

# Gazette



*The official newsletter of Parole and Probation Administration*

## PPA Region 8 Launched K.A.W.I.L. Movement

By Cristine Shannen Pelias, RSW  
Probation Officer I

The launching of the KAWIL Movement was a momentous event participated by esteemed guests and stakeholders from various sectors. Notable attendees included Regional Officer-in-Charge Ma. Beverly D. Ampo, OIC Assistant Regional Director Raul J. Mercado, Community Services Unit Head Cristine Shannen A. Pelias, Councilor Elvira Galapon-Casal representing Honorable Mayor Alfred S. Romualdez, OIC-ARD of Department of Labor and Employment Mr. Norman Uyvico, TESDA Provincial Director Rolando Bade, selected CPPOs, probation officers from various PPA field offices, probationers, parolees, distinguished guests and representatives from the media and non-governmental organizations.

The KAWIL Movement, a special project of the Community Services Unit of Parole and Probation Administration Region VIII, aligns with the 8-Point Agenda of Regional Officer-in-Charge Ma. Beverly D. Ampo. Its primary objective is to strengthen community support, thereby enhancing the Agency's programs and services.

The project's inception came from the visionary mind of OIC-Assistant Regional Director Raul J. Mercado, who introduced and received support from the Community Services Unit led by Cristine Shannen A. Pelias. CPPO Falconite deserves special appreciation for agreeing to make the Tacloban City PPO the pilot office for implementing the KAWIL Movement.

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Initially named PAKSIW, the project underwent a name change as the term did not resonate well. ROIC and CSU Head Pelias suggested changing the name.

**“KAWIL”, is a Waray-Waray word referring to a fishing hook** instrument used to catch fish, which holds historical significance to the creation of the City of Tacloban. The name changes to KAWIL made it more appealing and meaningful, serving as the inspiration and driving force behind the Agency’s mission as “fishers of men”, aiming to uplift the marginalized and neglected from various struggles.

The KAWIL Movement is rooted in basic humanitarian principles, respecting the dignity of every individual and committed to uplifting lives from emotional, psychological, behavioral, financial, and spiritual challenges. The project builds upon the Agency’s existing programs, focusing on restoring social and environmental justice.

The vision of the **Kapatirang Alalayang Wagas para sa Institusyonal na Laban (KAWIL)** is to rekindle the involvement of the marginalized sector in society. It aims to ignite the spirit of community volunteerism among the working class, engaging them directly in the rehabilitation programs of the Parole and Probation Administration. By pooling their resources and efforts, they can uplift the lives of the less privileged and contribute to peace, order, and community development. This approach aims to garner community support and rebuild trust among the brethren, fostering strong alliances to redeem lives and restore relationships.

#### **Objectives of the KAWIL Movement:**

- a. Strengthen the Community Outreach Program (COP) of the Parole and Probation Administration, Region VIII.
- b. Tap into the resources of the community, particularly the working class, by increasing public awareness regarding the plight of the clientele of the Parole and Probation Administration.
- c. Organize an active Community Group of Responders who will voluntarily assist in providing various services including technical, financial, emotional, social, environmental, and livelihood support to the Parole and Probation Administration. This includes the establishment of specific units such as the EDUCATION-KALIKASAN Responders (EDKARes), the Spiritual Emotional and Social Accountability Responders (SESARes), the Emergency Responders (ERes), and the Technical Responders (TeRes).
- d. Provide technical and consultative services to the Field Office, tapping into community resources from institutions such as TESDA, DOLE, DSWD, academe, non-government, and civic organizations.

The KAWIL Movement’s operations will span across the region, with Tacloban City PPO serving as the pilot site. The Community Services Unit, under the direct guidance and supervision of the Regional Director, will spearhead the movement. The OIC/ARD will facilitate the program’s implementation, ensuring adherence to the specified dimensions and guidelines. The main office will be located at the LSTF Building, Bulwagan ng Katarungan Compound, Magsaysay Boulevard, Tacloban City.

The office will undertake various activities, such as maintaining a conducive working environment, utilizing clientele from Tacloban City PPO and Leyte PPO as pilot beneficiaries, conducting community linkages, organizing identified units, establishing as “esTEARest & Coffee shop” managed by members of the units, strengthening advocacy efforts, and optimizing community involvement through volunteerism.

In conclusion, the KAWIL Movement symbolizes our unwavering commitment to uplift lives, restore relationships, and foster community support. As the pilot office for KAWIL, the Tacloban City PPO eagerly anticipates the positive changes this initiative will bring to the lives of probationers, parolees, and the entire community. #



# Strengthening Partnerships for Community Welfare: A Productive Courtesy Call at the Office of the Vice President

By SrPO Charlene Joyce G. Maba

A productive and purpose-driven courtesy call took place on August 16, 2023, at the Office of the Vice President, Davao City. RD Benjamin C. Cutay Jr of Parole and Probation Administration RXI met with Manager Regina Generose Tecson of the Office of the Vice President, Davao City.

The meeting commenced with the primary objective of delving into the array of services provided by the Office of the Vice President, which directly benefit the community, particularly the disadvantaged and marginalized individuals.

Three critical services offered by the Office of the Vice President were highlighted during the meeting:

**Medical Assistance:** The Office of the Vice President plays a crucial role in providing medical assistance to individuals in need, especially those from underprivileged backgrounds. This support is extended through the issuance of Guarantee Letters, ensuring that essential healthcare reaches the poor, marginalized, vulnerable, and disadvantaged individuals.

**Burial Assistance:** Recognizing the importance of dignity and respect, the Office of the Vice President extends assistance to cover burial expenses for individuals facing financial challenges. This service underscores the commitment to support families during difficult times.

**Mag Negosyo Ta Day:** A program with a broader goal, "Mag Negosyo Ta Day," aims to address the multifaceted needs of individuals, groups, and sectors grappling with poverty, injustice, and calamities. By integrating them into the mainstream economy, the program empowers them to become self-reliant and active contributors to the nation's growth.

During the meeting, Manager Tecson expressed her interest in forging a collaboration with the Parole and Probation Administration Region XI. She demonstrated her commitment to community welfare by offering to provide 4,000 packages of essential grocery items. Moreover, they said to provide a capital seed fund for livelihood programs for clients through their respective associations. This generous gesture is intended to support individuals, collectively called clients, under the supervision of the Parole and Probation Administration Region XI.

In response, RD Benjamin C. Cutay Jr. expressed heartfelt gratitude on behalf of the Parole and Probation Administration Region XI for the Office of the Vice President's willingness to extend this much-needed assistance. Both parties, inspired by the potential of this collaboration to make a meaningful impact on the community, unanimously agreed to continue discussions. The goal is to finalize the details of the assistance to be provided to the clients of the Parole and Probation Administration Region XI.

This meeting stands as a testament to the power of cooperation between government agencies, united in their commitment to uplift the lives of the community's most vulnerable members. It reinforces the idea that by working together, public servants can create a stronger, more resilient, and more compassionate society. #



RD Benjamin C. Cutay, Jr. with Manager Regina Generose Tecson at the Office of the Vice President, Davao City on August 16, 2023. (Photo by Region 11)

## PPA RO 1 Officials Meet with the Department of Agriculture Regional Office I for Project Collaboration

The Parole and Probation Administration (PPA) Regional Office I and Department of Agriculture Regional Office I convened last September 12, 2023, at the Department of Agriculture (DA) Regional Office I, to discuss the different programs offered by DA RO I that can be availed by PPA RO1 Clients.

Regional Director Allan B. Alcala, ARD Wilfred D. Gonnay and other staff of PPA RO I attended the said meeting. ARD Dennis I. Tactac of DA RO I together with the different focal persons were also present during the meeting to discuss and present the different interventions and livelihood projects that can be offered to indigent probationers, parolees, and pardonees under PPA RO1.

As discussed, there were three possible programs that the agency will avail namely the: (1) Livestock Economic Enterprise Development (LEED) Program which offers Cattle, Goat and Free Range Chicken MF Package program; (2) Cassava Production Program; and (3) High-Value Crops Development Program (HVCDP) which offers distribution of seeds and planting materials.

This possible collaborative project will primarily help the targeted beneficiaries to engage them in agricultural activities that can help alleviate their food insufficiency and poverty. The PPA RO I is now looking forward to a continuous and harmonious working partnership with the Department of Agriculture RO I for the benefit of our marginalized clients. #





## DOJ-PPA Region I, DSWD Field Office I Signs Agreement on GINHAWA Project

On September 18, 2023, the Parole and Probation Administration Regional Office I and Department of Social Welfare and Development - Field Office (FO) 1 concluded the MOA Signing and Data Sharing Agreement on Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) – “GINHAWA PROJECT” at Max’s Restaurant, San Fernando City, La Union.

The activity was spearheaded by RD Allan B. Alcala, PPA RO1 Regional Director, together with ARD Wilfred D. Gonnay, Dir. Marie Angela S. Gopalan, DSWD FO1 Regional Director together and SWO IV Mary Grace A. Renon. The activity was also participated in and witnessed by five PPA RO1 staff and six DSWD FO1 staff.

The “Ginhawa Project” is a collaborative project of DOJ-PPA RO1 with the DSWD FO1 which will aid in the rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders and former Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL) in the community through accessing and acquiring necessary assets to engage in and maintain thriving livelihoods (the “Project”).

The objectives of this project are to capacitate and provide livelihood to PPA clients (probationers, parolees and pardonees) as part of their smooth and full reintegration into the community; and to conduct joint programs, activities, and interventions on the ground, which will focus on developing and upscaling the funded enterprises.

Specifically, the project shall cover qualified program participants in Region 1 as referred by PPA. The target common participants shall be based on the following primary criteria: (a) Pantawid or Listahanan Poor Households (HHs) unserved under the SLP; and (b) For non-Pantawid and non-Listahanan HHs, they must pass the Household Assessment Form.

The Memorandum of Agreement will be valid and effective upon the date of signing and shall remain in effect until 31 December 2025. #



## PHOTALKS

On the 29th Anniversary of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), a ceremonial signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Parole and Probation Administration (PPA) was held on August 24, 2023, at SM Megamall with Administrator Bienvenido O. Benitez, Jr. representing the Administration and Secretary/Director General Suharto T. Mangudadatu, Ph. D. of TESDA.



Meanwhile, the formal signing transpired on September 6, 2023, at the PPA-Central Office witnessed by CPPO Danilo M. Capili, Chief of the Community Services Division and his staff, PPA-NCR Regional Director Lucy Nenette V. Rojas, and Special Investigator III Allizza Joy C. Castillo of the Legal Division.



Under the MOA, probationers, parolees, and pardonees of PPA would receive technical and skills development training. The training would be part of their rehabilitation to help them avoid reoffending and become productive community members. #



Administrator Bienvenido O. Benitez, Jr. presided over the 2023 Operational Planning and Executive Conference at the Subic Bay Peninsular Hotel. The 3-day event held on August 8-10, 2023 was attended by the Regional Directors, Regional Officers-in-Charge and Division Chiefs. During the meeting, the Management aligned the long-term goals of the Agency to the policy objectives of the Department of Justice. (Photo by Planning Division)



# PHOTALKS

A consultative meeting between the Parole and Probation Administration (PPA) and the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP). Administrator Bienvenido O. Benitez, Jr. together with Special Investigator III Allizza Joy Castillo of Legal Division with BJMP's JSInsp Jake L. Basilan, SJO1 Nardo B. Zambales, JO2 Robert L. Mapang, JO1 Joventino Eron, and JO1 Mico A. Reyes convened on August 24, 2023, at BJMP's National Headquarters in Quezon City for a partnership opportunity for the benefit of PDLs.



Administrator Bienvenido O. Benitez, Jr. convened with Ms. Jo-Ann Emilene I. De Belen and Ms. Shella Marquez from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on August 3, 2023 at Parole and Probation Administration-Central Office on strengthening partnership and future collaborative projects. #

# Redeeming the Redeemers...

## Restoring the Restorers

By SrPO Mylene DG. Carbonell

Correction Officers like ourselves, as other workers, are prone to stress, burnout, and compassion fatigue. We faithfully embrace the agency's motto, "Redeeming Lives...Restoring Relationships," but we also have needs and concerns as people, which can be met with the intervention of those with experience and competence in handling mental and emotional issues. The adage "*Walang Health Kung Walang Mental Health*" says it all: hence, we at PPA- Central Luzon continuously find ways to be in our best health - flesh and spirit.

Through the initiative of its Co-Chairperson, SrPO Mylene DG. Carbonell, the Regional Mental Health Committee has tapped Tarlac State University to provide free counselling and psychological testing services to the workforce of the region. RD Marissa DC. Alquetra and Dr. Arnold E. Velasco signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) as representatives of DOJ-PPA Central Luzon and Tarlac State University, respectively. On July 3, 2023, the pilot session of this long-term project entitled "Training Series on Personnel Empowerment Through Self-Awareness and Psychological Resilience" took off at Tarlac State University - Lucinda Campus in Brgy. Binauganan, Tarlac City. Six mental health providers, including Dr. Rosanna E. Pablico, RGC; Dr. Oliver Cura, RGC; Mr. Andy Rafael E. Quiballo, RGC, Rpm, LPT; and Mr. Allan Santos, RGC, LPT, served as Subject Matter Experts (SMEs), Counselors, and Facilitators for this breakthrough. The initial session comprised Personality Tests, Individual Counseling, and Lectures (with Simulation) on Evidence-Based Techniques for Optimal Cognitive Functioning and Self-Care.

The facilitators and participants gathered in the afternoon for an evaluation and feedback session to enhance the content and structure of future sessions. **For this one-day activity alone, Region 3 was able to save Php 30,000.00 on testing and counselling fees of six participants, venue and equipment, and honoraria for four resource speakers.**

This activity's **objective is not to diagnose or label, but rather to dispel myths and stigma about mental health and normalize seeking professional help** regardless of one's social status and level of education. At the end of the day, the magnified effects of mentally healthy employees are increased in organizational performance and overall productivity.

Does the line TC Philosophy, "You cannot give what you do not have" ring a bell? Fair enough. In this line of work driven by understanding and compassion, it is only right and just that we practice the same humanistic values to ourselves. #







Dr. Oliver Cura eagerly listens to POI Shienna Marie's experiences.



POII Jean Audrey undergoes individual coaching and counselling with Dr. Pablo.



RD Marissa DC. Alquetra signs the MOA in the presence of CPO Dolores M. Sigua, the Regional Mental Health Chairperson.



The examinees take Personality and Stress Inventories under Ms. Gianna's supervision.



SrPO Mylene Carbonell speaks of her observations and suggestions over afternoon snacks and coffee.



Mr. Allan Santos renders a lecture on Mindfulness and Meditation.



Dr. Rosanna Pablico renders lecture on Grounding and Nature Therapy

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17. JO1 Mico A. Reyes
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