



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES CHICAGO

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NON-STOP *BAYANIHAN* BY THE FILIPINO COMMUNITY IN THE MIDWEST DURING THE PANDEMIC

Chicago, 08 May 2020 – The well of Filipino generosity never runs dry. The Filipino Community in the Midwest – through accredited organizations, restaurants and individuals – continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic with an outpouring of the *Bayanihan* spirit as manifested in various projects and acts of kindness.

Among these are numerous initiatives to give food to healthcare front liners, produce and donate cotton face-masks, and provide relief goods to localities in the Philippines.

Pinoy Grill (Arlington Heights, IL), in partnership with Coffee Lab & Roasters - Evanston, honored our modern-day heroes by providing packed lunches and coffee to front liners at the ICU Department of Advocate Condell Medical Center, the Therapy Department of Glenview Terrace, and the staff of Presence Maryhaven. Max's Restaurant, together with other donors such as the University of the Philippines Alumni Association of Greater Chicago, Healing Touch Home Health Care and Advance Home Health Care, have been providing Filipino food to healthcare front liners at hospitals such as Swedish Covenant Hospital, Humboldt Park Dialysis Clinic, University of Chicago Medicine, Cook County Hospital and Loretto Hospital and Chicago Police Officers at district 17.

The Philippine American Cultural Foundation - Midwest (PACF) and Piyesta Pinoy, together with other generous donors, are providing meals for healthcare workers to thank them for their sacrifice and heroism. Filipino restaurant Mora Asian Kitchen (Bolingbrook, IL) has been matching the donations and has been preparing Pan-Asian cuisine meals for area hospitals. They have delivered meals to AMITA Health Adventist Medical Center Bolingbrook and AMITA St. Joseph Medical Center in Joliet and will provide meals to front liners at Silver Cross Hospital New Lenox, AMITA Health Adventist Medical Center Hinsdale, and AMITA Health Adventist Medical Center La Grange.

The Chicago Mabuhay Centennial Lions Club recognized the dedication of healthcare front-liners by committing to donate lunch boxes to a few hospitals in the Chicagoland area, including the New Roseland Community Hospital. The Philippine Nurses Association - Greater Chicago Chapter has been providing food to their fellow nurses and other healthcare professionals in the front lines, including those at the Amita St. Joseph Medical Center COVID units ER, ICU, 8E, PCU, and 6W.

Through the initiative of groups such as the Pilipino Nurses Association of Michigan (PNAM) and the Rush family (Paaralan Pilipino), the Filipino community in Michigan has been sewing homemade face masks that were distributed in areas such as St Clair Shores, Ascension St John Hospital, HFTF group, and DMC hospital in Detroit. They're continuing to make more to distribute to grocery stores, police officers, food and service staff. In true Bayanihan spirit, various members of the community have contributed by buying and supplying the cotton fabric, elastic and thread, delivering the materials, and helping sew some of the masks. Kiwanis Club of Cosmopolitan Detroit (KCCD) members (Jenks family) donated 75 surgical gowns, 155 pieces of sterilized gloves, 250 pieces of exam gloves, several pieces of drapes, EENT splint and impervious split sheets to St. Mary Mercy Livonia Hospital and Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak.

With the support of other generous members of the Filipino community, Ms. Mahlyn Kagan and her daughter Lawriebear Coloma (from Liloy, Zamboanga del Norte) have been making handmade, washable and filtered masks for workers at O'Hare International Airport and for firefighters in Greater Chicago.

The Kiwanis Club of Cosmopolitan Detroit (KCCD) extended support to the Sunday School kids in Bacolod City, providing rice, sardines and noodles to 63 hungry children and plans to provide additional food to more virus-stricken children. KCCD will also make arrangements with a specific school district in Detroit to help tutor some of their students struggling with their academic work while on lockdown for the rest of the school year. Information will also be gathered to see if breakfast meals can be provided to some of the impoverished students in a school struggling financially to maintain their food program for the students.

The Fil-Minnesotan Association (FMA) delivered care packages to elderly members of the Filipino community in the Twin Cities who are in need of supplies during the pandemic.

The Filipino-American Association of Michiana (FAAM) and The Mely and Rick Rey Foundation have donated N95 masks to the Beacon Health System for the front liners fighting COVID-19. FAAM and the foundation also presented a donation to the Food Bank of Northern Indiana. Michiana is a region in northern Indiana and southwestern Michigan centered on the city of South Bend, Indiana.

As announced by the Philippine Honorary Consulate General in Detroit, the University of Santo Tomas Medical Alumni Association in America (USTMAAA) in collaboration with USTMAAA Philippines has raised \$100,000 and has donated PPE's, disinfectants, face shields, food, and direct cast assistance to various hospitals from Cagayan to Sultan Kudarat.

The Philippine Consulate General in Chicago thanks the organizations and individuals who have contributed to the various humanitarian initiatives across the Midwest. **END**



At Advocate Condell Medical Center. Thank you Gisella and Ram Leyson for the delivery of the lunch packs! 🥰



Therapy Department of Glenview Terrace

Mr. Chris Yamat, owner of Pinoy Grill donated food for the frontliners.



Max's Restaurant (Seafood City) feeds the essential frontliners





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You are our true Hero , Thank you for all you do ❤️

YOUR HEART TOUCHES SO MANY LIVES

From:
PHILIPPINE NURSES ASSOCIATION
GREATER CHICAGO CHAPTER

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