



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES CHICAGO

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PHILIPPINE CONSULATE PROVIDES CONSULAR SERVICES AND GRACES REOPENING OF THE PHILIPPINE CULTURAL COMMUNITY CENTER IN INDIANA

On 11 December 2021, newly arrived Consul General J. Susana V. Paez of the Philippine Consulate General in Chicago graced the reopening of the Philippine Cultural Community Center (PCCC) in Indianapolis, Indiana and led a six (06) person team in providing consular services for Filipino and Filipino-American communities in Indiana and neighboring states.

Co-founded by Ms. Marife Cabaluna Callender, President of The Barangay Club of Indiana and Mr. Philip Smith, Chairman of the National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA) Indiana, the PCCC, in its pre-establishment phase used to occupy a single room from October 2020 to July 2021 to serve as a safe haven for distressed Filipinos who lost their jobs due to the closure of business establishments brought about by the pandemic. It has since relocated to a stand-alone building at 4141 S East St. Indianapolis, IN.



Consul General Paez with the outreach team and the officers and volunteers of the PCCC- Indiana

Chief Administrator Douglas Swain, Executive Director Cristina Miranda and the Filipino and Filipino-American volunteers composed of doctors and nurses expressed their gratitude for the conduct of the outreach mission in Indiana. Furthermore, Ms. Callender remarked that PCCC and the Barangay Club of Indiana stand ready to support community

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projects that promote the interests and welfare of Filipino and Filipino-Americans in Indiana.

In her remarks, Consul General Paez thanked the officers and volunteers of the PCCC for collaborating with the Consulate to render consular services. She acknowledged the timely reopening of the PCCC which serves as a sanctuary and second home for Filipinos in Indiana, especially those whose homesickness is more pronounced during the holiday season. The Consul General also sought the assistance of the Filipino and Fil-AM communities in Indiana in encouraging registered voters to participate in the upcoming 2022 national elections and help determine our country's future.



Consul General Paez administers the Oath of Allegiance to dual citizenship applicants

Later on in the day, Consul General Paez met with medical professionals in the area, particularly Dr. Leo Solito, President of the Indiana Philippine Medical Association, Ms. Matilde Upano, President of the Indiana Philippine Nurses Association, and Mr. Antonio Ricafort, President of the Indiana Medical Technologies Association.



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With logistical and technical support from PCCC officers and volunteers, the Consulate has successfully conducted its sixth and final consular outreach mission for 2021 providing a total of 117 consular services to Filipinos in Indiana and neighboring states.



The outreach team renders passport services to applicants from Indiana and neighboring states

For 2022, the Consulate will continue to closely monitor the ongoing pandemic as it aims to provide additional consular outreach missions in its jurisdiction.

For updates on consular outreach activities, Filipino and Filipino-American communities in the Midwest may visit the Consulate's official website (www.chicagopcg.com) and its Facebook page (@PHinCHICAGO). END

CHICAGO, 14 December 2021