

KLIKme NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2023



BACK TO SCHOOL

It's back to school season!

In this edition of our newsletter, let's take a look at the journey of our learners and experiences of our Kapatid Mentors, Partners, and Volunteers.

LEARNERS CORNER



Graduates of Intermediate English Course

Sulu Learners now in College



GLX CORNER



Meet VJ Genato, a Kapatid Mentor in Singapore



GENERALS CORNER



NO FENCE-SITTER

By Toni Villanueva



COMMUNITY NEWS



KLIKme Learners are among DepEd ALS Graduates 2022-2023



PARTNER NEWS



- Together We Can Do More
- KLIKme Enhances STC Education
- Speaking English with Confidence

CHIKA NEWS



Shared Faith Journeys



UPCOMING EVENTS

KLIKme Chika Sessions via ZOOM

Being a Child of God

Aug 11:
6-7PM US
Aug 12:
9-10:30AM PH

Wealth in Nature

Sept 8:
6-7PM US
Sept 9:
9-10:30AM PH

Our Unique Philippine Culture

Oct 13:
6-7PM US
Oct 14:
9-10:30AM PH

Art as Joy of Life

Nov 10:
6-7PM US
Nov 11:
9-10:30AM PH

Tatak KLIKme

Dec 8:
6-7PM US
Dec 9:
9-10:30AM PH

KLIKme Recollections Q3 & Q4
KLIKme Primo Events 2024

LEARNERS IN FOCUS: Graduates of Intermediate English Course

Meet 11 of our successful graduates of the Intermediate English Course conducted by our valued training partner, Chalkboard, from July 4 to August 14, 2023. This course was the exciting kickoff of the Advanced Training component of the KLIKme Program, with Intermediate English being offered as upskilling for our Learners to apply for BPO call center jobs and more. *(We'll feature the other Advanced Training Tracks in future issues!)*

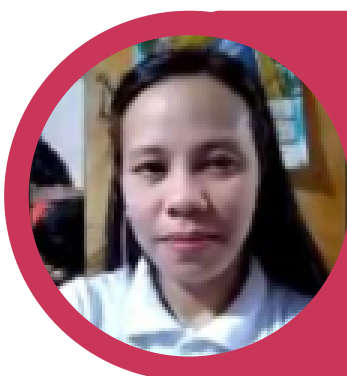


Class of Sir Ronald Go, with learners Kim Anatalio, Baby Lilia Caballero, Alvin Gallardo, Aiza Salvador, Jenny Rose Sudara, and Christian Ursua



Class of Sir Roman Malicdem, with learners Jenalyn Baliton, Khay Cee Francisco, Jennifer Juanites, Reanne Mendoza, and Mary Joy Zarandin

Out of an initial 21 learner-signups, these 11 completed the 60 hours of the Course in two evening classes Monday to Friday. Kudos indeed to them and their tutors! You can [read more details here](#), but we wanted to share excerpts from a few of the heartwarming appreciation messages read aloud by our Learners on the culminating session of the Intermediate English Course.



Khay Cee Francisco, 33, from KLIKme Smokey Mountain:

Before I was content with being a full-time mom to my son, but when I joined KLIKme and heard all the motivation and words of wisdom from KLIKme members, I also dreamed of becoming more successful. I told myself that I need to make a move to change our lives even a little bit for the better future of my son. I hope someday I can be an inspiration to others also. Again thank you to all the people who developed KLIKme (and) to Chalkboard for facilitating the training. I also want to ... say thank you to Mr. Roman Malicdem, for always giving us a word of wisdom, motivation and for being so kind and generous to us.

Kim Anatalio, 26, from KLIKme Pandi, Bulacan:

It is a privilege to be a Klikme Learner and learn a lot from Dr. Ronald Go. Thanks to him and Chalkboard I was able to right the things I thought I was good at, but it turns out that I have more to improve. The class is challenging and fun. I enjoyed every lesson and task ... I gained new acquaintances and learned from them as well. I am planning to improve myself by being open to learn new things and practice on communication, (and) if I will be given a chance, I will not waste the opportunity to learn more.



LEARNERS IN FOCUS:

Graduates of Intermediate English Course



Jenny Rose Sudara, 23, from KLIKme Payatas:

I am very grateful because I am one of those who entered this program because I can use the knowledge I learned here to find a good job soon ... I don't think it's too late to reach my dreams, even though I have a family. I will try harder not to waste my learnings here. I will continue my studies so that I can learn more and find a job.

Ma. Baby Lilia Caballero, 52, from KLIKme Smokey Mountain:

I would like to express my gratitude to all the people and institutions that came together to make this program possible. You have helped so many people who were not given the chance to be sent to a proper or prestigious school. This may be just a normal job or just another of your good deeds, but for us, especially for me, this is a very big thing. This is a big deal for me because I did not expect that, at my age, I could still attend a subject like this and learn something from it. A big salute to all of you.



Jennifer Juanites, 23, from KLIKme Pandi:

I want to thank KLIKme for the opportunity you gave me to study again. I was able to graduate Junior High School at ALS and now I am enrolled for Senior High School. Thank you as well to Chalkboard because we also have the opportunity to learn how to speak English and to gain confidence. Thank you for helping us just so we can fulfill our dreams.

Jenalyn Baliton, 30, from KLIKme Smokey Mountain:

At my age I thought it was not necessary to learn, but you can learn as much as you want. I learned more knowledge because you helped us have this opportunity. I always remember your kindness and generosity, and I hope that one day I will have the opportunity to pay it forward and make a difference in someone else's life, just as you have done for me.



Christian Jonathan G. Ursua, 17, from KLIKme Payatas:

My experience in Intermediate English was so much fun and very educational. I'm so thankful for this experience because this may help me in the future in terms of communication and for school activities, but I still need to improve my writing skills. ... I enjoyed every lesson throughout my training. I'm also thankful to my teacher Mr. Ronald who patiently taught and guided us. I am sincerely grateful.

Mary Joy Zarandin, 31, from KLIKme Smokey Mountain:

Today, I am proud of myself, yes! I finished my Intermediate English for BPO training despite the trials that I face every day. I finished this training even though it's so hard for me as a mom of four. I'm not afraid to find a job because I know I can. Thank you also Mr. Roman, our lecturer, for boosting my confidence every day. Thank you for all the lessons and motivation you have given us.



LEARNERS IN FOCUS:

28 Sulu KLIKme Learners Now in College



"As of today, 28 out of 100 learners are enrolled at Sulu State College to pursue their degrees in Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, major in Hospitality, Tourism, Human Resource, and Marketing management. Some of them are also continuing their education as they enroll in senior high school.

Good thing na rin po mababantayan ko sila (I could watch over them) because I am currently a part timer college instructor in the said department.



Their success is also our success! Lahat sila dumaaan sa akin during interview..proud ako sa kanila kasi mas magaling pa sila compare sa mga regular students. Iba ang nagawa ng KLIKme sa kanila." (All of them passed through me in their interviews and I'm so proud of them because they are even better than the regular students. KLIKme really made a big difference in their lives.)"

-Abdelsuhod Abdurahman, KLIKme Sulu Learning Facilitator

[Sulu Finds Elusive Peace - https://rosecabrera.com/f/sulu-finds-elusive-peace](https://rosecabrera.com/f/sulu-finds-elusive-peace)

BERNALYN ALBANI: From Out-of-School Learner to Tourism Management Major

Poverty was the reason why Bernalyn Albani from the town of Gandasuli Patikul in Sulu, a province in Mindanao, dropped out of school more than a decade ago. She married and had a kid early, but also because of economic challenges, she separated from her husband.

The 24-year-old mom said despite the difficulties, she raised her daughter on her own and continued to dream of pursuing her studies. "I really wanted to continue my education, but it's difficult financially," she wrote in her KLIKme profile.

When Bernalyn heard a year ago about the program KLIKme offers, where she can get an ALS diploma and possibly attend college after, she immediately enlisted and enrolled.

"Now I can slowly fulfill my dreams," Bernalyn said.

According to Abdelsuhod Abdurahman, KLIKme's Community Learning Facilitator in Sulu, Bernalyn wanted to become a nurse. However, she faced obstacles in enrolling in the program after getting her ALS diploma. She remained resilient and instead of losing hope, she decided to switch tracks.

Today, Bernalyn is now a college student and is pursuing her Bachelor of Science in Tourism Management degree at Sulu State College. It is one of the school's newest programs and is designed to help realize the potential of her home province as a preferred destination for travelers.

Sulu State College is also a center of excellence in the Bangsamoro region committed to producing globally competitive graduates.



Meet VJ Genato, a Kapatid Mentor in Singapore



I was born and raised in the Philippines but currently live in Singapore with my wife of 19 years and three kids. I currently work as a Management Consultant, supporting founder-led businesses in their entrepreneurial journey.

I volunteered for GLX as a Kapatid Mentor so that with my presence, **I can be a vessel of Christ's love to give our mentees hope for a better future for themselves, their families and our nation.**

I've always been drawn to teaching. There is just something in the dynamic of sharing of oneself to equip and uplift another that has always energized me and given me fulfilment. Throughout the years, I had taken on different settings to volunteer in; from summer enrichment for fellow High School students to Kids Church and even something as informal as giving English classes to interested staff while I was in Vietnam. Now that I am in my mid-40s, I have also started volunteering as a mentor. While similar, to me, the dynamic just goes one step further as **the area of support is not just on one lesson but for life in general.**

After hearing about KLIKme and the Global Learning Exchange (GLX), it was natural for me to look into it and learn more. While it has only been a few weeks for me, the following factors are what has really gotten me interested to get more involved:

- The previous mentoring programs I had been involved with have been for university students from my alma mater as well as for vocational school and university students here in Singapore. For GLX mentees, the circumstances and need for mentoring are just greater.
- The underlying values of the program of giving the PHL gift of Presence, Hope and Love just resonate with me as a **Christian, Father and Filipino.**

**The KLIKme Global Learning Exchange (GLX) is a program that facilitates meaningful connections between Learners from disadvantaged communities in the Philippines with KAPATID Mentors and KAAKBAY Tutors from around the world.*

Antonette "Toni" Villanueva: No Fence-Sitter

A few weeks back, my senior high school daughter came home from school excited to tell me about an inspiring Filipino and her advocacy to help high school dropouts earn a degree so as to have a better chance of employment and improving their status in life. This news caught my attention for two reasons. **First, as a parent who thinks education is the best legacy to give our children; and, second, as a teacher who believes it is also the best way to combat the cycle of poverty.**

I later found out that the inspiring speaker was Rose Cabrera, an alumna of St. Theresa's College and the founder of KLIKme. It was the first time I heard about KLIKme, but the more I learned about it, the more curious I became about its lofty goal of reaching five million (drop out) learners in five years. I admired their goal but also wondered if it was really possible to achieve it given the limited resources, man power, and time.

Truth be told, part of me was saying that I should just continue admiring KLIKme's efforts from afar. With everything that's keeping us busy, why be involved, right? But there was something about KLIKme's lofty goal and its audacity to look reality in the eye and not flinch, that made my heart tell me to stay, have courage, and volunteer. **I cannot just sit in the sidelines.**

Volunteerism, by definition, is the principle of giving one's time and energy to a greater cause. KLIKme's cause is something that is close to my heart. **By volunteering, I hope to create positive change in the lives of learners who seek another chance to improve themselves and better their circumstances.** I believe that our acts of **volunteerism can cause a ripple effect**, where our actions--no matter how small--can lead to much bigger changes, even if we can't see how far they can reach just yet.

By being a KLIKme volunteer and giving my time and talent to others, something tells me that there's more for me to gain. For one, I know I'll come out a better person just by bravely being part of this greater cause. For now, it is more of my heart talking but, as experience has taught me, where my heart is, the rest of me follows.



**The Generals Corner shares stories about key members of the KLIKme Team as leaders of the KLIKme Army of poverty warriors.*

KLIKme Learners are Among ALS Graduates 2022-2023

August was a milestone month for seven of our KLIKme pilot communities! Many of their learners successfully completed the Department of Education's Alternative Learning System (ALS), making their dream of experiencing a graduation ceremony finally come true! They each received a DepEd ALS Certificate of Completion, which is the equivalent of a Junior HS diploma and qualifies them to enroll in Senior HS and go on to college, as well as apply for an entry-level job.

[See our full post here](#), sharing the proud moments of the ALS completers from our KLIKme partner communities in Payatas, Quezon City; Patikul, Sulu; Pandi, Bulacan; Tacloban City, Leyte; Smokey Mountain, Manila; Loon, Bohol, and Tatalon, Quezon City.

ALS graduations happen every year for thousands of former dropouts around the country. But these were the first ALS completers belonging to the ongoing KLIKme pilot program. And we believe that being part of our KLIKme family was a major motivating factor for these young people to persevere despite the many challenges they face. Congratulations and on to brighter opportunities ahead!



ALS Graduation Day

KLIKme Learners among DepEd ALS grads, 2022-2023

Together We Can Do More

Last August 3, KLIKme gathered passionate entrepreneurs and two members of Philippine Congress who, in their own ways, have all been doing good things to help Filipino farmers, fisherfolks, and poor communities. We shared about our respective efforts and all agreed to be part of KLIK Mobile Education's (KLIKme) effort to BUILD models of sustainable countryside development in the next five years.

See <https://linktr.ee/klikmemobile>.

The hope for KLIKme is that everyone's efforts will help **provide OJT and job opportunities for KLIKme learners** and eventually spur INNOVATION that could lead to different profitable enterprises for our people in the countryside.

In order for this to happen, opportunities need to be developed in the countryside that do not leave the poor behind. Attendees of our meeting last Thursday agreed that we need not duplicate efforts nor reinvent the wheel. We agreed to share resources and networks. We all believe that KLIKme could be an effective and doable vehicle to break the cycle of poverty for millions and we commit to all rally behind it and do what we can to make it work.

With newly acquired digital, communication and marketing skills, KLIKme graduates could get jobs from ventures like Rizome, Essential Oils, and/or be able to maximize their own livelihood efforts because of involvements in Mayani, the Isabela Fishing Cooperative, the PHL Marketplace and other similar efforts.



Pioneering KLIKme Champions for digital literacy and sustainable countryside development.

In the next five years, you will read and know more about my fellow dreamers and doers who are part of a revolution of caring through KLIKme.

Meet our pioneering champions:
<https://rosecabrera.com/f/together-we-can-do-more>.

KLIKme Enhances STC Education

KLIKme's partnership with premier academic institution, St. Theresa's College QC (STC), has taken on another interesting facet: the education of STC senior high school students this semester is being further enriched by concrete social impact through KLIKme.

The new creative collaboration between KLIKme and STC Senior High School this semester has senior high students working on **four specific projects: KLIKme's "Kaya Ko To," "Tatak KLIKme," Jobs Champions, and Kaakbay Tutors programs.** The students' academic outputs will be much needed materials by KLIKme like videos, flyers, and presentation decks.

According to STC Academic Director, Joam Villavert, *"Information and communication technologies are used by STC Senior High School students as a tool for curating, contextualizing, collaborating, and creating content and experiences for learning in the professional tracks. By working on KLIKme related projects, we are making Empowerment Technologies truly relevant for our students."*

KLIKme is thankful and excited about this new collaboration and hopes to eventually expand to other academic institution partners as part of building a movement of caring and sharing.

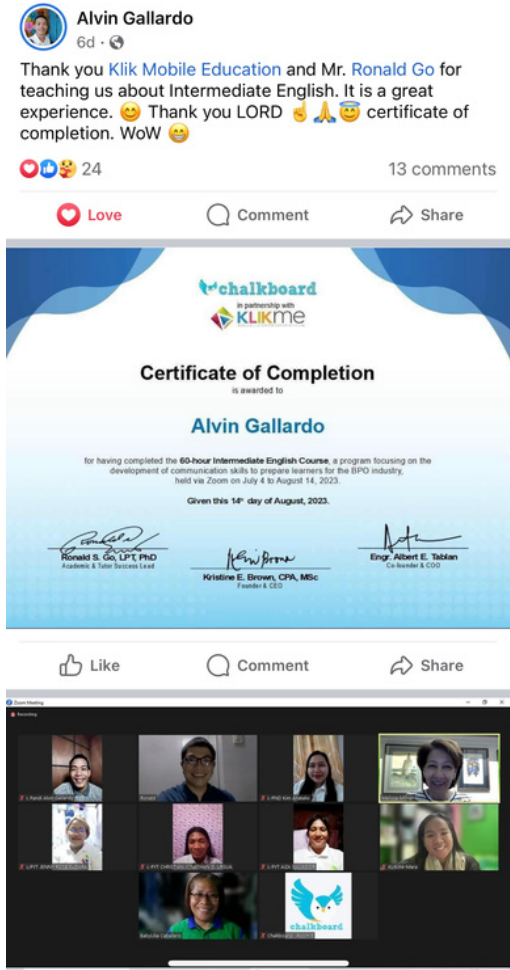


The dynamic team of educators at STC (from left to right): Ms. Elizabeth Mendoza (Grade School Principal), Dr. Teresa Bayle (School Directress), Ms. Crisanta Dela Peña (Community Outreach Director), Mrs. Estrella Alcabedas (High School Principal), Ms. Eleonor Palma, Ms. Ceejay Averos, Ms. Marilen Tion

*****This new collaboration came about as a result of a recent visit and inspirational talk by KLIKme's CEO, Rose Isada Cabrera, to 300 STC senior high students.**

See <https://rosecabrera.com/f/busybody>.

Speaking English with Confidence



Confidence and communicating well are key qualities that KLIKme seeks to develop in learners. Some of them came closer to these traits with the recently completed English Proficiency Training by Chalkboard.

“Our English Communication training program has brought about a remarkable transformation in the KLIKme learners' ability to express themselves confidently and fluently in English. It is inspiring to witness their growth from hesitant speakers to effective communicators,” says Chalkboard English Trainer Roman Malicdem.

*“The training has **not only improved the participants' linguistic skills but has also boosted their self-esteem and overall confidence.** It is remarkable to see how they now engage in conversations with greater ease and poise. The training has enabled the participants to overcome their fear of public speaking, as they now deliver presentations and speeches with conviction and clarity. Their newfound confidence has opened doors to new opportunities and avenues for personal and professional growth.”*

KLIKme and Chalkboard's partnership is providing former high school dropouts with the opportunity **not just to improve communications skills but also to earn income by becoming tutors themselves in English and reading literacy!**



According to Dr. Ronald S. Go, Chalkboard's Academic and Tutor Success Lead, *“In training our KLIKme learners, I saw that their perseverance, determination, and commitment to lifelong learning made them succeed in completing their Intermediate English Course. I am grateful to witness the personal narratives, insightful sharings, and transformative experience of our learners.”*

Both Dr. Go and Mr. Malicdan conducted the KLIKme English Training sessions and they are both very grateful for the incredible opportunity to make a positive impact on the lives of KLIKme learners. Roman shares, *“Knowing that I was able to empower our out-of-school youths to create a better future for themselves fills me with a sense of gratitude and purpose. Their potential is limitless, and I am thankful to play a part in their journey towards success.”*



Shared Faith Journeys



Whether you are a Catholic, Born Again Christian, or Muslim, we all share the same faith journeys. This month's KLIKme Chika Session showed just that.

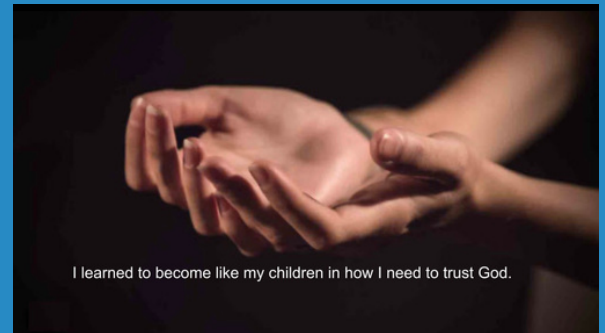
Bro. Vince Fernandez, FSC, who serves as the ALS Head Coordinator in LaSalle Greenhills said, *"Faith is believing in the good in every person. We are all loved. Let us celebrate that love."*

Testimonials by Cherie Woo (a Catholic), businessman Percy Mariano (a born-again Christian with CCF), and Abdelsuhod Abdurahman (a Muslim) showed that our lives are made more meaningful if shared with others. They showed that God is always with us as we journey through life.

Cherie's kids, Zach and Evan, have taught her how to be a child of God. Their sense of wonder and childlike trust in her reminded her of how she needs to always seek and trust God. She continues to learn from Zach who recently ventured to World Youth Day in Lisbon not knowing where he would sleep, and had the zeal to walk on his knees in Fatima with his friends.



When her daughter Isabelle was stillborn, she admitted hitting a low point when she lost trust in God. But it was in that abyss of pain when she rediscovered God's gift of faith and learned to trust again. She ended her sharing with the knee-trembling story of randomly meeting Andiee who believes Isabelle saved her daughter's life (Andiee also joined our Chika!) Cherie encourages us to hold on to our faith in God no matter what, and have a childlike trust in Him who works in our lives in mysterious but infinitely loving ways.



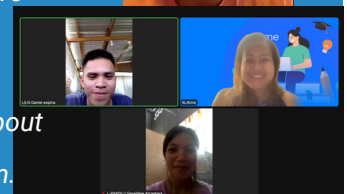
Businessman Percy's renewed faith in God made him conduct business and pursue his life goals according to what God. *"I seek business ventures that glorify God and bring me and others closer to him."*



Masteral student and KLIKme Community Learning Facilitator, Abdel, said that his love for Allah has been sustaining him in all the things that he does. *"I came from poverty and struggled to finish school and get to where I am now, but Allah has always been with me. I want to make sure I share my blessings with others in need."*



Learners Geraldine Alcantara and Daniel Espina also shared about their faith journeys. Sheryl Manangampo talked about her ectopic pregnancy. Hearing about other's faith journeys strengthen our own.



Upcoming Events

Kaibigan Chika Sessions: Come and join our monthly interactive learning exchange sessions via [Zoom](#).

Wealth in Nature

Sept 8:
6-7PM US

Sept 9:
9-10:30AM PH



Our Unique Philippine Culture

Oct 13:
6-7PM US

Oct 14:
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Art as Joy of Life

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Tatak KLIKme

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KLIKme Q3 & Q4 Recollections

KLIKme Primo Events 2024

Philippine Cacao Experience
Paint Share Care
Cook-a-Loka
Electric Dreams: PHL

KLIKme Favorite Links

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[KLIKme Website](#)

[KLIKme TV](#)

[KLIKme Quick Links](#)

[KLIKme Calendar](#)

[Meet the KLIKme Executive Team](#)

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Please visit the following links for more information about the events above and register to join us:

[Q3 Recollection Retreat](#)

[KAIBIGAN Chika Sessions](#)

[KLIKme Primo Events](#)

[The Philippine Cacao Experience](#)

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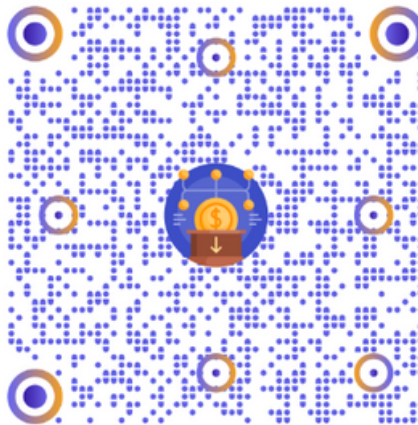


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