



# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

CIRCLE OF SOLIDARITY:

Community-building among Indigenous Peoples through Collaboration



# Gathering Like Minds and Hearts

### **ABOUT THE COVER**

The practice of forming circles of solidarity has been shared with our learners, teachers, volunteers, and fellow advocates for the cause of Indigenous Peoples. With interlocking fingers, we remind ourselves of our oneness in our shared humanity and our need for each other in upholding the truest sense of community.



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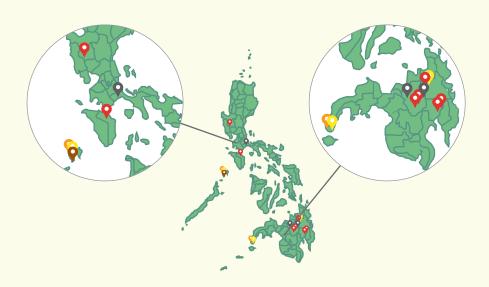
Project Development Associate



# Expanding our Spheres of Impact

**VISION:** Cartwheel Foundation, Inc. ("CARTWHEEL") envisions a Philippines where Indigenous Peoples enjoy their rights to quality education, self-determination, and active participation in community life amidst a thriving heritage.

**MISSION:** CARTWHEEL exists to empower Indigenous Peoples' (IP) communities by harnessing self-sustaining capacities through culturally relevant education.



### Early Childhood and Elementary Education Program

Culion, Palawan (Tagbanua) | Kasanyangan, Zamboanga City (Bajau) | Sinakungan, Agusan del Sur (Higaonon)

### Adult Capability Building Program

Culion, Palawan (Tagbanua) | Kasanyangan, Zamboanga City (Bajau)

### Young Indigenous Peoples Leadership Program

Naujan, Oriental Mindoro (Mangyan Alangan) | New Corella, Davao del Norte (Mangguangan) | Asuncion, Davao del Norte (Dibabawon and Mandaya-Dibabawon) | Valencia City, Bukidnon (Talaandig) | Maramag, Bukidnon (Manobo-Cebuano) | Capas, Tarlac (Aeta Mag Antsi) | Sinakungan, Agusan del Sur (Higaonon)

### Linking the UnderServed with Opportunities for Growth and Health

Culion, Palawan (Tagbanua)

### Technical Assistance

Lucena, Quezon (Bajau) | Miarayon, Bukidnon (Talaandig) | Cabanglasan, Bukidnon (Umajamnen)



# Coming Together for Change

### Janrell Berzabal

### Early Childhood and Elementary Education

basic literacy and numeracy skills instruction through a culture-sensitive curriculum for indigenous children



82% of learners moving up to the next competency level

## **Adult Capability Building**

functional literacy and life skills training through a peaceadvocating, culturally-rooted curriculum for indigenous adults



68% of learners moving up to the next competency level

## Young Indigenous Peoples Leadership

quality tertiary education and culturally-appropriate formation for indigenous youth



58%\* of graduates currently employed in social services

\* from those contacted for their updated employment

# Linking the UnderServed with Opportunities for Growth and Health

health education and partnerships that bridges indigenous communities to health service providers



137% increase in community members' participation in health-focused activities

### 2017 Annual Report

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# Embracing Education Long-term

"We are very grateful to the Diocese of Butuan and Cartwheel Foundation for helping our community establish a school for our youth."

## Jocelyn Lidanhog Arligue

Parent representative Higaonon community of Sinakungan, Agusan del Sur

Together with the Indigenous Peoples' Apostolate (IPA) of the **Diocese of Butuan** as local implementing partner, Cartwheel has been working closely with the Higaonon community of Sinakungan, Esperanza, Agusan del Sur since 2009.

On April 28, 2017, the program implementation and curriculum of the Early Childhood and Elementary Education (ECEE) for Higaonon children were fully turned over to Education (DepEd).

Transitioning to DepEd ensures that indigenous knowledge. skills and practices of the Higaonon will remain integrated into all subject matter for succeeding school years. As active community members and supportive local stakeholders work together to sustain culturally relevant education, Cartwheel continues to be hopeful in the thriving of the rich Higgonon



Turn-over attendees: Director Orlando F. Gamil (DepEd School Governance Operation Division Chief), Lorne P. Gayon (DepEd Curriculum Implementation Division Chief), Jennifer S. Escobido (DepEd Political Affairs Assistant from the provincial district), Bishop Juan de Dios M. Pueblos and Reverend Fr. Carlito Clase (representatives of the IPA), Datu Aquilino Lidanhug (Higaonon tribal leader and Tribal Education Council representative), teachers of Democrito O. Plaza Indigenous Peoples (DOP IP) Sinakungan Elementary School, Higaonon parent-representatives, and Cartwheel's Young Indigenous Peoples Leaders Program college grantees from Sinakungan.

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# Engaging Partners for Better Health

"Learning from the sessions...we really have to be inclusive when we try to build a healthier nation, including those who are from the indigenous communities and those that are marginalized."

### Roanne Duran

Assistant Communications Manager Unilab Foundation









Resource speakers (L-R): Gabriel Romano Vargas, Esq. of Cartwheel Foundation International, Ray Justin Ventura of the Bureau of Local Health Systems and Development, Dr. Penelope Domogo of the Provincial Health Office in the Mountain Province, and Loreta Sta. Teresa of Ateneo de Zamboanga University's Center for Community Extension Services



Participants, resource speakers, and organizers of 'Bayanihan sa Kalusugan' Learning Event

Bayanihan sa Kalusugan, a learning event on culture-sensitive approaches to health, was held on October 23, 2017 at the Ortigas Foundation Library with Cartwheel Foundation Philippines and development partner, Cartwheel Foundation International as lead organizers.

The gathering was meant to further educate and discuss how the well-being of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) could improve through health approaches that recognize their unique context and lifeways. Experts shared how might the main goal of health access for all be achieved and maintained via interdisciplinary cooperation within local, international, public and private sectors. Among attendees were representatives from the academe, government, and other development organizations.

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# Sharing Stories on IP Life Ways

### Other partners for advocacy engagements:

- De La Salle University (January 10)
- The Learning Child and MAGIS Creative Spaces (February 4)
- Assumption College, San Lorenzo (February 16)
- University of the Philippines National College of Public Administration and Governance (UP-NCPAG) (March 2)
- De La Salle University Dasmariñas (DLSUD) (March 23)
- Ateneo de Manila University Office for Social Concern and Involvement (April 1)
- 11th Volunteer Health Workers' Convention (May 18)
- Ateneo de Manila Grade School (August 30)
- Kaya Natin! Movement for Good Governance and Ethical Leadership (September 6)
- The Beacon School, Manila (October 2017)
- Quezon City-Marikina Grade School Consortium (November 11)



On a global scale, Cartwheel spoke at the Asia-Pacific Regional Network for Early Childhood (ARNEC) Conference in Angkor Wat, Siam Reap, Cambodia on March 1-3. 2017. The conference focused on the **importance of holistic** interventions for early childhood development (ECD). Cartwheel Executive Director Pia Ortiz-Luis and Cartwheel International Country Director Coleen Ramirez-Panahon shared the foundation's enhanced ECD approach, with the integration of resilience-building and healthseeking practices piloted with three Tagbanua communities in Culion, Palawan.



Cartwheel shared its advocacy to a younger audience at Ateneo de Manila's Talakayang Alay sa Bayan (TALAB) talks on February 21, 2017. Cartwheel team members Bricks Sintaon and Berose Tacal, shared their story as Talaandig growing up in Miarayon, Bukidnon. Through an interactive format, Cartwheel also showed that despite Filipinos' diversity in culture—with that of indigenous groups as distinctly unique—common values and even challenges remain shared by the nation.





Our warmest thanks to you, dear partners and friends, for journeying with Indigenous Peoples through Cartwheel Foundation! It has always been your steadfast support and generosity that help enable indigenous learners and their communities to live out their own stories of joy and hope.

### **FUNDING AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS**

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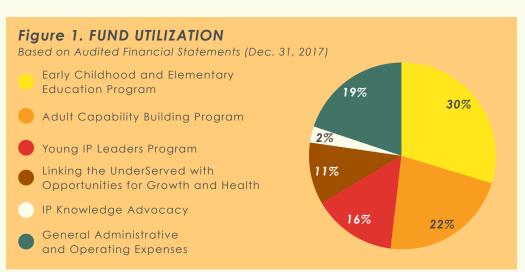
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# 1,000,00 Moving toward Collective Impact



### **DONATE**

Help a child grow in culturally relevant learning! Be a sponsor and match our partner communities' efforts in education their children. Visit http://cartwheelfoundation.org/i-want-tohelp/be-a-sponsor/ for more details.



## INITIATE

Start a project to fundraise for our indigenous learners in a thousand creative ways! Your bright ideas can contribute much to the education of our partner communities.



## **ADVOCATE**

Tell others about our IP advocacy and the urgency of our work with Filipino culturebearers. Or you may invite the CARTWHEEL Team to speak at your organization—we would very gladly oblige!







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www.cartwheelfoundation.org

Our utmost gratitude goes out to Charise Delson for the design and lay-out of this Annual Report.