

— DE — KW4TRO

AUGUST 2026

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF JCI PHILIPPINES VISAYAS AREA



VISAYAS AREA, UNITED TO **INNOVATE 4 IMPACT**

STORIES OF LEADERSHIP

AVP Von, RVP Rex,
RVP Tim, and
RVP Richmond

BEYOND THE NUMBERS

AED Michael and the
Work of Transforming
Lives in the Visayas

ONWARD

ASDD Mar Go:
A Year of Skills
and Building
What Comes Next

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MAGAZINE NAME AND MASTHEAD

DESIGN CONTEST WINNER



Ma. Teresa Flor Maderal

JCI ILOILO ILANG ILANG

THE STORY BEHIND THE DESIGN

After a full day of work and stressful power interruptions, I sank into a chair, crossed my right ankle over my left knee, and leaned back. Without realizing it, I had slipped into the familiar "pande quatro" or de kwatro pose.

Holding a pen and pad, I was trying to come up with a name and masthead for our Area 4 publication when I caught myself. *Why do I always sit like this?* I do it when I'm lost in a good book or simply when the day's work is done.

Then, a spark came to mind:
What if it was De Kwatro?

Sometimes, what we are looking for is right in front of us. That simple pose felt familiar, almost like home. Even ordinary things can carry meaning when we stop long enough to notice them. And what better name for a masthead than something so distinctly relatable?

The idea felt even more natural in JCI. JCI life is a mix of early call times, long meetings, community work, deadlines, and late nights, but also meals after an activity, coffee runs, stories, laughter, and friendships built along the way. These moments become part of the stories we remember, making De Kwatro feel relatable and distinctly ours.

From there, the masthead took shape around the Visayas. De Kwatro is a play on words meaning "From Four," representing Area 4 while drawing from a familiar Visayan expression and posture. The visual identity followed, bringing together elements of our heritage, culture, and landscape.

Looking at the finished concept, I realized De Kwatro was more than a name. It connects us to Four and to the stories we experience, remember, and carry through both work and life.

De Kwatro. From Four. From Area Four.

DE KW4TRO



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DE
KW4TRO

DE
KW4TRO

DE
KW4TRO

DE means "of" or "from" (derived from Spanish/Hiligaynon).

KWATRO (or Cuatro) means "four" (4).

Together, **De Kwatro** translates to "**From Four**," directly referencing we are all from Area 4 (Visayas) of JCI Philippines.

The name "De Kwatro," paired with the stylized "4," creates a distinctive and memorable mark that immediately communicates Area 4 while giving the identity a character of its own. It transforms the number four into a visual language that represents United Visayas and the collective identity of the Visayas Area.

Its balance of traditional and modern elements makes it timeless, adaptable, and relevant across print and digital platforms. Every element tells a story of who we are, what we value, and the communities we serve.

THE THREE OPTIONAL ICONS:

The Heritage Church (Faith & Foundation):
Rooted in iconic landmarks churches, it represents moral integrity, resilience, and building sustainable community impact block-by-block.

The Sugarcane Stalks (Enterprise & Growth):
Reflecting the region's agricultural backbone, it symbolizes economic resilience, free enterprise, and nurturing raw potential into strong, productive leaders.

The Ocean Waves (Unity & Ripple Effect):
Expressing the archipelagic nature of the Visayas, it embodies adaptability (Panaghiusa) and how a single act of service creates far-reaching positive change across island communities.

Together, they anchor JCI Area 4 in unshakable values, economic empowerment, and collaborative service.

ABOUT THE COVER

Four leaders. Three regions. One shared vision.

This cover embodies the spirit of "Visayas: United to Innovate 4 Impact," bringing together the Area Vice President and the three Regional Vice Presidents as a symbol of collaboration, unity, and purposeful leadership. It reflects the belief that the greatest impact is achieved when Western, Central, and Eastern Visayas move forward as one Area, driven by innovation, strengthened through partnership, and committed to creating positive change.

MESSAGE OF THE AREA VICE PRESIDENT

My dearest Area 4.

I wanted to start my message by saying how extremely proud I am of all of you for your contributions to our organization. When I started my term, my promise was to build a bridge between the three regions under me – to have harmony in leadership. Our separation by islands in these three regions of Eastern, Central, and Western Visayas will be one in our common interests – love for each other and a united form of leadership. Our collective effort for the growth of our organization is how I exactly envisioned our leadership for Area 4.

As my call to action, Innovate4Impact, the dream has always been to respect the tradition of JCI Philippines but to elevate it with the use of modern leadership. We have established a mark in the entire organization that put our area on the map of JCI Philippines. With that, I will forever be grateful for all of you.

To RVP Tim, RVP Richmond, and RVP Rex, you served your respective regions very well. I am extremely proud to have the three of you beside me in this journey as representatives of Area 4. Thank you for being my foundation to stand tall. If I am going to re-do this challenge, I will still choose the three of you as my team. We are a team. My love for the three of you.

To my Execom & Mancom, your dedication to our causes makes me really proud of all your efforts. In my solitude, I am deeply honored to have served with you. You have proven yourselves worthy of the positions you were entrusted with, and you exceeded my expectations. Every office was reinforced and dedicated. I sometimes do not know what I did to deserve all of you. Madamo gid nga salamat sa inyo.

To my Masarig Presidents, thank you for trusting me to lead you this year. I am always proud to see your growth as leaders in your respective local organizations. The future is young, and I am excited to see what the future holds for all of you. I will be on the sidelines, clapping and claiming that you are my presidents in 2026. Continue to be a blessing to your local organization and always inspire each other.

To the entirety of Area 4, as we step into a new chapter of our leadership, may we always be guided by the principles we took an oath to uphold.

Palangga ko gid kamo, Area 4.

Hala bira, padayon kita!
Hala bira, mag-ululupod kita!
Hala bira, Viva Area 4!


ATTY. VINCENT VON A. NOGRA
2026 Area Vice President - Area 4



FROM THE EDITORS

What a way to celebrate half the year! Serving as your Area Communications Director and working on this magazine has been an honor. It allowed me to witness the passion of Area 4 Local Organizations and appreciate the people and stories that make this Area special.

This would not have been possible without our three Regional Directors, whom I had the privilege of working with. Thank you for your dedication into bringing the stories of our three regions together.

This magazine is not only a collection of projects, but a reflection of our collective effort and shared commitment. More than documenting what we have done, may it inspire others to see what JCI is, and what we can accomplish when we work together. To Area 4, this is ours. Every page carries a unique story of leadership, service, and how we live out the values, vision and mission of JCI, proving that the best work of life is the work that creates a lasting impact for others and for our communities.

Take pride in what we have created together. Congratulations to all Masarig Presidents and Local Organizations for a year of service and outstanding leadership. May this magazine be a remembrance of Visayas in 2026, united and working together as one.

Salamat gid sa inyo, kag mapinalanggaon nga adlaw sa tanan!

JOANNA ROSE LAUREN E. PAMPLIEGA

2026 AREA COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR | VISAYAS AREA



Every great movement begins with people coming together with a shared purpose.

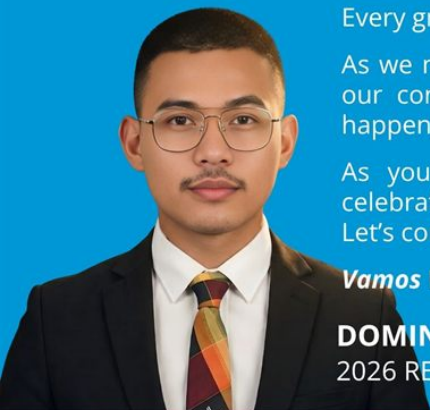
As we move forward into 2026, JCI Western Visayas has an exciting opportunity to strengthen our connections, amplify the voices of our members, and showcase the meaningful work happening across our region.

As your 2026 Regional Communications Director, I look forward to telling our stories, celebrating our leaders, and making sure the spirit of JCI Western Visayas reaches even further. Let's communicate with purpose, connect with passion, and lead with impact.

Vamos Western Visayas!

DOMINIC A. ROMERO

2026 REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR | WESTERN VISAYAS



Nestled at the heart of the Philippine Islands, Central Visayas is a home of leaders that echo strength and love for service through the JCI movement.

JCI Central Visayas continues to "Lead with Impact" through stories and moments that amplify voices of communities and individuals.

We are excited to share with you our tales of action and transformation.

Maajog adlaw!

KARLA ANN PACOT

2026 REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR | CENTRAL VISAYAS



Welcome to our latest issue!

Coming from Eastern Visayas, I've always believed that our region holds some of the most raw, expressive, and inspiring stories in the country—from impactful projects that have transformed our communities to the torchbearers who continue to shine a light on the brilliant work of the JCI movement.

Thank you for taking the time to read, reflect, and share these pages with us.

Maupay nga adlaw, and happy reading!

JOSHUA MANDAWÉ

2026 REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR | EASTERN VISAYAS





FLA 2026: WHERE LEADERS FOUND LIFELONG FRIENDS

BY ATTY. MANFRED EVANZ M. PALCAT



Long after Boracay's waves have erased every footprint from its white shores, the memories of the Future Leaders' Academy (FLA) 2026 continue to live in the hearts of those who experienced them.

Held on May 15–17, 2026, the academy, hosted by JCI Antique Kruhay and co-hosted by JCI Aklan Kalantiao alongside the Mid-Year Academy, brought together 162 graduates from across the country. It also marked a milestone for JCI Philippines with the participation of its first international delegates, Phop Malis of JCI Siem Reap and Phlong Sambath of JCI Toul Kork, both from Cambodia. Under the guidance of Head Trainer Teresa Alberto, affectionately known as "Mother Teresa" of JCI Malaysia, Boracay became a place where strangers found lifelong friends.

From shared challenges by the sea to quiet conversations after sunset, every moment drew people closer together. The energy of the Black Party during Manila x Clark Night and the genuine warmth of Lorenz of JCI Baguio became lasting reminders that leadership is strengthened by candor and connection.



Behind those memories stood the quiet service of 20 volunteers from JCI Antique Kruhay who spent sleepless nights preparing and serving with joyful hearts. While FLA and the Mid-Year Academy unfolded side by side, they moved wherever they were needed, finding their greatest reward in seeing delegates feeling welcomed, valued, and at home.

The academy also reflected the spirit of Area 4, strengthened by the unwavering support of Area Vice President Atty. Vincent Von Nogra and Western Visayas Regional Vice President Richmond Mark Yanson, whose servant leadership reminded the organizing team that true leaders never leave one another, especially when they are needed most.

Perhaps that is the truest legacy of FLA 2026. More than developing future leaders, it nurtured friendships that continue to flourish beyond chapters and even beyond JCI itself. The waves may wash away the footprints, but the friendships will last a lifetime.



JCI PHILIPPINES 2026 MID YEAR ACADEMY:

SUSTAINING THE FUTURE IN BORACAY

BY ZAN JERSY AGUILA

BORACAY ISLAND, AKLAN — The JCIP 2026 Mid Year Academy was successfully held on May 15–17, 2026, at La Carmela de Boracay, bringing together 127 Local Organization Presidents for three days of leadership development, learning, and fellowship. Hosted by JCI Aklan Kalantiao and JCI Antique Kruhay, the academy carried the theme “Sustain the Future,” emphasizing purposeful leadership and sustainable community impact.

The Mid Year Academy provided Local Organization Presidents with an opportunity to reflect on their accomplishments, address challenges, exchange best practices, and strengthen their leadership as they entered the second half of the JCI year. Leading the successful implementation was Janica Anne Dela Peña of JCI Aklan Kalantiao, who served as Director and Lead Committee, with the support of the host organizations and the Office of the National Skills Development Director team.

The program featured intensive training led by Head Trainer Mark Padilla, NSDD Heaven Peñaflorida and distinguished JCIP National Trainers. Inspiring messages were also delivered by 2026 JCI Philippines National President Atty. Patrick Maglinao, who highlighted purposeful leadership and collective action. International guests VP for Asia and the Pacific Phan Ngoc Diem and JCI Cambodia National President David Ly also shared valuable insights and experiences with the delegates.

The first day featured the Opening Program and Training Proper at La Carmela de Boracay, followed by fellowship at OMBAR. On the second day, participants continued leadership training alongside Future Leadership Academy activities. A memorable highlight was the graduation ceremony, where the FLA delegates serenaded the Masarig Presidents, celebrating friendship, leadership, and the next generation of JCI leaders. The day concluded with a fellowship event at Got Sol Boracay, featuring “Back to Black MNL x CRK” hosted by JCI Manila.

As the 2026 JCI year entered its second half, the academy reminded leaders that leadership goes beyond achieving goals, it is about creating lasting impact and preparing future leaders. With Masarig Presidents united under “Sustain the Future,” the academy strengthened collaboration, leadership, and commitment to the JCI mission.

COMMITMENT BEYOND BOUNDARIES: AVP Von Marks Perfect Attendance Across 2026 JCI Philippines National Meetings

BY JAY EMANUEL ALEGARBES



AREA 4, Visayas Area - Demonstrating unwavering dedication to JCI Philippines' mission of developing young leaders, Area Vice President Atty. Vincent Von Nogra, fondly known as AVP Von, achieved a laudable milestone by maintaining complete attendance across all three Executive Committee and National Board Meetings for 2026. Representing his constituency with steady resolve, AVP Von's active participation ensured that key regional voices were represented in every major governance discussion throughout the administrative year.

AVP Von's perfect record spanned strategic gatherings across the country, highlighting his hands-on leadership style and dedication to the national theme, "Sustain the Future."

The journey began on January 24, 2026, at the JCI Philippines Headquarters in Quezon City for the 1st Execom and National Board Meeting. The year opened with a solemn flag-raising ceremony led by 2026 National President Atty. Patrick DL. Maglinao, National Executive Vice President Ginno Jaralve, and National Treasurer Charinna Barro-Quilaneta. AVP Von joined national officers to align operational agendas to foster sustainable community leadership.

On April 18, 2026, AVP Von joined the delegation in Lamitan City, Basilan for the 2nd Execom and National Board Meeting. Warmly welcomed by City Vice Mayor and 2017 JCI Philippines National President Hegem C. Furigay, the leaders paid homage to local history at the monument of legendary founder Datu Kalun and conducted courtesy visits with Governor Mujiv S. Hataman.



AVP Von completed his perfect attendance streak by traveling to Northern Luzon for the 3rd Execom and National Board Meeting held in La Union. His participation across Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao for these assemblies underscores a strong commitment to unified governance, continuous learning, and active service across JCI Philippines.

AREA 4 HOSTS BRANLAB SESSION 2

BY KWENSI A. PINUELA

When the digital environment demands constant innovation, effective communication becomes the core of modern leadership. On March 31, 2026, JCI Philippines, through the Office of the National Communications Director, brought this imperative into sharp focus with BrandLab Session 2. Entrusted to the responsive leadership of Area 4 Visayas and host chapter JCI Iloilo Ilang Ilang, the nationwide virtual session gathered over 550 young leaders, local presidents, and JCI members via Zoom and Facebook Live. Far beyond a standard webinar, the event served as a guide to modern digital strategy, demonstrating how purpose driven dialogue can strengthen organizational impact across regions.

The evening's agenda explored the nuanced realities of today's hyper-connected world through three powerhouse modules. Opening the session, Deputy National Communications Director Den V. Altavas delivered insights on Strategy, Timing, and Digital Professionalism, emphasizing that driving a movement requires aligning the right message

with flawless timing. Shifting the focus to digital wellness, Dr. Michelle O. Sanchez, President of JCI Candahug Liberation, introduced practical "Triple A" framework, Aware, Architect, and Anchor, in Unstress: The Digital Detox Myth. Closing the learning modules, Project Chairperson and JCI Iloilo Ilang Ilang Public Relations Director Kwensi A. Pinuela presented Human Essence in AI Driven Social Media Management, reminding participants that even in an era dominated by automation, empathy and authenticity remain our most valuable currency.

BrandLab Session 2 proved that digital communications, when executed with heart and clarity, can transform simple posts into powerful social movements by merging strategic professionalism with genuine human connection. Area 4 Visayas and JCI Iloilo Ilang Ilang set a benchmark for virtual engagement and active citizenship.

As JCI Philippines continues developing competent communicators under the banner Sustain the Future, the sessions affirmed that when young leaders are trusted to lead, they can inspire positive change far beyond the screen, across communities, chapters, and generations through digital action.



ONE VISAYAS, ONE WEEK: AREA 4 ANSWERS JCI WEEK 2026

BY MATT ERIKSON C. MALAGAR

When JCI Philippines opened JCI Week 2026 on April 19, Area 4 answered from every corner of the Visayan seas. Across our Local Organizations spread over Central, Western, and Eastern Visayas, chapters mobilized under this year's theme *Caring Today, Shaping Tomorrow* for a full week of concentrated, community-first action.

In Central Visayas, chapters across Cebu and Bohol carried programs that ranged from leadership formation to grassroots outreach, opening the week with the energy of a region long identified with Jaycee tradition. In Western Visayas, chapters from Iloilo, Bacolod, Aklan, Antique, and Capiz brought a distributed strength to the week, proof that the Visayan west moves as one, even across islands. And in Eastern Visayas, the largest regional bloc in our Area, anchoring Leyte, Samar, Biliran, and beyond, delivered a scale of participation that defined the eastern frontier of Area 4.

Every Local Organization was called to implement activities in each of the Four Areas of Opportunity, Individual Development, Community Action, Business & Entrepreneurship, and International Cooperation, with many chapters aligning their programs to the national initiatives Spectrum of Care and Strong Futures.



What made Area 4's week strong was not any single event, but the coordinated sound of chapters across three regions moving in the same direction, in the same week, for the same reason.

***Caring today. Shaping tomorrow.
The Visayas showed up, as one.***



BEYOND NUMBERS: AED MIKE IGNACIO

AND THE WORK OF TRANSFORMING LIVES IN THE VISAYAS

Leadership has never been about holding a title. It has always been about accepting responsibility and turning that responsibility into meaningful service.

As the Visayas Area Executive Director of JCI Philippines, AED Mike carries the crucial task of ensuring that the Visayas Area effectively implements the organization's 22 National Programs, bringing their purpose beyond organizational milestones and into communities where real change is needed.

A proud product of the University of the Philippines, AED Mike carries with him a deep understanding of what it means to serve. His grounding is simple yet profound: community work must never be reduced to band-aid solutions. Programs should not merely address what is visible today; they must create sustainable solutions that continue to benefit communities long after the project ends.

That belief is deeply personal.

As the Immediate Past President of JCI Roxas Sinadya, Mike experienced firsthand the challenges of implementing national programs at the local level. He knew the realities behind the reports, the limited resources, the logistical challenges, the countless hours of coordination, and the difficult question every local organization president eventually faces: Did what we do truly make a difference?

So when he stepped into his role as AED, he chose a different measure of success. **Not numbers alone, but impact.**

For him, every national program implemented represents an opportunity to transform a life, strengthen a community, and inspire young leaders to believe that service can create lasting change.



Driven by this conviction, AED Mike invested not only his time but also his resources to help make things happen.

*His leadership has helped pull off **21 Area Launchings across the Visayas for the 22 National Programs**, with the final one set to come soon.*

But behind those 21 launchings is a story far greater than a number. It is a story of persistence. Of showing up. Of traveling, coordinating, encouraging, and sometimes carrying the burden himself when circumstances demanded it. It is a story of a servant leader who understands that leadership is not about standing at the front, it is about walking alongside people and helping them move forward.

AED Mike's journey reminds us that national programs only become truly meaningful when they reach the grassroots, where communities feel their impact and people see that service can change their lives.

And perhaps that is the heart of his leadership:

to transform programs into possibilities, possibilities into action, and action into lasting change.

In the Visayas, AED Mike is not simply implementing 22 National Programs. He is helping build a culture where service goes beyond the numbers and where every community becomes a place where transformation can begin.





On the morning of May 29, 2026, the quiet open grounds of Cularima Elementary School transformed into a sanctuary of promise. Here, against the backdrop of hardship, the 2026 Visayas Area Launching of Bags of Hope: “Project BAGETS Year 2” — Bags at Gamit para sa mga Bagets” unfolded, not merely as a distribution drive, but as a lifeline of hope for 200 underprivileged children standing on the threshold of a new school year as they step into their next educational chapter.

Championed by Visayas Area Chair Dave Esquerra Gallano and Area Vice President Atty. Vincent Von Nogra, the initiative sought to break the quiet weight of financial struggle with a powerful message: “you are not forgotten”. Young students from both Cularima and Cag-abaca Elementary Schools received essential tools for the upcoming school year, new school bags, learning materials, t-shirts, and hot, nourishing meals. Yet, the heart of the event extended far beyond material provisions. The day transformed into a celebration of youth and potential, filled with interactive activities where the true magic was written in moments that touched the soul.

Amidst the laughter of storytelling, face painting and parlor games, two quiet rituals redefined the event’s purpose. During the “Dear Future Me” letter-writing, teary-eyed children penned their boldest ambitions, while the “Pay It Forward” oath saw hundreds of small hands raised in unity, a vow that education would be their bridge out of poverty, and that one day, they too would uplift others.



Here, children were reminded that their circumstances do not define their potential, their dreams matter, and education remains their strongest bridge to a brighter future.



Supported fiercely by local champions, Brgy. Captain Hon. Caryl Castillo, School Heads Gerald Yamogan and Ruben Fulgar, alongside dedicated JCI leaders, the initiative proved that true strength lies in solidarity. Sealing this commitment, JCI Catarman Cocoking, led by 2026 LO President Atty. Joy E. Presado and Immediate Past President Dave E. Gallano, signed a historic Memorandum of Agreement with School Heads Jerald O. Yamogan and Ruben F. Pulga. This formal partnership ensures that the promise of support doesn't end when the launch concludes.

Project BAGETS Year 2 left an indelible truth behind:

When you fill a child's backpack, you give them tools, but when you ignite their belief in tomorrow, you change the world. Indeed, equipping a child's backpack is important, but equipping their spirit to dream is what truly changes lives.



YLEA 2026: 1,411 YOUNG LEADERS RECOGNIZED ACROSS AREA 4 VISAYAS

BY JONATHAN ED CAÑUTO

Leadership begins with the courage to serve, and the Youth Leadership Excellence Award (YLEA) 2026 became a powerful platform for Area 4 Visayas to recognize and inspire the next generation of leaders across the Visayas.

The campaign officially opened on May 9, 2026, with the Area 4 Visayas Launch at Robinsons Place Pavia in Iloilo City under the theme “Ang Batang Lider.” Hosted through the collaboration of JCI Iloilo, JCI Iloilo Ilang Ilang, JCI Regatta Iloilo, and JCI Metro Iloilo Dinagyang, the launch gathered student leaders, educators, government partners, and JCI members in a shared celebration of youth leadership and service. The event marked the beginning of YLEA 2026 in the Visayas and reaffirmed JCI’s commitment to developing young leaders who will make a meaningful difference in their communities.

The momentum continued as 29 of Area 4 Visayas’ 39 Local Organizations successfully implemented YLEA in their respective communities. Collectively, 1,411 medals were awarded to deserving student leaders, recognizing excellence in leadership, academics

and service. The campaign also featured one Area Launch and two Regional Launches, with the Western Visayas Regional Launch hosted by JCI Roxas Makawiwili, and the Central Visayas Regional Launch hosted by JCI Boholana Kisses and JCI Chocolate Hills.

More than a recognition program, YLEA 2026 showcased the strength of collaboration among Local Organizations across Area 4 Visayas. Every medal represented a young leader encouraged to dream bigger, serve others, and lead with purpose. Through this collective effort, Area 4 successfully transformed a national initiative into a movement that continues to inspire future leaders throughout the Visayas.

“Every medal awarded is more than recognition. It is an investment in a young leader who will shape the future through service.”



rEVealing the REX Factor

BY JOSHUA MANDAWÉ

In a crowded function hall filled with vibrant blue banners and energized young leaders, one voice cuts through the ambient chatter with steady clarity. He doesn't command the room by raising his voice—he commands it by listening first, then mapping out a clear path forward.

Meet RVP Rex, the Regional Vice President of JCI Philippines Eastern Visayas, a leader whose approach to community development is redefining youth leadership across Region 8. Behind his quiet resolve and hands-on guidance lies a momentum that Jaycees across Samar, Leyte, and Biliran have come to call the REX Factor. For RVP Rex, joining JCI was never about titles or personal milestones. It began with a simple desire: to matter to something bigger than himself. After years of leading environmental, educational, and disaster-response initiatives, a key realization reshaped his perspective on leadership: personal capacity is inherently limited.

"If my purpose is simply to help people, then my impact will always be limited to the number of people I can personally reach. But if I can inspire another person to serve... then service becomes bigger than me."

Today, RVP Rex focuses on transforming local chapters across Region 8 by combining heart with operational discipline. Success isn't measured by polished documentation, but by lives changed.

"I no longer want to be remembered as the Regional Vice President who did the most," he reflects. "I would rather be remembered as the one who helped other leaders believe that they could do more than they thought they could."

"My 'why' began with a desire to help. Today, it has become a desire to multiply people who help... not to be the brightest light in the region, but to help others discover the light they already carry."

By empowering young leaders to act without waiting for titles, he is building a contagious chain reaction of service across Eastern Visayas. True leadership, after all, is measured not by how many followers one gathers, but by how many leaders one empowers to stand on their own.

When his tenure eventually concludes, the ultimate measure of success won't be found in plaques or official records. It will live in the transformed communities across Region 8, in the quiet confidence of young Jaycees who discovered their own capacity to lead, and in a region forever altered by one simple truth—that when purpose meets genuine empowerment, that is the true REX Factor.



WHEN LEADERSHIP FINDS ITS NORTH STAR

PRESIDENT SHERWIN H. ESTRADA AND THE EVOLUTION OF JCI CATBALOGAN BALUD

BY JOHN TRIX VAGAZ & KENT BRYAN TORRES

Some presidencies are remembered for the projects they complete; others for the people they inspire. For Sherwin H. Estrada, the 2026 Local Organization President of JCI Catbalogan Balud, the challenge is to ensure his legacy is defined by both.

Pres. Sherwin begins his term with a simple yet demanding belief: ***"Leadership must transcend words. For him, a leader must be wise enough to make sound decisions, honest enough to earn trust, and steady enough to guide an organization through uncertainty."***

The WIN Philosophy

These ideals form the "WIN" compass of Estrada's presidency:

"Wisdom, Integrity, and Navigation. Wisdom means learning from experience to make sound decisions. Integrity is the practice of honesty, transparency, and ethical conduct. Navigation provides the essential direction and support needed for JCI Catbalogan Balud to reach its milestones."

At the heart of this philosophy is a clear call to action: "Win in action with purpose." More than a slogan, it invites every Jaycee to actively contribute to the organization's mission.

A Roadmap for Movement The 2026 Local Plan of Action translates this philosophy through five pillars: Brand Awareness, Individual Development, Community Action, Membership Growth, and Financial Sustainability.

For Pres Sherwin, the vision for JCI Catbalogan Balud is not simply about being visible. It is about being present, purposeful, and remembered for work that creates meaning.

Project Balud CARE, a legacy program centered on the youth. By nurturing foundational skills, physical well-being, and health consciousness, it hopes to empower young people to become more capable and confident in shaping their futures.



This same spirit extends to the members. Through training, mentorship, and the wisdom of past presidents, members are encouraged to step forward, take responsibility, and grow into leaders who can carry the mission forward. Growth is not simply about adding names, but building a community where every Jaycee feels welcomed, connected, and inspired to contribute.

Beyond the organization, health, education, and environmental initiatives bring its purpose to life, from the proposed BJMP medical clinic and BALUD Academy to literacy efforts, clean-ups, and tree planting.

"Leadership is measured by what remains."

His legacy is not just in completed projects, but in people who become ready to lead, communities that feel the difference, and an organization prepared to move forward.

Because a presidency may end, but its purpose lives on in every leader developed, every life touched, and every act of service done with purpose.



FIT TO LEAD, FIT TO SERVE

BY DR. MICH SANCHEZ AND JCI CANDAHUG LIBERATION

It began with noticing.

At JCI fellowships, inductions, conventions, members drank hard and slept little, wearing that endurance almost like a superpower. Everyone saw it. Most of us laughed about it. A physician could not, because a physician knows where that road ends.

So a small, stubborn question stayed: if I lead this organization in 2026, what could I leave behind that actually keeps someone alive?

Fit to Lead was the answer, and it started at home base, deliberately with joy. November 2025 was pickleball and walks. January brought a Tai Chi master for a low-impact session anyone could join. Chess and fun runs followed, because the mind needs tending as much as the body.

Only in March came the harder part: laboratory work-ups. Not assumptions. Numbers. By April, ten members were enrolled free into Jumpstart, the five-week lifestyle program Dr. Mich Sanchez runs for patients, not as an audience for a lecture, but as people willing to change first.

When the national circular on Hearty Healthy Philippines arrived, the feeling was recognition. We were already on this road.

The rest was never planned. An invitation came from the Department of the Interior and Local Government to speak at their Women's Month program. As with every engagement, preparation began with one question: what does your office actually need? The answer came back heavy.

Over the past year, their own ranks had been struck by cancer, stroke, heart attack. Colleagues, not statistics.

One lecture would not have been enough. So it became a year instead.



That is how Fit to Serve began. A signed Memorandum of Agreement, screening and health lectures brought into the workplace, 250 to 300 people reached, sessions running through 2026, Basic Life Support and First Aid still to come. Every healthier employee goes home to a family, in a barangay that same employee serves. Health, handed forward, multiplies.



It started with one person refusing to look away. That is usually how it starts.



CONNECTIONS TO IMPACT: The CONNEX Journey LEAD, BUILD, SUSTAIN

BY VANESSA M. JUNTILA, EMMANUEL MABAQUIAO,
GIA NICOLASORA AND VAN MATTHEW ROSALES

On April 8, 2026, JCI Tacloban Love, Inc. brought young Filipinos together through CONNEX: Lead, Build, Sustain, a national youth development platform held at the Leyte Convention Center, Annex A, Palo, Leyte, with online participation from across the country. The initiative connected young aspiring entrepreneurs and emerging professionals with leaders, institutions, and opportunities that could transform potential into meaningful action.

Built around the Lead-Build-Sustain framework, CONNEX focused on ethical leadership, entrepreneurship, innovation, workplace well-being, consumer awareness, organizational resilience, and policy awareness. The event engaged 205 onsite participants, approximately 75% representing local colleges and universities, alongside more than 150 online delegates from Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.

Implemented in partnership with the Province of Leyte and PCCI Leyte, and supported by YBBA Marketing, FDB Events, GMA Pharmacy, and Anytime Fitness, CONNEX demonstrated how collaboration can expand opportunities for young people. The initiative also brought together 22 co-host JCI Local Organizations across Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.

A defining milestone was the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement between JCI Tacloban Love, Inc. and the Department of Trade and Industry-Leyte Provincial Office. The partnership established continuing opportunities in leadership development, entrepreneurship, MSME capacity-building, youth innovation, digitalization, consumer advocacy, and policy awareness, including access to programs such as the Youth Entrepreneurship Program and Negosyo Center services.

“More than a conference, CONNEX became a platform where connections became opportunities, learning became leadership, and collaboration became community impact—empowering young Filipinos to Lead, Build, and Sustain the Future.”



RVP TIMOTHY LEADING WITH IMPACT

RVP Paul Timothy R. Yap did not begin 2026 expecting to become a Regional Vice President. After serving as President of JCI Cebu Sinulog in 2025, he planned to step back, recharge, and focus on a new professional chapter. But the encouragement of fellow JCI leaders, particularly National General Legal Counsel Ralph Martin C. Yu and Regional Vice President Deb Jomarleh I. Uchang, inspired him to embrace the opportunity to serve JCI Philippines Central Visayas. Looking back, it became a decision he would always cherish.

As Regional Vice President, RVP Tim took on the responsibility of bringing together local organizations with different leaders, priorities, and aspirations. His approach reflected the leader he has always been: quiet, kind, steady, and effective. Rather than leading through authority, RVP Tim built relationships, listened to local leaders, offered support, and encouraged each organization to build on its strengths while remaining connected to a shared regional vision.

Through coordination with local presidents, the Regional Executive Committee, and Regional Chairpersons, RVP Tim fostered collaboration across Central Visayas. He gave local organizations space to pursue their goals while ensuring they remained part of something bigger. By connecting leaders, providing direction, addressing challenges, and making himself available when needed, he strengthened cooperation and contributed to the successes of Central Visayas throughout the year.

His leadership extended to JCIP Area 4 Visayas. Working with the 2026 National Board under National President Patrick DL Maglinao and alongside Area Vice President Atty. Vincent Von A. Nogra, RVP Tim helped move the area forward with fellow Regional Vice Presidents Richmond Mark V. Yanson of Western Visayas and Rex B. Palompon of Eastern Visayas. Together, they strengthened connections across the Visayas toward a shared vision of service and leadership.

For RVP Tim, leadership was about creating an environment where people could lead, contribute, and grow. His quiet effectiveness allowed others to take ownership, while his steady presence reminded them they did not have to carry their responsibilities alone.

This gives meaning to his 2026 call to action, ***“Lead with Impact.” It is not merely a theme, but a reflection of how RVP Tim chose to serve. He accepted a role he never planned to take and transformed the trust placed in him into an opportunity to strengthen organizations, bring leaders together, and create meaningful results.***

As RVP Tim closes his term as Regional Vice President of JCI Philippines Central Visayas, he leaves a leadership example grounded in humility, collaboration, and service. His year reminds us that leadership is not measured by the position we hold, but by the positive difference we make in the lives of others. For those who follow, the challenge is clear: ***continue to lead with impact.***



PRESERVING OUR ROOTS: PADDLING WITH PURPOSE ALONG THE ABATAN RIVER

BY MA. CHRISTINE O. TORRALBA

There are moments when leadership moves beyond conversations and becomes something people can see, feel, and experience. Along the winding waters of the Abatan River in Bohol, JCI Boholana Kisses and Kayakasia Philippines brought this vision to life through “Preserving Our Roots,” an environmental initiative under the River Reboot program that transformed conservation into a journey of awareness, action, and partnership.

Conducted at the Abatan River, a vital part of the Bohol Island Geopark, the initiative gathered community members and environmental advocates with a shared purpose: to protect and restore one of Bohol’s most valuable ecosystems. The river, known for its rich biodiversity, mangrove forests, and unique wildlife, continues to face challenges brought by pollution, plastic waste, climate change, and human activities. Through this project, participants were encouraged to understand the importance of protecting the river and becoming active stewards of the environment.

The experience began with the Planting of Partnership, symbolizing the commitment between JCI Boholana Kisses and Kayakasia Philippines to work together for sustainable environmental action.



Participants then discovered the story of the Abatan River through an awareness session, followed by safety instructions before embarking on a kayaking journey through its natural landscape.

The adventure soon became a mission. Participants planted mangroves that will help strengthen riverbanks and support biodiversity, while the river clean-up and trash segregation activities addressed the immediate concerns affecting the ecosystem. Beyond the activities of the day, the partnership continued its commitment through one-week and one-month monitoring activities to check the progress of planted mangroves, observe the condition of the area, and ensure that conservation efforts created lasting impact.

More than an environmental project, “Preserving Our Roots” became a reminder that protecting nature requires continuous action and collaboration. Every paddle stroke, every mangrove planted, and every piece of waste removed represented a shared responsibility toward a healthier future.

Through the partnership of JCI Boholana Kisses and Kayakasia Philippines, the initiative showed that meaningful leadership is found not only in planning solutions but in taking action where it matters most. By preserving the roots of the Abatan River, participants helped protect the waters, communities, and ecosystems that connect us all.



Bohe Maka Sannang: WATER, WEALTH, WOMEN

BY JAY EMANUEL ALEGARBES

In the coastal slum of Mambaling, Cebu City, clean water was once a daily struggle. In an indigenous Badjao community where women face a 91% unemployment rate, access to basic sanitation was a luxury, until an international movement transformed their survival into economic power.

On June 21, 2026, JCI Cebu and JCI Japan's SMILE by Water Initiative launched Bohe Maka Sannang. Grounded in gender equality, the initiative tackled two crises at once: severe waterborne illnesses and widespread female financial dependency. A total investment fund of ₱1,002,000 (~\$17,275 USD), backed by an 11-chapter global alliance across four nations, financed a Japan-grade purification plant at the Nano Nagle Learning Center. Capable of producing pure drinking water for 565 families (2,009 individuals), the system became the structural anchor for a sustainable, female-led circular economy.

The true breakthrough lies in how the water is used. Twenty indigenous Badjao mothers completed technical training to manufacture industrial bar soap using the purified water, launching their own enterprise under a strict 60/20/20 revenue-sharing framework: 60% as direct income for the mothers, 20% reserved for equipment maintenance, and 20% reinvested into a community fund.

Through disciplined budget management, JCI Cebu capped direct costs at ₱889,000 (~\$15,327 USD), securing a ₱113,000 (~\$1,948 USD) surplus. This surplus directly funded a "Kidtrepreneurship" program, training 20 young Badjao girls in jewelry-making and business literacy to protect the next generation from systemic poverty.

Today, these women do not just collect water, they run an enterprise, fund their daughters' educations, and lead their community forward. Bohe Maka Sannang proves that when you give a woman the tools to lead, clean water flows, businesses grow, and entire generations rise.





STORIES ON WHEELS

For some children, a book is simply a book. For others, it can be a doorway to imagination, confidence, and possibilities beyond what they see every day.

BY GLAIZA MEI ILAGAN

This is the heart of Stories on Wheels, JCI WoMandaue's flagship literacy initiative under P.A.G.E.S. of Hope (Promoting Accessible Growth through Education and Stories), launched in January 2026 as the chapter's first flagship program for the year. Designed as a continuing monthly outreach, the initiative brings books and meaningful learning experiences directly to underserved communities.

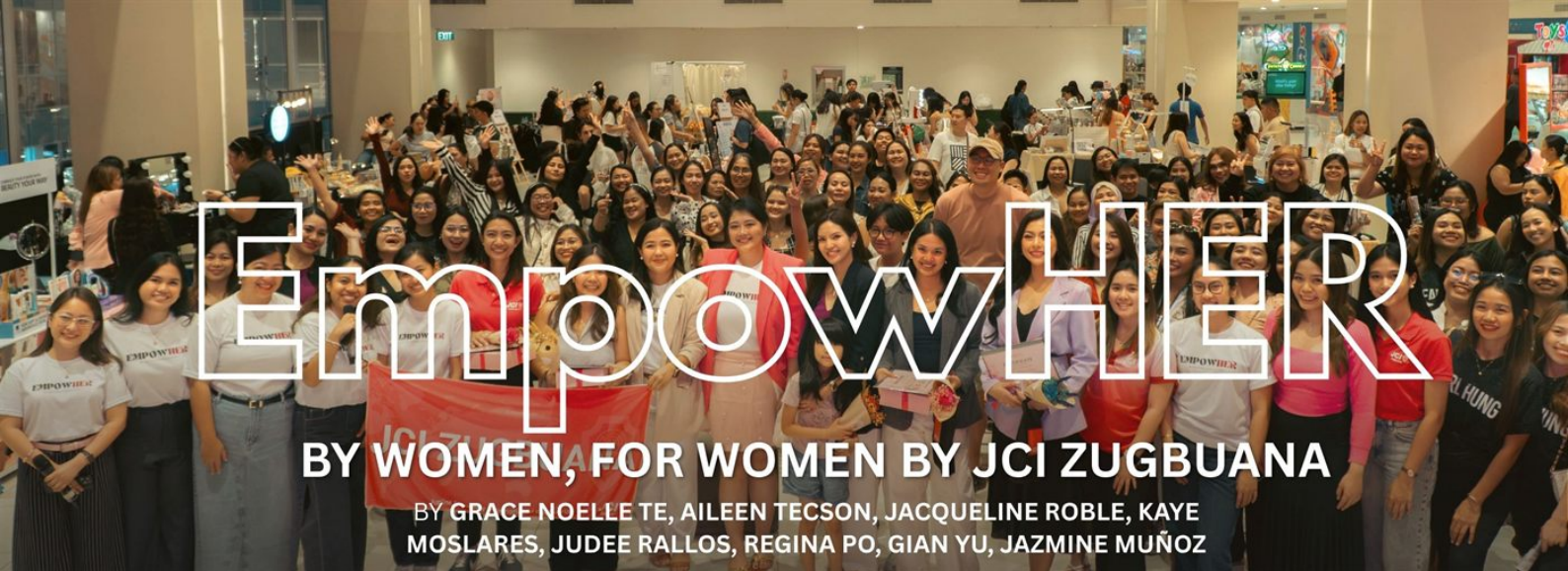
Aligned with United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 4: Quality Education, Stories on Wheels brought a mobile library and interactive literacy activities to children across two municipalities in Cebu Province and four barangays in Mandaue City, reaching more than 500 children through monthly outreach routes. Among those reached were children of Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL), creating a safe and inclusive space where they could read, learn, and simply be children.



Through storytelling sessions, age-appropriate books, and engaging learning activities, Stories on Wheels transformed ordinary community spaces into vibrant places of discovery. In partnership with The Lost Books, children were also introduced to Filipino authors and local literature, strengthening not only their reading interest but also their appreciation for their own culture and stories.

More than a mobile library, Stories on Wheels became a community effort. Volunteers, educators, local government units, schools, and partner organizations came together to make every monthly route possible. The greatest lesson was simple: when access to books is brought closer to children, opportunities for learning come closer too. Stories on Wheels reminds us that every child deserves the chance to read, imagine, learn, dream and that sometimes, creating change simply begins by bringing a story to their doorstep.





BY GRACE NOELLE TE, AILEEN TECSON, JACQUELINE ROBLE, KAYE MOSLARES, JUDEE RALLOS, REGINA PO, GIAN YU, JAZMINE MUÑOZ

In celebration of Women's Month 2026, JCI Zugbuana launched EmpowHER: By Women, For Women, a month-long initiative that brought together healthcare, entrepreneurship, leadership, and legal empowerment into one meaningful campaign. Recognizing that women face different challenges that often overlap, the chapter designed a series of activities that responded to these needs in practical and accessible ways.

Throughout March, women from different communities benefited from free medical and dental services, OB-GYN consultations, cervical cancer screenings, legal assistance, and educational sessions. At the same time, Made by HER Market gave women entrepreneurs an opportunity to promote their businesses, connect with customers, and showcase the products they had worked hard to build. The ConvHERsations Forum also created an inspiring space where participants heard from accomplished women leaders who openly shared their experiences, lessons, and advice on overcoming challenges and pursuing leadership.



More than 3,700 individuals benefited from the program, while 21 women-owned businesses gained greater exposure through the entrepreneurship market. Behind every activity was the collective effort of JCI Zugbuana, working hand in hand with government agencies, healthcare professionals, private organizations, and volunteers who believed in the same goal of creating better opportunities for women.

What made EmpowHER memorable was not only the number of people reached but also the stories shared throughout the month—women who finally received preventive healthcare, entrepreneurs who found new customers, and participants who left the forum feeling more confident about pursuing their goals. These moments reminded everyone that empowering women begins with giving them access, support, and the opportunity to be heard. Through EmpowHER, JCI Zugbuana showed that when communities invest in women, the positive impact extends far beyond a single event, creating stronger families, more resilient communities, and future leaders ready to make a difference.



the anvil

feature story



AVP Franz

A Person Who Chose, Again and Again, to Give His Best for Others

BY PAUL VINCENT TIZON

He is a man of many versions of himself, depending on the table he sits at.

*To his family, he is **Pransing**.*

The only son of the humble Tuston-Nacar home. Long before the titles, awards, recognitions, and leadership positions, he was simply their son, the boy they watched grow, the student they believed in, and the young man whose achievements became a source of immense pride to his family.

From elementary school to college, he was an achiever. He worked hard, persevered, and constantly pushed himself to do better. Behind every achievement was a family that stood beside him, celebrated his victories, and supported him through every challenge.

Perhaps that is why, despite how far he has gone, there has always been something grounded about him. He knows where he came from and the people who helped shape him. Beneath all the accomplishments is still the same son who carries the values, lessons, and sacrifices of the home that raised him.

To the world, he may be known by many titles.

But to his family, he is simply Pransing. Their son. Their pride. Their achiever.

No matter how many stages he stands on or how many people he leads, he will always be the boy they first believed in.



*To his friends, he is **Franz**.*

He is the kind of friend who can make an ordinary moment memorable and find a reason to make people laugh even when the day has not been kind.

He is the person you turn to when life becomes difficult, not because he always has the perfect answer, but because you know he will be there. Sometimes with advice. Sometimes with a ridiculous joke. Sometimes with nothing more than his presence.

And somehow, that is enough.

He has a way of making people feel that they are never carrying their problems alone. He celebrates his friends' victories as though they were his own, and when things fall apart, he stays.

There is a warmth to Franz that not everyone gets to see. Behind the confidence, humor, and sometimes-larger-than-life personality is a friend who cares deeply, remembers the little things, checks in, and can be trusted with both your happiest moments and your heaviest ones.

To his friends, he is simply Franz. The one you laugh with. The one you call. The one you can depend and trust.





But there is another version of him that many came to know through service.

He started his Jaycee journey in 2012, a Baby Jaycee and neophyte student leader at Samar Colleges, Inc. Even at a young age, he understood the mission, embraced its vision, and carried its values and tenets in his heart.

As the years passed, he proved his loyalty and active participation in his Local Organization. Year after year, he was entrusted with positions of responsibility, each served with integrity and commitment.

His leadership breakthrough came in 2019, when he was elected Local Organization President, becoming the youngest President in the history of JCI Catbalogan Balud since its installation in 1992.

He may have been only 25, but he already possessed the courage and conviction needed to lead.

He ended his term with a bang, earning the Silver Seal of Efficiency, just points away from Gold.

Then came 2022.

He was elected Regional Vice President for JCI Philippines–Eastern Visayas, entrusted with serving Local Organizations across the region. He traveled from one LO to another, visiting, consulting, listening, and making sure those under his wings were guided and updated.

*Then, in 2025, he was elected
Area Vice President for the Visayas Area.*

A shoe too big for many to wear. But he walked in it with confidence, dignity, and purpose.

Many people see him as a strict leader. But that was only the façade he wore so others would not mistake kindness for weakness. Beneath that stern exterior was a compassionate heart, a dedicated leader, a visionary, and someone who pursued excellence not for recognition, but because he believed people deserved the very best.

What many never saw was the person behind the applause.

Behind every successful plenary session, glamorous induction, meeting, project, and recognition was a young bachelor who spent countless hours traveling from one Local Organization to another across the Visayas Area.

Exhausted. Hungry. Sleep-deprived. Yet he kept going.

People admired the leader on stage, but very few noticed the man who quietly carried the weight of leadership long after the lights had gone out. The one who was tired of always being the steady person everyone depended on. The one whose body longed for rest and whose mind begged for a pause, yet still chose to show up because he believed service always came before self.

That is the Franz we came to know.

Not merely the leader everyone respected. Not simply the Area Vice President everyone applauded. But the brother who silently carried burdens few ever noticed, gave more than he ever asked for, and loved people through service even when it demanded everything from him.

Perhaps that is why he could be so many things to so many people.

To his family, he will always be Pransing. To his friends, he will always be Franz. And to the people whose lives he touched through service, he will always be AVP Franz.

Three names. Three versions of the same man.

But behind every name was one person who chose, again and again, to give his best for others.

And that is the Franz we will always remember.



LAKBAY KATUTUBO LISTENING, LEARNING, AND SERVING WITH PURPOSE

BY JOAHANNA VELOSO

The Lakbay Katutubo Area 4 Launching was more than the start of another JCI program. It was an invitation to listen, learn, and serve with purpose.

Led by JCI Aklan Kalantiao through Project I.N.S.P.I.R.E. Year 3, the launching brought together JCI leaders, members, and partner chapters from across Area 4 in support of Indigenous communities.

Held within the Ati Community of Boracay, the activity gave participants an opportunity to connect with the Ati community and gain a deeper appreciation of their culture and way of life. The program highlighted the importance of working with communities, rather than simply doing projects for them, a distinction that lies at the heart of meaningful and sustainable service.

The event was attended by JCI Philippines National President Patrick Maglinao, National Executive Vice President Ginno Jeralve, National Treasurer Charinna Quilaneta, Area Vice President Atty. Vincent Von Nogra, Regional Vice President Richmond Yanson, and Area Chairperson for Lakbay Katutubo Joahanna Veloso.

But the launching was only the beginning.



Following the launch, chapters across Area 4 Visayas continue to bring Lakbay Katutubo to life through their own community activities, partnerships, and initiatives. Each implementation may look different depending on the needs and context of the community, but all share the same goal: to help preserve culture, strengthen communities, and create more meaningful opportunities for Indigenous Peoples.

At the heart of Lakbay Katutubo is a simple reminder: service starts with listening.

And as the journey continues across Area 4, we hope to keep listening, learning, and showing up, not just for a project, but for the people and communities behind it.

Lakbay Katutubo is JCI Philippines' flagship program for cultural preservation, empowerment, and inclusion of Indigenous Peoples across the country. More than simply bringing projects to communities, it encourages JCI members to first understand the people they hope to serve, their culture, stories, needs, and aspirations.



BY DOMINIC ROMERO

VAMOS! A word that speaks of movement, courage, and collective action. For Western Visayas, it represents more than a call to move forward – it represents a region that has continuously stepped up, and taken the lead with commitment and determination, and proven what can be achieved when leaders work together with purpose.

For RVP Richmond Mark Yanson of JCI Philippines – Western Visayas, leadership has become a journey of service, connection, and collective action. As the Regional Vice President for Western Visayas in 2026, he carries more than a title. He carries the responsibility of bringing together young leaders from different local organizations and reminding them that while each chapter may have its own identity, they are all part of one greater movement.

His leadership is anchored on a simple yet powerful call:

“VAMOS! WESTERN VISAYAS.”

Vision — Let us continue to dream bigger for our region and our communities.

Action — Let us transform our plans into purposeful and measurable results.

Momentum — Let us build on the successes of 2026 and keep moving forward.

Opportunity — Let us create spaces where every local organization and every young leader can grow.

Service — Let us remain committed to the spirit of JCI and to creating positive change.

RVP RICHMOND

Under Richmond’s leadership, Western Visayas has continued to strengthen regional coordination and engagement among its Local Organizations. Regional council meetings became important venues for monitoring progress, exchanging ideas, and recognizing the work of local leaders. His administration has also maintained an active presence in regional activities, training initiatives, and collaborations designed to strengthen the JCI experience.

Western Visayas has shown what is possible when leadership is backed by unity and action. 2026 is not simply a year of accomplishments—it is proof that the region is ready for greater challenges, greater opportunities, and greater impact. The journey continues. The momentum is ours to carry. The future is ours to shape.

VAMOS, Western Visayas! Let us move forward together, lead with purpose, and create an even greater impact for JCI, for our communities, and for generations to come.



THOS: Embodying 55 Years of Legacy

BY CIELO MARIE Y. YGAY



Who would have known that a simple vision of honoring student excellence would turn into a legacy of generations with unwavering passion to lead, innovate, and serve?

The sunny weather outside the Bacolod City Government Center matched the atmosphere inside as JCI Bacolod hosted the Grand Awarding Ceremony for the 55th The Outstanding Students (THOS) Awards. Marking a landmark milestone—"55 Years of Excellence: Leading the Change, Sustaining the Legacy"

Elevating the platform for these "change-makers," 78th President Nathalie Francia Galban, alongside Overall Project Chairperson Rica Joyce Orense and Grand Awarding Chairperson Katrine Carolle Sellado, introduced digital and social innovations in modernizing traditions. Among the outstanding batch, Neil Kevin D. Natabio, secured three major honors, including the inaugural Legacy Award, alongside fellow top awardees Miguel Alfonso R. Jison and Mika Grace V. Regala.

The afternoon witnessed full-circle moments as Arch. Ramiro "Chick" Garcia, Jr., who founded THOS in 1970, took the stage 55 years later to relive the JCI spirit. Keynote Speaker Mayor Greg Gasataya revealed he was once a THOS nominee who didn't make the Top 3, reminding students that sustained passion matters far more than titles. Meanwhile, THOS Alumnus Nimrod Diaz led the new batch in a solemn Oath Taking alongside alumni spanning five decades. Embodying regional support, 2026 Area Vice President Atty. Vincent Von A. Nogra and Regional Vice President Richmond Mark V. Yanson were present.

The event's significance transcended the awards hall through action. Proceeds from Limited Edition THOS Merchandise were dedicated to funding a Book Drive for Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL) studying under the Alternative Learning System. Partnering with Istorya ni Juan Film Creative, JCI Bacolod also slated the upcoming "Peace is Possible" Forum for official YLEA Medal distribution.

***THOS 2026 proved that true leadership isn't just an honor
it's an enduring promise. Padayon!***



Langit sa Isla

BY SAMILLE JAN AGRAVANTE
AND JENELYN BELLOGA



*For **nine years**, JCI Iloilo Ilang Ilang has brought Langit sa Isla, or “H.E.A.V.E.N. on the Sea,” to island communities where access to essential services and opportunities can be limited. Now on its **10th island community**, the program continues its commitment to creating lasting impact. More than an outreach activity, the program seeks to build healthier, more empowered, and resilient communities through sustained partnerships.*



In 2026, Langit sa Isla Year 9 reached Isla de Caña, Carles, Iloilo, serving 484 children, families, fisherfolk, senior citizens, youth, barangay health workers, and other residents.

Health and Sanitation, children learned proper handwashing and toothbrushing and received dental and hygiene kits, while senior citizens joined chair yoga. Free medical consultations and medicines, together with medical and emergency supplies, brought healthcare closer to families. Health center improvement and PhilHealth's Yakap and Gamot program further strengthened the community's access to care.

Education and Environmental Protection, children received school bags, supplies, and educational equipment, while Gong Pagong environmental storytelling, scholarship information, coastal clean-ups, tree planting, and animal welfare awareness encouraged learning and stewardship.

Assistance on Legal Issues and Disaster Relief, free legal consultations and disaster preparedness education brought knowledge, protection, and access to justice closer to residents.

Values Formation created meaningful moments through gift-giving, storytelling, Bible sharing, values education, and sex education for teenagers.

Economic Development, fisherfolk participated in livelihood assessments and proposed skills training, while coordination with DSWD opened possibilities for future livelihood initiatives.

Nutrition addressed food security through food distribution, with urban gardening and smoked-fish processing and packaging training identified as sustainable opportunities.

What may seem ordinary elsewhere can mean so much more on an island. A school bag, a medical consultation, a legal answer, or a day of learning can become a meaningful reminder that the community is seen and cared for. Made possible through government agencies, local governments, schools, healthcare providers, private organizations, sponsors, donors, volunteers, and the community, Langit sa Isla continues to prove that distance is never a barrier to sustainable and impactful change.

Fashion for Passion

STRUTTING BEYOND LIMITS

BY STEVEN NAVIGAR JR.

What began as one Deaf student's dream has grown into one of JCI Regatta's flagship legacy programs. Inspired by Francis, a former student of President Steve Navigar Jr. who once believed his dream of becoming a model was impossible because of his deafness, Fashion for Passion: Strutting Beyond Limits transformed that dream into a movement championing awareness, acceptance, accessibility, and inclusion for persons with disabilities.

Now in its fifth year, the program served as the Area Launching of CAMP PAG-IBIG under JCI Philippines, supported by Area Vice President Von Nogra, Area Executive Director Michael Ignacio, and co-hosted by JCI Metro Iloilo Dinagyang. Anchored on JCI's commitment to creating development opportunities, the initiative united schools, families, government agencies, businesses, designers, volunteers, and community advocates in one shared vision of inclusion.

The project was implemented through a three-phase journey of empowerment.

Overall, the initiative reached 500+ direct and indirect beneficiaries, including 80+ parents and families, 40 JCI members and volunteers, 20 volunteer designers, stylists, make-up artists, and creatives, educators, government agencies, and private sector partners.

More than a fashion event, Fashion for Passion strengthened partnerships, inspired communities to embrace diversity, and proved that true inclusion goes beyond accommodation—it empowers persons with disabilities to participate, lead, and shine beyond limits.



Phase 1 – Strut Beyond Limits (June 19) equipped 100+ learners with special needs with confidence through make-up, grooming, runway, stage presence, and personality development workshops.

Phase 2 – Threads Beyond Limits (June 20) immersed 20 participants in an inclusive Hablon weaving experience, promoting cultural appreciation, creativity, and livelihood awareness.

Phase 3 – Fashion for Passion (June 27) transformed Robinsons Place Pavia into a celebration of inclusion through a Talent Showcase, Advocacy Exhibits, and an Inclusive Fashion Runway before 300+ community members.



ONWARD:

A YEAR OF SKILLS, SERVICE, AND BUILDING WHAT COMES NEXT

BY MAR JOSEPH GO

When I accepted the responsibility of serving as the 2026 Area Skills Development Director of JCI Philippines Visayas Area, I knew I was stepping into something bigger than a position. I was stepping into a responsibility to help develop the people who would eventually develop others.

My call to action was simple:

ONWARD. For Skills. For Service. For Visayas.



I wanted Skills Development in the Area to become more than a calendar of trainings. I wanted it to become a culture where members could learn practical skills, trainers could continuously improve their craft, and Local Organizations could use learning to create better leaders and stronger communities.

The journey was not without its challenges. There were moments when plans had to be adjusted, people had to be aligned, and expectations had to be balanced with what was realistically possible. I learned quickly that Area leadership is not about doing everything yourself. It is about building people, trusting your team, and creating systems that allow everyone to contribute.

And the results became bigger than what I initially imagined.

Through the **ONWARD Leadership Academy**, we successfully delivered three major learning sessions during the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Area Council Meetings in Cebu, Iloilo, and Tacloban, culminating in its final run during the 2026 Area Convention in Iloilo. What started as an initiative to equip Local Organizations became a continuing learning journey throughout the year.

We also **continued the work of 2025 ASDD Earl Thomas Corregidor III through the UPLIFT Visayas Training Database**, adding 12 new training modules to its existing 15 modules, creating an even stronger repository of learning resources for our Local Organizations.

But perhaps one of the most meaningful milestones of the year was creating opportunities not only for learners, but also for trainers.

We launched **GIYA, the Visayas Trainers' Coaching Lab**, giving GABAY graduates a platform to practice, deliver actual training modules, receive structured feedback, and continuously improve their facilitation skills. We also held the **first ever GABAY Visayas Assembly**, bringing together GABAY graduates from Years 1 to 5 and creating a stronger community among generations of trainers.



As ASDD, I was also privileged to train and assist in the 2026 GABAY runs of Areas 1, 3, 4, and 5. But nothing perhaps represented the growth of GABAY Visayas more than **GABAY Visayas Year 5, which welcomed 47 graduates**, making it the highest GABAY participation across JCI Philippines in 2026 and the biggest GABAY class since the program began in 2021.

These numbers are milestones, but they are not the real measure of success.

The real success is seeing a member become more confident after a training. Seeing a new trainer discover that they have something valuable to teach. Seeing Local Organizations become more intentional about developing their people. Seeing one trainer inspire another trainer to step forward.

That is what ONWARD came to mean to me.

It meant moving forward even when the path was not always clear. It meant understanding that Skills Development is not about producing more certificates. It is about producing better leaders, better trainers, and better citizens who are ready to put their skills into action and their passion into service.

And none of this was ever a one person journey.



I am deeply grateful to my Area Vice President, Atty. Vincent Von Nogra, whose unwavering support and trust gave our Skills Development initiatives the space and confidence to grow. To my Local Organization, JCI Metro Cebu Uptown, and our 2026 LO President Pres. Julice Panoy, thank you for allowing me to serve the Area while continuing to carry the pride of our chapter.

My sincerest appreciation also goes to the 2026 ONSDD Team, who continuously challenged and supported us to raise the standard of Skills Development nationwide, and to my 2026 Area Skills Development Team, whose commitment made every initiative possible.

To DASDD Marden of JCI Aklan Kalantiao, DASDD Niña of JCI Candahug Liberation, RSDD Warren of JCI Cebu, RSDD Kat of JCI Bacolod, and RSDD Rufino of JCI Tanauan Pasaka, thank you for walking this journey with me. You were not simply members of my team. You were the people who helped turn ideas into action across our area.

Looking back, I realize that leadership is rarely about the position you hold. It is about what you build while you have the opportunity to lead.



My term as ASDD will eventually end, but the work should not.

The trainers we developed will continue training. The modules we created will continue teaching. The systems we established will continue evolving. And the members we empowered will hopefully empower others.

And whatever comes next, I will always be grateful that, for one remarkable year, I had the privilege of helping move Skills Development in Visayas forward.

ONWARD IMPACT:

- 4 GABAY Area Trainings Supported
- 47 GABAY Visayas Year 5 Graduates
- 12 New UPLIFT Training Modules
- 4 ONWARD Leadership Academy
- 5 Generations United through GABAY Assembly
- GIYA Visayas Trainer's Coaching Lab Launched



2026 AREA 4 VISAYAS SKILLS DEVELOPMENT TEAM

MARGO



Mar Joseph Go
ASDD

NIÑA



Niña Briones
DASDD

MARDEN



Marden Maigue
DASDD

WARREN



Warren Ronell Flores
RSDD - CV

RUFINO



Rufino Almaden
RSDD - EV

KAT



Katrine Carolle Sellado
RSDD - WV

WALK WITH PRIDE:

Building Houses for Inclusive Leaders, Sustaining the Future!

BY BRANDON DARYLE BARRETO

What happens when a bold national vision meets local communities ready to build something bigger? You get Walk With Pride.

In 2026, **WALK WITH PRIDE: THE HOUSE INITIATIVE** brought a simple yet radical idea to JCI Philippines: **leadership should have no limits based on identity, geography, circumstance, or background.** Inspired by the Ballroom Scene's iconic concept of the "House" as a chosen family, Walk With Pride transformed a subcultural refuge into a national framework where individuals can develop, connect, advocate, and lead. But the real story is not just how the program was designed. The real story is what happened when people started building it.

From Area 1 to Area 5, Walk With Pride rolled out across the archipelago, quickly turning a national initiative into a nationwide movement. Leading the charge was **Brandon Daryle Barreto of JCI Roxas Sinadya, National Chairperson for Walk With Pride 2026.** NC Brandon traveled across the country to witness local launches and meet the people bringing the vision to life. For him, the journey was far more than attending official ceremonies; it was seeing firsthand how one core idea could adapt to local cultures, unique partnerships, and distinct regional expressions.

Among all the stops, Bicol stood out as a defining milestone. NC Brandon stood alongside former Vice President of the Philippines and current Naga City Mayor **Leni Robredo to sign the historic Declaration of Commitment for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Non-Discrimination.** For a national chairperson carrying this vision across the country, it was a genuine "pinch-me" moment. Yet beyond the high-profile signatures, the moment represented a deep structural shift: a shared promise to build communities where diversity is celebrated, discrimination is actively challenged, and people can participate fully without hiding who they are. The House was no longer just a concept on paper, as people were actively laying its foundation.

If Bicol demonstrated the power of political commitment, **Area 4 proved the power of community.** The **Big Pride Picnic Year 2**, led by **AC Matt of JCI Cebu Lakan Bahaghari**, showed that a movement does not need years to make an indelible impact. Sometimes, it just needs five extraordinary days of pure grit, coordination, and community goodwill.

In less than a week of preparation, Area 4 mobilized **46 volunteers, 31 featured artists, 25 vibrant queerpreneurs, and 11 community organizations**, drawing **1,236 registered picnic-goers** into one big safe space. On June 14, a stretch of Cebu I.T. Park transformed into a sanctuary. Families gathered without fear, artists shared their gifts, queerpreneurs grew their businesses, and strangers became allies. Supported by major partners, local government units, and grassroots volunteers, Area 4 proved that creating safe spaces is not the job of a single organization, because it takes an entire community.

Yet Walk With Pride was never designed to stop at visibility. While being seen is vital, being ready to lead is transformative. Through the **LOKA Academy**, participants equip themselves with practical skills in **Intersectional Leadership, Human Rights and SOGIESC Advocacy, Policy Engagement, and Economic Empowerment.**

The initiative structures this growth through a three-step pathway: First is the **House of Visibility**, which focuses on awareness and safe spaces. Second is the **House of Development**, which builds leadership capacity through training and mentorship. Third is the **House of Advocacy and Engagement**, which turns growth into community action.

This framework is backed by measurable accountability, requiring **at least 80% of members in participating Houses to be formally trained in SOGIE and safe space protocols, with 100% pledged to diversity, equity, and inclusion.** Inclusion, after all, must show up in what we do.

The numbers reflect a movement: **over 800,000 beneficiaries reached, more than 1,000 partners engaged, and over 90 impact reports filed nationwide.** Walk With Pride empowers each community to build a House that fits its local reality while remaining tied to one national vision. Area 4 built a picnic. Bicol forged a civic commitment. Dozens of other cities created local solutions. Different stories, different places, but one unified direction.

At its heart, Walk With Pride asks a fundamental question: Not "How many people can we reach?" but "*Who else can we bring with us?*"

Sustaining the future is not just about preparing for tomorrow; it is about deciding **who gets to help build it.** From Area 1 to Area 5, Walk With Pride has proven that every House can open another door, every leader can mentor the next, and every safe space can become a launchpad for someone else's courage. Everyone deserves a place, a voice, and the opportunity to lead.

***This is Walk With Pride:
not simply a walk, but a movement forward.***



Behind the Quiet Heart of AVP Von

A Shadow's Perspective

BY JAY EMANUEL ALEGARBES

There is a distinct moment before the room settles when a leader walks in, and everyone instinctively sits up a little straighter. At first glance, Atty. Vincent Von Nogra had that exact effect. Sharp, impeccably put-together, and carrying the quiet intensity of a high-powered lawyer, "AVP Von" initially looked like someone who lived on an unreachable pedestal.

When I first became his Area Secretary, I was ready for strict borders, formal hierarchy, and heavy authority. Instead, the polished armor melted away almost immediately, revealing the actual human underneath: a massive romantic at heart, wildly generous, disarmingly simple, and deeply, unapologetically emotional.

To know him as "Aveeps" is to realize he never cared about ruling from the top. He just wanted to pull up a chair, order comfort food, and check in on how you were actually doing

For him, leadership was never about holding shiny trophies for himself; it was about the people who helped carry the heavy weight up the hill.

Throughout his term, Area 4 swept recognitions from local chapters all the way to the national stage. Yet, whenever the spotlight found him, Aveeps instinctively ducked out of the frame.

He refused to claim the credit as his own, handing every single award right back to the members.

He never micromanaged or held anyone by the neck. Instead, he gave us unconditional trust, laughed with us through the stress, and backed our wildest plans before we even fully believed in them ourselves.

Yet, behind that composed, nonchalant exterior lies a man who overthinks because he cares so damn much.



I'll never forget the random, late-night messages pinging on my phone, he is worrying out of nowhere about a distant chapter, asking if we are doing okay as a team, and then softly dropping the confession that broke my heart: "I feel like I'm not doing enough."

That's the thing about AVP Von. He gives until his own tank is running on absolute fumes, quietly dipping into his personal pockets to cover expenses so no one feels left out, and never demanding red-carpet treatment when visiting chapters. During the grueling grind of Project Long Live, when fatigue was clearly eating him up, he refused to let us see him slump. He masked his tiredness with jokes and focused entirely on making sure the rest of us were fed, rested, and okay. He swallowed his own exhaustion so we wouldn't have to carry it.



He's the kind of guy who doesn't just attend a community immersion to check off a box; he's right there in the dirt with you. I've watched his face light up around kids in local communities, saw his genuine, quiet respect while listening to Indigenous Peoples, and caught the soft-hearted sucker in him when advocating for animal welfare. He joined those projects because his heart genuinely aches for real human connection.

Now, as the music slows down and the term comes to a close, there's a bittersweet sadness hanging in the air. He's already getting emotional, dreading the day he has to step down because he fell in love with the people of Area 4.



If there is one truth Aveeps needs to hear before he hands over the gavel, it's this:

Area 4 did it, AVP Von. We stood on the sidelines, held our breath, and watched you lead. But the moment you stood up during the campaign, poured your heart out, and chose us, "The victory was already ours."

When they look back at this year, they won't just remember the national awards or the numbers on paper. They will remember the leader who loved us like family, who cried with us, who rooted for us, and who proved that real strength is found in kindness.

The banners will eventually come down, and the official title will pass to someone else. But if the world turns around and asks what we did with our time under your wing, we will tell them we built something unforgettable alongside a friend who led with his whole heart.

Thank you for everything, Aveeps.



*We broke the quiet, built a home from scratch,
And found a strength we never knew we had.
You gave away the crown and kept the scars—
So know this whole kingdom will always be yours.*

Long live the magic you made in our lives.

MASARIG SPIRIT IN MOTION: JCI Philippines Area 4 Visayas Hits Quorum Across Three Landmark Area Council Meetings

BY JAY EMANUEL ALEGARBES

Across the scattered islands of the Visayas, JCI Philippines Area 4 is proving that geographic boundaries are no match for active governance, operational discipline, and a unified vision. Under the guidance of Area Vice President Atty. Vincent Von Nogra, the 2026 Masarig leadership team has successfully achieved and maintained a quorum across all three Area Council Meetings held this year. This consistent turnout ensures that every regional project, administrative decision, and strategic milestone carries the legitimate, collective voice of the Visayan chapters.

The groundwork for this impactful year was laid on January 31, 2026, at the Big Hotel in Mandaue City, Cebu, where JCI Womandaue and President Glaiza Mei Montoya-Ilagan hosted the 1st ACM. Joined by National Executive Vice President Ginno Jaralve and Regional Vice Presidents Richmond Yanson, Timothy Yap, and Rex Palompon, the gathering seamlessly paired administrative alignment with immediate growth. Through the 1st Area Chairperson's Academy led by Area Executive Director Michael Ignacio and Onward Trainings facilitated by Area Skills Development Director Mar Go, Local Organization Presidents were equipped with the tools necessary to steer their chapters toward success.

Momentum then shifted to the Seafood Capital of the Philippines for the 2nd ACM at the San Antonio Resort in Roxas City, Capiz. Hosted by JCI Panitan Tumandok under President John Vincent Duran, the gathering introduced a major administrative evolution: the official launch of the Paperless Area Council Meeting. Aligning with the Office of the National Secretary General's push for sustainable operations, delegates transitioned to digital workflows while nine local presidents showcased their grassroots impact, all alongside a regional training series designed to maximize member development.

The journey continued into Eastern Visayas on August 1, 2026, at the historic Hotel Alejandro in Tacloban City. Hosted by JCI Candahug Liberation Inc., led by President Dr. Michelle Sanchez and supported by RVP Rex B. Palompon, the 3rd ACM brought together local leaders to evaluate mid-year progress, refine remaining term initiatives, and reinforce inter-island collaboration.

From digital innovations and targeted training to consistent democratic participation, the Masarig spirit continues to elevate JCI's presence across the Visayas, turning every council meeting into a powerful engine for lasting regional impact.



The City of Love Is Ready as Iloilo Prepares for the Much-Awaited 46th JCI Philippines Area 4 Visayas Conference on September 4-6, 2026, proudly hosted by JCI Regatta Iloilo.

With an expected 300 to 500 delegates from across Western, Central, and Eastern Visayas, the conference promises three days of leadership, learning, fellowship, and celebration under the vibrant theme *"Hala Bira: The Rhythm of Change"*. Delegates will experience the best of Iloilo through its rich culture, renowned cuisine, and the warm hospitality of the Ilonggo people.

One of the most anticipated highlights is the Quadro Awards Night on September 5, where Area 4 Visayas' most outstanding Local Organizations, projects, and leaders will take center stage. It is an evening of recognition, celebrating a year's worth of passion, service, innovation, and dedication as the area honors those who have made the greatest impact in their communities.

***Hala Bira! Magsinadya kita
kag kitaay sa Iloilo!***



Message

Warmest congratulations to the first-ever edition of De Kwatro—a publication that is more than just a collection of stories, photographs, and milestones. It is a testament to who we are, what we believe in, and what we can accomplish when we come together in the spirit of Jayceism.

Every organization has a story. Ours is written not only through programs and projects, but through the people who dedicate their time, talents, and hearts to making a difference. De Kwatro is born from that very spirit. It gives us a space to celebrate our accomplishments, recognize the people behind them, share our experiences, and inspire one another to continue serving our communities.

This first edition marks the beginning of something meaningful. As we turn these pages, we are reminded that leadership is not defined by a title, but by the willingness to take action. Service is not measured by recognition, but by the lives we touch. And the true strength of JCI is not found in one individual or one local organization, but in the collective passion of young leaders who believe that positive change is possible.

Area 4 represents a diverse and dynamic family of Jaycees. We may come from different communities, backgrounds, and experiences, but we are united by one purpose: to create positive change.

Through De Kwatro, we preserve the moments that define our journey. We document the initiatives that challenged us, the victories that inspired us, the friendships that strengthened us, and even the challenges that taught us valuable lessons. These stories deserve to be told—not simply so that we can look back, but so that those who come after us can look forward with greater courage and purpose.

This publication is also an invitation. An invitation for every JCI member to participate, to share, to connect, and to continue building something greater than ourselves. May these pages remind us that every project begins with an idea, every movement begins with a few people willing to act, and every lasting impact begins with the decision to serve.

To everyone who made this inaugural edition possible, thank you. To the writers, photographers, editors, contributors, local organizations, partners, and every member who shared a story or a moment—this achievement belongs to all of you.

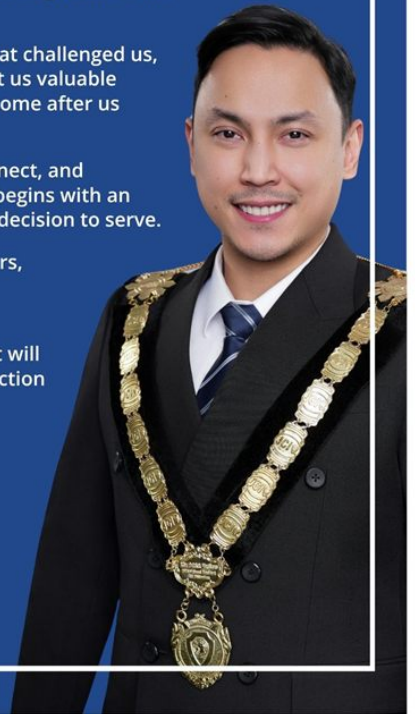
And to the entire JCI Philippines Area 4 family: may this first edition be the beginning of a tradition that will continue for generations. May De Kwatro become not only a record of where we have been, but a reflection of where we are going.

Let us continue to lead with purpose, serve with passion, and inspire with action.

This is our story. This is our journey. This is our Area. And this is only the beginning.

Mabuhay ang JCI Philippines Area 4! Mabuhay ang mga Jaycees!

ATTY. PATRICK DL. MAGLINAO
2026 National President | JCI Philippines



Message

My fellow Jaycees of JCI Philippines Visayas Area,

It is with great pride and heartfelt warmth that I extend my greetings to all of you as we prepare for this year's JCI Philippines Area 4 Conference. The theme "HALA BIRA: The Rhythm of Change" perfectly captures the energy, resilience, and forward momentum that define the Visayas spirit and the JCI movement.

This AreaCon, and the official Area Magazine that accompanies it, stand as powerful testaments to your collective achievements in providing development opportunities that empower young people to create positive change from Eastern, to Central, and to Western Visayas Regions.

As your NEVP, I am inspired by the passion and dedication you bring to every community you serve. May this gathering strengthen the bonds among our chapters, celebrate the milestones you have already reached, and ignite even greater ambition for the year ahead.

Let the rhythm of change guide your JCI journey, your friendships, and your actions.

In an early celebration of your "one year to lead, allow me to congratulate you Area Vice President Atty. Von Nogra, Regional Vice Presidents Rex Baribe, Paul Timothy Yap, Richmond Yanson, Masarig Presidents, area and regional officers, and all the young active citizens of Visayas for your dedication and hard work for the advancement of our JCI vision and mission.

Together, let us move boldly, serve selflessly, and lead with purpose.
I look forward to witnessing the excellence that Area 4 will once again demonstrate.
Hala Bira!

In JCI spirit,

JOSEPH GINNO JARALVE
2026 National Executive Vice President



Message

With pride for the journey that was, and anticipation for what lies ahead, I join JCI Philippines Area IV – Visayas in celebrating a year of purposeful leadership, meaningful service, and lasting impact.

The theme of this year's Area Conference, "HALA BIRA: The Rhythm of Change", beautifully captures the spirit of the Visayas Area. Change is not always easy, but JCI has always shown that when we move with courage, unity, and purpose, change becomes a rhythm that carries communities forward.

I commend the outstanding leadership of 2026 Area Vice President for the Visayas, Atty. Vincent Von A. Nogra, along with his Area Officers, whose commitment and guidance have helped bring the Area IV community together toward a year of meaningful accomplishments. In the same spirit, I express my gratitude to our gracious host, JCI Regatta, for taking on the responsibility of bringing this year's Area Conference to life. Your dedication and hard work have created more than just a venue for celebration; you have provided a meaningful space where leaders can connect, ideas can flourish, and the spirit of JCI can grow stronger.

To every local organization and every JCI member of Area IV, I am in awe of your dedication and perseverance in turning every project into meaningful contributions to the JCI Mission. May this event be a celebration of these achievements while inspiring us to strengthen our bonds, carry forward the impact we have created, and continue leading with purpose.

Let us keep the rhythm alive, embrace the possibilities ahead, and continue turning change into meaningful action. Together, let us Charge Forward to Sustain the Future.

Yours in JCI,

CHARINNA BARRO-QUILANETA
2026 National Treasurer



Message

Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition.

This year's theme, "INNOVATE 4 IMPACT", calls on all of us to move beyond ideas and create solutions that truly matter. And you did exactly that.

You didn't just innovate for the sake of being new. You innovated with purpose. You saw a problem, you dared to think differently, and turned that vision into action that created real change for JCI Philippines, specially Area 4 - Visayas, and for the future of the Organization that we all share.

From the first spark of your idea to the moment it made a difference in people's lives, you showed us what it looks like to lead with both heart and vision. You proved that innovation isn't just solving real problems. It's about listening, improving, and having the courage to try again until it works.

Ang imong gibuhay dili lang para sa imong kaugalingon. Nakahikap kini ug mga kinabuhi. Nakahatag kinu ug kausaban. Mao na gyud ang tinuod nga impact - ang paghimog butang nga makatabang, nga makadasig, ug nga magbiling ug kabilin.

Because of you, people were helped. Because of you, others were inspired to start their own. That is impact. That is legacy.

AVP Von, salamat kay gipakita nimo sa amoa nga ang innovation walay pulos kung walay purpose. Ug ang pinakamaayong innovation kay kanang gigikanan sa pagmahal ug pag-alagad sa uban.

Kami kay proud kaayo nimo! Padayon lang. Ayaw pag-undang ug pangandoy, paghimo, ug paghatag ug epekto sa kalibutan. Kay ang kalibutan nagkinahanglan ug daghan pa nga mga tao nga sama nimo - mga tao nga mag-innovate dili lang para sa kaugalingon, kundili para sa tanan.

Congratulations again AVP Von! Mabuhay ka!

ATTY. RALPH MARTIN C. YU
2026 National General Legal Counsel



Message

HALA BIRA: The Rhythm of Change is more than this year's conference theme. It is a reminder that meaningful change begins when we choose to move with purpose, lead with conviction and serve with heart.

To our JCI Philippines Area 4 family, congratulations on another remarkable Area Conference celebrating the resilience, innovation and commitment of our Local Organizations across the Visayas.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to JCI Regatta for graciously hosting this year's conference. Thank you for creating an avenue where leaders can connect, learn and be inspired, embodying the true spirit of JC leadership and service.

As we continue to Sustain the Future, let us remember that the strength of our organization lies in our ability to work together with discipline, integrity and a shared vision. Let us also embrace the call to Innovate 4 Impact and to continuously seek better ways of serving and creating meaningful change in our communities. Every project completed, every leader developed, every life touched, and every community transformed contributes to a legacy that extends far beyond our terms of office, far beyond titles and recognition. It is a legacy measured not by the positions we hold, but by the lasting impact we leave on the people and communities we serve.

As your 2026 National Secretary General, I have witnessed the dedication of Area 4 members to good governance, collaboration and service. May this conference inspire new ideas, strengthen friendships and empower each of you to create even greater impact.

Thank you, JCI Philippines Area 4, for your passion and leadership. Continue to lead with excellence, embrace innovation and keep the rhythm of positive change alive.

Padayon, Area 4! Hala Bira!

ATTY. LIAN E. RIMANDO
2026 National Secretary General



Message

To Area 4, headed by AVP Atty. Vincent Von Nogra, congratulations on a truly successful term!

Innovate4Impact has been a meaningful journey for Area 4, one that showed how innovation, when paired with purpose and genuine service, can create lasting impact.

As we celebrate the accomplishments of this term, may we also celebrate the people behind them, the leaders who stepped forward, the members who gave their time and talents, the LOs who continued to serve, and the communities who became part of your journey.

To AVP Vincent, congratulations on your leadership and on bringing Area 4 through a successful and impactful term. May the experiences, friendships, and lessons gained throughout the year continue to inspire you and the entire Area 4 family.

And as this chapter comes to a close, may the lumina within each of you continue to shine. May the light of your leadership illuminate new paths, inspire others to serve, and carry forward the impact you have created this year.

Congratulations, Area 4!

May your Innovate4Impact legacy continue to shine brightly through the leaders and communities you have touched.

Keep shining.
Keep leading.
Keep creating impact.

ATTY. MARY MARJORIE P. MARTIN-CHAN

2026 Area Vice President - Area 1



Message

The 2026 JCI Area 4 Conference (AreaCon) is a celebration of the passion, unity, and leadership that define our Area. Under the inspiring theme, "HALA BIRA: The Rhythm of Change," this conference reminds us that meaningful progress is created when individuals move together with a shared purpose. Like every great rhythm, lasting change is built through the collective efforts of leaders committed to serving something greater than themselves.

I extend my warmest congratulations to Area Vice President Atty. Vincent Von Nogra, the Organizing Committee, and every Local Organization whose dedication, collaboration, and hard work have made this conference a memorable gathering. Your commitment reflects the very best of JCI—leaders who inspire, innovate, and create opportunities through service.

AreaCon is more than an occasion to celebrate. It is an opportunity to strengthen friendships, exchange ideas, recognize excellence, and reaffirm our commitment to the JCI Mission. Every conversation, learning session, and shared experience contributes to developing leaders who are prepared to create lasting change in their communities.

As we celebrate this milestone, may the spirit of HALA BIRA continue to inspire us long after this conference concludes. Let us carry forward the energy, optimism, and determination that brought us together, and work hand in hand to build stronger Local Organizations, empower young leaders, and create greater impact throughout Area. Congratulations to everyone who made the 2026 JCI Area 4 Conference a resounding success.

May this gathering serve as a milestone in our shared journey of leadership, fellowship, and service.

Hala Bira! Mabuhay ang JCI Area 4!

CHARLES MATTHEW E. GOSINGTIAN

2026 Area Vice President - Area 2



Message

Congratulations JCI Philippines - Visayas area!

To my fellow Area Vice President of Area 4, AVP Vincent Von Nogra congratulations!

2026 has truly been a roller coaster ride for all of us, but through every challenge and every turn, we continued to navigate, and innovate JCI Philippines using the resources, experiences, and knowledge we shared throughout this term.

Let me also congratulate all the members of JCI Philippines Area 4 for being innovative, committed, and always willing to find better ways to make our organization stronger and better.

Your call to action, "Innovate for Impact," truly reflects the spirit of Area 4, continuously embracing new ideas, challenging the usual, and turning innovation into meaningful action that creates impact for our organization, our members, and our communities.

Cheers to all the learnings, challenges, and innovations we've shared this 2026.

Let's continue to navigate, innovate, and create impact together!

ROVIN P. ESTRELLADO

2026 Area Vice President - Area 3



Message

Greetings of Peace and JCI Spirit! It is with great honor and heartfelt gratitude that I extend my warmest greetings to the leaders and members of JCI Area 4, Visayas as you gather for the 2026 JCI Area 4 Conference, themed "HALA BIRA: The Rhythm of Change."

I am deeply humbled and grateful to be part of your Area Magazine. I see this gesture as a meaningful recognition of the bond connecting JCI Areas across the country. I sincerely thank Area 4 for considering Area 5, Mindanao as one of the milestones in your journey this year.

As we embrace the 2026 JCI Philippines slogan, "Sustain the Future," may we remember that sustainability is not only about preserving what we have today; it is about building leaders, communities, and partnerships that continue creating meaningful impact beyond our terms of office. The future we seek to sustain is built through collaboration, courage, compassion, and the willingness to serve.

To my dear brother and fellow Area Vice President, Atty. Vincent Von Nogra, and to all the men and women of Area 4, please accept my sincerest appreciation for your warm leadership, friendship, and generosity toward Area 5. Your efforts in strengthening the connection among our Areas exemplify the true spirit of JCI: partnership beyond boundaries and leadership beyond titles.

To the entire leadership of JCI Area 4, thank you for reminding us that while we may come from different places and serve different communities, we are united by one purpose: to create positive change and develop leaders for a changing world.

May your conference be filled with meaningful conversations, renewed friendships, and bold ideas that inspire action. May we continue to move together, sustain the future, and leave a legacy worthy of generations to come.

Mabuhay ang JCI Area 4! Mabuhay ang JCI Area 5!
Mabuhay ang JCI Philippines!

With sincere appreciation and JCI Spirit,

ABDURAHMAN A. UTO

2026 Area Vice President - Area 5



Message

Hi, AVP Von!

I've known you for two years already, and in those two years, I've had the privilege of seeing both the good and the bad, the wins, the challenges, the moments when everything seemed to fall into place, and the moments when things didn't go as planned. And honestly, I wouldn't trade that experience for anything. I'm grateful that I got to witness your journey because it allowed me to see the Von Nogra that Area 4 truly deserves.

I know that you are the type of person who has so much to give. You have so much passion, so much energy, and so much heart when you believe in something. And this year, I can personally attest to how you poured all of that into Area 4. You gave your time, your effort, your ideas, your presence, and even parts of yourself just to make sure that you were able to serve your Area the best way you knew how. I've seen how much you cared, and I know that you never held back.

It wasn't a perfect journey, but I know how hard you tried to give your all for your Area. I've seen the effort, the sacrifices, the decisions you had to make, and even the moments when you had to stand firm despite knowing that not everyone would understand where you were coming from. And that, for me, is one of the things I admire most about you.

Your leadership showed JCI that you are someone who will stand by your beliefs. You never tried to be someone you weren't just to please everyone. You remained authentic, and I think that is one of the most important qualities a leader can have. People may not always agree with you, but they know that what they see is genuinely you. And that kind of authenticity is something people remember.

I've also seen how your authenticity gave other people the courage to speak up, stand up for themselves, and believe that their voices matter. You may not always realize it, but the way you lead has inspired people in ways beyond projects, events, and titles. You reminded people that leadership isn't about being perfect, it's about being brave enough to stay true to what you believe is right while still having the heart to serve others.

As your close friend (which, by the way, you are very lucky about HAHAHA), I've seen sides of you that not everyone gets to see, and I'm honestly proud of the person and leader you have become. I know there were days when you questioned yourself, when things became overwhelming, and when you probably wondered if everything you were doing was worth it. But I hope you know that all those experiences shaped you into a stronger and wiser leader.

So as you continue this journey, I hope you never lose the same Von that I met, the passionate, stubborn (HAHAHA), genuine, and big-hearted friend who cares deeply about the people and the things he believes in. Keep standing for what you believe in. Keep challenging yourself. Keep striving for greatness, even when the journey gets difficult.

I'm proud of you, AVP Von. More than the position, the achievements, or everything you accomplished for Area 4, I'm proud that I got to witness your growth as a person and as a leader.

And whatever happens after this chapter, always remember that you have a friend in me who will always be cheering for you. Thank you for allowing me to witness your journey, and thank you for being the Von Nogra that Area 4 deserves.

Proud of you always, my friend.
You gave Area 4 your all, and I hope you know that it did not go unnoticed.

GABRIELLE CAMILLE C. BASIANO
2026 Regional Vice President
Metro South



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November 11-15, 2026**



JCI PHILIPPINES VISAYAS AREA 2026 AREA DIRECTORS AND CHAIRPERSONS



Dave Esquerra Gallano
Bags of Hope



Lira Sheen Azarce
Beyond Prison Walls



Mary Rose Paran
Camp Pag-ibig



Ma. Ruth Cherry Ladan
Hearty, Healthy Philippines



Van Matthew Rosales
Munting Basura, Ibulsa Mo Na!



Mark Vincent Bernas
Clean Water & Sanitation



Nicole Charles Caspe
Creative Young Entrepreneur



Jeric Lagroso
Education for Peace



Matt Erikson Malaga
JCI Week



Jerry Bual
JCIdeas



Joahanna Veloso
Lakbay Katutubo



Aguinaldo Jimenez
JCI in Business



Carmel Stella Migrino
Oplan Kaagapay



Shaina Clarise Capote
Pinay Power



Pauline Isabel Quimpo
TOYM



Leeslie Alvañiz
UNSDG



Ramon Matthew Basabe
Walk with Pride



Dan John Caballero
Debate and Public Speaking



Reynante Oñas
Think Green, Go Green



Francis Kenneth Fabula
ToFarm



Adrian Manuel Tan
JCI Rise



Jonathan Ed Cañuto
YLEA



Mark Joseph Vipinosa
ASPAC and WorldCon



Blessed Bea Plondaya
Visayas AreaCon

JCI PHILIPPINES VISAYAS AREA
**2026 NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS,
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND MANAGING COMMITTEE**



Atty. Vincent Von Nogra
Area Vice President



Romuel Franz Nacar
Immediate Past
Area Vice President



Paul Timothy Yap
Central Visayas
Regional Vice President



Rex Palompon
Eastern Visayas
Regional Vice President



Richmond Mark Yanson
Western Visayas
Regional Vice President



Jay Emanuel Alegarbes
Area Secretary



Atty. Hans Juris Artillero
Area Legal Counsel



Joana Paula Catayong
Area Treasurer



Michael Ignacio
Area Executive Director



Mar Joseph Go
Area Skills
Development Director



Joanna Rose Lauren Pampliega
Area Communications
Director



Josel Osal
Area Awards Chair

