



# Philippine Center Update October 2012

By: Gerry Ramos, AIA  
Executive Director



The new **Philippine Center, the pride and joy of the Filipino American community** in Milwaukee, has seen a flurry of activities. From an underutilized Pavilion, located at the Zablocki Park, 3717 W Howard Avenue, Greenfield, WI, it has turned into a **gem showcasing activities that highlight the Filipinos, their culture and goodwill.**

We are very proud to say that we have **the first and only Philippine Center in the USA that has a Free Medical Clinic** to serve the **uninsured and underinsured.**



The PCCCF Munting Tinig Choir composed of our newest ambassadors posing under the canopy of the Philippine Center.

The community had come together to realize the completion of a Philippine Center. Everyone contributed in every ways and means to raise funds, donate their time, energy, muscle power, hard work, "**Bayanihan Na**", & good wishes to complete the construction.

The Grand Opening of the Philippine Center last June 15 and 16, 2012 was held in conjunction with the 114th Philippine Independence Day. The Philippine Cultural and Civic Center Foundation (PCCCF) Officers and Board Members took this opportunity to give thanks and show their appreciation by:

1. **Presenting a Cultural Night** with free dinner, band concert and dancing for the community to enjoy on June 15,
2. Hosting a **Thanksgiving Lunch to our grant providers, naming rights donors and representatives of our partners the Milwaukee County and its Parks Department** on June 16 and
3. **Having an Open House** with displays showcasing the evolution and brief history of our struggle leading to the acquisition of our Philippine Center.

which just donated \$20,000 for the PCCCF and the FMC last August; Milwaukee County Supervisors John Weishan Jr. and Mark Borowski, Parks Director Sue Black with Susie Devcich, Jodi Pritzlaff & Dan Roddy; and the Naming Right Donors Mrs. Josephine Gandhi, the family of Drs. Elieser and Eufrocina Suson, Drs. Juanito and Violeta Singson, Dr. Von and Mrs. Enny Perez, Ms. Linda Ramos, Drs. Maximo and Leticia Cueto, Drs. Ruben and Jessica Romero, Drs. Linus & Rowena Sto. Tomas and Dr. Oscar & Mrs. Rebecca Toledo, Mr. Joselito Conti of UPAA-W. Other Naming Right Donors, Mr. Edgardo Sandoval & Dr. Jazmin Parcon-Sandoval, Drs. Chris and Fe Visaya, Drs. Renato & Aurora Estrella, Ms. Rica Del Rosario, Dr. Patricio and Mrs. Merina Viernes and Dr. Rudy Lastrilla sent their best wishes for a successful event.

The Philippine Center is being used by the PCCCF, FAAWIS, PMA-W, PNA-WI and UPAA-W for their activities. USTAA-W, Tinig Bayan, Filipino American Financial Cooperative (FAFC) have also reserved the Center. **National organizations** such as the Association of Philippine Physicians in America (APPA) and the Philippine Nurses Association of America (PNA), North Central Region also used the Philippine Center in one of their activities as part of their annual conference held in Milwaukee.

## Philippine Center Free Medical Clinic (FMC)

Medical Director: Violeta A. Singson, MD ■ Clinic Administrator: Linda Ramos

The free clinic is open every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month. Since 2000, **FMC patients now total 2,843** and had been **seen 11,480 times**. To date, we have **given free services amounting to \$1,631,015** including medication and laboratory services recorded only from 2010. **In 2012, 1,521 patients were seen** and the free medical services, medication, laboratory and imaging **expenses amounted to \$221, 285**. **Since we opened at the Zablocki Park** on March 10, 2012, we have seen **112 new patients** with a total of **1,210 patient visits amounting to \$176,562**.

The FMC is a member of the **Free and Community Clinic Collaborative (FC3)** who will feature **Bryan Beaumont, and his volunteer story with the FMC**, at their Doc Rock 2012 event.

## Philippine Center Programs ■ Activity Director: Jojo Ramos

Those interested to join the ongoing and upcoming events at the Philippine Center need to contact the following:

**Munting Tinig Choir:** Chair & Founder: Dr. Violeta Singson  
Director: Jojo Ramos

**Cooking Lessons:** Co-Chairs: Dr. Henry Ravelo  
Dr. Letty Cueto

**Tagalog Movies:** Co-Chairs: Zen & Jake Edralin

**Ballroom Dancing:** Chair: Becky Toledo

**Yoga:** Chair: Cream Pepito

**Exercise Activities:** Co-Chairs: Maria Salamon-Yumang,  
Linda Ramos & Mila Lamerand

**Jam Sessions/Karaoke:** Co-Chairs: Belinda & Lito Tenorio

**Stories from the past, Historical Narrations,**

**Philippine Tourist Info:** Chair: Ito Conti

**Youth Activities:** Chair: Mimi Ballesteros

**Tagalog Lessons:** Chair: Jojo Ramos

**Socials/Dinner Dances:** Co-Chairs: Sheila Jackson

Jo Anne Capitan

For more information, contact Jojo Ramos at diwa@wi.rr.com.



Representatives of the PCCCF, Milwaukee County and Grant Providers pose in front of the Philippine Center. From left: Tom Sipin, Lito Tenorio, Gerry Ramos, Jim Marks, Belinda Tenorio, Judy Marks, Jojo Ramos, Henry Ravelo, Susie Devcich, Linda Ravelo, Vulette Singson, Jodi Pritzlaff, Letty Cueto, Jerry Vinluan, Linda Ramos, Ito Conti, Becky Toledo, John Suson, Mark Borowski, John Weishan Jr., Johnny Singson, Oscar Toledo and Max Cueto Jr.

The Thanksgiving lunch was graced by the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Marks from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation,