

Serving to Change Lagadlarin Citizens' Lives

by LCP RINA LOPEZ, RC Makati Premier District

We will remember February 12, 2022, as RC Makati Premier District's first-ever Rotary Day of Service (RDS). Our adopted community, Lagadlarin, welcomed RCMPD for its assistance and service. Five club members were on site: **Charilu Puno and Eric Quiason, Sonie Aguilar, Ludeth Cruz, and Bobet Vera.**

Our RDS was a fulfilling day, with activities in several places in Lagadlarin. The day culminated in an event held simultaneously via Zoom and in the venue, allowing other members to experience it digitally.



Lagadlarin, Lobo, Batangas

Lagadlarin is a town in Lobo, Batangas is part of the Verde Island Passage, the "center of the center" of the world's marine shore fish biodiversity.

The Taal Volcano eruption and the pandemic adversely affected the local fisherfolks' livelihood. There are other challenges: Ecotourism revenue and CSR packages for mangrove propagules significantly declined; **Lagadlarin Olo-olo Elementary School (LOES)** teachers lacked proper teaching equipment; Lagadlarin residents faced oral health problems.

Months of Planning for RDS

This RDS resulted from seven months of careful study, learning, and coordination. It was a one-day event that housed activities and programs with sustainable and long-term effects. In addition to the Lagadlarin community, we developed warm and, hopefully, long-lasting relationships with our new sister clubs, **RC of Metro Batangas** and

RC of San Juan in Batangas. We also worked with the **Philippine Dental Association Batangas Provincial Chapter.**

Creating More Fish Habitat and Helping the Town's Ecotourism

We held RDS in 3 venues at Lagadlarin:

The 300 mangrove propagules planting at Lagadlarin Mangrove Forest was a rewarding experience. **Samahan ng Maliliit na Mangingisda sa Pangaalaga ng Kalikasan sa Barangay Lagadlarin President, Mau Relorcasa,** was grateful for the seedlings planting and nipa hut donation groundbreaking. This hut would replace their old one, which was destroyed by typhoons in late 2020. The mangrove propagules will reach up to two meters or more in two years, serving as a fish habitat that fisherfolk can sell.



RCMPD and partners planted 300 mangrove propagules for fish habitat

Helping Children Learn and Teachers Teach Better

The next stop was Lagadlarin Olo-olo Elementary School (LOES). We donated 11 new HP laptops to ten teachers and Principal **Eldeliza Macutong** who was surprised with her present! Their joy was contagious! We also donated books that we collected through our "Spark Joy" book drive. These would surely spark infectious joy in LOES through a wider choice of reading materials.

The final activity at LOES was awarding certificates of completion for participants of **Knowledge Channel's** Portable Media Library (KCPML) technical training - essential to teaching better.

Through the book and PC donations and training, we hope that Lagadlarin children can learn, and teachers can teach better.



11 HP laptops donated to Lagadlarin teachers and principal

Providing Oral Health Education and Red Cross First Aid Training

The last stop was the barangay hall. In response to D3830 Gov. Joji Tan’s appeal for oral hygiene programs, RCMPD distributed dental kits to all 2610 Lagadlarin residents and showed educational videos of the **Rotary and Rotaract Club of Muntinlupa Central** called **“Super Pinoy Kid Comics.”** The series provided oral hygiene information such as cavities and dentists while entertaining viewers. After which, the **Philippine Dental Association Batangas Provincial Chapter President Dr. Daisy Sebollena** conducted a Q/A session with the residents.

In response to Lagadlarin’s need for first aid training, we sponsored a Red Cross training for barangay officials, tanods, and SKs. **Red Cross** awarded certificates to attendees. Lagadlarin is now more prepared to face emergencies.

Our RDS was an uplifting experience for the community and us. We will conduct RDS 2 in April and invite all RCMPD members and volunteers to join! We look forward to a fruitful and long-term relationship with Lagadlarin and our partners in the years to come!

Haven Knows

by LCP RJ PAGUYO, RC Paranaque Midtown

Rotary Club of Paranaque Midtown and The Junior Chamber International Alabang support the empowerment and skills development of the girls and women in Haven for Women in Muntinlupa City.

The Haven for Women is a DSWD compound for abused girls and women. This establishment is used for the rehabilitation and education of those that are sent here.



Haven Knows: "Beads and Chips Making"
 A Livelihood Program for the Haven for Women
 21 FEB 2022 | 1PM
 HAVEN FOR WOMEN, HORTHCAFE CYBERZONE (LEDANO, MUNTINLUPA)