



The H.E.L.P. Foundation

Humanitarian Effort to Lessen Poverty of Underprivileged Children in the Philippines

Providing Hope And Opportunity

E-mail: help2philippinechildren@yahoo.com

Founder: Keith W. Hooper



Keith & Pat Hooper with Rotarians Gloria Homeier (left), Andrea Krauss (right), and the Basak Ethnic dancers.

New Method of Donating to the HELP Foundation

I am still in the era of check books and "stubby" pencils! However, many of my "younger" donors have recommended that I move into the 21st Century! So you young and young at heart "whipper snappers", here goes!

Below is the link where you can make a one time or recurring donation. Right under the "Donate" and "Custom Amount" section, you will see a box that you check to have that donation hit each month. \$50 donation on the form is an arbitrary number.

[Humanitarian Efforts to Lessen Poverty \(HELP\) - United Charitable](#)

Try It!! Thanks!

Message From the Founder

It doesn't seem possible that we are midway through 2023. You know, during my 22- year Army career, there were instances where time seemed to pass by in slow motion. That is definitely not the case now as if Father Time has activated the "fast forward" button. It doesn't seem possible that The HELP Foundation has been working in the Philippines for the past 20 years. During that time, the Foundation has provided educational assistance to over 1,700 students, provided over \$1,000,000 in "small business" loans to hundreds of indigent women, conducted dozens and dozens of training seminars, implemented bi-annual nutrition and feeding programs for malnourished children and developed a cottage industry program where women are now producing *bayongs* (baskets), greeting cards, bookmarks (marketed in the Philippines and the U.S.A) and specialty food items that are marketed in the Philippines. Of course, being a farm boy, my pride and joy is our animal husbandry operation (swine, goats, rabbits, turkeys, geese, ducks) and the Michael Charles Memorial Fruit Orchard.

During the past 20 years, my wife Pat and I have traveled to the Philippines 34 times and in September, we will make our 35th trip! Our combined ages total 164 years so we have come to the conclusion that it is time to make some adjustments to our *modus operandi*. Our most time consuming effort has been the school sponsorship project. 75 % of our time and funding is committed to this endeavor. We will "sunset" this project in 2028. All students (grades 7-12 and college students) currently enrolled in this program will be "grandfathered". However, we will not add any new students in Grade 7 for the 2023-2024 school year; no new 8th grade students in the 2024-2025 school year; etc. This will **not** affect any of our current sponsors. We will continue to support college and university students based on need and past academic achievement.

Over the past 20 years, we have had 29 volunteer workers from the U.S. and other countries who have helped us with our projects. Many have been Rotarians including our most recent volunteers, Gloria Homeier and Andrea Krauss from Russell, Kansas. They did yeoman's work. One of the last activities that we conducted was a Dental Mission for the youth. These young adults cannot afford major dental work so their only option is tooth extraction. This had a lasting impressions on Gloria and Andrea and they decided that preventive oral hygiene was something that they could influence. Now fast forward 4 months - Gloria is the 2023-2024 Rotary District Governor and she reached out to RI District 5680 Rotarians to donate oral hygiene items for the children in the Philippines. **What a success - 450 tubes of toothpaste, 620 toothbrushes, and 50 tubes of floss are on their way to the Philippines! ! Rotarians in Action!**

In future years, our goal is to expand our Micro-Loan program for indigent women and continue our other humanitarian projects. I hope that you will continue your generosity by supporting these programs once your sponsored student graduates. We are so blessed to have so many supporters of our charitable work. (Daghan Salamat)
Thank you!

Welcome to our new website! www.helpbighoopcharities.com

A number of sections are still in progress, nonetheless visit our web page frequently as more updates about our recent activities will become available.



Congratulations 2022 & 2023 Graduates!

Congratulations to all graduates of the year 2022 and 2023. Their hard work, dedication, and resilience during these past years of the pandemic has paid off. Their future contribution to their families, community, and society will be among the most fulfilling outcome of the School Sponsorship project. We wish them all the best as they move on to the next chapter of their lives. Our sincerest gratitude to all the donors who supported the schooling of these students!



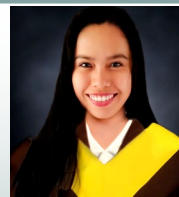
JINGGAY CAIMAHAN
Bachelor of Science in
Public Administration
Sponsored by: Paul &
Inez Minderman



AIRAH CHAVES
Bachelor of Science in
Business Administration
Sponsored by: Tom
Weaver



HAZEL ANNE DAISOG
Bachelor in Elementary
Education
Sponsored by: John &
Dianne Bremer



FRIENDEL DAUMAR
Bachelor of Science in
Business Administration
Sponsored by: Tom &
Judy Webb



JOHN MICHAEL ERNOSA
Bachelor of Science in
Business Administration
Sponsored by: Tom
Weaver



JOAN MAE FAUSTO
Bachelor of Science in
Business Administration
Sponsored by: Jeri Shute in
Memory of Ed



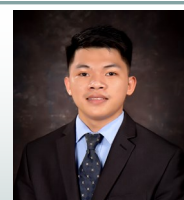
KOBE BRYAN MANIT
Bachelor of Science in
Criminology
Sponsored by: Tom
Weaver



DARWIN MANRIQUE
Bachelor of Science in
Criminology
Sponsored by: Tom
Weaver



CRISTONY JOHN MUELO
Diploma in Mechanical
Engineering Technology
Sponsored by: Rotary Club
District 5680



JABES OCIO
Diploma in Mechanical
Engineering Technology
Sponsored by: Roger &
Diana Brown



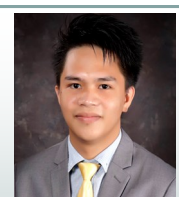
LEONARD PELIGRO
Diploma in Computer
Engineering Technology
Sponsored by: Phyllis &
Cary Tucker



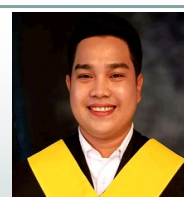
HAROLD PLAZA
Diploma in Electrical
Engineering Technology
Sponsored by: Rotary
Club District 5680



JULIE RAMBUYON
Bachelor of Science in
Business Administration
Sponsored by: Jack &
Teri Williams



JOHN LLOYD SACAY
Diploma in Computer
Engineering Technology
Sponsored by: Douglas &
Nancy Brown



JAZZ KHEMRY SANDIGAN
Bachelor of Science in
Business Administration
Sponsored by: William &
Gracie Bryant



DEONILO SULINDAO
Diploma in Electronics
Engineering Technology
Sponsored by: Doug &
Sharlene Gardner



CLEFFORD TALATAO
Diploma in Mechanical
Engineering Technology
Sponsored by: Rotary
Foundation District 5680



ALKEM WAGA
Bachelor of Science in
Business Administration
Sponsored by: Paul &
Inez Minderman

“Healthy Young Ones” Workshop



Healthy Young Ones is a program of the Department of Health (DOH) to promote the total well-being of the students ages 13-20 through their sexual and reproductive health. This workshop was conducted at Tikalaan National High School and well participated by more than 100 Grades 10 –12 students. Important topics discussed include Puberty, Gender and Health, HIV and AIDS. This initiative aims to reduce the cases of teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases among high school students. After the activity, we distributed personal hygiene items which were donated from the Share a Toy, Share a Joy drive in Cagayan de Oro City.

Grade 12 Work Immersion & Bukidnon State University Interns



Work Immersion is a course requirement for Grade 12 students to be able to graduate senior high school. This program provides the students a chance to become familiar with the work place setting, and apply their area of specialization in an actual work environment. Last February, we welcomed 10 senior high school students from Tikalaan National High School, who spent 10 days in our institution. The students were able to gain significant, practical experiences on our projects in Literacy and Health, and Microfinance. Most of their time was spent on field work assisting on the feeding program, conducting household visits to evaluate business status of micro loan clients.

On-the-Job Trainees



OJT's from left to right: **Alkem Waga; John Michael Ernosa; Allira Jean Madrigal** (Microfinance Manager); **Glorry Mae Benhera;** and **Fred Angelu Galarrita.**

BigHoop Charitable Institution, Inc. is one of the private agencies in Talakag Bukidnon that accepts on-the- job trainees. Last March, five students, major in Business Administration from Bukidnon State University were deployed and rendered 400- hour internship in our various projects. Two OJT's, John Michael Ernosa and Alkem Waga, are sponsored by HELP Foundation. The other OJT, Mariane Ecatan, has been employed as a working student since January 2022. She is currently working as the Cashier of Project Kasaligan. We are as proud as their families for what they have accomplished. Four of the interns are first member in their family to earn a college degree.

“We make a living by what we get, We make a life by what we give.”

- Winston Churchill

Village of Liguron



Village of Tambo, San Isidro



The Cagayan de Oro Volunteer Fire Brigade headed by Oliver and Monique Tan, and in participation with Kung Hua School and Oro Christian Grace School, organized a Share a Toy, Share a Joy drive. BigHoop Charities was one of the recipients of the donated goods which consisted of children’s books, toys, clothes, shoes, baby and adult diapers, art supplies, and many more. The distribution of these goods was facilitated successfully in a Bayanihan spirit by the joint effort of the barangay officials, Bukidnon State University interns, Tikalaan National High School grade 12 students, Bighoop staff, and the community where we conducted the distribution. A total of 161 children ages 0-6 years old from 5 separate villages were given with multi vitamins, food packets, and packed lunch.

Village of Langa-on



Village of Tacutac, San Isidro



Village of Maambong, Tikalaan



Project Kasaligan, New Centers Launched!

Our goal this year is to continue to expand our coverage, reach out to more beneficiaries who have limited access to applying a loan in commercial banks. Despite a challenging year, this project has continued to exhibit resilience. A more disciplined policies and other operational changes have helped us sustain collection and disbursement of loans. We increased the initial amount of the loan from P3, 000 to P 5,000 to provide our clients with adequate amount to start or finance their business operation. A minimum of 6-month loan term is offered to regular loans of P5, 000 to P20, 000. This project is committed to offering its beneficiaries with access to financial services that these certain group of people could not obtain from other financial institutions.



Center #10: Village of Tikalaan
Date Launched: **May 2, 2023**
No. of Clients: **43**
Highest loan amount availed: **₱5,000.00**



Center #17: Village of Dagundalahon
Date Launched: **May 23, 2022**
No. of Clients: **22**
Highest loan amount availed: **₱20,000.00**



Center #4: Village of Dansolihon, Cagayan de Oro City
Date Launched: **March 21, 2022**
No. of Clients: **51**
Highest loan amount availed: **₱20,000.00**

Livelihood and Agriculture



BigHoop Staff participated in the 106th Anniversary parade of the Municipality of Talakag, Bukidnon which was held last March 17, 2023. Our Livelihood Project also had the opportunity to sell our hand-made products during the Agri Fair.



BMEG, the leading feed brand in the Philippines, conducted a seminar on hog raising last April 29, 2023. Our guest speaker, Mr. John Paul Poson, emphasized four key points to make hog raising a profitable business. He used the acronym BMEG which stands for B for Breeding or Genetics; M for Management of facilities and building; E as in Excellent medication; and G for Good health of the pigs. The seminar was attended by more than 50 hog raisers from Talakag, Bukidnon.

2022 Summary of Expenditures

	2022	2021
A. School Sponsorship	₱ 1,589,111.42 ↑	1,585,340.50
B. College Scholarship, 47 Students	1,388,939.00 ↑	1,227,414.70
C. CITE Technical Institute, 15 Students	646,991.43 ↑	520,681.00
D. Feeding & Health	50,077.01 ↓	78,677.13
E. Micro Finance Project	624,000.00 ↓	980,000.00
F. Admin/OPS	590,215.44 ↑	564,262.18
G. Building & Grounds	293,890.51 ↓	304,414.42
H. Agricultural Project	80,012.00 ↓	122,864.00
	₱ 5,263,236.81 ↓	₱ 5,383,653.93

Especially for those of you who sponsor the education of students, I have listed the expenditures in the Philippine pesos for one reason. When planning the annual budget, one of the many variables I encounter is the currency fluctuation between the Philippine peso and the U.S. dollar. In the past several years, the lowest exchange rate was 39 pesos/dollar (\$100=3,900 pesos) and the highest was 58 pesos/dollar (\$100=5,800 pesos). During the past few years, the rate has somewhat stabilized between 47 and 54 pesos/dollar. If you folks have overpaid in any given year, I put the extra in a "general fund" to cover the years that you have underpaid!

The HELP Foundation

c/o Keith W. Hooper
3125 SW Finsbury Ave.
Topeka, KS 66614

Fresh produce from our vegetable garden and fruit orchard are sold at BigHoop Charities daily.



Okra



Eggplant



Dragon Fruit



Dayap or Suha, a
local lime

Reminder:

For those of you who are sponsoring students, the 2023-2024 school year starts in August. Cost for Jr. High and High school students remains at \$135 (optional \$10-\$15 for Christmas); College students -\$500; Engineering and Nursing students -\$1,000. We do have some "matching funds" for the engineering and nursing students, so please contact me if you can't afford the \$1,000. We will work with you! Checks should be mailed to:

HELP Foundation, 3125 SW Finsbury Ave.
Topeka, Kansas, 66614

Phone: (785) 282-4035/(785) 282-8052

E-mail: help2philippinechildren@yahoo.com

Website: www.helpbighoopcharities.com

HELP is a nonprofit 501 (c), 509 (a)(1) organization under

