she sees in her family. ■

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“It’s either you grow as an individual or you grow with your community.”



TAYO ANG SUSI SA KAPAYAPAHAN

■ Diane Lim

Si Datu Raid Salik, 22, ay maagang namulat sa mga epekto ng gulo sa kanilang lugar.

Noong 2008, kinailangan nilang umalis sa kanilang tahanan dahil sa bakbakan sa pagitan ng militar at mga armadong grupo. Ang kanyang pamilya ay tumakas sa malayong munisipyo upang makamit ang seguridad. Dahil dito, labag sa loob nilang iniwan ang kanilang bahay, ang buhay na nakasanayan, at mga kaibigan na kinalakihan.

“Kapag bata ka pa at naranasan mo na yung giyera, napakalaki ng epekto nito sa iyong pag-iisip,” ani ni Raid.

Simula noon ay nangako si Raid na ipaglalaman niya ang kapayapaan. Para sa kanya, ito ay hindi lamang isang

adbokasiya, kundi isang paraan ng pamumuhay na karapatan ng lahat ng tao lalo na ng mga taga-Mindanao.

Sa madaling sabi, ang kapayapaan ay ang kawalan ng gulo at giyera. Pero ayon kay Raid, ang pagtingin na ganito sa kapayapaan ay mali at simplistiko. Ang kapayapaan ay dapat na nararamdaman sa araw-araw na buhay ng mga pamilya gaya ng sapat na pagkain, ang pag-aaral ng mga anak, at ang panatag na loob ng mga magulang.

Hindi sapat na matutunan lamang ang mga teorya at konsepto ng kapayapaan. Kailangan ay nahihimok ang mga tao na ipaglaban ito. Para kay Raid, malakas na pwera ang kabataan sa ganitong mga gawain kung kaya’t ito ang kanyang

personal na ginagawa ngayon.

“Hindi madaling malaman kung bakit wala o kulang sa pakialam ang kabataan. Kailangan mo muna silang puntahan, kilalanin, alamin ang kanilang konteksto upang maintindihan sila,” ani niya. “Saka mo sila pwedeng tanungin kung anong maiaambag at magagawa nila para sa kanilang mga komunidad”

Sumali at patuloy na sumasali si Raid sa mga oportunidad na makakapagpabayong sa kanyang mga kaalaman at kakayahan bilang isang advocate. Sumali siya ng TechCamp ng Equal Access International Philippines. Laking tuwa niya dahil marami siyang natutunan na mga tools at skills kung paano palakasin ang adbokasiya at mailahad ito sa mga tao.

Kasama ang anim pang taga-South Central Mindanao, nag-isip sina Raid ng proyekto na naglalayong tumulong sa mga orphans. Dahil sa patuloy na giyera sa iba’t-ibang parte ng Mindanao, maraming mga bata ang nawalan ng mga magulang.

Kapag ikaw ay isang ulila, wala ka nang mga magulang na gagabay at tutugon sa mga pangangailangan mo. Mas malaki ang tyansa na sila ay maakit ng mga rebeldeng grupo dahil sa kagustuhan nilang makapaghiganti.

Ngunit para kay Raid, ang mga kabataang ito rin na nawalan ng magulang ang mas may malaking kakayahan at abilidad na palaganapin

ang kapayapaan. Sila ang mga nakaranas ng karahasan at sila rin ang tatapos nito.

Ang kanilang community partner ay ang Kalanganan Orphanage. Upang mas maraming silang mahikayat sa iba’t ibang stakeholders sa proyektong ito, ginagamit nila ang kanilang mga natutunan mula sa TechCamp. Ginagamit nila ang social media lalung-lalo na ang Facebook.

Ang kanyang personal na adbokasiya ay mahikayat ang kanyang mga kapwa kabataang makialam at makilahok sa usaping pangkapayapaan at peacebuilding. May apat na sangkap ang adbokasiya ni Raid. Tinatawag niya itong 4 C’s.

Character. Magsimula tayo sa character ng kabataan. Tulungan silang alamin ang kanilang kahinaan at lakas. Naniniwala si Raid sa kasabihang “Peace always begins with yourself”

Kung kaya’t kailangan magsimula tayo sa pag-intindi sa ating sarili. Ito ang ating pundasyon.

Context. Kailangan nating malaman kung ano ang “hugot” natin. Hindi tayo makakaahon sa ating pinanggalingan kung hindi natin alam at naiintindihan ang ating pinanggalingan.

Competence. Pag kilala na ng mga kabataan ang kanilang sarili at alam nila ang kanilang konteksto o hugot, maaari na nilang palakasin ang kanilang kakayahan kung ano at paano nila tulungan ang komunidad nila.

Community. “Ano ang puwede kong gawin?” Pagkatapos nila husayin ang kanilang mga sarili, lalabas na sila sa kanilang mga komunidad. Ano nga ba ang maitulong nila sa kanilang kapwa?

Ayon kay Raid, malaki ang pagkakaiba ng “empowered” sa “active”.

“Maraming mga kabataang ang empowered ngunit hindi active sa komunidad. It’s either you grow as an individual or you grow with your community.” ■

Mindanao

Ang lupaing pinangakuan ng karamihan
Ng ating mga kanunu-nunuan
Iba't ibang tribo ang nanirahan
Lumad, Moro at mga Kristiyano kahit
saan

Ang lupaing ipinaglaban, laban sa
Espanya
Noon pa man, nagdusa at prinotektahan
nila

Hindi isinuko lalo na ng mga Moro
Kahit na di sigurado ang pagkapanalo

Ang lupaing pinangalanang Mindanao
Yaman ng kalikasan ay tanaw na tanaw
Sino ba ang hindi magkakagusto sa
lugar na ito
Pati nga mga dayuha'y nahumaling dito.

O Mindanao, Hanggang ngayon
maraming nagdudusa para sa'yo

Hangad lamang nila'y makamit ang
kapayapaang gusto

Ikaw ang lupaing mahal na mahal at 'di
matiis

Mula noon pa man, kapayapaan lang
ang nais.



■ Guhit at tula ni Nhorjannah Alim

BIGAS, HINDI BALA

Bigas, hindi bala
Pagkain, di gyera
Mundong mapayapa
Hindi pandirigma.

Trabaho at lupa
Di dusa at luha
Kalinga't unawa
Di banta ng digma.

Sinagtala

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hip with:

Six Tech Camp alumni lead peace-promotive re-echoing activities

Val Amiel Vestil

Following their Tech Camp trainings held this year, numerous EAI-PH alumni organized and participated in different peace-promotive initiatives across the provinces of Sultan Kudarat, Maguindanao, and Surigao del Sur.

Inaugural launching of a peacebuilding club in Isulan

Up2Youth Tech Camp Batch 1 alumni Ruel Pugoy organized the “Student Leaders’ Seminar for Peacebuilding,” a one-day training seminar on peacebuilding attended by 100 students from grades 7-12 in Isulan National High School (INHS), Isulan, Sultan Kudarat last September 26.

Pugoy, an established alumni from the said high school, explained in his opening message how the Tech Camp empowered him to be a peace advocate and highlight the importance of talking about peace in schools.

Promoting the value of collaboration,



A student participates during the inaugural launching of the peacebuilding club.

Pugoy invited his fellow Tech Camp alumni, Bashyr Endong, to talk about Conflicts in School and the proper use of Social Media. His talk focused on how

bullying and discrimination can happen online and offline and how to deal with it in a positive and healthy way.

EAI-PH Program Manager Joel Dizon explained to students the working definition of Violent Extremism as adopted by EAI and the results of the Stakeholders Workshop. He emphasized the danger of recruitment in schools and asked students to focus on alternative messages and activities instead of joining these groups.

As part of the seminar, the INHS Peace Club was then officially inaugurated with the launching of their Facebook page, logo and website. The ceremony was graced by INHS Principal Ms. Cherry Escoto and Dizon. The INHS Peace Education Club is the first peace club in the division of Isulan, Sultan Kudarat.

Promoting peace education through environmental care

Seeing the potential to upcycle plastic garbage in schools and local communities,

OURmindaNOW Tech Camp Batch 2 pitched their social enterprise idea during YouthDrive’s “Business Start-up Challenge” at the Bangsamoro Government Center in Cotabato City last October 9.

Following their one-week bootcamp

last September, Alumni Hussien Abo and Datu Raid Salik, together with Leah Palao, presented their prototype products and pitched their business idea, “Plastakes” to selected judges and entrepreneurs.

“Plastakes” is a social enterprise which aims to create functional and lifestyle products from upcycled plastic bottles. Their product line includes school and office organizers, chic hand cases, portables boxes, and plan to move towards creating industrial materials like plastic-based hollow blocks.

Abo said the social enterprise was birthed because of two pressing problems they saw in the municipalities of Datu Anggal Midtimbang and Datu Odin Sinusuat in Maguindanao insufficient livelihood and lack of economic opportunities, and the growing influx of plastics being thrown in the community.

“Because our main goal is peace, then we will focus on the social impact on how we can make these communities work together with a culture of peace. In some ways of promoting peace, you must have a sustainable and clean environment and we saw this as an opportunity in helping the people of the communities in reshaping their economic status,” he added.

Abo and Salik’s team was part of a total of 11 finalists of YouthDRIVE, Youth Driving Innovative Social Enterprises for Community Transformation, the flagship program of Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in Mindanao who showcased their ideas for an opportunity to win a cash grant to implement them.

Bringing the power of alternative messaging to Hinatuan

To re-echo their insights and lessons

learned from the Up2Youth Tech Camp, three Batch 2 alumni in the persons of Jhon Anthony Cuyacot, Lea Palaran, and Jurilyn Mamayabay organized a one-day seminar in their hometown in Hinatuan, Surigao del Sur last October 19.

Participated by around 40 members of the Student Action Force - Hinatuan Chapter, the Up2Youth Re-Echo seminar patterned the tech camp modules and culminated with an elevator pitching of their peace projects.

After this project, Cuyacot plans to bring the one-day module to other schools and communities such as the Hinatuan National Comprehensive High School and Barangay Sto. Nino in Hinatuan where he hopes to reach the out-of-school youth (OSY) in the area.

“We need to arouse OSYs and help them realize their potential to affect change in their community.”

“We need to arouse OSYs and help them realize their potential to affect change in their community, and not be deceived by malicious situations and circumstance that they are in,” Cuyacot said.

EAI-PH through its Alumni Program continues to track over a hundred alumni and see the good work that they are continuing to do and initiate for peace and development in Mindanao.



INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN

WHAT IS VAWWC?



Violence against women and children (VAWC) is any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life



According to World Health Organization (WHO), about **1 in 3 women (35%)** worldwide worldwide have experienced either physical and/or sexual violence from intimate partner or non-partner in their lifetime.



The Philippine Statistics Authority's (PSA) **National Health Demographic Survey in 2017** reveals that **1 in 4 Filipino women aged 15-49** have experienced physical, emotional or sexual violence from their husband or partner.



Because of the rampant cases of VAWC internationally, United Nations Women (UN Women) launched a campaign in 2009 called **Say no, UNiTE** which celebrated the **International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Children every 25th of November** which envisions **a world free from all forms of violence against women and girls**

In the Philippines, the Philippine Commission on Women, in coordination with the **Inter-Agency Council on Violence Against Women and Children (IACVAWC)** leads the national observance of an 18-day campaign to end VAWC with the theme **"VAWC-free community starts with Me"** until 2021.

HOW CAN YOU HELP MAKE YOUR COMMUNITY VAWC-FREE?



WOMEN AND GIRLS

Get empowered by knowing your rights, speak out when violated, and encourage others to fight for their rights



MEN AND BOYS

Respect women and girls everywhere, join male groups that promote anti-VAWC efforts, and enlighten perpetrators to seek help and join the male Anti-VAW supporters



GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Equip agencies and develop monitoring and evaluation strategies to improve service delivery to its clients, and let the community know that the office gives VAWC services



BARANGAY

Ensure that the Barangay VAWC desk is functional, establish linkages with local and national government agencies where one can refer a VAWC victim to for further assistance, and promote harmonious family and community relationships in the barangay



PRIVATE SECTOR

Support anti-VAWC efforts of the government and immediate community, establish action desks where employees and clients can go to, and develop internal work rules to make sure the office is VAW-free



ACADEME/TRAINING INSTITUTIONS

Include VAWC concepts and women's human rights in lessons or curriculum, spearhead anti-VAWC advocacy activities in the campus and immediate communities, and set-up a committee where students and staff can seek help