

PROJECT TERMINAL REPORT

Name of Project/Activity: **Araw ng Kasambahay** (*National Domestic Workers Day*)
Proponent Organization: Visayan Forum Foundation, Inc.
Date conducted: 30 April 2006
(with preparatory activities for the whole month of April)

This year's *Araw ng Kasambahay* carried the theme: "*Kilalanin ang halaga ng mga kasambahay Batas Kasambahay, agad na ipasa!*" (Recognize the value of domestic workers, Pass the domestic workers bill now!). It was marked by a national celebration in the National Capital Region and simultaneous events in key cities like Batangas, Cebu, Bacolod, Iloilo and Davao. In the regions, there was a week-long celebration highlighted by media guestings, multisectoral dialogues, distribution of advocacy materials, and provision of services to *kasambahays*.

The weeklong celebration was capped with the issuance by the President of the Philippines of a Presidential Proclamation declaring the last Sunday before Labor Day as a special day for all domestic workers. Nearly 5,000 individuals participated in the simultaneous celebrations nationwide including domestic workers, advocates and representatives from various NGOs, government, workers, employers, schools, faith-based groups and international institutions.

Activities Conducted:

A. Towards focusing national attention on the importance and contribution of Domestic Work:

1. *Convened partners for the preparation and implementation of the One-month campaign and for follow-up activities.*

A national steering committee composed of members of the Technical Working Group from the Domestic Workers Summit was convened to prepare for the event and help in the campaign to ensure that follow-up activities from the celebration would be incorporated in their own programs in the national and local levels. In the regions, Visayan Forum also convened technical working groups composed of partners from multisectoral groups to the same end.

2. *Lobbied for the passage of an Executive Order declaring the Sunday before Labor Day as Araw ng Kasambahay*

Despite facing nationwide protest actions on Labor Day celebration, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo signed Proclamation No. 1051 on April 24 to set aside April 30 as "a special day to honor and give recognition to the hidden, yet massive army of everyday workers, to generate greater awareness of the importance and contribution of domestic workers." It also prompted government line agencies to support the national celebrations held on that day.

3. *Issuance of Pastoral letters and special Mass/celebrations dedicated to domestic workers*

The regional celebrations of the *Araw ng Kasambahay* in Batangas, Bacolod, Iloilo, Cebu and Davao started with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist (Mass) intended and dedicated in support of the advocacies for domestic workers. The Archdiocese of Lipa, Batangas issued a Pastoral Letter in support of the celebration. Parish priests in various parishes also offered masses for *kasambahays* and delivered homilies on the importance of *kasambahays* in homes and society.

4. *Special Media Events, Service Fairs and Fun Day for Domestic Workers*

The main activity was a simultaneous celebration of the *Araw ng Kasambahay* in various areas. The largest celebration was held in the country's largest metropolitan area – the National Capital Region. Some 3,000 individuals attended the celebration from the different partner-agencies and organizations. The celebration also served as a kick-off for the recognition of the *Natatanging Kasambahay* and the launching of a National Search for Exemplary Employers (*Gawad Employer*).

The National Celebration started with the opening of a service fair for domestic workers. Partner agencies such as the Department of Labor, TESDA, Department of Foreign Affairs, POEA, DOLE, Quezon City PESO/IRO, POPEA, SUMAPI, Religious of Mary Immaculate, and others were invited to open service and information booths for domestic workers.

Partners from the Child Justice League, and PNP Women and Children's Concerns Desk were invited and gave legal counseling to 10 domestic workers who have ongoing legal cases. The Social Security System (SSS) also conducted mass registration of 500 domestic workers and walk-in individuals. The Quezon City Health Office and UP-PGH Mu Sigma Phi were tapped for medical check-up and provision of free medicines to 252 *kasambahays* and walk-in individuals with children. TESDA-District Office of Quezon City and SUMAPI also provided skills demonstrations to 700 individuals. The DOLE, DFA-OUMWA, RMI, and SUMAPI were able to disseminate information materials to all participants and walk-in individuals. There were also 50 domestic workers and walk-ins that availed the jobs-fair offered by POPEA.

The Service Fair was followed by a Creative March – *Martsa ng mga Kasambahay* – around the Quezon Memorial Circle. The March featured street plays, murals, creative songs and chants, and other artistic display highlighting the domestic workers' call for the passage of the *Batas Kasambahay*. Some 1,000 people joined the march around QMC.

The Celebration also marked by a Variety Show for the Domestic Workers (*Awit at Sayaw Alay sa mga Kasambahay*) featuring famous personalities interspersed with creative presentations from among the domestic workers and youth advocates. Dignitaries were invited to further inspire the domestic workers. A noise barrage was also conducted before the program where domestic workers reverberated their call for the immediate passage of the *Batas Kasambahay* using various tools they use at home.

In regional centers, similar celebrations were also held on a smaller scale. During the weeklong celebration of said event, VF Regional Centers in Batangas, Iloilo, Bacolod, Cebu and Davao together with partners from the different agencies and organization conducted radio and television guestings, focused group discussions with stakeholders, information dissemination drive, and seminar-workshops on developing local ordinance for the domestic workers.

In all regional celebrations on April 30, 2006, social partners from the government, private sectors, NGOs, church-related organizations started the event with Holy Masses and followed by motorcades, and marches.

In terms of services, regional agencies of SSS, PhilHealth, DOLE, PNP, DOJ, Paralegal groups, Local Health Offices, DSWD, DFA, and Gender & Development Councils of LGUs setup desks and booths to exhibit and popularize their services and programs for domestic workers throughout the day.

In all areas, some 1,500 domestic workers registered in the SSS. Some 385 availed of the medical and dental missions provided by health groups and paramedics. Some 1,340 were counseled by Social Workers and religious groups, 867 participated in skills demonstrations by TESDA, some 50 availed of the jobs fair, like the one held by POPEA. Some 18 domestic workers were also provided legal assistance by lawyer's groups in the regions, like the Office of Counselor Jocelle Batapa of Bacolod City.

In terms of advocacy, some 2,300 also viewed the documentary videos on domestic workers in the Philippines (*Inangking Alipin and DH ng Maynila*) shown in various gatherings in the regions. SUMAPI was also able to register some 230 domestic workers to their organization.

The regional celebrations were also marked by creative presentations from among the domestic workers and youth advocates. Local government officials and social partners attended and gave inspirational and solidarity messages to further inspire the domestic workers.

Indeed, the Araw ng Kasambahay national and regional celebrations this year were successful and different from past years celebrations considering that these simultaneous activities were not only spearheaded by Regional Teams of Visayan Forum and SUMAPI but also participated by the social partners, Regional Task Forces on Kasambahays composed of government agencies, church, and faith-based groups, private sector, school officials and students.

B. Towards mobilizing broad support for the passage of the Magna Carta for Domestic Workers and for supporting instruments such as ordinances and local executive order

1. *Disseminated IEC materials on the Batas Kasambahay and Advocacy Kits for partners/Domestic Work advocates nationwide*

Various information, education and communication (IEC) materials, like flyers, pamphlets and primers (produced by ILO-DomWork) were distributed during the weeklong preparation as part of the information dissemination and advocacy drive mainly to draw up support for the passage of the Batas Kasambahay Bill, which has been pending in both Houses of Congress. Partner agencies like POEA and DFA-OUMWA also provided materials for mass distribution during the event.

2. *Press Conference and Media Campaigns in all areas*

Press conferences were conducted in all areas focusing on the celebration and the advocacy for the passage of the Magna Carta for Domestic Workers. VF staff, Sumapi leaders and partner agencies also had various media guestings in local and national media networks such as ABS-CBN, GMA and PTV. The event and the domestic work issue also appeared in various newspapers nationwide. *(Please find attached copies of the press releases and media clippings)*

3. *Dialogue with local legislators in Davao, Cebu, Iloilo, Bacolod, and Batangas for the passage of local ordinances for Domestic Workers*

The *Araw ng Kasambahay* celebration in Iloilo City was highlighted by the passage of a local ordinance on *kasambahay* registration. In Bacolod, Batangas, and Cebu cities ordinances were also filed, for formal deliberations and discussions in their respective city councils. Makati City is also now in the process of coming up with the implementing rules and regulations of their new ordinance for domestic workers.



Araw ng Kasambahay 2

30 April 2006 (Sunday)

Quezon Memorial Circle, Quezon

Theme:

"Kilalanin ang Halaga ng mga

Kasambahay.

Batas Kasambahay,

Agad na Ipasa!"

The **Araw ng Kasambahay** is marked on the last Sunday before Labor Day to honor and give recognition to *kasambahays*, our partners at home, a hidden but massive army of everyday workers. Since 2000, the Visayan Forum Foundation spearheaded the celebration of this special day together with their partners from government, international institutions like the International Labour Organization (ILO), NGOs, workers, employers, schools and faith-based groups. And through the observance of the Araw ng Kasambahay has provided domestic workers and their families an effective platform to intensify public awareness on the importance, contribution and plight of domestic workers.

This year, the Araw ng Kasambahay celebration comes on the heels of some major advances in the campaign for the welfare of domestic workers. For instance, the National Domestic Workers Summit held last October 2005 signaled the start of the inclusion of domestic workers' concerns in the national development agenda. The resulting National Agenda on Domestic Work serves as a road map for the formulation and implementation of policies and programs by national and local government, society and other stakeholders. While the Social Compact provides the framework for partnership in order to effectively advance the National Agenda on Domestic Work.

Moreover, the social partners of Visayan Forum and SUMAPI, such as the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), are initiating their own programs and promoting the welfare of domestic workers. More and more local government units are adopting Kasambahay Programs as a million signature campaign in support of the Magna Carta for Household Help. The Batas Kasambahay was accomplished.

Despite these developments, however, not a single step has still been done to implement Batas Kasambahay. This proposed law recognizes the basic rights of domestic workers, sets clear parameters on their working conditions and establishes appropriate implementing mechanisms. But it has languished in Congress for 10 years notwithstanding the supportive pronouncements of many legislators, the successful pioneer of the Quezon City government in implementing its own Kasambahay Program and the concurrence of almost 70 percent of employers in the country with its passage on a 2005 SWS survey. That is why the nationwide Araw ng Kasambahay 2006 celebration will not only laud the significant contribution of domestic workers but also condemn the long-delayed passage of Batas Kasambahay.

On a positive development, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo has signed Proclamation No. 1051 last April 24 to set aside April 30, as "a special day to honor and give recognition to the hidden, yet massive army of everyday workers, to generate public awareness of the importance and contribution of domestic workers."

Around 3,000 domestic workers and advocates are expected to gather in Quezon Memorial Circle in Quezon City for this year's main celebration. The event will include a Service Fair, wherein government agencies such as DOLE and the Social Security System (SSS) as well as lawyers and medical groups are set to participate in a march interspersed with street presentations called "*Hakbang Bayan Alay Kasambahay*"; and a variety show highlighted by the presentation of the **Natatanging Kasambahay** award and the launching of the National Seal of Exemplary Employers or **Gawad Employer**.



Araw ng Kasambahay 2006

30 April 2006 (Sunday)
Quezon Memorial Circle
Quezon City

Tema:

**"Kilalanin ang Halaga ng mga Kasambahay
Batas Kasambahay, Agad na Ipasa!"**



programme

3:00 pm Opening of the **Services Fair** at Liwasang Aurora

Participating Agencies:

Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE)
POEA – job fair and orientation
TESDA – skills demonstration
Department of Foreign Affairs
Department of Education
Quezon City Hall-PESO/IRO
International Justice Mission/Child Justice League/
Public Attorneys Office – for legal assistance
Social Security System/PhilHealth
OSHC & other medics/Paramedics – for medical mission
PNP Women's Desk – for abuse reports

SUMAPI

4:00 pm **Hakbang ng Bayan para sa Kasambahay**

(Peaceful March from Quezon City Hall entrance to Commonwealth Gate and converging at Liwasang Aurora inside QMC. The March will feature street plays, murals, creative songs, chants, and other artistic display highlighting the domestic workers' call for the passage of the **Batas Kasambahay**)

5:00 pm **Programa Alay sa mga Kasambahay**

Noise Barrage (*using house equipments/tools*)
Releasing of Balloons (*carrying a streamer with the theme of the celebration*)
Creative Ecumenical Prayer and Singing of Philippine National Anthem
Opening Message

Ms Ma. Cecilia Flores-Oebanda, President, Visayan Forum Foundation, Inc.

Ms Milaluna Tibubos, President, Samahan at Ugnayan ng mga Manggagawang Pantahanan sa Pilipinas (SUMAPI)

Solidarity messages

Ms Linda Wirth, Director, Subregional Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific, ILO

Atty. Democrito Mendoza, President, Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP)

Atty. Rene Soriano, President, Employers Confederation of the Philippines (ECOP)

Inspirational messages

Hon. Feliciano Belmonte, Jr., City Mayor, Quezon City

Hon. Patricia Sto. Tomas, Secretary, Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE)

Hon. Alberto Romulo, Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA)

Hon. Roseller Barinaga, Chairman, Committee on Labor and Employment, House of Representatives

Hon. Jinggoy Ejercito-Estrada, Chairman, Committee on Labor and Employment, Philippine Senate

Song and dance numbers featuring personalities

Creative presentations by domestic workers and youth advocates

Recognition of the **Natatanawin Kasambahay** by ABS-CBN/DZMM

***Araw ng mga Kasambahay 2006
Batangas City***

Tema:

***“Kilalanin ang halaga ng mga kasambahay
Batas Kasambahay, agad na ipasa!”***

April 24-28

Week-long build-up activities

Radio guestings

Meeting of Batangas Partners on Domestic Workers

Focus Group Discussion with Employers

Medical Check-up for Kasambahays

April 30, 2006

Araw ng Kasambahay Celebration

7:00 am

Simultaneous Masses for Kasambahays in Batangas parishes

7:00-10:00 am

SSS Registration and Kasambahay Masterlisting
at Immaculate Conception Parish

9:00 – 10:00 am

Motorcade around the streets of Batangas City

11:00

Opening of Photo and Art Exhibit at Bay Mall

Ribbon-cutting

Photo and art exhibit

Film showing of *Nakatagong Kasambahay*

2:00 pm

Advocacy Program

National Anthem

Opening Remarks by Mayor Eddie Dimacuha

Cultural presentation by the Batangas Chorale

Solidarity Messages

Representatives of BPCDW

Cultural presentation by SUMAPI

Tribute to Graduates

Awarding of Gawad Parangal sa Natatanging Kasambahay
at Employers

Cultural Presentation by School Partners

Induction of SUMAPI Officers – Batangas Chapter

Symbolic Signing of Commitment of All Partners

Candlelight Ceremony

Araw ng Kasambahay 2006
Cebu City

Tema:

***“Ilhon ang Kamahinungdanon sa mga Kasambahay,
Batas Kasambahay, Ipasa na!”***

April 28 (Friday)

- 1:00 p.m. - Assembly Point – Pier 3 CPA
Unveiling of the Anti-Trafficking Billboard at the CPA Pier 3
- 2:00 pm. - Motorcade around Main streets of Cebu City to the Dept. of Agriculture Conf. Hall at M.Velez St. Cebu City
- 3:00 p.m. - Brief Cultural Program – DA Conference Hall
 - Recognition of Participants
 - Message: Director Ted Romo Jr. CESO IV DSWD-7
 - Guest Speaker: Hon. Agnes Magpale
 - Presentation : SUPACA
 - SUMAPI Number

April 30 (Sunday) - KASAMBAHAY DAY

Venue: RMI Center – # 9 Borces St., Mabolo, Cebu City

- 1:00 pm. – SSS & PhilHealth Orientation/Registration to Kasambahays Medical Mission
- 3:00 pm - Program & Fun Day
- 4:30 pm - *Misa alang sa Kasambahay*
- 5:00 pm - Agape/Merienda Cena

Araw ng Kasambahay 2006
Bacolod City

Tema:

*“Kilalalahon ang Kabilingan sang mga Kasambahay,
Laye para sa Kasambahay, Ipasar na!”*

April 28, 2006

9:00 a.m. Press Conference at Bishop's House

10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Radio Guesting at DYAF

April 30, 2006

9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Launching of Araw ng Kasambahay at MBC Aksyon Radyo

1:00 – 1:30 p.m. Motorcade from the Provincial Capitol Lagoon passing major streets of Bacolod City to the BAYS Center

1:30 – 2:30 p.m. *Misa para sa Kasambahay*

2:30 – 5:30 p.m. Program

Medical Mission

Parlor Games

Cultural Presentations

Services Fair:

SSS/Philhealth Registration

Distribution of IEC materials

Counseling

Other services by different agencies

Araw ng Kasambahay 2006
Iloilo City

Tema:

*“Kilalalahon ang Kabilingan sang mga Kasambahay,
Laye para sa Kasambahay, Ipasar na!”*

Date: April 30, 2006 (Sunday)

Venue: Covered Gym, Lapaz Plaza, Lapaz, Iloilo City

Organizers: VF, SUMAPI and Iloilo Task Force Kasambahay

Target Participants/

Audience: 50 pax from partners and Task Force Kasambahay
10 VF staff and volunteers/interns
250 SUMAPI members and outreached kasambahays
(# is expected to increase with media plugging & info-disseminat

Program:

10:00 am Opening program
MOA signing of Task Force
Launching of Resolution pushing for the passage of the
Local Ordinance for Kasambahay

11:00-12:00 nn Simultaneous Events/
Services Booths:

- Medical Mission - by DOLE
- SUMAPI Booth with Photo Exhibit and Poster-Making
- CHR & DOLE (for rights awareness)
- TESDA
- SSS/Philhealth
- DSWD for direct services
- WILAP/IBP for legal counseling

4:00 pm Closing program by SUMAPI

Distribution of Certificate of Appreciation to Volunteers
Tribute to Kasambahay Graduates and Honor Students
Simple Cultural presentations by every SUMAPI Cluster

Araw ng mga Kasambahay 2006
Davao City

Tema:

***“Ithon ang Kamahinungdanon sa mga Kasambahay,
Batas Kasambahay, Ipasa na!”***

April 24-28

Pre-Araw ng mga Kasambahay activities

Radio guesting in DXRP Radyo ng Bayan and
ABS-CBN Davao DXAB 1296

Series of Right Awareness and Orientation

- Film showing of “Inangking Alipin”
- Mural Painting by Kasambahays (mural will be used for decoration and as backdrop during the celebration on April 30)
- Focus Group Discussions
- Orientations and workshop related to rights and protection
- Series of Group discussions by the officers and active members of SUMAPI Davao regarding the preparation of the event

April 30, 2006

Araw ng Kasambahay Celebration
Assumption College of Davao Gym
J.P. Cabaguio Avenue, Davao City

1:00-2:00

Registration

2:00-3:00

Part I

Doxology

National Anthem

Opening Remarks

Acknowledgement of guest and visitors

Formal opening of the *Araw ng mga Kasambahay*

Opening of the photo exhibits

Showcase of Talents/Presentations

(song, dance, drama and bands)

Inspirational messages from invited partners

3:00-5:00

Orientation and registration of SSS and Philhealth

Medical check –up by Maharlika Charity Foundation

5:00-6:00

Part II

Fun and games

6:00-6:30

Ending ceremony

Candle lighting ceremony

Araw ng Kasambahay 2006 Celebration at the Quezon Memorial Circle



March around the Quezon Memorial Circle



A large crowd of people, including children and adults, is marching on a city street. Many are carrying large white and blue banners with text in English and Tagalog. Some individuals are wearing traditional indigenous headgear. The background shows urban buildings and a clear sky.



GMA-7 interviewed Ms. Milaluna Tibubos, SUMAPI President



Ms. Keiko Niimi, Deputy-Director of ILO-SROSEAP delivering her Solidarity Message



Solidarity Message from DOLE Usec. Romeo Young

Araw ng Kasambahay 2006 Celebrations



RMI Center, Cebu City





Bacolod City



Motorcade from Provincial Capitol Lagoon to Bays Center



Mass for Kasambahays and the Bays Center



Services Desk



The Animo Puppet Theater Group during the Singing of the National Anthem



Program at the Bays Center



**Launching of the Araw ng Kasambahay over DYEZ-Aksyon Radyo
“Pulso sa Aksyon Radio Program**



Press Conference on the Araw ng Kasambahay at the Bishop’s Residence, Bacolod City

Davao City



Assumption College of Davao (ACD)



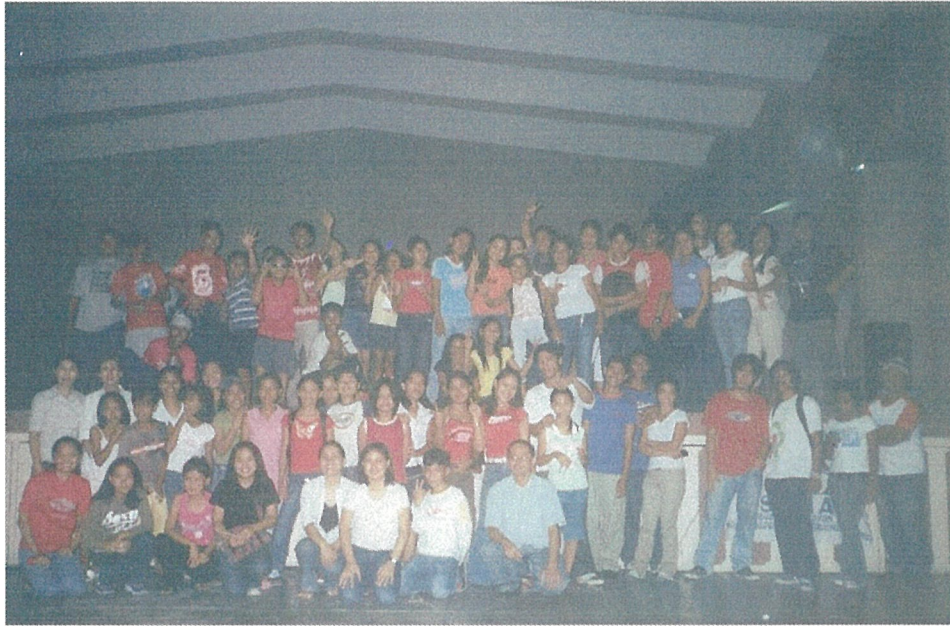


Variety Show at ACD



Candle Lighting at ACD





Iloilo City



Program at the La Paz National High School Gymnasium

Services Fair at the La Paz Plaza





SSS and PhilHealth Registration Desks for Kasambahays





Medical Mission







Batangas City



Araw ng Kasambahay Celebration at the Bay City Mall, Batangas City





SSS Registration of Kasambahays





Radio Program during the Araw ng Kasambahay at DWAU-Spirit FM Station

Organizers

Visayan Forum Foundation, Inc.
an at Ugnayan ng mga Manggagawang Pantahanan
sa Pilipinas (SUMAPI)

In collaboration with

Quezon City government –
Public Employment Service Office (PESO)
Industrial Relations Office (IRO)

st of Participating Agencies/Organizations

a sa Komunidad (BBK) * Department of Labor and
nt (DOLE) * Bureau of Local Employment (BLE) *
Women and Young Workers (BWYW) * Bureau of
onditions (BWC) * Institute for Labor Studies (ILS) *
al Labor Affairs Service (ILAS) * Occupational Safety
Center (OSHC) * Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA)-
the Undersecretary for Migrant Workers Affairs
* Action for Health Initiatives (ACHIEVE) * Bishop-
en's Conference for Human Development (BBC) *
Bishops Conference of the Philippines -Episcopal
n for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant Peoples
MI) * Child Justice League * Employers Confederation
ippines (ECOP) * ERDA Foundation * Federation of
kers (FFW) * International Labour Organization -
al Programme on the Elimination of Child Labor (ILO-
ingap Pangkabataan * National City United Church *
ela * Philippine Organization of Private Employment
(POPEA) * Philippine Health Insurance Corporation
) * Philippine National Police-Women & Children's
ision * Quezon City – Health Department & TESDA *
f Mary Immaculate (RMI) * Social Security System *
on Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) * UP-PGH-Mu
Fraternity



Araw ng Kasambahay 2006

April 30, 2006 (Sunday)
Quezon Memorial Circle
Quezon City

Tema:

*"Kilalanin ang Halaga
ng mga Kasambahay,
Batas Kasambahay,*