



2013 DAWN YEAR-END REPORT

The year 2013 was another challenging year for DAWN, as it continued to provide assistance and support to returned women migrants and their children. Below are the different activities of DAWN and the different assistance provided to its members.

SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAM (SSP)

The Social Services Program is the entry point of women and children members of DAWN. Through the pre-orientation and intake interviews, prospective members learn about the work, the programs, and services of the organization.

The program handled a case load of 85 women and 99 children for the year 2013. Most of DAWN's women members were referred by the Embassy of Japan in Manila, government agencies such as: OWWA, OUMWA-DFA and TESDA and by other NGOs and Media in Manila.

Majority of the women came from the NCR and Calabarzon and a few from other adjacent regions. Out of the 85 women, thirteen (13) graduated from college, twenty five (25) reached College Level, twenty four (24) graduated from High School, seventeen (17) reached High School Level, three (3) completed vocational course, one (1) elementary graduate and 2 did not complete their elementary education.

Out of the 85 women, thirty-three (33) are employed of which five (5) are SIKHAY members; twenty-four (24) are self-employed; twenty three (23) receive support from family, one (1) receives support from Japanese spouse/partner and four (4) receive support from Filipino spouses / partners.

Among the women, twenty six (26) are married to Japanese, four (4) were divorced from their Japanese husband, seven (7) are married to Filipino and forty eight (48) are not married.

The women's entry needs for DAWN assistance were as follows: forty one (41) for Legal & Paralegal assistance which includes support, acquisition of Japanese nationality, locate the whereabouts of the father, contact with the fathers, annulment and divorce, and forty four (44) Psychosocial Needs, Personal Growth & Development including economic needs.

Forty eight (48) women were provided with counseling/life coaching activities, eighteen (18) with Legal & Paralegal Assistances, sixteen (16) with skills training in SIKHAY and fifteen (15) with health care assistance. Thirty one (31) were provided with therapeutic workshops and other capacity building activities and twenty (20) with Entrepreneurial Management seminar/training.

From the 99 Japanese-Filipino Children (JFC), fifty five (55) are male and forty four (44) were female. Ten (10) among them were born in Japan and eighty nine (89) were born in the Philippines with 10 months as the youngest while the oldest JFC is 24 years old. In terms of JFC nationality: ninety one (91) are Filipinos, eight (8) have Philippine and Japanese passports. The social case study reports were completed and updated. Home and school visits were also conducted.

Twenty (20) JFC were provided with educational assistance and thirty-three (33) JFC were provided with dental and medical check-ups and medicines. Fourteen (14) mothers were provided with Ob-Gyne check-ups and papsmear and two (2) had ultrasound; six (6) had eye check-ups and eyeglasses and one (1) was provided with consultation and medicines.

The educational, health and medical assistance were provided with support from the Asian Community Trust (ACT-Japan).



The DAWN Family Christmas Get-Together 2013



The DAWN women dancing kini-kini

Regular DAWN activities such as the holding of DAWN Anniversary, Family Day, Mother's Day, DAWN Visitors/Study Tours and Christmas Get-together were held and in partnership with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), dance workshops were conducted for women and children. The output of the dance workshops was successfully presented during the Month of Overseas Filipinos and International Migrants Day Celebration on December 18, 2013.

RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND ADVOCACY PROGRAM (REAP)

Four quarterly issues of DAWN's official newsletter "SINAG" were published for the year 2013. These have been sent electronically through e-mail and by snail mail to various individuals, organizations and networks of DAWN. The staff, women and children members as well as volunteers contributed articles and photos for the various issues. The articles were also sent to DAWN-Japan for translation and publication in Japanese.

Theater workshops supported by the National Commission on Culture and the Arts (NCCA) and the University of Makati (UMAK) were conducted for both women and children members of DAWN. A back to back presentation of the women's play "Misty" and "The Crane Dog" was co-organized by DAWN and the Center for Human Rights and Gender Studies of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) in Sta. Mesa, Manila on May 11, 2013 before the Japan tour.

DAWN's Teatro Akebono went on a theater tour in the different prefectures of Japan from May 18-31. The group was composed of six Japanese-Filipino children: (Sora, Masami, Nobuyuki Paolo, Jemina, Yorgei and Tsuyoshi) and three DAWN staff (Arisa, Joy and Mel). Presentations were held in the following universities/venues and organizers: The first was at the Kanda University for International Studies (KUIS), May 19, Chiba organized by DAWN-KUIS; Makoto Center in Tokyo, May 20 by Mr. Philip Sasaki; Yokohama National University in Yokohama, May 21 by Prof. Chiho Ogaya, DAWN-Japan Coordinator; Yonohonmachi Center in Saitama, May 24 by Yumeuta; Kousouji Church in Nagoya,

May 26 by Koushou and Hanochi sensei and Osaka University by Oue sensei and Anno sensei, May 30. Other activities in the different prefectures included: meeting with DAWN-KUIS about Sikhay; singing for the grandmas and grandpas staying at the Makoto Center; vegetable and strawberry picking; bar-b-que party, cooking Filipino food and sharing it with Japanese friends, radio interview and meetings with fathers of Nobuyuki and Tsuyoshi – in Saitama, May 22-25; in Nagoya dinner with Japanese and Filipino friends and visiting homes of Filipinos and having lunch with them on May 27. The rest of the team went straight to Nagai Youth Hostel in Osaka, Masami, Tsuyoshi and Tita Mel went to Kumamoto City and met Masami's father on May 28. Then the group visited Shindo Elementary School on May 29, where the children played, danced and had lunch together; and a farewell dinner with Oue sensei and other students of the Osaka University and Kansai University who also met with us and started marketing Sikhay products, and of course with Anno sensei who always welcome us in Osaka and arrange various activities and a very comfortable place for the JFC and the staff to stay. On May 31, Anno sensei sent us off at the Kansai International Airport.

DAWN also accommodated and hosted several individuals and group study tours from various local and Japanese universities, as well as organizations from other countries as follows: Mr. Kentaro Yamane of the Economic Section of the Embassy of Japan; Members of the Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Evaluation Team from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, (MOFA), Japan Philippines Network (JPN) and Philippine Japan NGO Partnership (PJP); students from the Yokohama National University (YNU) with Prof. Chiho Ogaya; students of Fr. Edwin from the Loyola School of Theology, Ateneo de Manila University; students of Hiroshima University with Prof. Koki Seki; Kansai University students who have started marketing Sikhay products; Participants of the Asian NGO Leadership Program of Japan with Mr. Michio Ito of ACC21 and ACT-Japan; students from Bunkyo Gakuin University with Prof. Mitsuko Horiuchi; Natsuyuki Imagawa of Yumeuta in Saitama came for 10 days to know more about the work of DAWN and observe the projects and have interactions with the women and children and Ms. Megumi Nishijima of ACC21 and ACT-Japan.



Prof. Mitsuko Horiuchi and students from the Bunkyo Gakuin University with the DAWN Family



*The Cast of the 2013 Musicale, "The Crane Dog"
Sora, Masami, Nobuyuki, Yorgei, Jemina and Tsuyoshi*

DAWN had a joint celebration of the International Women's Day on March 8, with the Philippine Normal University where its play by Teatro Akebono's women's group, "Iba't-Ibang Mukha ni Misty," was presented among its students.

DAWN remains a member of various networks and alliances that advocate issues on migration, women and children. It is a member of the Philippine Migrants Rights Watch, with the DAWN Executive Director as its President; the OFW Journalism Consortium; Philippine-Japan NGO Partnership; the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women- Asia and the Pacific; DAWN's Executive Director is a member of the Board. of CARAM Asia and is also one of the global advisers of Vital Voices Global Partnership. DAWN maintains active partnership and collaboration with other local and international organizations.

The DAWN staff participated in various local and international meetings, conferences and fora in order to share and learn, and to advocate its issues.

DAWN likewise actively engaged government officials and agencies, as well as Congress (the House of Representatives and the Senate) in advancing issues pertaining to the rights and welfare of women migrants and their children.

ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOOD PROJECT (ALP)

Five women continue to be regular SIKHAY members. Gilda Mosatalla and Luz Ozawa are part of the sewing project while Rosalie Akase, Mary Jane Kuraoka and Anna Liza Yambao are

part of the handloom-weaving project. Anna Liza Yambao and Gilda Mosatalla are also in-charge of the DAWN Wellness Center.

SIKHAY and with experts from the Philippine Textile and Research Institute (PTRI) provided in-house sewing training to seven (7) women and handloom-weaving training (basic and advanced) to nine (9) women. Two (2) women were also trained in natural tie-dyeing and one (1) was trained in cosmetology. One of the SIKHAY members took the DepEd Alternative Learning System (ALS) for secondary education in Sta. Isabel College. Regular team building and Entrepreneurial Seminars were also held.

The marketing of SIKHAY products was a collaborative effort of the members, staff, volunteers, networks and individuals in the Philippines, Japan and in other parts of the world. In the Philippines, SIKHAY products continue to be sold at the DAWN office while the Uniquease Restaurant in Makati, Ant Hill in Cebu, Caritas-Manila, Momiji, UP-CIS, Fiber Industry Development Authority (FIDA) assist in the marketing of SIKHAY products. In Japan, DAWN's networks also helped boost the sales of the products. These include DAWN-Japan, DAWN-KUIS, Jichiro, Empowerment for All (EFA) in Tokyo, Global Narunia in Niigata, Yumeuta and Children's Culture in Saitama and students from Kansai University.

Sikhay was also able to work and network with the Asian Community Trust (ACT)-Japan, PUP College of Cooperatives, Department of Science and Technology (DOST) through the Philippine Textile Research Institute (PTRI), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) the University of the Philippines, UP-CIS and Ms. Santa Bodino.

The DAWN Wellness Center continues to provide services in hair coloring, hair cutting, manicure, pedicure, foot spa, and massage. The Alternative Livelihood Project of DAWN continues to assist the Board, officers and members of the DAWN Multi-Purpose Cooperative in the operations and development of projects of the cooperative.

Working together in empowering our women led to another year of success for all of us. **(to be continued on page 5)**



Trainees in Sewing, Pattern-Making and Cutting Melody Cabalangan, Lissa Junio, Gilda Mosatalla and Madelyn Itoh. Luz Ozawa and Mary Joy Barcelona as trainers.

SEWING & HAND-WEAVING: THERAPY IN REBUILDING LIVES

By Mary Joy E. Barcelona

Sewing which started 18 years ago and hand-weaving, 13 years ago are among the components of Sikhay, DAWN's Alternative Livelihood Project to develop and enhance the skills of its women members. Both serve as therapy, and help build the self-esteem and self-confidence of the women.

The process of sewing and weaving are avenues for the women to become productive, creative and eventually have source of income. For some, just the opportunity to gain the skills is such a big factor.

DAWN believes that the project symbolizes the start of a new life or re-building broken dreams. Putting all the cut pieces/parts of a certain fabric into new beautiful blouses, dresses, skirts, bags and weaving a simple thread into a colorful and creative design into runners, scarves, shawls, and cloth is like picking up the pieces and putting them together again.

The process of sewing and weaving is like re-building our broken bodies and shattered dreams after migration to Japan.

When looking at the process alone most of the trainees are wondering if they can perform well in the training. The use of machines - the high speed sewing machines, special machines like the button holer, edging machine and the handloom machines oftentimes scare the women at first.

The complicated, hand-made process in every step of the way to accomplish the assigned projects of basic pattern making, cutting, edging, and sewing of blouse, skirts, pants and dresses and making basic and complicated designs of hand-woven scarves, shawls, runners and place mats surprised many of the women in their skills and patience to do them all.



Diosa Recto doing her project in sewing



Melody warping a scarf

Through the years the fears and worries at the start are transformed into gainful and overwhelming experiences because trainers are also among the women who gained the skills while training in DAWN.

Bringing together new dreams and aspirations in life help build camaraderie among women and have one goal - to work for the future of their Japanese-Filipino children (JFC).

For the last quarter of 2013, Melody Cabalagnan after her training in sewing continued her training in weaving. Upon finishing her project, she is amazed that from simple thread, she was able to make a scarf. She carefully studied how to make designs and prepared a menu for her design pattern of scarves. Melody said, "I feel happy being able to make a scarf."

Diosa came all the way from Batangas, a three hour travel by bus to Manila, but her interest to learn skills in sewing did not stop her from coming to Sikhay every Fridays and Saturdays for her training and stayed with her niece in Manila. "It's fulfilling to be able to make a skirt, blouse, pants, etc." Diosa said. She wanted to have a home-based project out of the skills she learned.

Her next training will be in weaving. Diosa has a nineteen year old son who is Japanese-Filipino.

The Asian Community Trust (ACT)- Japan supports the training of DAWN members in sewing and weaving.

2013 DAWN YEAR-END REPORT (cont'd)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCE

The Administrative and Finance section implemented the standard systems and procedures necessary for the smooth functioning of the organization. These included the timely processing of business permits, submission of contribution reports to the SSS, Philhealth, Pag-Ibig and the BIR, as well as facilitating the preparation of the Financial Statement and ITR of DAWN, and managing the funds of the organization.

Support was given to the staff for the continuous upgrading of their knowledge and skills through participation and attendance in various conferences and fora.

The election of new Board of Trustees was held on September 7, 2013. DAWN gladly welcomed Prof. Aurora Javate-de Dios as President and Prof. Mitsuko Horiuchi as Vice-President. Both are truly concerned in the promotion and protection of the rights and welfare of Filipino Women Migrant Workers and their children. Other officers elected are: Rev. Leonardo R. Morada, Secretary; Ms. Perlita Domingo-Flores, Treasurer; Atty. Danilo C. Cunanan, Auditor. Members are: Prof. Corazon R. Arboleda, Bishop Julio Xavier Labayen and Mr. Ernesto Cloma; Ms. Carmelita G. Nuqui is the Executive Director.

The Asian Community Trust (ACT) approved for the second year our project on “Improving the Quality of Life of Returned Filipino Women Migrants and their Children through Education, provision of Training and Health Services.”

Grants and donations were also received from JICHIRO, the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), CARAM-Asia, National Women’s Education Center (NVEC), as well as from individual donors.



The DAWN Board of Trustees Meeting



DAWN women and JFC performing during the December 18 International Migrants Day Celebration at the SSS Auditorium

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NATSUYUKI & MEGUMI VISIT DAWN

By Mary Joy E. Barcelona

Natsuyuki Imagawa, Director of Yumeuta in Saitama, Japan visited DAWN last October 9-17, 2013 for an exposure in the Philippines particularly to know more about DAWN's work.

The purpose of visiting and learning about DAWN's work is to deepen the working relationship of both NGO-NPO. Nachan, as we fondly call Natsuyuki was first given an orientation about DAWN's work – the programs and services. He was surprised to know that there are around 200,000 (estimated, CJFCA-DAWN, 2007) Japanese-Filipino Children (JFC) who are among those born out of the Filipino Entertainment Migration to Japan with the huge number of 60,000-80,000 (POEA statistics, 2000-2004) overseas performing artists going to Japan in the 70s – 2000s.

Nachan had the chance to see the Sikhay project, how it is run by the women and tried to weave himself. He chose items that he can bring back home with assistance from Ayako-san through Skype. He met other mothers whom most of their JFC already visited his place in Japan during Akebono Tour.



After the visit in Manila, Nachan and Mel met with Midori Shibuya and Azumi Shibui of DAWN-KUIS and Akihiro Tamura of DAWN-Japan on 19 October 2013 at the Tokyo Green Palace Hotel to share Nachan's experience in Manila and show the shawls and other Sikhay products and discuss how to improve the marketing/sales of the products

Together with Joy, he visited the homes of two families and saw the realities of the life of the JFC and their mothers. The experience of home visit provided a new avenue of what we need to work together as NGO-NPO.

Nachan and Tita Mel met years ago when he was a University student. During those years whenever DAWN's annual Akebono theater group staged the play in Saitama, Nachan and his group YUMEUTA are performing with us back to back.

We also went around Manila – visiting the Rizal Park and National Museum with Jane and Masami Kuraoka.

They are supporting DAWN together with Ms. Yoriko Nakahira of the Children's Culture and Studies. Nakahira-san is one of the pioneer networks of DAWN and its Sikhay project. She helped design some of the popular Sikhay products.

The different activities and sharing of experiences is very much appreciated, even at times the question of why we wanted to work in NGO-NPO is being asked - a work that demands more time and efforts yet the income is a bit less.

For the past years YUMEUTA always welcome DAWN in Saitama together with their members both parents and their children. The DAWN family is always looking forward to the various activities they prepare during our stay. Sharing of cultures of the Philippines and Japan through music, dance, playing games and cooking. More activities like vegetables and fruits picking, visiting parks and radio interview. Ms. Ayako Taguchi and Miyuki Machida also supported the project of the JFC mothers in helping sell Sikhay items in the different bazaars and activities that YUMEUTA organize or join.

The answer is that NGO work is fulfilling and rewarding that money can't buy.



Nachan learning to weave with support from Sikhay members



Megumi's home visit to Gilda, Nobu and Keigo Mosatalla with Joy Barcelona



Megumi joins DAWN's JFC activity

Recently, the YUMEUTA office and Nachan has been accommodating some of the meetings of the Japanese fathers and the JFC.

After the fruitful visit to DAWN in Manila, going back to Japan Nachan was introduced by Tita Mel to other DAWN networks. Nachan decided to make a facebook account of DAWN in Japan (please like it!) in the objective of having a means of communication among the Japanese and other friends of DAWN in Japan, Philippines and other parts of the world.

He even suggested to bring stocks of Sikhay and offered a space in his office, so that Sikhay products will be readily accessible to other Japan networks.

Regular communications and meetings are the objectives of the latest internet line. To Nachan and his Yumeuta family, thank you for very much!

Megumi Nishijima of the Asian Community Trust (ACT)- Japan visited DAWN last October 27-31, 2013 in line with the 2nd year interim evaluation of the project with DAWN, "*Improving Quality of Life of Returned Filipino women Migrants and their Children through Education, Provision of Training and Health Services.*"

The sharing and exchanges with Megumi of the women, children and DAWN staff was very fruitful.

She visited the Sikhay project's sewing and weaving and talked with the trainees and members of Sikhay.

We also had a group discussion with the children where they shared their school activities and anecdotes and some showed their grades and performances.

A discussion with the mothers and the children was also held. Megumi also home-visited one family and was able to mingle with them.

The chance to see the real life and situation of the JFC and their mothers raise the interest of how we can better improve the quality of life of these women and children.

With the project that we have now, what else can be improved in the succeeding endeavors for both DAWN and ACT-Japan.

Megumi promised to come back and visit more families to know more about their situation.



Megumi Nishijima of ACT-Japan having a discussion with DAWN women and JFC



SINAG (akebono or yoake in Japanese) means dawn or daybreak.

It is the quarterly publication of the Development Action for Women Network (DAWN), a non-government organization devoted to issues concerning migrant women and their Japanese-Filipino children.

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2013 DAWN CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER

By Ma. Cristina S. Tenorio



The DAWN women and JFC dancing Cariñosa



*The DAWN Family singing the final song,
"Ang Kuwento ng Pasko" (The Story of Christmas)*

"PASKO: Pag-asa at Pagmamahalan," "Christmas: Hope and Love," was the theme of DAWN Christmas Get-together 2013. It was held on December 21 at the lobby of the Don Santiago Building. The simple program was hosted by Arisa Junio and Jennifer Verano, JFC members of DAWN. One of the JFC, Kyoko Migita did the opening prayer, followed by the welcome remarks of Ms. Mel Nuqui, DAWN Executive Director. Rev. Leonardo Morada, Prof. Cora Arboleda and Ms. Pearl Domingo-Flores of the DAWN Board of Trustees and Ms. Rumi Medoruma, DAWN Japanese volunteer gave inspirational messages. Everyone sang Christmas carols.

Selected women and children performed the folk dances, that were successfully presented during the celebration of the Month of Overseas Filipinos (MOF) and International Migrants Day on December 18. The women and children were well applauded by the audience for their great performances.

Some women and children also performed modern dances and rendered songs. There were also gift-giving and exchange gifts and we all had fun with the different games and activities.

Some of our friends from Selecta donated various kinds of ice cream on cups and popsicles, from Unilogix for their donuts and from Fortune Buddies Corp. for their Eco bags and Coffee makers which were given to lucky mothers as special prizes. Some mothers and JFC also donated prizes for the games.

The DAWN Board of Trustees, staff, women and children enjoyed the program, especially the gift-giving and lunch together in celebration of the Christmas season.

The DAWN staff, women and the JFC were involved in the preparation of the said get-together and all made it a joyous one!

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