



Philippine Center Update January 2017

By: Gerry Ramos, AIA
Executive Director

visit www.philippinecenter.com



Our Philippine Center, named “a place of giving” by government officials, our donors and recipients, continues to preserve its image by pursuing the Philippine Cultural and Civic Center Foundation (PCCCF) community outreach programs in 2016.

In commemoration of our partnership with the Milwaukee County Parks Department signed on July 29, 2011, a monument signage, donated by the Philippine Medical Society Auxiliary and the Philippine Medical Association of WI Auxiliary, was constructed between the American and Philippine flags. Names of the past presidents of both organizations are inscribed on the signage’s front .



Philippine Center Free Medical Clinic (FMC) (414) 342-1400
Medical Director: Violeta A. Singson, MD ■ Clinic Administrator: Linda Ramos
Nursing Director: Zen Edralin, RN ■ Volunteer Coordinator: Mareta Prill

The free clinic is **open every 2nd and 4th Saturday** of each month. Since we started in 2000, the number of FMC patients continues to grow. **Now a total of 3,600** who had been seen **13,700 times. Free medical services have amounted to \$2,927,920** to date, including medication and laboratory services which were calculated and added only starting in 2010.



From left to right: FMC Volunteers Jojo Ramos, Liza Adrihan, Janet Bonilla, Dr. Violeta Singson, Kai Immler, Cal Truckenbrod, Ava Truckenbrod, Zen Edralin, Mareta Prill, Melissa Truckenbrod, Gerry Ramos, Rowena Poticar, Sarah Austria

Health Fair: The 4th PCCCF FMC Health Fair in partnership with the Milwaukee County Parks, Forest County Potawatomi Foundation and organized by the Philippine Nurses Association of WI, with participation from the Greenfield Health, Police and Fire Departments, Children’s Community Health Plan and other organizations was held last August 6, 2016. Services offered were: Free screening for Allergy, Asthma, BMI, Breast Cancer, Cholesterol, Dental, Diabetes, Hypertension, Skin Cancer and Health & Safety Education, Games and Entertainment.



Free Blood Pressure & BMI Screening

Kohl’s/MAM Color on Wheels: Representatives from Kohl’s Art Generation came and brought materials, equipment and supplies to the Philippine Center on May 21, 2016 to hold a Philippine Center workshop supervising art projects for the children.



Color Run/Walk: Organized by Mareta Prill, participants enjoyed the fund raising 1K/2K Color Run held on July 16, 2016 at Zablocki Park.



Photo above shows Color Run winners Alexis, Brian Ellis and Calvin Sommer with Jojo Ramos. Photo below shows the participants tossing colors in front of the sponsors’ color station signs.

“Pabasa”– Chanting of the Passion of Christ: Members of the Filipino American Community participated in the continuous chanting of the Passion of Christ from Holy Thursday to early morning of Good Friday followed by the Stations of the Cross led by Fr. Jojo Orosa.



Image of the Crucifixion provided by the Abraham Family



Fr. Jojo Orosa with the participants in the reading of the Stations of the Cross

Visit www.philippinecenter.com for schedules of activities (Children’s Workshop, Cooking Lessons, Yoga, Tai Chi, Tagalog Movies, Ballroom Dancing, Karaoke, Dance Exercise, Tagalog Lessons, Pabasa and other events and activities) or contact Jojo Ramos–Activity Director

Community Outreach and Fund Raising Events

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the organizers, participants, donors and supporters of our community outreach and fund raising events in 2016.

10th Elieser B. Suson Golf Tournament:

The golf tournament on August 14, 2016 raised \$ 6,000 for the Philippine Center Building Fund and the FMC.



Dr. Ruben Romero, Dr. Rene Azcueta, Manuel Mallillin and Dr. Walter Wong

Applebees Flapjack Fundraiser:

The successful October 15, 2016 event facilitated by Emma Ravelo Webb generated \$2,600 for the Philippine Center and its programs.



Volunteers who made the Applebees fundraiser successful

Community Outreach Program: The Philippine Center Community Outreach Programs became possible through grants from the Forest Co. Potawatomi Foundation and from The New Threads of Hope. The 2016 projects are:

1. Book Distribution- Coordinators: Jojo Ramos, Gerry Ramos, Mareta & Bob Prill **New books are distributed and continuously given away for free** at the PCCCF libraries and at Children's workshops. Books are also distributed at Literacy Outreach programs at the FAAWIS picnic -Wirth Park, PCCCF Health Fair, Gwen Jackson Elementary School, All Nations Bible Church, Solomon Community Temple and Greendale K5 class.



Bob Prill, Jojo and Gerry Ramos distributed books and clothes at the Solomon Community Temple

2. Clothing Distribution- Coordinators: Jojo Ramos, Gerry Ramos, Letty Cueto, MD, Mareta & Bob Prill **New clothing** were distributed at the PCCCF Free Clinic and Health Fair, the All Nations Bible Church, the Center for Working Families, the American Legion Greendale Post 416, and the Solomon Community Temple. The UPAAW Volunteers & the St. John's Cathedral Food Program Staff enabled the distribution of clothes to the homeless during the Feed the Hungry.



Gerry Ramos, Letty Cueto, Jojo Ramos and Mareta Prill handing out clothes to the homeless during the UPAAW Feed the Hungry at St. John's Cathedral

Children's Literacy Program: Children from toddlers to teens took part in reading and creating art masterpieces during the Kohl's Art Generation day. **New books were read and given away for free.** The Kohl's Art Generation's participation was in coordination with Director Ms. Michelle Bastyr of the Milwaukee Art Museum. Free summer passes to the MAM were distributed during the event.

Kohl's /MAM Family Day: On July 25, the **Milwaukee Art Museum (MAM)** honored the **Philippine community** by making it one of its hosts for the day.

Philippine Center Activities

Jojo Ramos, PCCCF Special Projects/Activities Director



About 130 children and adults enjoyed a field trip from the Philippine Center to the Milwaukee Art Museum for a **Family and Friends day**. Three (3) school buses were provided by the MAM Director Ms. Emily Sullivan.

PCCCF officers and representatives, Dr. Henry and Mrs. Linda Ravelo, Drs. Juanito and Violeta Singson, Gerry and Jojo Ramos, Bob and Mareta Prill, Maria Yumang, Linda Ramos, Jake and Zen Edralin, Miriam Santos and Minda Cabigting, made sure that everyone enjoyed the trip and lunch provided by the PCCCF Literacy Program.

The PCCCF's Munting Tinig Choir was invited to perform at the MAM to the delight of the audience, some of whom joined in the performance. Parents and grandparents had the opportunity to view art works on display at the MAM and participate in arts and crafts making..

Munting Tinig Choir (MT) and American Legion Concert:

The PCCCF's Munting Tinig Children's Choir led by Dr. Violeta Singson and Ms Jojo Agoncillo Ramos wish to thank all the choir members, parents, the entire cast, production, stage and costume crew led by Mareta Prill, patrons and sponsors and supporters for all help extended to make the concert a success.



The Munting Tinig Choir sings "Karetela" above and "Mamang Sorbetero" with Commander Tim below

Once again, MT left its mark last September 24, 2016. As part of an outreach program, a joint concert with the American Legion Post 416/VRT aptly called **"Bridging the Gap through Music"** was produced and directed by Ms Jojo Agoncillo Ramos, with the goal of benefitting the Greendale Veterans Center, the Philippine Center and its MT Children's Choir and Free Medical Clinic.



The AL "Hot 7" accompanied by Dr. Ray Ballecer

Mr. Noni Dijamco, Ms. Manika Clemente, Dr. Ray Ballecer and Mrs. Linda Ravelo were instrumental in getting the concert through. The UPAAW choir sang the US and Philippine national anthems.



The UPAAW Choir singing the Philippine National Anthem "Lupang Hinirang"

Symposium: In partnership with the **UPAAW Value our Heritage**, the Philippine Center hosted the symposium **"The Many Faces of Bullying"** for the general public on October 22, 2016.