



# HAPAG-ASA Newsletter

## "Loaves and Fishes"



The Official Triannual Newsletter of the Hapag-Asa Integrated Nutrition Program  
Volume 2, Issue 2 May - August 2008

*"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink... I tell you, whenever you did this for one of the least important brothers of mine, you did it for Me!"*  
Matthew 25:35,40

### 50 Diocesan Volunteers Trained as Hapag-Asa Trainers



Right: Helen Lastra of Corinth having discussions with the trainers during the TOT. Left: Carmen Quintans of the Diocese of Parañaque working on her visual aids and Margarita Mabanglo of the Diocese of Imus having her mock training

18 participants for the 1st batch and 32 for the 2nd batch," said Divine Dumlao of Corinth Foundation when asked to evaluate the 2 trainings. The training focused on training techniques and facilitation skills, enriching the knowledge of the volunteer-participants which they can use in training parish facilitators on the modules.

**May and June had been busy months for the Hapag-Asa Team because of the 2 batches of Training of Trainers (TOT) conducted in partnership with Corinth Foundation held in LAYFORCE, San Carlos Formation Complex.**

Modules used by the different Arch/Dioceses in their Parent's Classes were consolidated and enriched to come up with standardized modules for use by all partners implementing the Hapag-Asa program. Standardization of the modules is necessary to make the conduct of education classes more effective.

The Corinth Foundation, known for its first-rate conduct of trainings, was commissioned by the Hapag-Asa Secretariat to train Diocesan coordinators and volunteers in applying the experiential learning approach in the use of the educational modules for the parents of the children enrolled in the feeding program.

"The 2 batches of Trainers' Training for Hapag-Asa generally went well. Almost all of the Dioceses were represented -

The TOT, that focused on Affective Parenting, Health and Nutrition, Responsible Parenthood and Livelihood including the Pondo ng Pinoy's Fullness of Life Module as a prerequisite for all Pondo ng Pinoy-member Arch/Dioceses, resulted in the enhancement of the modules because of the inputs and comments given by the participants. It is expected that the modified modules will saw print before the end of the year.



**I Am Ninoy Campaign Supports Hapag-Asa**

August 21, 2008 saw the celebration of the 25th anniversary of Ninoy Aquino's martyrdom and the launching of iamninoy Campaign, a year-long commemoration of Ninoy's life and legacy that promotes the values he believed in and nobly fought for.

The Campaign hopes to engage the youth to continue Ninoy's legacy through big or small acts of heroism, the selfless giving for others like offering one's seat and participating in endeavors for

*continued on page 4*

### MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

One of the immediate concerns of the Prelature of Infanta is the welfare of the malnourished children in the many barangays of the municipalities of Real, Infanta and Gen, Nakar (RIN).



The Social Action Center (SAC) of the Prelature of Infanta has sought the help of the Pondo ng Pinoy Community Foundation's "Hapag-Asa Integrated Nutrition Program" to address the problem of the malnourished children and their families.

Thanks to the partnership of SAC and the Pondo ng Pinoy's Hapag-Asa with assistance from Assisi Development Foundation and Feed the Children Philippines, more than 200 children have been getting nourishing meals for the past six months. The children beneficiaries of the feeding have shown tremendous increase in weight and have been helped in strengthening their growing physical condition. One of the immediate results of the program is the peace of mind of the parents who see the good effects of the program to their children.

I am very grateful to the Pondo ng Pinoy Community Foundation for the partnership with the SAC in helping our poor and malnourished children.

May God bless you for your kindness and for your love for the poor children.

*+ Rolando J. Tria Tirona, O.C.D.*  
† ROLANDO J. TRIA TIRONA, O.C.D.  
Bishop Prelate of Infanta

## A Beautiful Partnership between Hapag-Asa and Splash Foundation



Top: Fr. Ex Caleon, Parish Priest of San Gabriel Parish and a child having their hair cut by the SPLASH Trainees. Down: Group Picture of the SPLASH Graduates from San Gabriel Parish, Diocese of Malolos

The livelihood component of the Hapag-Asa has been beautifully enriched after partnering with Splash Foundation for its Free Training on Basic Cosmetology Course named “Ganda Mo, Hanap Buhay Ko”.

The Diocese of Antipolo was the first to avail of this training on July 28 to August 1, 2008. A total of 64 Hapag-Asa mothers/volunteers from 2 parishes graduated from this course. Another 38 participants were trained from San Gabriel Parish, Sta. Maria Bulacan (Diocese of Malolos) on August 27 to 29, 2008.

Each graduate was given a free kit and a framed certificate after completing the comprehensive training. This program requires graduates to conduct “Libreng Gupit” sessions which serve as their practice routine in building their confidence in handling costumers better. The graduates should also prove, after 2 months, that they are earning some income using the skills learned to sustain the benefits of the Hapag-Asa.

The diocese in line to get the free training in September is the Diocese of Imus which targets to have at least 70 participants.

### A Charity that Gives Life to the Poor

By: Sr. Ma. Gemelina T. Gaudicos, TDM  
Caritas Davao Coordinator

The DAVAO CARITAS FOUNDATION, INC. is one of the partner implementors of Pondo ng Pinoy for the HAPAG-ASA Integrated Nutrition Program. Thanks to God for the blessings! Now we have 4 parishes actively participating in the program. These parishes are St. Jude under Rev. Fr. Vicente Candia, St. Francis Xavier, Tibungco under Rev. Fr. Roy Mejias, Holy Family under Rev. Fr. Henry Campeon, and St. John the Baptist under Rev. Fr. Ricky Penalosa. With the help of

the Parish Caritas volunteers, different parish organizations, sponsors and benefactors, we were able to feed the malnourished children in the Archdiocese.

Last 2007, four parishes finished the six-month feeding namely the parishes of San Pablo under Msgr. Joy Tonel, Our Lady of Lourdes, Bangkal under Rev. Fr. Voltier Dimol, St. Jude under Rev. Fr. Vicente Candia (first batch) and Immaculate Conception under Rev. Fr. Roger Duhaylungsod. There were 420 children including the those in RVM school in Baganga, Davao Oriental who were able to avail of the program. Thanks to the full support, love and care of the parish priests and the hard work of our volunteers in helping the malnourished children. As a sign of our gratitude for having finished the 6-month feeding, the Parish Caritas received simple tokens from the Davao Caritas Foundation during the 36<sup>th</sup> Caritas Day.



Hapag-Asa graduates from the Parish of St. Jude, Archdiocese of Davao

The Hapag-Asa Integrated Nutrition Program does not give dole out to parents and children but gives hope to our poor brothers and sisters because of what they learned during the program. These are especially true with the education classes made on livelihood, proper food and nutrition, sanitation and hygiene, values and spiritual formation and responsible parenthood. With this program, we were able to help them enhance their way of life and able to instill in them the value of their children’s lives. “Charity gives life to the poor.”

### Partnership in Action

As an offshoot of the signing of MOAs between the DSWD Region 4-AD Director and the Bishop of Imus and the Social Action Director of Diocese of Antipolo, trainings have already been conducted for the target participants of the respective dioceses.

As a prerequisite to the release of the loan grant, the participants underwent the 3-day mandatory training where they were oriented about the SEA-K including the requirements and procedures, informed of their responsibilities, taught of basic

accounting and bookkeeping, given inputs on how to choose a good business and on how to effectively manage the business they plan to have. The participants who finished this 3-day training became eligible for the submission of their proposed business to be financed by DSWD.

The qualified SEA-K grantees are now just waiting for the initial release of the loan grant.

### Vitameal Gave Strength to Aklan and Antique Typhoon Victims



Children from Aklan excited for their food with Vitameal

Typhoon Frank devastated several provinces when it came last June. Because of this, Feed the Children Philippines was immediately contacted for Vitameal to be sent to the provinces of Aklan and Antique which are two of the provinces that were submerged in deep murky waters and in uncertainties of how to get up from this ordeal.

A total of 7,797 Vitameal bags were sent to Aklan and Antique - 6,923 and 874 bags respectively - for soup and rolling kitchen. Coordination with existing partners namely Dios Mabalos Po Foundation and the Diocese of Antique made possible the soup and rolling kitchen for the typhoon victims in the areas covered regardless of their age and gender. As a result, more than 36,500 children and adults were given source of strength while recovering from the mishap.

### CRUMBS...

#### Answered Call

The battle against malnutrition is made possible by new Pondo ng Pinoy Dioceses implementing the program. After the orientation and training separately conducted, the Dioceses of Boac, Marinduque and San Jose, Nueva Ecija are now implementing the program. Commendable is the support of their respective clergies and the immediate response they made to our call. As of August 31, Diocese of Boac is catering to 833 children from 6 parishes while the Diocese of San Jose is in the process of identifying the malnourished kids.

#### Hapag-Asa goes online

Visit [www.hapag-asa.com](http://www.hapag-asa.com) to see online news, photos, downloadable forms and training materials and program status of the Hapag-Asa Feeding Program.

## FEATURED PARTNER: PRELATURE OF INFANTA

### The Miracle of John Paul

Deacon Mario van Loon, act  
Coordinator SAC-Northern Quezon



Two children from Infanta, gazing over their JP II Village.

Do miracles still happen? To the victims of the November 29, 2004 disaster in the towns of Real, Infanta, Gen. Nakar in Quezon and Dingalan in Aurora province, and to those who have the inner eyes of faith to see the grace of God in the ordinary (and not so ordinary) events of their day-to-day life, Yes, they still do.

Four years after the 2004 'Sodomic experience', many visitors who come to Infanta find it miraculous that there is hardly any sign of devastation. On the contrary, there are many signs that show a developmental jump forward. One of these is the John Paul II Village which rose in the rust colored hills of Barangay Agos-Agos, in the outskirts of the town of Infanta, far away from the raging waters of Agos River.

A year ago, after the Medical Mission conducted by the Augustinian Missionaries of the Philippines (AMP) sisters, they came to the alarming conclusion that many children were undernourished. The Prelature of Infanta took on the challenge of looking seriously into the problem. A thorough examination of the children with ages six months to 12 years revealed that 227 should be enrolled in a feeding program. Hapag-asa came as an answered prayer and a trusted partner in providing solution to the problem of undernourishment. Last January, the Hapag-asa, a six-month feeding program started with 150 children of JP II Village. Every afternoon children of varying ages, weights and heights lined up to the feeding center carrying their multi-colored plastic plates and cups to be filled with the special menu of the day, to their palate's delight and stomach's content.

However, on the months of March to April, what started as 150 children dwindled to 101. No thanks to the irresponsibility and lack of

cooperation and support of some parents. After much encouragement and prodding from the Social Action Staff and from the core group of parents who continued to cook delicious meals for the children every afternoon, last July 26 we celebrated the Graduation of the first Batch of Hapag-asa Feeding Program. A total of 101 children completed the program. The result which is a miracle in itself, is an average of three to four kilos weight increase per child. Worth mentioning is one child, Marites Sollano, whose weight at the age of 2 years and 10 months was only 6.8 kilos. She could not walk nor speak. But thanks to the miracle of Hapag-asa her weight is now 12.5 kilos and she jumps, plays and sings her heart out like any normal child.



Pictures of Marites Sollano before and after the Hapag-Asa feeding program

Seeing the remarkable results among the children, the parents who did not approve of the program are now the ones asking for a second batch. Other Barangays expressed their eagerness to join the program too.

### Hapag-Asa Program Demonstrates Pope Benedict XVI's Dictum

With all the controversies involving food safety, availability and increasing food prices, the Conference on World Food Security which took place in Rome (3-5 June), focused on the fight against hunger and poverty and boosting agricultural production in developing countries.

### Hunger and Malnutrition... unacceptable!

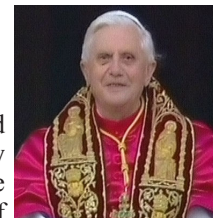
In an article published by Zenit news last June 3, 2008, it was reported that Pope Benedict XVI wrote to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Summit on Food Security saying, "Hunger and malnutrition are unacceptable in a world which has, in fact, levels of production, resources and knowledge sufficient to put an end to such dramas and their

consequences." The Pope also said that the "primary right to food is intrinsically linked to the safeguarding and defense of human life... Each person has the right to life." (1)

In another article in Zenit news, the Holy Father was also quoted saying, "There is an ethical motive behind the right to food: 'I was hungry and you gave me to eat,' which exhorts us to share material goods as a demonstration of the love that we all need." (2)

### Right to Food... Right to Life!

Pope Benedict also said "Hence it is necessary to promote the effective implementation of this right, and peoples suffering from lack of food must be helped to become gradually capable of satisfying their own need for healthy and sufficient nourishment... [Therefore] only by protecting the person is it possible to combat the main cause of hunger." (1)



The Pontiff further said that, "in the fight against these tragedies, steps must continue to be taken by promoting the cooperation of all to put an end to them, cultivating the right values and fighting against illegality, impunity and corruption." (2) The Pope's message is a clear call for everyone to take action to fight hunger and malnutrition. He urges everyone to unite in an effort much like the Hapag-Asa program with its primary goal to feed the undernourished children with highly-nutritious meals. The Hapag-Asa is a concrete action to rehabilitate the severely and moderately underweight children. The 6-month feeding program has proven to be an effective vehicle in reaching the most disadvantaged with hopes of reducing, if not reverse, the effects of malnutrition in the developmental stage of a child.

By teaching people how to fish and providing them access to services and opportunities, efforts in eradicating hunger and malnutrition may be sustained. The Hapag-Asa is striving to achieve these by strengthening its education and livelihood components. For the parent-beneficiaries, these support classes will cultivate the right values and teach basic knowledge and skills to aid them in gradually developing and improving themselves; physically, economically, and spiritually.

Sources:

(1) Zenit news, "Pontiff Calls Hunger Unacceptable", [www.zenit.org](http://www.zenit.org)

(2) Zenit news, "Pope Urges Guatemala to Fight Child Hunger", [www.zenit.org](http://www.zenit.org)

## Program Status as of August 30, 2008

| Partners           | 2008 Target    | Completed          |              | On-Going           |               | Total              |                         |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
|                    |                | Parishes/<br>Sites | Kids         | Parishes/<br>Sites | Kids          | Parishes/<br>Sites | Kids                    |
| Pondo ng Pinoy     | 25,709         | 26                 | 1,467        | 104                | 8,011         | 130                | 9,478                   |
| Other Dioceses     | 9,606          | 0                  | 0            | 33                 | 2,163         | 33                 | 2,163                   |
| NGOs               | 62,450         | 0                  | 0            | 433                | 35,709        | 433                | 35,709                  |
| LGUs               | 23,000         | 0                  | 0            | 30                 | 1,429         | 30                 | 1,429                   |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>120,765</b> | <b>26</b>          | <b>1,467</b> | <b>600</b>         | <b>47,312</b> | <b>626</b>         | <b>48,779<br/>(40%)</b> |

### I Am Ninoy Campaign...

*continued from page 1*

worthy causes that will benefit especially the underprivileged fellow countrymen, in the name of good citizenship, justice, peace and freedom.

Joining Benigno S. Aquino Jr., Foundation (BSAF) in this campaign, the Analog Soul team designed and released their "Yo Ninoy" line of T-shirts bearing the exclusive iamninoy brand and logo at a selling price of only Php 550.00 each, posted on their website at [www.analog-soul.com/yoninoy](http://www.analog-soul.com/yoninoy). The team behind Analog Soul/Yo Ninoy has pledged to donate a percentage of the profits from these shirts to the Hapag-Asa Program.

### Hapag-Asa Promotes Good Nutrition in Children/iamninoy and Hapag-asa Partner Against Malnutrition

The iamninoy team has been doing the rounds among its various partner beneficiaries to learn more about their projects and activities. Last October 8, 2008, the team headed to St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Barangay Palanan, Makati City to see first hand the feeding program organized by Hapag-Asa, partner beneficiary of Analog Soul/Yo Ninoy. The group was met by Shirley Nebrida, the head volunteer assigned to the venue. The children were already trickling in to have lunch, most of them coming from school. They were treated to a meal of afritada, rice and soup. The feeding program in Barangay Palanan has 70 enrolled children.

Recently, Analog Soul/Yo Ninoy visited another Hapag-Asa feeding program to experience for themselves the impact that their donations will be making on malnourished children. They have pledged to donate a percentage of profits from each iamninoy merchandise to contribute to feeding program. Mico Halili, co-founder of Yo Ninoy, affirms that the experience was truly eye-opening and has strengthened their resolve to help more children through the campaign.

4

See full story at [www.iamninoy.com/news\\_hapagasapromotes.htm](http://www.iamninoy.com/news_hapagasapromotes.htm)

### VitaMeal® proven safe... again

Nourish the Children, distributor of VitaMeal® in partnership with Feed the Children International, released an official statement on Sept. 29, 2008 affirming the safety of the product:

"Meals donated to the Philippines are manufactured in our company owned and operated facility in Jixi, China. The food is prepared under approved Standard Operating Procedures with strict Quality Control. The raw materials, which include rice, lentils, TVP, and a vitamin mix are sourced, analyzed, combined, packaged and inspected according to our stringent 6S quality guidelines. Please note that VitaMeal is non-dairy and vegetarian. We share this because of the recent concerns with China produced dairy products which would clearly not apply to VitaMeal."

This statement was distributed to partners using the VitaMeal® to answer queries regarding reports on harmful effects of China food products containing melamine. The product's packaging bears the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) certified seal. HACCP is a quality assurance system which identifies, evaluates, and controls/reduces food hazards such as chemical, biological, or physical agents in food that can affect consumers' health adversely.

To be fully assured, the Feed the Children Philippines (FTCP) also had the VitaMeal® tested for melamine content by the Philippine Institute of Pure and Applied Chemistry (PIPAC) laboratory, a BFAD Accredited facility. The result of the said testing done on October 21, 2008 indicates that the VitaMeal® is negative for melamine content. A copy of the Nourish the Children International's official statement and PIPAC test result may be obtained from the Hapag-Asa Secretariat.

## FEATURED VITAMEAL RECIPE

### VITA-PINEAPPLE CARROT CAKE

#### INGREDIENTS:

- 3 cups VitaMeal (powdered)
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 2 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp salt
- 3/4 cup butter
- 2 cups sugar
- 4 pcs eggs
- 2 tsp vanilla
- 2 cups finely grated carrots
- 1 cup undrained crushed pineapple

#### PROCEDURE:

1. Preheat oven 350oF, grease and line a 13 x 9 x 2 inches rectangular pan.
2. Sift together the first 4 ingredients.
3. In a bowl, combine butter and sugar.
4. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Stir in the vanilla.
5. Add dry ingredients then the carrots and pineapple. Mix until well blended.
6. Pour into prepared pan and bake for 35 minutes or until it is done

### Feed a Hungry Child!

For your donations, kindly deposit to the following bank accounts:

Current Account Name:

Pondo ng Pinoy – Hapag-Asa

Account Numbers:

BPI: 3061-0858-22

Metro Bank: 175-7175-50963-8

Banco De Oro: 2638-00407-0

China Bank: 103-57972-19

Security Bank: 141-026133-002

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