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DISASTER RESPONSE NETWORKS: THE CHURCHES AFTER HAIYAN

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Top: Pastors and Christian leaders in Kananga, Leyte assess together their community needs in the aftermath of super-typhoon Haiyan that devastated their communities. Bottom: After doing self-evaluation and local resource inventory, the Christian leaders made a commitment to organize a local DRN.

Churches all over the Visayas Island came together in forming Disaster Response Networks (DRN). In obedience to the call of Jesus Christ to love our neighbors as we love ourselves, the DRNs were active in helping their communities on disaster risk reduction management, rehabilitation, peacebuilding, and reconciliation processes.

PeaceBuilders Community Inc. trained 50 pre-qualified Christian leaders in Eastern Visayas. They were carefully screened to ensure their ability and commitment to teach their constituents and to replicate the skills they learned in this program.

These leaders have made a prior commitment to use their local resources in training their own church members. Each leader is expected to train four volunteers each—200 volunteers in total.

The program has three components:

Component 1: PsychoSpiritual Counselling and Trauma Healing Processes

The Circle Process Approach. This is a culturally-sensitive process in debriefing pastors facilitated by professional and

trained debriefers. Having been debriefed, these pastors are expected to become psychologically-fit to provide stress debriefing to their church members and their respective neighborhoods.

Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD) Training. This is a training for the pastors on how to conduct stress debriefing among their immediate community.

Component 2: Disaster Risk Reduction and Post-Disaster Response Training

Disaster Risk Reduction Management Training/Trauma Awareness and Resilience (S.T.A.R) Training. This training enabled participants to identify risks or threats prior to the onset of a calamity; thus helping them prepare and reduce disaster risks. Furthermore, this helped them to become aware of the presence of trauma following a disaster. *(Continued on Page 2)*

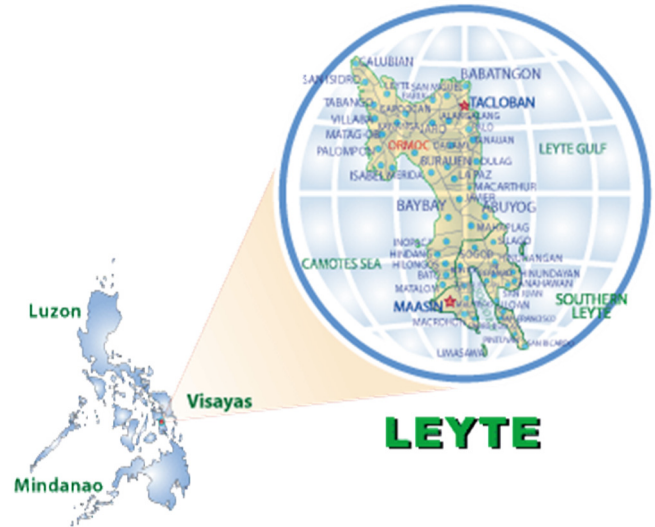
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Post-Disaster Response Training. Participants were taught how to seek and network for support from the Department of Social Welfare and Development and other relevant government offices and to access other services for additional support, i.e. livelihood program. Also, using the *Do No Harm Policy*, participants are taught how to provide relief services, reducing the risk of conflict and injustice.

Component 3: Peace and Reconciliation (PAR)

This training will be conducted three months following the DRR and Post-Disaster Response Training to further equip Christian churches with skills necessary in dealing with intra- and inter-organizational conflicts. This will also be the best time to monitor and evaluate the replication of the first two trainings. The PAR Training is composed of three books:

- :: Book 1—Biblical Foundations of Peace and Reconciliation
- :: Book 2—PeaceBuilding Skills Development
- :: Book 3—Community Development Principles and Practices



The Province of Leyte was the hardest-hit among the areas where super-typhoon Haiyan passed through.



28 April 2014 – The mayor of Kananga, Leyte, Elmer Codilla endorsed the KADRN to help the barangays (villages) in organizing their Barangay Disaster Risk Reduction Management Teams. In the courtesy call, Codilla thanked the team in helping in the Post-Yolanda rehabilitation efforts.

21 April 2014. The Kananga Disaster Response Network (KADRN) held a one-day workshop to help the officers and members create the vision and mission of their group.



28-29 April 2014. The Ormoc Evangelical Disaster Response Network (OEDRN) held a two-day workshop on vision-casting.

9 April 2014. Key leaders of the OEDRN, together with Kriz Cruzado, met with the mayor to introduce the group. OEDRN planned to assist and help the barangays in enhancing existing Barangay Disaster Risk Reduction Management Councils (BDRRMC). They also discussed possible partnerships between the evangelical groups and the local government unit. Mayor Edward Codilla has verbalized his support to OEDRN and the group's contribution to the entire disaster response initiative. Ormoc City, like Kananga, is located in the province of Leyte.

INDIGENOUS YOUNG LEADERS HOLD *CAMPAYAPAAN* 2014



Camp. A place that offers group accommodations and organized recreation and instruction.

Kapayapaan. Filipino word for peace.

Campayapaan sought to provide a space for 20 pre-qualified B'laan youth in Barangay Bulol, Koronadal City, Province of South Cotabato. These children and youth among the Indigenous People (IP) grew up being exposed to, and enduring, the consequences of extreme forms of physical, cultural and structural violence. These experiences adversely affect their identity, their behavior in their community and their outlook in life. But when supported and recognized in their role for peace, these young people may become the movers and shakers to push their communities in dialogue, mediation, intercultural communication, and conflict transformation.

Campayapaan 2014 is a new initiative to build peace among, and through, the IP youth.



20-26 April 2014. A village elder said, "...This is the first time our village experienced a peace camp. This will help change our future for the better."

The camp was held in partnership with 'SwitoTwins Digital Storytelling Philippines' and 'Artickles.'

Through Peace and Reconciliation (PAR) lectures and discussions, with the aid of digital story-telling and trauma intervention using accessories-making, *Campayapaan 2014* was able to provide a week-long, comprehensive peace-building training designed specifically for IP youth.

PBCI STAFF PRAYER



ECRECENCIA ECLEVIA

Please pray for good health for my family especially my daughter. May we always surpass the challenges we face.



FRANI CATUA

Please pray for wisdom for my life partner, Joebel, as he pursues what he truly wants in life. Pray also for good health for my family.



SILFRED ABELITADO

Please pray for the health of my family. We're growing. I'm now a grand-father! Pray also for our family's needs.



NENIA RHEA GALANZA

Please pray for provision for the establishment of the coffee farm. May God grant us wisdom in determining the time for the transplanting of the seedlings. Please pray that I may always glorify God with a pure heart and peace of mind.



SHEREL QUIDER

Please pray for the post-Haiyan rehabilitation program in Samar and Leyte. May it be a genuine community-oriented ministry. Please pray also for our health, and for our spiritual and



SALOME HALDEMANN

We give thanks for the success of Campayapaan. Please pray for wisdom as our team thinks about ways to continue our partnership with the school. Please also pray for the team in Leyte and the PAR training there next month.



JOHN MEL SUMATRA

Please pray for food health and blessings for everybody in the ministry and in the community.



EDDIE ISADA

Pray for continuous provision of God to the advancement of PAR principles in many tribal communities in Bukidnon.



CLAY ROJO

Please pray for the reconciliation of some evangelical leaders with the tribal elders in Bukidnon. Pray also for continuous provision for the payment of the land where our local church would put up its facility.



JUNE ROJO

Please pray for the Mindanao Business Summit that would be held in Central Mindanao University on June 4-6, 2014. May God grant us guidance and wisdom to do the ministry He wanted us to do.



TYRON ORTIZ

Please pray for the health and financial needs of my family.



DAWN ALBERT PATES

Pray for good health and provision for each member of the community and for our families as well.



KRIZ CRUZADO

Please pray for the on-going PAR and Disaster Response Network we're helping to facilitate among Christian leaders in Samar and Leyte Provinces.



JOJI FELICITAS PANTOJA

Please pray as we prepare for the participation of Coffee For Peace in the First Mindanao Business Summit to be held in Central Mindanao University, June 4-6, 2014.



DANN PANTOJA

Please continue to pray for the Bangsamoro Transitional Commission as they finish and submit the Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL) to the House of Senate and the House of Representatives to be deliberated and hopefully be passed as a law of the land.