



2014 DAWN YEAR-END REPORT

by Mary Joy E. Barcelona, Mirriam R. Orig and Maricris S. Tenorio

The year 2014 was another challenging year for DAWN. It continued to provide assistance and support to returned women migrants and their children. Below are the different activities of DAWN and assistance provided to its members.

SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAM (SSP)

As the entry point for women and children membership to DAWN, the Social Services Program conducted pre-orientation and intake interviews to prospective members for them to learn about the programs and services of the organization.

DAWN's caseload for 2014 is 44 women and 57 children. Most of them were referred by the Embassy of Japan. Majority of them come from the National Capital Region and from Region IV, although there are a few from far provinces. Out of the 44 women, ten (10) graduated from college, ten (10) reached college level, seventeen (17) graduated from high school, six (6) reached high school level while one graduated in elementary. Twenty-one (21) women are self-employed, fourteen (14) are employed while nine (9) women are being supported by relatives. From the 57 children members of DAWN, eight (8) have completed their college education and presently working, 45 are still studying and four (4) are not of school age.

Regular counseling and life coaching activities were provided to both the women and children members. Seminars on Self-Awareness, Value Clarification, Parenting and Family Dynamics were conducted for new members. Group work sessions were also conducted for the women and children that focused on different issues relevant to them. The members of the DAWN-JFC for Change were provided with Leadership Trainings and Children's Rights Camp.



DAWN-JFC for Change meeting

Regular DAWN activities such as the holding of DAWN anniversary, Family day cum Mother's day celebration, and Christmas get-together were held. Women's Rights Workshop was also conducted to celebrate the International Women's Day. DAWN women and children participated in the International Migrants' Day celebration spearheaded by the Philippine Migrants Rights Watch (PMRW) on December 18 at the Social Security System (SSS), Quezon City.

The women and JFC were also assisted in the translation of their documents (from Japanese to English and vice-versa) by the Japanese volunteers of DAWN. They were also assisted in securing necessary documents, such as koseki, passports, birth certificates, and other documents.

The cast of the musicale play "The Crane Dog" were assisted in the acquisition of their travel documents for the theater tour in Japan.



DAWN's 18th Anniversary

In coordination with the other programs, several women and children became active advocates of DAWN. They were also tapped to help facilitate some activities and provide other forms of assistance during activities. Educational and health care assistance were provided to JFC and mothers with support from the Asian Community Trust (ACT).

Several interactions with DAWN women and children with Study Tour participants were facilitated within the year. The social case study reports were completed and updated. Home and school visits were also conducted.

RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND ADVOCACY PROGRAM (REAP)

Four quarterly issues of DAWN's official newsletter "SINAG" were published for the year 2014. These have been sent electronically through e-mails and by snail mails 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.

Theater workshops supported by the National Commission for 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 "Iba't-Ibang Mukha ni Misty" and "The Crane Dog" was organized by DAWN at the Tanghalang Leandro Locsin of the NCCA on May 14, 2014 at 2pm.



The Cast of the Crane Dog

DAWN's Teatro Akebono went on a theater tour in the different prefectures of Japan from May 17-31, 2014. The group included six Japanese-Filipino children: (Yukie Ikeda, Keigo Mosatalla, Jemina Alnas, Masako Ono, Maria Kanna Junio and Tsuyoshi Imai) and three DAWN staff (Cris, Joy and Mel). The first presentation held at the Kanda University for International Studies (KUIS), Chiba on May 18 was organized by DAWN-KUIS. Mr. Kazuo Inoue, one of DAWN's Advisory Council and Prof. Mitsuko Horiuchi, Vice-President, DAWN Board of Trustees attended the presentation. The group also met Mr. Michio Ito and Ms. Megumi Nishijima of ACT-Japan who joined the big bazaar in KUIS.

The next presentation was at the Yokohama National University in Yokohama on May 19 organized by Prof. Chiho Ogaya, DAWN-Japan Coordinator. On May 20, the JFC had sight-seeing around the Yamashita Park with YNU students after the interview by Mr. Kenji Nakanishi of the Yomiuri Shimbun. The group met Masako's mother and family in Yokohama.

On May 20 at 3pm, the group together with Mr. Natsuyuki Imagawa (Yumeuta) and Akihiro Tamura (DAWN-Japan) were warmly welcomed by Ms. Mariko Aoki, Mr. Takaaki Wakui and Mr. Katsuhiko Sato of the All-Japan Prefectural and Municipal Workers Union (JICHIRO), a partner and supporter of DAWN since 1996.

On May 21 at 3pm, the group together with Prof. Horiuchi, Mr. Tamura and Mr. Imagawa had a courtesy visit to H. E. Ambassador Manuel Lopez, Madame Theresa Lopez, Consul-General Jocelyn Tirol-Ignacio and Minister Angelica Escalona.



In front of Yumeuta's office with Nachan, Ayako, Sarara, Mr. Imai, Q-chan, Fumiko-san and Watanabe-san

On May 22, the team went to Soka City's Community Center for the third performance, organized by the Kodomo Hiroba Soka Oyako Gekijo with support from Yumeuta. Mr. Kenji Yoshihara taught the children and staff how to make Zouri, Japanese traditional slippers using recycled cloth at the Yumeuta office on May 23. Mr. Imai, Tsuyoshi's father, came to meet us on May 24 at the Yumeuta's office in Saitama. DAWN volunteers, Q-chan, Fumiko-san and Watanabe-san also came to meet with us.

On May 25, the Yumeuta members sent us off at the Omiya station for our next presentation at the Kosoji Catholic Church in Nagoya. Most of the participants were Filipinos with their Japanese husbands and children. A welcome pot-luck dinner followed with Philippine and Japanese dishes shared with everyone.

On May 26, the group moved to Kyoto University and were met by Wako-sensei and his students. A presentation was held which ended with the song *Teno Hira o Taiyou Ni*. Everyone enjoyed the dinner at the Kyoto Ninja. The next day was a tour at the Kiyomizu Temple, the most famous temple in Kyoto.

In the late afternoon of the 27th of May, the group travelled to Osaka and were welcomed by Anno-sensei and Kansai University students. On May 28, there was a presentation at the Kansai University and on May 29, the team presented the play to the second year junior high school students at the Takawashi-minami Junior High School in Osaka. Later in the afternoon, a presentation was held at the Conference Hall of the Nagai Youth Hostel. Mr. Nobuki Fujimoto, a longtime volunteer from Osaka and Mr. Koushou Nakasima from Nagoya came to watch the musicale. After the presentation, the Kansai University students, Anno-sensei and Fujimoto-san prepared a surprise birthday party and gifts for Keigo for his 15th birthday.

The last presentation was at the Osaka University. Oue-sensei, Prof. Joey Baquiran of the University of the Philippines (Diliman) now teaching at the Philippine Studies at the Osaka University, Prof. Michiko Yoneno-Reyes of the UP Asian Center and Ms. Megumi Hara welcomed us. Megumi-san made a short presentation about DAWN and the play was presented. Questions were raised, some even in Filipino language. Everyone had a great time at an Okonomiyaki restaurant during the farewell dinner.

On May 31, the morning of our last day, Anno-sensei and Akane Sako of Kansai University sent us off at the Shin-Osaka station for our Shinkansen to Tokyo.

At the Tokyo station, we were met by Nachan, Ayako, Sarara and Yukune. We met with Jemina's father, while the others went to the park. In the afternoon, we travelled to the Narita Airport for our flight back to Manila.

DAWN also accommodated and hosted several individuals and group study tours from various local and Japanese universities as follows: Kansai University – Yoshida Seminar students with 12 members on August 30 and September 1; Prof. Hideo Ikeda of the Graduate School of International Development and Cooperation, Hiroshima University together with 6 students and 4 staff on August 22; Prof. Mayumi Kubota, Faculty of Informatics focusing on Intercultural Communication, Kansai University with sixteen (16) students on

September 3; Prof. Mitsuko Horiuchi, assisted by Ms. Sanae Nakajima of Free the Children Japan came with eight (8) students from the Bunkyo Gakuin University on September 6; Kanda University for International Studies (KUIS) students with five (5) members of DAWN-KUIS last September 8-11; Prof. Chiho Ogaya of the Yokohama National University and also DAWN-Japan Coordinator on September 13; and Prof. Wako Asato from Kyoto University with three (3) graduate students on September 27.

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



Mr. Lito Soriano of LBS Corporation, Ana, Joy and Mel during the interview by Ms. Lou Medina of DZEC on various migrant issues

ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOOD PROJECT (ALP)

The year 2014 was indeed a productive year for Sikhay.

Three members, Gilda Mosatalla, Mary Jane Kuroaka and Anna Liza Yambao, continued their advanced trainings and work in sewing, weaving and wellness programs at the DAWN Wellness Center.



Prof. Mitsuko Horiuchi with students from Bunkyo Gakuin University

Skills training in sewing and weaving, home-based projects and entrepreneurial seminars continued with support from the Asian Community Trust (ACT-Japan).

Sikhay provided in-house training to fifteen (15) women. eight (8) in Sewing and Industrial Machine Operation, six (6) in Handloom-Weaving and one (1) in Basic Computer Training. One passed the Alternative Learning System Accreditation and Equivalency (ALS A&E) test and got her Diploma in Secondary Education.

Two home-based projects were set up: a sewing project by Methouselah Aoki in Polillo, Quezon and a Variety Store by Anna Lissa Junio in Cainta, Rizal.



Methouselah's sewing project in Polillo

Marketing of Sikhay products was a collaborative endeavor of networks, staff, volunteers, and individuals in the Philippines, Japan and other parts of the world. In the Philippines, we displayed and sold Sikhay products at the DAWN office in Manila and the Philippine Textile Research Institute (PTRI) showroom display in Taguig City. Sikhay attended bazaars during activities of WAGI in Miriam College and the Blas Ople Foundation in San Juan City. The Office of the Undersecretary for International Economic Relations-(OUIER) Cultural Diplomacy Unit of the Department of Foreign Affairs and PTRI provided us a venue to promote Philippine traditional and neo-ethnic weaves in an exhibit called *“Neo-ethnicism of the Philippine Textiles: Weaving Tradition with Technology,”* which led us to reach out to more Philippine Embassies and Consulates: Budapest, Hungary; Brasilia, Brazil; Damascus, Syria; Los Angeles, California; and Beijing, China. Sikhay also had its exhibit at the Philippine Embassy in Tokyo, Japan, through Madame Maria Teresa Lopez, who has been supporting DAWN by sharing their proceeds from their bazaars, by selling Sikhay products and by inviting DAWN and its networks/partners in the bazaars organized by the Philippine Embassy in Tokyo.



DAWN-KUIS discussing with Joy and Jane suggestions for new designs

Japan networks/partners continued their support: Peace Boat in Tokyo; Global Narunia in Niigata; YUMEUTA/ DAWN in Japan – Saitama; Kansai University-Yoshida Seminar in Osaka; DAWN-KUIS at the Kanda University for International Studies (KUIS) in Chiba and JICHIRO in Tokyo (DAWN’s longtime partner/supporter).

Sikhay also gained new networks this year: Give And Take (GAT), Singapore; Custom Made Craft Center and Rags2Riches, Philippines. Rags2Riches (R2R) is a social enterprise organization, working with women in the urban poor communities who weave scrap cloths, which are made into fashion bags and home accessories. R2R wanted to incorporate Sikhay’s hand-woven design for their 2015 bags collection. Both organization’s future partnership wish to commit on the same advocacy of empowering women. During the second half of the year, we started developing hand-woven product designs and samples for Rags2Riches. Orders will start in 2015.

Sikhay accommodated two exposure visits for students: Kansai University –Yoshida Seminar and Kanda University for International Studies (KUIS). These groups of students from two universities have been assisting Sikhay by selling products and disseminating DAWN’s work.

Both groups came to meet the members of Sikhay and had hands-on experience in sewing, weaving and wellness activities that could help them better understand the women and the whole project of Sikhay and DAWN. The Kansai University –Yoshida Seminar group are students of International Cooperative Seminar under Professor Yoshida. Among their objectives are public relations campaign and social enterprise development. The Kanda University for International Studies students established DAWN-KUIS which aims to promote Sikhay products and DAWN’s work.

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 documents and contribution reports to the SEC, SSS, Philhealth, Pag-Ibig Fund and the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), as well as facilitating the preparation of the Financial Statement and ITR.

DAWN celebrated its 18th Year Anniversary on February 8, 2014 with the theme: *“Building Capacities of Women and Japanese-Filipino Children (JFC).”* The celebration started with a group interaction between and among the women and children. They were grouped separately and discussed among themselves when they started joining DAWN and what capacities they have developed and strengthened. After their sharing, they presented their output and insights through songs. All of those who attended the celebration were inspired.

Kana Yano came to DAWN as a volunteer from August 26 to September 27. She did various work for Sikhay and DAWN, i.e. translating various documents, made posters explaining the process of sewing and weaving both in English and Japanese. She also conducted Nihongo lessons and Japanese culture and helped in explaining DAWN’s work to Japanese visitors. She also interviewed some women and staff for her thesis.

For the third year, the Asian Community Trust (ACT-Japan) supported DAWN’s project on *“Improving the Quality of Life of Returned Filipino Women Migrants and their Children through Education, provision of Training and Health Services.”* It assisted at least 40 women migrant returnees and 40 children by providing them with capacity-building trainings and seminars, assistance for the continued education of the children, and assistance for health and medical care. The various activities contributed to the well-being of individuals necessary for them to function well and be able to develop their capacities.

Grants and donations were also received from the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), JICHIRO, CARAM-Asia, the Philippine Embassy in Tokyo, and from individual donors.

SIKHAY TRAINING (cont'd)



Juvy, drawing-in the thread, the 3rd step in hand-weaving a scarf

Juvy Sacabin continued her training in weaving after her training in sewing.

She was amazed in training in weaving because of the idea of making a simple thread into a fabric. She wishes to put up her own project.

Juvy said, "it is difficult to look for a job for returnees like her, considering her skills are not fit for available jobs back home." Juvy worked in Japan as an entertainer and in Dubai as a domestic worker.



Anna Lissa weaving a shawl

Anna Lissa Junio is always excited to attend her training in weaving.

She was wondering at the start of the training on how the simple thread can be made into a scarf, shawl and coaster. But whenever she saw her end project, she felt fulfilled.

The training provides her not only new skills but also her awareness of the color combination of thread that fits on the item she make.

Anna Lissa also became more creative and focused in executing the steps in her training in weaving. She is a returnee from Japan.

Ma. Gloria Mogote is happy and very interested to undergo the training because she wants to know how to make fabric out of just simple thread. She did the different steps in weaving with always a smile in her face.

Gloria said, "I feel very proud seeing my finished projects of scarves and shawls."

Gloria is also a returnee from Japan. She has one JFC named Ai who is now in Grade 8.



Gloria weaving a scarf

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SIKHAY TRAINING IN SEWING & WEAVING

By Mary Joy E. Barcelona

For the last quarter of 2014, Sikhay was able to train six (6) women through the support of the Asian Community Trust (ACT-Japan): three (3) in sewing: Alma Leoncio, Zenaida Cuna and Peachy Ferrera and three (3) in weaving (Maria Gloria Mogote, Juvy Sacabin and Anna Lissa Junio). Even if the women came from different countries as migrant workers, DAWN's reintegration program for returnees like us brought us together with the same advocacy.

After our longtime work abroad, our skills as entertainers and domestic workers are not suitable for work back home. DAWN, with its humble ability to assist women returnees in its reintegration program, was able to provide an opportunity for returnees to have an alternative for migration.

The skills training in weaving and sewing give the women a chance to regain their self-worth and self-confidence to become productive and gain new skills.

Zenaida Cuna, though she was already doing simple sewing and clothing alteration as her alternative source of income, shared, "the training is very helpful for OFWs like me, so I will not go abroad again. We can use the skills we gained in putting up our own project." She was able to further learn how to cut and sew dresses, skirts and shorts. She added, "the skills and knowledge shared to me and the support in terms of the materials, transportation and food allowances help me cope with my daily expenses during my training. Thank you to Sikhay and DAWN."

Zeny worked as a domestic worker in Kuwait, Qatar and Malaysia.



Zeny sewing a dress, one of her projects in her training in sewing

Alma is very thankful to DAWN and Ma'am Mel for being understanding and patient to her. She learned many things in her training in sewing. "I have no knowledge in sewing, even the basic hand sewing I cannot do, but with the training I was able to learn basic sewing, machine operations and sew different items like skirts, dresses, blouses and shorts," she said.



Alma with co-trainees, Zeny and Peachy, show Megumi Nishijima of ACT-Japan and Mel how she cuts her dress project

"I may not have perfect projects during my training but I was very willing to learn the skills. As I finished my training, I can say that I can apply for work because of the skills I learned," Alma said. She worked as a domestic worker in Oman and Macau.



Alma sewing a dress for her sewing project

Peachy Ferrera is one of the new members of DAWN who attended the training in sewing. She is happy during the training because she learned the skills in sewing and also gained friends.

Peachy said, "I hope that with my skills in sewing, I will be able to have my own livelihood project in sewing someday." She is happy seeing her finished projects. Peachy is a returnee from Japan.

(to be continued on page 5)



Peachy sewing a skirt for her sewing project

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

By *Miriam R. Orig*

The continuing DAWN-JFC for Change Leadership Training was conducted last October 18 and 25, 2014 in one of the workshop rooms of DAWN.

It was attended by twenty (20) DAWN members.

The sessions' objective are for the participants to understand the problem-solving process and acquire skills in effective problem solving such as the following: define short-term and long-term goals; define the problem; formulate strategies in solving a problem; and identify alternative courses of action and implement the best alternative.

The activity started with a Structure Learning Exercise "Traffic Debrief" that helped the members assessed DAWN-JFC for Change performance as a group that focused on: What things that are happening in the group need to STOP in order for them to be more successful; What things that we need to be CAREFUL of as they continue; and What are the things we want to GO for.

The sessions' input revolved on defining goals as a purpose toward which an effort is directed. The goal is an objective which the individual wants to achieve.

Goal-setting is an important method of deciding what is important for them to achieve in their life and for motivating themselves to achieve.



Leadership Training Exercise

The participants learned that they should be honest in identifying the problem, setting goals and priorities.

They have to be confident in their ability to make good decisions relevant to their situations as Japanese-Filipino children.

They also believe that understanding the problem-solving process will prevent interpersonal conflict, enhance chances for effective decisions and will help increase their confidence and self-esteem.

Right after the session, the group modified their plans for November to December.

They focused their plans on the sales of their remaining key chains and loomed bands and their participation/ presentation in the upcoming DAWN Christmas- Get Together 2014. The older JFC encouraged the new ones to participate actively in the different DAWN activities because it will help them improve themselves. Everyone was reminded of their activity meetings every first and last Saturday of the month.



Group Assessment



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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DAWN CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER

By Mirriam R. Orig

The DAWN Christmas Get-together 2014, was held on December 20, 2014 with the theme: “2014: Pasko...Pasalamat, Kapayapaan at Kasaganaan.”

It started with DAWN Family interaction thru Christmas Word Game and preparation of the Christmas Tableau. The Christmas Tableau was participated by women and children and was used as a backdrop while the “Story of Christmas” was read by Tsuyoshi Imai.

This was then followed by the opening prayer, led by Mayumi Peralta, which cue in the start of the thanksgiving program.

All the participants joined in singing the song “Christmas in our Hearts,” followed by the words of welcome and inspirational message given by Carmelita G. Nuqui, the DAWN Executive Director.



The DAWN-JFC during the program at the Christmas Get-Together

She asked the attendees who they would like to thank this Christmas and they gamely shared their thoughts.

Special dance presentations were provided by Paulo and Keigo Mosatalla, then groups of women, youth, children and the DAWN staff. Yasushi Watanabe, our Japanese volunteer, shared a song for everyone.

The highlight of the Christmas get-together was the raffle, with prizes courtesy of Mr. Lito Soriano of LBS Corporation and gift-giving by DAWN.

Additional gifts were received by everyone courtesy of Anna Tablizo and her mother Teresita, who shared their blessings with the DAWN Family.

A fellowship lunch followed.



The DAWN Family Christmas Get-Together 2014

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