



Growing in Service of Filipino Indigenous Communities



2014 Annual Report



VISION

A Philippines where indigenous children and adults, with no access to basic services, enjoy their right to quality education and active participation in community life.

MISSION

Cartwheel exists to empower indigenous peoples communities by improving self-sustaining capacities and increasing access to resources through education.

Beginning in 1999 with the building of a schoolhouse for indigenous Talaandig from Miarayon, Bukidnon, the programs of Cartwheel Foundation, Inc. (CFI) have grown in breadth and depth across Filipino communities. We are thankful for 15 strong years of bringing culturally relevant education to where it is needed the most.



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Our Partner Communities



● Early Childhood and Elementary Education Program

Lucena, Quezon (Bajau), Culion, Palawan (Tagbanua), Esperanza, Agusan del Sur (Higaonon), Miarayon, Bukidnon (Talaandig), Mampang, Zamboanga City (Bajau)

● Adult Capability Building Program

Culion, Palawan (Tagbanua)

● Young Indigenous Peoples Leaders Program

Liwanbaay, Abra (Binongan), North Cervantes, Ilocos Sur (Kankana-ey), Cordon, Isabela (Ifugao), Naujan, Oriental Mindoro (Mangyan Alangan), Capas, Tarlac (Aeta Hungoy and Aeta Mag Antsi), Valencia City, Bukidnon (Talaandig), Maramag, Bukidnon (Manobo), Talakag, Bukidnon (Talaandig), New Corella, Davao del Norte (Manguangan), Asuncion, Davao del Norte (Dibabawon), Caraga, Davao Oriental (Mandaya), Upi, Maguindanao (Teduray), Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao (Teduray), Siayan, Zamboanga del Norte (Subanen), Carmen, Surigao del Sur (Manobo), Kiamba, Sarangani Province (B'laan), Pigcawayan, North Cotabato (Arumanen-Manobo)

● Project RISE: Re-Igniting Community Strength through Education

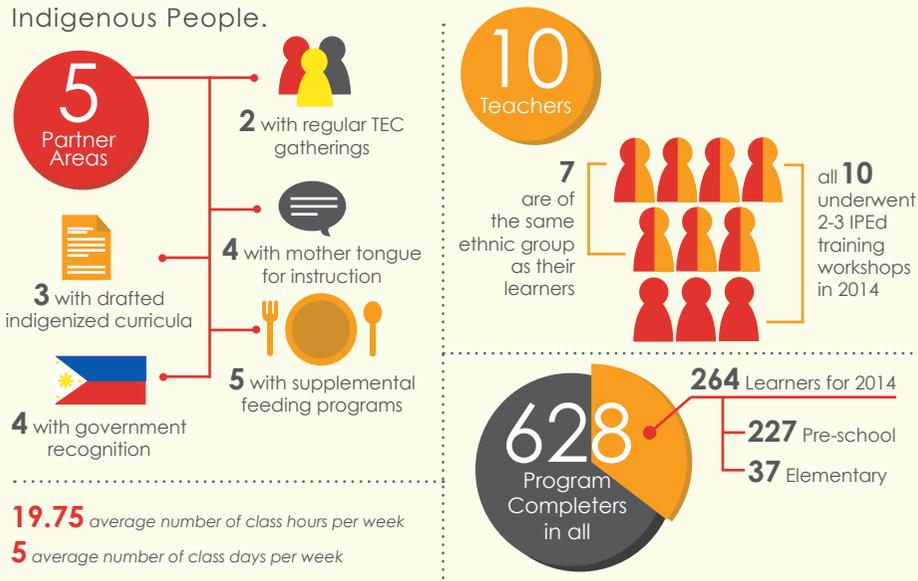
Culion and Coron, Palawan (Tagbanua)



Early Childhood and Elementary Education (ECEE) Program

Indigenous young learners from partner areas continue going to school with much support from their local communities.

Culture-sharing among young and old is growing to be a regular practice, especially in Esperanza (Brgy. Sinakungan) and Culion (Sitios Alulad and Cagait). The Tribal Education Councils (TEC) of these partner communities gather weekly and are able to coordinate for small projects like schoolhouse improvements, communicate regarding pressing concerns like evacuation plans during typhoons, and together celebrate their unique life ways as Indigenous People.



Indigenous Higaonon teachers guide the young learners from Brgy. Sinakungan in Esperanza, Agusan del Sur as they attempt to accomplish written exercises on their own.

Through regular teachers' training and monitoring visits, relevant instruction specific to each of the communities' cultures is ensured. The indigenized curricula they use as guide have been drafted through the successful collaboration between program staff, teachers, and the community members with whom they nurture friendship and trust.

The strengthened commitment of more local partners made possible the program's recognition from the Department of Education (DepEd), and Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). In Sitio Alulad, Culion, teachers started handling Grades 1-3 classes under DepEd's Alternative Delivery Mode.



Growing in Reach

Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program

Reaching Out to More: Mampang, Zamboanga

Angiskul ma Bangka (Classes in Bancas) was opened in October with 96 Bajau children of pre-school age as learners. With Ateneo de Zamboanga University's Center for Community Extension Services (ADZU-CCES) as implementing partner, this collaboration aims to help the Bajau children learn in a safe environment and to provide them with education that integrates their indigenous life ways. The program's modules are based on the principles of Peace Education given the unique context of the learners being displaced from their original homes due to conflict.

Returning to Our Roots: Miarayon, Bukidnon

The *Baidan Hu Katatao* (Sharpening the Mind) Miarayon Community Preschool was launched in July with 33 children as enrollees. As CFI's pilot area 15 years before, engaging again with the Talaandig for the education of their youngest learners becomes a meaningful homecoming. Together with the learners' parents, the Talaandig alumni of CFI's Young IP Leaders Program committed to contributing funds and pooling other available resources to sustain the preschool's operations. With technical assistance from CFI, all efforts to implement the ECE Program was initiated and followed-through by the Talaandig community members themselves.

Vilma started as a shy little girl who seldom went out to play with other children. She could barely walk as she suffered from mild polio. Her family was among the many who fled after their homes were set on fire during the Zamboanga Siege in 2013. She joined Angiskul ma Bangka with support from her parents who would take her to school every day.

Vilma showed that she was a determined little one in class! She now is able recognize the alphabet and write her name. She gained confidence in interacting with her classmates. And happily, she already learned to walk on her own.



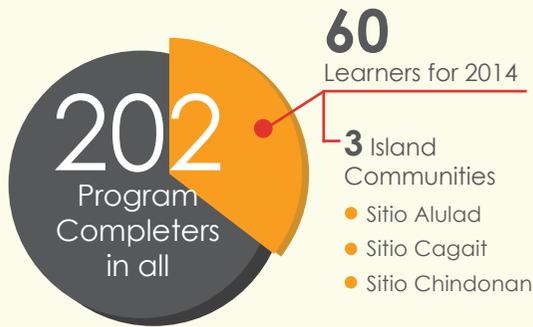
With support from family like her grandmother (left) and Angiskul ma Bangka Teacher Relinda (right), children like Vilma (center) are motivated to overcome challenges and pursue learning in a safe environment.



Adult Capability Building (ACAP) Program

Tagbanua adult learners continue to grow in functional literacy as they attend classes and directly apply lessons in their day-to-day activities. In Sitio Chindonan, 87.5% of the learners acquired basic reading and writing skills from having low to zero literacy at the beginning. Though the learners still experienced difficulty in passing DepEd's Alternative Learning Systems (ALS) Equivalency Exams, teachers in Sitio Alulad doubled their efforts to equip learners with knowledge and skills to continue onto formal education.

Erratic attendance among learners in Sitio Cagait posed a challenge as they were involved in rebuilding efforts after Typhoon Yolanda and other livelihood projects. This was addressed by adjusting their class schedule to match the days most of the community members were available.



1 of them is a Bayaning Pilipino Awardee
*More details on page 9

9
class hours
per week



2 of them are Tagbanua teachers



all **3** underwent 2-3 IPEd training workshops in 2014

3
class days
per week



Arnilyn (leftmost) carries her child and looks on while her classmate plays the yuke, as part of their Tribal Education Council gathering under the Adult Capability Building Program at Sitio Chindonan, Culion, Palawan.

Arnilyn has never gone to school. She did not know how to read when she began as an ACAP learner. Teacher Andy, who is Tagbanua himself, says that Arnilyn is one of his most hardworking students. She retains most of what is taught in class and is now functionally literate. Asked why she is motivated to keep on learning, Arnilyn says she desires to teach her young children especially once they are old enough to attend school.



Young Indigenous Peoples (YIP) Leaders Program

Indigenous college grantees from all over the country are growing in leadership as they take on responsibilities within campus and in partner communities too. Pamulaan's bi-annual practice of Community Service Learning where students are deployed to do research and contribute to on-going development projects opened opportunities for direct application of strategies and theories learned from school. The on-the-job training experience of graduating students enriched their exposure all the more; many are assigned to IP areas most in need of assistance in community organizing.

**Pamulaan Center for
Indigenous Peoples'
Education**



21
Grantees for
School Year
2014 - 2015

10
in 4th year,
Anthropology

2
in 3rd year,
Social
Entrepreneurship

9
in 1st year,
Agricultural
Technology



Normindo Mosela (leftmost) addresses various representatives of different ethnic groups at the Indigenous Peoples Education Forum organized by the Department of Education in December.



Project RISE: Re-Igniting Community Strength through Education

One year after Typhoon Haiyan hit Tagbanua islands in Culion, CFI still grows in collaboration with community members and many other equally dedicated partners. Combined efforts address the immediate and psychosocial needs of those affected in Sitios Alulad, Cagait, and Chindonan as all agree to contribute through innovative ways to the steps towards recovery.



Toledo Abella (rightmost) is congratulated by Cultures in Harmony musicians after their first musical exchange with Tagbanua communities at Sitio Cagait, Culion, Palawan.

"It was beautiful how we came together to learn from each other, especially about the culture passed on to us by our ancestors. And it is a beautiful thing to continue for as long as we live."

-Toledo, Tagbanua music-maker on the cultural exchange in August



TRAINING

Skills-building on psychosocial support facilitated by trauma and mental health experts

15 participants from Culion local government, church, and schools



CONSTRUCTION

Preparing to build safe and disaster-resilient multi-purpose evacuation halls

Plans drafted for **3** multi-purpose evacuation halls



DEEPENING RECOVERY

Reinforcing pride in cultural lifeways through music and cultural exchange

5 Tagbanua communities



HEALING AND RECOVERY

Practicing art therapy activities led by psychosocial experts and volunteers

2 Tagbanua communities



Building on a strong partnership since 2006, Cultures in Harmony (CiH) musicians from America came to the Philippines from August 13-21 to again collaborate with CFI. The goal was to contribute to post-Typhoon Yolanda healing and recovery efforts for the Tagbanua of Culion, Palawan, encouraging them to regain strength through the richness of their own traditional music and life ways.

After a series of learning exchange workshops between CiH musicians and the Tagbanua, the collaboration culminated with an advocacy concert at Ayala Museum. The show also featured esteemed local musicians from Manila Symphony Orchestra (MSO) and MSO Junior. This was made in commemoration of CFI's 15 years of nurturing Filipino heritage through culturally relevant education.



CFI Board of Trustees and Staff with Cultures in Harmony musicians and Mr. Jeffrey Solares of the Manila Symphony Orchestra (leftmost) gather after the advocacy concert at Ayala Museum in August.

AWARDS RECEIVED



Lilia Diaz with ABS-CBN Corp. President & CEO Charo Santos-Concio (left) and Anton Mari Lim (right) of Yellow Boat of Hope Foundation

Bayaning Pilipino Award 2014

Lilia Diaz, Adult Capability Building Program teacher, was conferred with the Bayaning Pilipino Award 2014 by Gawad Geny Lopez on June 10. She dedicated more than 35 years as a teacher in Loyola College of Culion and continues her passion for service in working presently with Tagbanua adult learners of Sitio Alulad, Culion, Palawan.



UNESCO-APCEIU's Yeonwoo Lee awards the Best Practices honors to CFI's Bricks Sintaon

Education for International Understanding Best Practices Award

For the program on Early Childhood and Elementary Education for Indigenous Learners of the Higaonon community in Brgy. Sinakungan, Esperanza, Agusan del Sur, the Education for International Understanding Best Practices Award was conferred to CFI through its Education Coordinator Bricks Sintaon. Representatives from UNESCO's Asia Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding (APCEIU) visited the CFI office on December 1 to learn more about the education innovations practiced in Sinakungan.



With your dedicated support, the good change that grows with our partner communities is made possible all the more.

FUNDING PARTNERS

Alfonso Yuchengco Foundation | Almendras, Dr. Teoly | Betz, Markus | Brightlight Interior Design, Inc. | Carewell Cancer Resource & Wellness Community | Cartwheel Foundation International, Inc. | Cheng, Berck | Children's Hope Fund-Hong Kong, Ltd. | Cruz, Teresita | Donato-Tay, Bianca | Garcia, Marito & Helen | Global Fund for Children | Gokongwei, Elizabeth | Gokongwei, Marcia | Gokongwei-Cheng, Lisa | Gregorio Araneta Social Development Fund | Hanston Commercial & Industrial Corp. | Hager, John Peter | Harnessing Self-reliant Initiatives & Knowledge, Inc. | Hildegard Lash Foundation | Kison, Raul | Llamas, Roberto | Megaworld Foundation | Ocon, Fr. Lito & Friends | Park N' Ride, Inc. | Patrick, Hone & Mandy | Philippine Medical Association of Metropolitan Washington DC | Rags2Riches | Silver CDO Finance | TELUS International Philippines | Tirol, Vic & Lorna | US Philippines Society | Yuyucheng, Atty. Frances | NetSuite, Inc. | IT Group, Inc.

PROGRAM AND PROJECT PARTNERS

Ateneo de Zamboanga-Center for Community Extension Services | Ateneo Disaster Response & Management (DReAM) Team | Community Members of Marayon, Bukidnon | Cultures in Harmony | Indigenous Peoples' Apostolate-Diocese of Butuan | La Inmaculada Concepcion Parish, Culion | MAGIS Creative Spaces | Manila Symphony Orchestra | Mary Mediatrix of All Grace Foundation, Inc. | Pamulaan Center for Indigenous Peoples' Education | Payatas Orione Foundation, Inc. | Peralta, Anne | Simbahang Lingkod ng Bayan | Toshiba Philippines, Inc. | UNESCO-Asia Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding | University of Asia & the Pacific-Arts Department | Velhagen, Katrise

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FUNDS UTILIZATION

According to Major Funding Programs

Based on Audited Financial Statement December 31, 2014



- Project Re-Igniting Community Strength through Education: P 1,000,000
- Adult Capability Building Program: P 62,000
- Early Childhood and Elementary Education Program: P 1,031,000
- Young IP Leaders Program: P 1,800,000



DONATE

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



INITIATE

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



ADVOCATE

Tell others about our shared IP advocacy and the urgency of work with Filipino culture-bearers. Or you may invite the Cartwheel Team to speak at your organization – we would very gladly oblige!

Get in touch with us via email at action@cartwheelfoundation.org and tell us how you would like to help.



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