

January to March 2020 Issue



Be The Change
The Newsletter of Create The Change Australasia

Empowering and Restoring During the COVID -19 Pandemic



The COVID-19 virus was first confirmed in the Philippines in the first two months, it was in March 2020 that COVID-19 was declared a pandemic in the country prompting the government to declare "Community Quarantine" In Metro Manila on 15 March, then the "Enhanced Community Quarantine" was announced two days after, to contain the spread of the virus.

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CTCA Conducts Outreach Mission in Ilocos Sur

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FEBRUARY 2020

Outreach Mission in Ilocos

Community Health and Nutrition / Disaster Response and Preparedness



February 6-9, 2020, the Create the Change team went to Ilocos Sur to conduct a series of outreach activities in partnership with Community Care Brigade (CCB), an outreach organization by CCBM based in San Ildefonso, Ilocos Sur.

The Community Care Brigade is being led and coordinated by Bishop. Renato Tabaco and his wife Dr. Maite Tabaco. They are serving the communities around Ilocos Sur for more than a decade now with a number of volunteers from their church. On this mission, there were 27 volunteers from CCB who served together with the CTCA team.

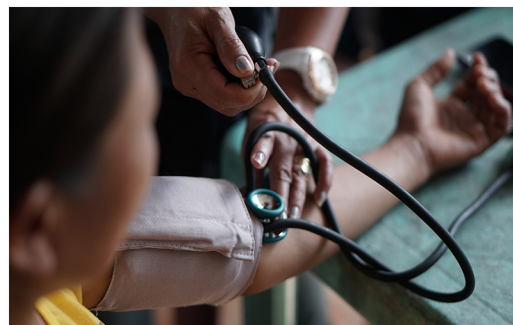
Kick starting the series of outreach activities, the CCB and CTCA outreach teams visited Balay Taripato, a home for the elderly situated in Magsingal, north of the province of Ilocos Sur on February 6, 2020 "Balay Taripato" means "House of Nurture", where the elderlies are taken care of and nurtured. There are 16 residents in Balay Taripato, six of which are Lolo's (grandfather) and ten are Lola's (grandmother), ages sixty nine to ninety-six years old. The team presented a small program, distributed Care Packs containing milk, coffee, biscuits and vitamins then a medical check-up was also conducted by Dr. Maite Tabaco.

On the next day, February 7, 2020 in the morning, the outreach team of Create the Change and Community Care Brigade went to Ilocos Provincial jail. The 1.4 hectare jail is located in Barangay Taleb, Bantay, Ilocos Sur. There are about 195 male and female inmates in the said jail. The team served the male inmates, gathering them in the visiting area for the program prepared for them. NLR also gifted the inmates with a set of basketball and net.



Later in the afternoon of February 7, after the students and faculties were sent home at 4:00pm, the team conducted a school dengue fogging program at Calay-ab Elementary School and Calay-ab Daycare Center in Calayab, Sto. Domingo, Ilocos Sur.

The Medical Mission was conducted on February 8, (Saturday) from 1:00pm to 5:00pm in Brgy. Calay-ab, Sto. Domingo, Ilocos Sur. Volunteering on the Medicals Mission are some medical practitioners from the Community Care Brigade. There were about 82 patients who benefitted to free check-up, blood-typing, sugar level testing, medicines and counselling that day.



The last business of the mission is the Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Training conducted at Cleansed By Christ's Blood Ministries church on February 9, at 3:00pm. Eighteen participants trained that day.

FEBRUARY 2020

MTI Practicum and Visitations in Leyte

Special Projects



February 21-25, the Ministry Training Institute (MTI) Practicum Assessment of the July 2019 training was held. Trainers that were assessed were from Jesus' Flock – Christian Outreach Centre in Isabel Leyte. Three trainees passed the said practicum. The next days were spent bringing messages of empowerment and restoration through the speaking engagement of Arlene Villarama Jesus' Flock.

MARCH 2020

Encircle Training

Special Projects

In March 2020, Kath Roaquin and Shynet Ramos of CTC Australasia underwent Encircle Training for six days in NLR Water, Fire and Mold Restoration Office, Queensland, Australia, CTCA's major partner and sponsor. Encircle is a system being used by NLR Water, Fire and Mould Restoration. It is a leading home inventory tool that allows home and business owners, landlords and property managers to efficiently inventory their properties. In about an hour the average user can create a complete picture inventory of their property that is easy to navigate and use. This system will also be used as a powerful tool for CTCA's project documentation and reporting.



Vision 20/20 and Food Distribution to the Bar Girls

Special Projects

On March 11 and 12, 2020 the CTCA team together with some of our partners participated in Wipe Every Tear's Vision 20/20 Gathering, a gathering of people, organizations and churches with the vision of ending the exploitation of women trapped in sex trade in Angeles City, Pampanga. The proceeds of the event will go to Wipe Every Tear's projects such as feeding of bar girls, the safe house for the rescued bar girls and their education and training. On March 12, the team also volunteered in distribution of meals for these women along Walking Street and Fields Avenue.

MARCH 2020

CTCA Responds to COVID-19 Crisis

Community Responds

The Enhanced Community Quarantine involves a total lockdown of Luzon and Metro Manila, suspension of domestic travels either by land, air or sea (with strict exceptions). Under this new setup, mass gatherings are completely prohibited and all means of public transport are no longer allowed. The government implemented the quarantine as an applicable solution to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 Pandemic. However, this also prevented people from working and trading. There are many who struggle, especially the urban poor. Most of the breadwinners in the lower-middle to lower class families rely on everyday income which is mostly of minimum (or even below) wage. The government has identified the vulnerable sector of the society as the senior citizens, persons with disabilities, pregnant and lactating women, solo parents, and indigent people/ families.



Although greatly restricted by the ongoing Enhanced Community Quarantine, Create the Change Australasia having the desire to bring hope, empowerment and restoration for such a time as this, took measures to help alleviate hardships people face by providing relief goods to urban poor families, persons with disability (pwds), women trapped in sex trade, displaced “padyak” drivers (pedicab), frontliners and senior citizens by partnering with organizations and churches to mobilize help for the said groups in need.

On March 21, Tomochan Ramen Express donated ramens for communities in Quezon City Metro Manila. Create the Change partnered with Tameion City Church in Novaliches, Quezon City to distribute 1,250 packs of Ramen Noodles in the city.

March 23, CTCA partnered with Wipe Every Tear, a non-government organization that rescues women trapped in sex trade in the red light district in Angeles City, Pampanga to provide packs of groceries to bar girls and women.

Although the quarantine has caused a stop for the bars and sex trade to operate, majority of the women who depend on this for a living won't be able to provide for themselves and their families. CTCA is one with Wipe Every Tear in their vision that no woman should rely and be trapped in this trade just to provide food on the table.





MARCH 2020

CTCA Responds to COVID-19 Crisis

Community Responds



CTCA Partners with Beauty for Ashes, an enterprise making all-natural personal and home care products, founded by two differently-abled women, Mavic Collado a woman with Cerebral Palsy and Khey Gambe a deaf. The enterprise has an initiative to help empower their fellow persons with disabilities. Following this, Beauty for Ashes launched fundraisings for the indigent PWDs in Pasig City and Quezon City, Metro Manila and in San Mateo, Rizal. The mission is also to provide food packs to families as well as milk and diapers for the disabled in need of it. Starting March 27, with 4 kids and an adult with Cerebral Palsy, also a child with Down Syndrome received formula milk and diapers. On April 3 and 4, 30 PWD families in Banaba, San Mateo, Rizal received packs of rice from CTCA and Beauty for Ashes. The project is ongoing and we will be posting updates soon.

March 29 - 30, displaced “padyak” (pedicab drivers) who, because of suspension of mass transportation lost their means of income were given packs of rice while frontliners assigned on checkpoints were served with snacks CTCA thru Life Builders Care Mission in Bangkilingan, Tabaco City Albay.



Snacks of pancit was also prepared for the frontliners assigned in checkpoints.

CTCA is also set to work with more organizations around the Philippines to provide food and other necessities to the vulnerables and less fortunate.

The Enhanced Community Quarantine was announced to be ongoing until April 30 as announced by the government due to the rapid rise of the positive cases with COVID-19, Hence, CTCA endeavors to provide help where needed.



JANUARY 2020

150 children served in Malabanias, Angeles City, Pampanga



January 12, 2020 CTCA teamed up with Adopt-a-Community, to do outreach missions in Malabanias. Presented songs and games to the kids after which served soups and bread. The children and babies were also given toys and clothings by the Adopt-a-Community. The mission was very rewarding since the team received wonderful smiles and hugs from the little ones that melted everyone's heart.

Outreach in Manila City Jail

January 15, CTCA visited 300 poor, sick and elderly inmates in Manila City Jail, Metro Manila together with the Set Free Ministries, a foundation that serves Persons Deprived with Liberty PDLs (inmates). Bobby Duclayan, a blind singer and musician was invited to perform and give encouragement to delight the inmates.

Care Packs containing hygiene kits, biscuits and coffee were distributed along with Bibles as part of the celebration of Bible Month in the Philippines. The prison ministry integrates the Celebrate Recovery Program offering empowerment to shift the inmates' way of thinking offering hope and freedom from the past for those that serve life sentence.



CTCA Launches Instacart



Jan. 27, CTCA launched its first food cart as part of its Focus Area - Community Economic Development. The so-called "Instacart" makes use of local resources and develop skills that enhance economic opportunities while improving social conditions in a sustainable way, this Instacart is a great way to empower families from the urban poor community. Financed by our Sponsors, our pioneer beneficiary underwent interviews and training, and also in consistent coachings.

Janet Vinas is an indigent beneficiary living in Marilao, Bulacan, she is the recipient of the first Instacart. She utilizes the food cart to sell snacks like fish balls, breaded eggs, dumplings, jelly juice and other street

foods. Her food cart business is designed to attract the masses, with a very affordable price of just Php 20.00. customers will have snacks to eat. Her daughter will be manning the cart while she does the budgeting and sourcing of snacks to sell. We are excited to see the progress of the project in the days to come.



The **Create the Change Australasia** is a humanitarian organization that targets the marginalized sectors of the society by providing programs that will help empower and bring restoration into the people's lives, staying true to its motto "Empowering Change, Restoring Communities". It serves the communities in Australia where it is registered in the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.

Our Vision

Empowered and sustainable communities experiencing the fullness of life.

Our Mission

We are committed to making the lives of the communities we serve better and enabling them to help themselves towards self-sufficiency and sustainability.



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Join us in creating real change in the communities.
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