

Impact Report 2020



A year for Keeping Faith

2020 IMPACT AT A GLANCE

1 
TOTAL NO. OF CHILDREN
1,965


FLA **768 (Jan - March)**
520 for BOYS
48 for GIRLS


WOMEN POWER PACKS
319 Children
(family member of 116 women recipients of the pack)


FOOD PACKS & HYGIENE KITS
391 Children


Small-Group Community Sessions
57 Children


Feeding Program in Gawad Kalinga Village, Palo Libertad
250 Children


Girls Got This initiative
180 Girls

2 
TOTAL NO. OF EDUCATIONAL & MENTORSHIP SESSION CONDUCTED
138 Sessions


FFLA **112 sessions**
223 hours of educational sessions conducted


GGT SESSIONS
Sessions / Games Conducted
Online Champion sessions conducted - 3
(Max of 2 hrs per session)


Mentorship Session - 5
(Max of 2 hrs per mentorship)

180 Girls
Participated in the GGT sessions and games

4 
TOTAL NO. OF STAY AT HOME SESSIONS CREATED & POSTED
66 Videos

SOCIAL MEDIA REACH


 **Total no. of likes: 14,114**

 **Total Number of Comments: 2,578 (positive comments - Thank you and commendation)**

 **Total Number of Shares: 5,442**

 **Total Number of People Reach: 647, 149**

 **Total Number of Video Views: 105,087**

3 
TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE REACHED THRU COVID-19 RESPONSE
37,852

 **33,000**
In Cebu

 **4,852**
Familles in Tacloban

AVERAGE NO. OF FAMILY MEMBERS: 7.5

A YEAR IN REVIEW

JANUARY



FundLife Operations Manager, Kimberly Lopez, receiving the DepEd Award during Pasidungog

FundLife kicked off 2020 with exciting news, as it was recognised by the Department of Education Tacloban Division as one of the “Most Outstanding Partners” during the Pasidungog – an annual celebration of DepEd to award its internal and external partners in implementing programs to provide equal and accessible learning to children and youth. It was a great honour to receive the award, and fantastic recognition of the success FFLA was having.

January also saw FundLife conduct a mid-line evaluation with children, adolescents and teachers involved in various FundLife Programs. The evaluation signified the effectiveness of the Football for Life Academy (FFLA) program and Girls Community league (GCL) towards providing experiential

providing experiential learning for vulnerable children and youth in Leyte.

Key findings from the collected studies showed that 98% of the surveyed children and adolescent youth improved their grades in their academic subjects since they joined the program. 90% of them said that they develop self-awareness and (90%) learn essential skills they need in life and future employment.

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Coach JP, FundLife Youth Mentor facilitating a mentorship session after the matches during the Mini-Champions League.



FundLife volunteers and local staff joined by, Plentex Philippines, COO, Michael McMahon for the announcement of the GACC

Another exciting milestone for the organization was the announcement of the Generation Amazing Community Center (GACC) - an integrated play, learning and enterprise center for children from displaced communities in Tacloban North.

Strategically situated between several post-Yolanda resettlement communities, the GACC will be accessible to over 30,000 children that currently lack access to structured sports or football training.

The 1110 Sq./m space will host a multi-purpose sports hall, integrated learning and employment training room, community canteen offering healthy and affordable

meals as well as a community co-study and co-working space.

The month also saw the arrival of the two Arsenal in the community coaches Jordan Aloye and Tintin Smith who were introduced to the DepEd Tacloban Division to provide support in the implementation of the FFLA program in schools and communities.

Together with the local youth mentors, the Arsenal coaches were able to deliver a total of 42 after school football and futsal sessions throughout their volunteering with FundLife during their 10 week stay with FundLife. They also organized coaching sessions to help youth mentors improve their abilities in using sports for social development.



Arsenal in the Community Coaches, Tintin and Jordan, introduce themselves to children in one of our partner



FUNDLIFE
DREAMS IN COLOUR

Twitter FundLifeInt Instagram FundLifeInternational

FundLife staff meet with officials from the Rural Health Unit (RHU) in Dulag, Leyte

January also saw FundLife hold several consultation meetings with the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office and the Rural Health Unit to discuss programs for youth about Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and sexual health. The meetings were set-up after discussions between FundLife and UNAids about creating action-led preventive programming with adolescents to combat the growing rate of HIV and unplanned teenage pregnancy amongst vulnerable youth in the Philippines.

FEBRUARY

In partnership with Tacloban City Social Welfare (CSWD), the Arsenal in the Community Coaches Jordan and Tintin initiated a psychosocial intervention for 22 minors (boys) staying in one of the Child-Care Facility under Tacloban CSDWO. They conducted play-based sessions to help children develop their self-confidence and self-esteem while playing football and other games.

In the same month, a coordination meeting was conducted with representatives from the youth, Barangay Local Government Unit of Brgy. Sto. Nino and Homeowners Association to discuss the GACC construction plan and the establishment of the GACC committee. The activity was organized to ensure transparency and accountability of the project. The consultation was a vital first step in FundLife's community-first approach and ensuring that stakeholders will take an active role in overseeing construction, keeping the site safe and communicating the GACC goals to children.



Arsenal coaches Tin and Jordan coaching the FFLA players of San Jose National High School.



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FundLife staff facilitating the discussion on the roles and responsibilities of the village leaders towards the project.

The tournament was a way to welcome another year of learning, purposeful play, and to celebrate the power of football.

In Cebu, the Futsal team of Sisters of Mary (SMS girls) won the District Meet in the Futsal Division allowing them to represent Talisay, Cebu for the 2020 Central Visayas Regional Athletic Association Meet. With the help of FFLA coach Reuben Ranille and coach Daryll Villamor, the team continued their training that focuses on enhancing the competitive skill in playing Football.

Towards the end of the month, the 2020 Coppa Leyteno - an annual friendly tournament organised by Arsenal in the Community and FundLife was delivered. In total, 85 children (49 boys, 36 girls) and adolescents took part in play, education and team building activities over two days.

A total of 8 teams vied to win the Championship in the boy's division while six teams competed in the girl's division.



Girls from San Isidro playing a match with San Isidro girls during the 2020 Coppa Leyteno.



Girls from Palo National High school playing a match for the Girls division while boy from Tanauan School of Craftsmanship and Home Industries warms up for their match.

The SMS team is one of the girls participating in the Girls Community league under the Girls Got This initiative.

Although FundLife completed some of its initial target activities for the year, the increasing case of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) since the end of January continued to threaten the organization's plans and work.

MARCH

In the first week of March, the Philippines confirmed its first local transmission. Since then, reports have shown that the virus has spread within the Luzon area.

GirlsGotThis Powered by **FUNDLIFE**
DREAMS IN COLOUR



We #StandWithGirls

- PHILIPPINE WOMEN'S NATIONAL FOOTBALL TEAM

@_girlsgotthis | girlsgotthis | GCL@fundlife.org | +63 (053) 523-1160

Members of PH Women's Football Team supporting the #STANDWITHGIRLS campaign.

Amidst this the 2nd part of Coppa Leyteno was held with the support of the Department of Education. A total of 31 children and participated in the friendly matches and games for the kids' division.

The month marked the launching of the global #STANDWITHGIRLS digital campaign for International Women's Day (8th March). The campaign drew the support of global sports and business personalities (See Appendix #11) as well as local partner schools of FundLife. The #StandwithGirls campaign aimed to bring attention to the many challenges vulnerable girls around the world and in the Philippines face in receiving a quality education and dignified employment opportunities. The campaign continues to support the work of Girls Got This programming.

On March 11th, Philippines President, Rodrigo Duterte announced a national health emergency and ordered the shutdown of international sea and airports as well as closure of schools, business and free movement. By March 18th, the entire country was under strict lockdown. All schools were closed and education suspended. Although many of these lockdown measures were eventually lifted, schools remained closed for the duration of 2020 and young people were ordered to remain under house curfew for over 200 days.

As COVID-19 cases continued to rise and restrictions saw halting of activities, FundLife's local youth mentors continued the implementation of its programs in Leyte and Cebu until the second week of the month but when the national government imposed Enhanced Community Quarantine all over the Philippines, FundLife's operations halted and all staff, volunteers and coaches were ordered to stay home.



PNP officers man checkpoints in situated in borders for every town.

As advised by health experts FundLife implemented remote working practices.

While imposing ECQ was necessary to contain COVID-19, the collateral impacts of the lockdowns aggravated various issues like poverty, unemployment, limited access to food and health services, and child exploitation.



Women from a community in Cebu under ECQ queuing to get the emergency relief food pack for their family.

Just five days after the lockdowns, FundLife launched the 'COVID-19 Emergency relief fund' to respond to the adverse effect of the COVID-19 crisis on most vulnerable groups. Along with this FundLife devised a hygiene educational material for children which was shared through its social media platforms and network.

In Cebu, FundLife partnered with Bidlisiw and Bayanihan Mission - a locally-led group of volunteers who have been responding to the COVID-19 crisis through emergency food distribution and education sessions.

Together, they initiated #OneBayanihan project which enabled them to reach highly affected communities that were in the greatest need of food and awareness on how to fight against COVID-19.

The initial food pack and COVID-19 educational pack distribution were supported by the local government of Cebu.

APRIL

With the support of the local government, FundLife and Bayanihan Mission had reached over 1,500 families across Cebu through its emergency relief distribution and educational protection session through a locally organised network of volunteers.



A Bayanihan Mission volunteer distributing food packs to most vulnerable families in Cebu.



Food and hygiene items packed for vulnerable families in Cebu.

The relief packs contained essential food items such as rice, eggs, canned goods, biscuits, and vegetables while the hygiene kit included a cloth face mask, toothpaste, sanitary pad, bath soap, detergent bar, and bleach.

FundLife also donated some vital medical provisions for front-line healthcare workers as part of the COVID-19 response.

In Leyte, the team devised a new strategy by adapting virtual practices in its programs to ensure as much as possible, services to help children could continue, even when face to face interaction became impossible.

With the suspension of school activities, including those within our Football for Life Academy (FFLA) program, children remain at home with little to do. Their isolation and lack of access to education and activities during this time combine to affect both their physical and their mental health which could lead to long-lasting trauma and effects on their future careers and livelihoods.



Fundlife Managing Director turn over protective health gears to frontline workers.



Preoccupied with surviving the crisis, parents tend to overlook what their children are doing, which increased the risk of child exploitation and in particular online sexual exploitation.

To mitigate the negative effects of the pandemic, FundLife launched the #stayathome activities campaign.



FundLife youth mentors demonstrating various home exercises and games that children and youth can do while staying

The campaign included home exercise videos created by FundLife youth mentors that children and their families can follow while staying in their home. Each video shows coaches demonstrating physical exercises and games that help raise awareness about COVID-19 and its prevention measures.

The videos specifically aimed to ensure that children continue to exercise physically to keep themselves healthy in mind and body and that they can establish a communication network to keep in contact (virtually) with one another and with trusted peers to support their mental health and wellbeing during this crisis.

The videos also encourage children to stay at home and suggest fun activities to engage them productively.

The first batch of 12 videos were released and shared to FundLife's social media platform and networks which garnered positive feedback not only from children and youth but also to partners.

MAY

The relief distribution in Cebu continued by providing food packs and hygiene kits to 30 identified persons with disabilities (PWD) and 80 Tricycle and Bicycle drivers whose source of income was greatly affected by the countermeasure for COVID-19.

Nutritional packs and hygiene kits were also provided to 43 pregnant Badjao women.

A total of 450 individuals including street children also benefited from the feeding programs organized for the Children of Cebu Foundation, Inc and Inayawan in Cebu City.



Pregnant women receiving nutritional packs and hygiene kits.

In addition to the initiated relief distribution, FundLife and Bayanihan Mission sponsored the food supply of families situated in Sitio Marna - a densely populated community consisting of 550 highly vulnerable families (approx 2,100 individuals), supported mostly by daily wage earners. By the end of May, over 15,000 highly vulnerable children and adults were reached with survival food, hygiene and education packs.

Responding to partner needs, FundLife also sponsored food packs for 32 families in Pasig, Manila under the care of the Gawad Kalinga Football Program.



Gawad Kalinga Foundation (GK) community volunteers distributing food packs sponsored by FundLife for the families of children participating in GK programs.

Alongside responding to immediate needs, a situational survey was administered to youth mentors and children to find out the mental impacts of COVID-19. One of the significant findings of the survey was the effect on young people's mental well-being and is contributing to increased anxiety and worry.

As all schools remained closed, the educational impact on children has been severe. In a survey carried out in Leyte between July-August, FundLife found that the impact on mental well-being has also been substantial. In the absence of regular schooling and physical learning in a safe and enabling environment, children and youth have lost their sense of structure and social stimulation.

In the first three months of lockdowns, they have seen all interaction with friends removed and often miss the social support they had to cope with everyday issues that are vital for mental well-being.



GK community volunteers taking lead in preparing nutritious meal for children living the village



While assessing the effects of COVID-19 on vulnerable communities the Gawad Kalinga (GK) Foundation partners with FundLife to initiate a feeding program for 250 children in Gawad Kalinga Village in Palo, Libertad. Along with the nutritious food provided the children were also gathered for COVID-19 centered fun-filled sessions where taught about proper handwashing and ways on how they can cope up with the negative effects brought about by the pandemic and the community quarantines.

JUNE

The #OneBayanihan project in Cebu continued to reach the most vulnerable. Through the support of existing partners and independent fund-raising, FundLife was able to reach upwards of 33,000 people across Cebu in just three months of operations and without any full-time relief staff. The amazing effort was only made possible through community coordination, volunteer engagement and local government help (See Appendix #24) by the end of June, almost all parts of the Philippines saw some relaxation of the strict lockdown measures, which had lasted upwards of 100 days and had bought millions of people into food insecurity.



Bayanihan Mission volunteer informing head of families in a community in Cebu about the importance of COVID-19 mitigation measures.

The COVID-19 Emergency Response supported most vulnerable groups. Medical supplies and essential goods for the poor elderly families situated at the Missionaries of the Poor also benefited the relief operation with the Bayanihan Mission Talisay City volunteers taking the lead.



Bayanihan Mission volunteer informing head of families in a community in Cebu about the importance of COVID-19 mitigation measures.

Relief also moved to support, as one of the early communities FundLife helped, Sitio Marna, Cebu transitioned into a more sustainable form of support. The community members were guided in starting a community garden that was able to yield local produce for the community.



A parent from Sitio Marna tending the vegetables planted in their community garden

The program not only provided food support to residents but also helped to contain the viral spread and protect the community from contagion.

Meanwhile, in Tacloban, FundLife continued the virtual educational initiatives for children and supported DepEd through online resource sharing. Part of this was a webinar for FundLife and DepEd to create an educational and development framework that will best fit the situation where face-to-face learning is out of the option.

The creation of Stay-at-Home Exercise videos continues to encourage more youth and children to actively participate not just in doing physical exercises but also to continue to have a positive outlook while in a pandemic.

Another initiative initiated between FundLife and DepEd was the creation of COVID-19 child-friendly awareness information materials. The materials are targeted to provide correct and understandable information about COVID-19 and other related topics.

JULY

Although the COVID-19 cases saw steady declines across the country, Tacloban City and the rest of Leyte remained under Modified General Community Quarantine (MGCQ). Children and youth below 18 remain under house quarantine, unable to leave, unless for emergencies. Increasingly concerned with the impact of the lockdowns on youth, FundLife moved to include Resilience Education within its 'Safe-at-Home packs, allowing young people to receive resources and help should they be suffering under the new normal.

July saw FundLife leading education sessions in Leyte, working in close coordination with two communities in Palo, Leyte, and Tacloban City (Brgy. Libertad and Brgy. San Isidro Suhi) for the pilot launch of the Community-Based Small Group Education sessions. A total number of 30 children and adolescent youth are the target beneficiaries for each site, with a total of 60 children reached through educational support. While the aim remains to reach more youth in more communities, local health restrictions make it difficult.



News report on Pres. Duterte placing Tacloban City on MGCQ



FundLife coaches and staff orienting the parents and Chairman Eutequio Balunan of Brgy. San Isidro on the community sessions

The sessions involve football skills and timely topics like COVID-19 awareness and how to stay healthy, child rights and protection, and other social issues affecting children. The goal of the community sessions is to provide peer support for children and youth through coaches and community health workers who have been in community quarantine

since March 2020 to strengthen their mental health and coping ability during the pandemic. The sessions also work to empower children and young people by educating them on their fundamental rights and ways to protect themselves from any form of abuse, which is rife given the ongoing community quarantines. Although the sessions are face-to-face, local health protocols were part of the said initiative's implementation plan to ensure that children are still safe even if they are out of their homes.

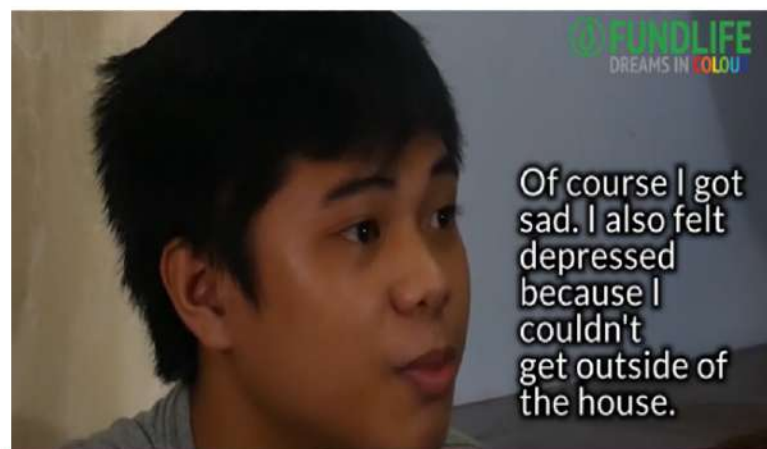
Aside from the coordination meetings attended by FundLife for community sessions, July was the month Fundlife started producing videos featuring children's lives during the lockdown with the quarantine still in force. It found out that many children are depressed or at their lowest points because of the lockdowns. Hence, this initiative is targeted to help people from authority and other groups advocating children's rights to understand the negative impact of the lockdown on children's mental health and well-being and how these adverse effects can be lessened or alleviated through positive reinforcement by both public and private sectors.



FundLife coaches presenting their certificates of completion after the Educational Video Production Training.

In order to embrace the “new normal” in humanitarian work, FundLife coaches attended local trainings like Educational Video Production Training and Training on Photography. These training sessions were conducted to capacitate the coaches further and help them adapt to the new normal that revolves around information and communication technology. Almost all organizations are now adjusting to the drastic change brought about by the pandemic. Like them, FundLife switched to online activities like mentorships programs, Online Champion sessions, #stayathome exercise and educational session videos instead of face-to-face implementation of projects

and interventions. FundLife intends to produce quality educational and exercise videos that are currently shared in all its social media accounts.



Of course I got sad. I also felt depressed because I couldn't get outside of the house.

Marlo, 16, sharing his struggles especially on his mental health, while coping with the negative effects of the lockdown

Apart from the COVID-19 centered initiatives for the players of FundLife, there were also training sessions attended by the coaches. Some of these are the Safeguarding Training and the Child Protection Training hosted by a foreign non-government organization. Trainings like these are important for FundLife so that the staff and coaches can make sure that children are protected from any abuse or maltreatment. They will learn how to protect girls and boys from violations such as abuse, sexual exploitation, and trafficking.



FundLife coaches discussing possible initiatives on how to better support the children and youth during the pandemic.

AUGUST



Coach Da teaching a player from Brgy. Libertad, Palo, Leyte how to pass the ball

The Community-Based Small Group Education sessions finally kicked off on August 3, 2020, in Brgy. Libertad, Palo, Leyte (a new community site). A total of 27 kids and adolescent youth (15 players in the morning and 12 in the afternoon session) attended the 2-hour session. Although Football is a new sport for the children from the said community, they tried their best to learn the basics of the sport.

On the next day, August 4, the same initiative was launched at Brgy. San Isidro, Tacloban City, where 30 players (15 in the morning and 15 in the afternoon) participated. They were each provided a bottle of Vitamin C syrup to help boost their immune system.



FundLife coaches distributing bottles of Vitamin C syrup to the players (children and youth) from Brgy. San Isidro, Tacloban City during one of the community sessions



There are 25 educational and football-related sessions the children will have to attend to finish the program.

FundLife intends to conduct more community sessions and cover other communities which are considered to have low-risks of COVID-19 infection so that many children will be reached by the said initiative.

Further, the FFLA coaches and GCL players have started their 3-month mentorship program facilitated by mentors from Mentors without Borders. The weekly two-hour sessions are held on weekends. All students (FFLA coaches and GCL players) are taking programming courses. They are taught how to use Python, HTML, and they are also asked to visit and explore various features of different websites. The course is designed to capacitate the coaches to adapt to the new normal where information technology is a big factor to the success of the current COVID-19 initiatives like the stay-at-home exercise and educational sessions. The mentorship program participants are expected to finish their courses in December.



Children listening attentively to Coach Jrex discuss the importance of a healthy lifestyle



Coach Jrex taking down notes during his mentoring session with his mentor from Mentors Without Borders

"My mentor and I don't have any problem in terms of communication. The goals I wanted to achieve through this course aligns with the goals of my mentor. As a teacher in Mathematics, this course is beneficial for me together with my mentor, and I am trying to come up with a method on how children would be able to learn topics in mathematics easily,"

– Coach John Rex

In the middle of August 2020, Tacloban City was once again placed under General Community Quarantine (GCQ) by Alfred Romualdez, its City Mayor, because of the rise in cases not just in the city but also in the nearby municipalities in Leyte and Samar. Because of this, FundLife was forced to suspend the community sessions in Brgy. Libertad San Isidro, Tacloban City to give way for the executive order. Children who are part of the community sessions are again back at their homes answering their modules while trying to cope with the stringent rules enforced in the city. (See Appendix #38) Meanwhile, the Department of Education (DepEd) revoked its decision to resume classes by August 24 due to the new spike of COVID-19 cases in the country. Classes for SY 2020-2021 were moved to resume in October



News about Tacloban City being placed again on GCQ

SEPTEMBER

After a few difficult months, September kicked-off with a great boost! Up against amazing projects from across 36 countries, the Girls Got This (GGT) Program was shortlisted for the 2020 Beyond Sport Global Awards. GGT, placed on the top 16 nominees using sports to positively impact communities worldwide, specifically in the category of decent work and economic growth.



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 In celebration of




#StandWithGirls

We're in. Are you?



Girls Got This standing with girls, with the dream of giving communities and opportunity to invest in protecting, educating, and empowering girls

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GGT activities were among the program of FundLife which was affected by the pandemic. The Girls Community League – a development community league for girls had to be postponed in 2020 leaving more than 300 young girls under the program limiting their access to safe spaces and play. The only support available for them during the pandemic was peer support from FundLife youth mentors through social media

FundLife youth mentors through social media platforms which is still limited to those who only have smart and android phones.

The children and youth who were active in social media were part of the 42 respondents who were asked about their priority needs during the pandemic. 67% of them or 6 out of 10 children expressed their worry over the inability to access food during ECQ with the threat of COVID-19 still present.



Stay at home packs containing food and non-food items and hygiene kits were claimed by families from Brgy. Libertad, Palo, Leyte

With this need, FundLife decided to organize the distribution of food Packs and Hygiene Kit in most affected areas in Leyte because of the ECQ; Tacloban, Palo, and Tanauan. The distribution also prioritized families of health workers and Barangay Peace Officers who extended support in the whole distribution process.

“There came a time during the lockdown that we were about to run out of rice, and we don’t have enough money to buy even just a kilo. So the distribution of the food packs and hygiene kits was just right on time. That’s why I’m thankful to Fundlife because it did not only provide us food, but on a personal note, they gave me a feeling of hope. That despite all this, there’s always help that would come in.” -

Jessica



Jessica, one of the GLC players, receives a Stay at Home pack for her family

A total of 391 families benefited from the initiative. They also participated in the hygiene promotion organized by the youth mentors.

Four different information, education, and communication (IEC) materials were also installed after the food distribution in the schools and communities that FundLife is currently working with. Children and youth from the communities flocked to the designated places where the IEC materials were installed.



Appendix #43 & #44: Children from one of the beneficiary-barangays of the Stay At Home packs look and examine attentively the IEC materials posted outside their gymnasium

OCTOBER

To address the concern that women and children are forgotten in this pandemic concerning emergency relief efforts, FundLife, through its sponsor Soroptimist International of Alabang, distributed 116 Women Power Packs to the women who are lactating, pregnant, and solo parents living at Brgy. 106 New Kawayan, Tacloban City.



A FundLife staff and coaches orient vulnerable women (lactating, pregnant, and single mother) from Zones 1-3, Villa Diana, And Pope Francis Village at Brgy. New Kawayan, Tacloban City



These are the women identified in the community to be the most vulnerable and need help. New Kawayan is also identified as one of the marginalized communities in Tacloban City. A short orientation was conducted to strengthen hygiene practices in each household where the vulnerable women live. They were taught the proper wearing of masks, staying healthy, and proper handwashing.

"The power packs from Fund life will help women like me who lack the financial capacity to purchase essential goods like milk powder and the other things included in the hygiene kit. The activity book can also serve as my leisure activity when my baby is sleeping especially that nowadays I am mostly at home caring for my baby."

- Jessa, 16, lactating



Coach Patty leads mentorship session on Strengths and Dreams with GCL players

In FundLife's efforts to continue to educate, inspire, and empower its players amidst the pandemic, a mentoring program was launched last October 9, 2020, for girls and October 14, 2020, for boys. The first sessions were facilitated by Coaches John Rex and Patriona. Part of the new activity of the FundLife for its GGT initiative is the Online Champion session for girls who were part of the program pre-COVID.



Miss Donna facilitates online Champion session with Pauline Lopez and players from GCL

This activity is held once a month to provide a bridge between GGT champion ambassadors and the young girls. This is also a way of engaging the girls in interactive online sessions to alleviate the adverse effects of the lockdown and to encourage them to persevere in their studies and in reaching their dreams despite the difficult time that they are facing. The month's featured champion was Pauline Lopez, a Taekwondo player, and a SEA games medalist. Lopez' inspired the girls by sharing her journey. She shared what challenges she went through and the discrimination she experienced when she started playing a male-dominated sport.

The first online champion session earned positive feedback from the girls. They felt happy being able to meet and get to know famous young athlete and personalities that they only see on television and social media.

NOVEMBER

Adamant to look into the bigger impact of COVID-19 on the most vulnerable children and youth, FundLife initiated a COVID-19 Impact Survey in its partner communities in Leyte.

Through its youth mentors, a total of 242 young adolescents aged 10-16 responded to the survey.



FundLife coaches interviewing the children and youth from Bryg. Libertad, Palo, Leyte, one of the new sites the organization is currently working with during the pandemic season

Gathered data shows just how COVID-19 greatly affects young people's mental health, their education, and even their aspirations.

Education has been greatly affected and the children are anxious about the quality of education that they are getting in the new normal learning set up. 78% claimed that since schools closed and the new learning set-up was established they feel that they are behind their studies. 13% of them even expressed that they are planning to drop out of school which they did not even think they would consider if the pandemic didn't happen.

A majority of the children also expressed that they are having difficulties in accessing the internet because of the slow connection in their respective residences.

51% worry about their family's financial situation especially those whose head of the household lost their job and closed down their business.

Many of them cannot handle the stress they feel. Some family relationships were also tarnished during the lockdown increasing the possibility of domestic violence.

These are just a few of the adverse impacts of COVID-19 on young people which FundLife works to extinguish and erase by continuing its educational initiatives and becoming more purposive in tackling issues on mental health and child protection.

Initial discussions between FundLife and DepEd was initiated for the possibility of setting up Community Learning Spaces to respond to the need of conducive learning areas in communities where children and young people can gather (while observing local health protocols) and spend time in studying and answering their modules.

The current blended learning set up did not get many positive responses and caused children to worry about the quality of learning that they get. Hence, FundLife and DepEd are in coordination with the goal to establish safe and conducive community learning spaces to address the need for quality education.

DECEMBER

Another prideful moment greeted the team FundLife as December kicked-off, as Marian Crisley Yman, one of its promising junior coaches won the 2020 Beyond Sports, Courageous Use of Sports.

Among many stories around the world, Yman's story was chosen by Beyond Sports because it showed a true female young leader's courage in using Sports to influence and create inspiration and opportunity, especially for vulnerable young girls.



As part of its response efforts, FundLife was able to partner with Coaches Across Continents (CAC) to organize the latter's COVID-centered two On-Field programs, utilizing CAC Curriculum and COVID-related resources, tackling social issues through Sport.

The training was conducted on December 10 and 11 and was participated by teachers from DepEd, FundLife coaches, players, staff. The participants learned new techniques and tools to spread COVID related awareness and the various effects of the COVID pandemic, particularly on mental health related topics.



Five aspiring youth mentors from FundLife participated in the first International Virtual Cultural Exchange conference call with four of Football United's youth mentors and coaches on December 15, 2020. Cultural Exchanges provide an opportunity to know and explore other cultures, traditions, customs, and beliefs.

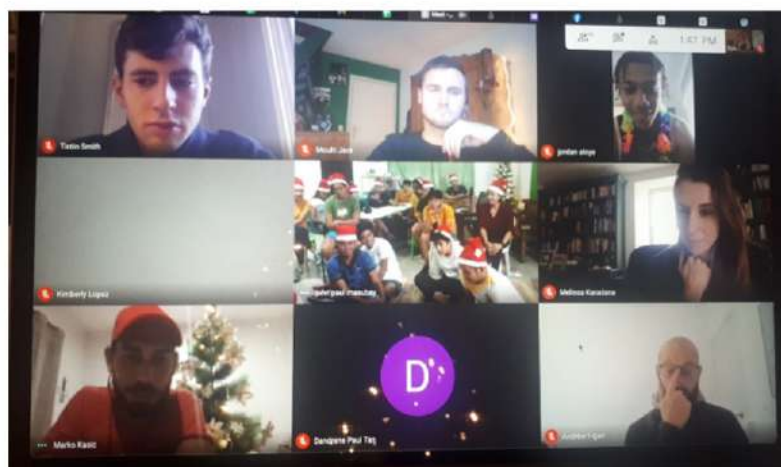


Football United youth leaders holding the first Virtual Exchange session with FundLife young aspiring mentors and coaches.

This was initiated by Urban Initiatives and streetfootballworld to engage youth and organizations in the global network in cultural exchange via video conference.

The exchange aims to provide a valuable experience for FundLife's youth mentors to connect with youths from Football United to practice leadership and social skills to build their confidence and competence.

This is also an opportunity for the FundLife coaches to enhance their interpersonal skills and establish connections with other people, particularly football players across the world.



DepEd teachers together with FundLife coaches, players, and staff completes the CAC On-field Training Program.

Finally, as strange and as challenging as 2020 was, the FundLife team was able to come together for a 'virtual' Christmas party, reuniting volunteers for all over the world and the local team in Tacloban. The 2-hour long zoom 'party' was a fitting way to end the year and served as a reminder for staff, partners and all project stakeholders, that no matter how difficult the circumstances might be, there is always something to be grateful for and cheerful about!

As we all hope for a better 2021, we end 2020 with a feeling of gratitude for everyone that helped us get through the year and to everyone who supported our work, even when that work was outside of our immediate scope of responsibility.



THANK YOU

FOR SUPPORTING OUR WORK IN 2020



GlobalGiving



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