

**ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN and ELDERS
INTERNATIONAL PHILS.,INC.(ACE IPI)**

2013 ANNUAL REPORT (NCR)

HIGHLIGHTS/SUMMARY

“STRENGTHENING OUR COMMITMENTS”

For the year 2013, ACE IPI, like other humble NGO’s in the country, faced a much tougher resource-environment hence, significant financial challenges. As more and more Filipino families struggle for their day-to-day subsistence, ACE IPI strived harder and harder to pursue its mandate-of helping underserved young people towards becoming better human persons and more knowledgeable and productive citizens. Its commitment to effecting change in the lives of its beneficiaries remains unwavering. The mission continues. And ACE IPI must deliver.

Despite the overwhelming odds, there was an increase of 17% in the total donations restricted to Educational Assistance. The total accumulated value of non-cash donations also grew by about 21%. These are proofs of commitment particularly of 22 individual donors and also of regular members and volunteers who stood by ACE IPI for more than 6 years. They also continue to trust in the capacity and willingness of their “scholars” to complete an academic education. However, the year-end Financial Report reflected a drop in foreign donations by about 37%. Meanwhile, the organization’s administrative costs were still maintained at 7% of total expenses.

It can be noted that ACE IPI did not undertake any fund-raising endeavor during the year. Instead, it focused on the tedious task of following up all past and present donors and even tapping new ones just to ensure continuity of support. It also started talking with other friends and individuals based abroad. The utmost need therefore to raise additional funds primarily to sustain present programs and overall operations has become more and more apparent.

CONTINUING YOUTH FOR YOUTH (Y4Y) PROGRAM PARTNERSHIPS:

A total of 75 qualified Y4Y youth members were provided with educational assistance*. These youth beneficiaries were required to abide with the policies and regulations set forth by ACE IPI otherwise they will not receive all the Program benefits.

**Kindly refer to 2013 Accomplishment Report for details of the graduates and the various grade/year levels of the Y4Y beneficiaries.*

Such benefits still included transportation and tuition assistance for college and high school- the daily fare, school supplies and a specific fund for school projects. Some of them also availed of the tutorials and other trainings for skills development conducted by ACE IPI last summer.

For the second time, ACE IPI was very grateful to the Diocese of Paranaque thru the PONDO NG PINOY Community Foundation Inc. (PnPCFI) for a renewed support of almost P280,000. This grant supported the academic education of 41 indigent youth for one school year plus the conduct of the monthly Values Formation sessions and an Advent Recollection-Fellowship for all youth and parent-members.

The Jaycees Manila Inc. (JCI) also renewed its support worth P73,000 that assisted 10 youth members. Meanwhile, the Southville Excellent Educational Institution (S.E.E.D) offered additional 4-year medical course-scholarships. Hence, the number of youth members who availed of this opportunity increased from 9 in 2012 to 15 in 2013. The rest of the beneficiaries or 19 youth were taken cared by ACE IPI's individual sponsors.

However, stark poverty best describes the situation of most families in target communities. There were 12 youth beneficiaries who resigned from the Program hence unable to pursue their schooling so that they could work and help in augmenting their families' income. Others are also having difficulty defraying some expenses relative to their school project requirements.

On the area of personhood and spiritual uplift, two more resource speakers, aside from the regular volunteer-couple were invited to facilitate the Family Enrichment sessions. ACE IPI also recognized the need to conduct sessions for parents separately from those for the youth, including a re-assessment of the content/modules and approaches currently being adopted during the said sessions, in order to create more impact in the lives of the Y4Y member-families.

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:

The 7th year- anniversary was made even more memorable with the visit of ACE IPI Chair, Dr. Joy Bruce who came from Florida, USA with other ACE IPI members, Evelyn and Eva Bruce and some other family members. Dr. Bruce presided the annual membership meeting. She also gave a message to about 90 of the Y4Y youth and parent-members in a separate "meet and greet"-gathering. Dr. Joy and her family's presence served not only as an inspiration to all workers and volunteers of ACE IPI NCR, but also an affirmation that the organization is on the right track and doing quite well.