

## **NANAY President's Report**

### **July 2019 – December 2020**

The past 1 ½ years proved to be an exciting and yet challenging time for NANAY.

NANAY had a Meryenda FEST on July 27, 2019, followed by free line dancing sessions at NANAY which was then held every Saturday afternoon in anticipation of NANAY's Silver Anniversary Gala Dinner & Dance in November. The traditional monthly birthday celebrations also continued from July through October, along with Yoga Stretching exercises every Wednesday afternoon and Senior Zumba on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons to improve the health and mobility of elders, including a 101-year old member of NANAY.

In August 2019, NANAY collected clothing and canned goods for victims of the extremely powerful Category 5 Hurricane Dorian that devastated the Bahamas, narrowly missing Miami and Broward Counties.

NANAY received the 2019 Best of North Miami Award in the Community Center category by the North Miami Award Program. Based on reviews received by GovServ, the global directory of government services, a score of 4.5/5 stars was given to NANAY and 4.7/5 stars from 20 Google reviews (<https://www.govserv.org/US/North-Miami/445411758825455/NANAY>).



On August 9 and 10, NANAY provided the venue for the Philippine Consular Outreach and Dual Citizenship Oath Taking, sponsored by the Philippine Nurses Association of Miami and

Southeast Florida. On September 3, a tax-deductible donation of \$50,000 was received from the Acenas Foundation to help NANAY partially address its financial obligation with IRS. Additional Meryenda FEST events were held on August 31, September 7 and October 26 featuring popular Filipino delicacies while also promoting the Anniversary Gala.



The much anticipated 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala was held at Signature Gardens in Davie, Florida and was attended by more than 250 guests who were entertained by David DiMuzio's magnificent song performance and juggling acts. Guests included the Honorary Consul Henry Howard who received the Man of the Year Award, the Bruce founders of NANAY, and members of Kasadya sa Surallah International/USA Group. A Proclamation from Miami-Dade County was presented by

Joshua Ho, Program Director of the Asian American Advisory Board. A \$20,000 donation from Florida Minority Community Reinvestment Coalition (FMCRC) was also announced during the event.

On November 15, NANAY was honored by a brief visit from Jose Victor Chan-Gonzaga (Philippine Minister of Economic Affairs) and Eliza Lucido (Senior Overseas Labor Officer) to discuss what NANAY could do to further help our community and schedule future seminars on Financial Security and Labor Laws for Overseas Foreign Workers (OFWs). A Thanksgiving celebration was then held at the Center with Pastor Joseph Jimenez of Point of Grace International Ministries leading the Thanksgiving devotional service.

More than 50 elders and guests received their gifts during NANAY's Christmas celebration on December 21, 2019. Two books entitled "Memory Loss and Aging" and "STIGMA: The Many Faces of Mental Disorder", were published for those who were having Senior Moments or struggling with depression, made available at AMAZON in Kindle and Printed versions.



On January 15, 2020, an enlightening talk on the 6 Causes of Culture Shock was given by Lutie Lee, a renowned author, based on 4 years of her research on Americanized Youth and their immigrant parents.

On January 21, 2020, NANAY received a total of \$1300 restricted contribution which was then sent to its affiliate, the Advocates for Children and Elders-International Philippines (ACEIPI), to provide for the essential needs of 600

individuals from 120 families who were temporarily sheltered at Sta Teresa College in Bauan, Batangas following the devastating Taal volcano eruption.

Covid-19 was initially reported to the World Health Organization on December 31, 2019. On January 30, 2020, the WHO declared the COVID-19 outbreak a global health emergency. This unfortunate health crisis forced NANAY to temporarily cancel its program activities and protect the elders by closing the Community Center in March.

Although the Center was officially closed for service, NANAY continued to connect with the community through social media. In September 2020, personal solicitation and FREE Zoom workouts were started by Anthony Cunanan, with donations sent to NANAY through GoFundMe.

After months of inactivity, NANAY held its Governing Board meeting on November 21, 2020 followed by a simple 26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Thanksgiving celebration with elders who were urged to wear masks and social distancing.

From July 2019 to June 2020, NANAY raised \$ 117,023 through its fundraising activities, Gala ticket sales and donations. More than \$50,000 of this was used to fully pay NANAY's payroll obligations to IRS. On December 1, 2020, NANAY sent \$700 to Lily Orticio to help build houses in Albay, a Bicol region, for poor families who were devastated by the onset of Typhoon Rolly and Ulysses in the Philippines. The Advocates for Children and Elders-International (ACEIPI) also received \$1000 to provide educational assistance and school supplies to poor youth in the Philippines.

Special thanks to the Acenas Foundation, Florida Minority Community Reinvestment Coalition (FMCRC), the South Florida Filipino-American Fellowship, NANAY Youth, and the Bruce Family for making things happen.

God is good !!