



## EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH SKILLS TRAINING

*By Mary Joy E. Barcelona*

Methuselah Aoki has been with DAWN for quite some time, but because of her geographical location which is the Polillo Island in Quezon, she and her son Sho only attended DAWN's activities like Christmas get-together, DAWN Anniversary and whenever she visits Manila.

Methus, as we fondly call her, finished her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education at the Southeastern College, Pasay City. She taught in one of the private schools in their place; but after she finished her contract, she stopped teaching and worked in a local government office. Later on, she managed a coffee shop owned by her friend. She shared that working and practicing her craft is a good opportunity for her, but she also needs to take care her son Sho, a JFC who is now in 4th year high school. He is actively involved in the different sports activities in their community and in school. He is a member of the Badminton and Bikers Group in Polillo, Band and Historical Society member in his school.

As a single mother, she wants to guide Sho in his young adulthood stage. She wants to work home so that she has more time with Sho.

Last December during DAWN Christmas get-together, Methus expressed her interest to undergo sewing and weaving training in Sikhay, so that her aspiration to work at home can be realized. She started her training in sewing and right after, in weaving.

During her training she went home once a month to visit Sho. With the help of the new technology, texting and calling is their way of communication every day.

Methus is a fast learner and creative with her projects like the skirts, blouses, uniforms, dresses and pants. "My passion in sewing maybe came from my mother, because she used to have a sewing shop in our place that contributed a lot in our studies," she said teary eyed.

She trained in sewing, pattern-making/cutting, the operation of high speed sewing machine, button holer and edging machine. We also imparted to her technical trouble shooting in sewing machine.

*"My passion in sewing maybe came from my mother, because she used to have a sewing shop in our place that contributed a lot in our studies."*

After the sewing, edging machine/button holer operations and pattern-making training, she continued her training in weaving. She learned the operation of loom machine, and the computation of the length and width of certain items she needs to make: warping of thread, dressing, drawing in, denting and weaving proper. She was able to make items like shawls, scarves and place mats.



*Methus training in pattern-making/cutting*



*Methus training in sewing*



*Methus training in edging machine operation*

In March, after her trainings in sewing, machine operations, pattern-making and weaving, she attended an entrepreneurial seminar. DAWN awarded her a certificate of completion for all the trainings in Sikhay-DAWN.

In support of her plan of having a home-based project, DAWN with support from ACT-Japan will provide her a unit of High speed sewing machine and a starting kit which includes tools and attachment of the sewing machine, materials for pattern-making,



*Methus weaving a scarf*

different measuring tools, pattern paper, and basic materials for sewing like thread, needles, buttons, scissors, cloth, etc.

With this endeavor, we hope that this will be the beginning of a new source of income for her and Sho.

The project also aims to share the project with about three other women returnees in their community.



*Diosa warping a scarf (1st step in weaving)*

After her training in sewing, Diosa Recto continued her training in weaving. At the beginning, she thought that weaving is complicated and difficult, but when she started her training she enjoyed doing the warping of thread.

What challenges her is combining the different colors of threads to make an equal number of ends of each color for the right width and length desired. The steps in weaving: warping, beaming/dressing, drawing in, denting and weaving proper were at the beginning very complicated for her. But when she finally finished the scarf she felt good and very happy looking at it and she was very proud of it.



*Diosa doing the 2nd step in weaving a scarf, "dressing."*



*Diosa drawing in a scarf (3rd step) as part of her training in weaving*

# DAWN CELEBRATES 18th YEAR

By Ma. Cristina S. Tenorio



The DAWN Women singing "Babae Ka"



The DAWN family singing "The Journey" as the final song

DAWN celebrated its 18th Year Anniversary on February 8, 2014 with the theme: "Building Capacities of Women and JFC." The celebration started with a group interaction between and among the women and children. They were grouped separately and discussed/shared among themselves when they started joining DAWN and what capacities they have developed/strengthened. After the sharing they presented their output and their insights thru songs. The women sang "Babae Ka" while the children sang "Roar". All of those who attended the celebration were inspired.

The thanksgiving program started with the opening song "Welcome to the Family." It was followed by the opening/welcome remarks of Ms. Mel Nuqui, the Executive Director of DAWN who expressed her thanks to all who came for the anniversary celebration and emphasized the need for DAWN and the women and children to continue working together in building their capacities. Prof. Corazon Arboleda and Ms. Perlita Domingo-Flores, BOD of DAWN gave their anniversary messages. Both expressed their gladness that DAWN reached its 18th year anniversary together with the women and children and look forward to several more years ahead. All were excited on the "mother and child/children presentations." Anna Lissa Junio and daughter Kanna sang "Born this Way," Dolores Alnas and daughter Jemina dance to the tune of "Boom Boom Pow" while Analisa Carimpong shared a poem she composed entitled "DAWN" (please see text) in front of her son Kazuhiro Christian. Everyone enjoyed the presentations.

However, the much awaited and highlight of the presentation was that of Anna Lisa Yambao and son Tsuyoshi Imai's dance number to the tune of "Move like a Jagger." After 14 years of being with DAWN, it's the first time that they perform together to the delight of everyone although they are very active in all activities of DAWN. The DAWN women performed "Insomnia Dance Number" while Ma. Kanna Junio sang "Roar" to represent the children.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment was done by the following representatives: Jemina Alnas (JFC), Methouselah Aoki (women), Maricris Suarez-Tenorio (DAWN staff) and Ms. Pearl Domingo-Flores (BOD) with the closing song: "One Little Candle" and "The Journey".

## DAWN

Dati-rati malungkot ang buhay,  
Problema'y nariyan, kulang ang kulay,  
Nang DAWN matagpuan, tulong ang alay'  
Sa sulirani't agam-agam, solusyon ay bigay

Ako, ikaw, tayong lahat nagkaroon ng direksyon,  
Buhay natin higit na pahalagahan sa tulong ng DAWN,  
Anumang balakid, sagabal sa landas, ating susuungin,  
Maitaguyod lamang nang mahusay buhay at anak natin

Walang kapares malasakit, pagmamahal at gabay  
Na ating tinanggap ng dalawang kamay  
Salapi, anupaman di makapantay  
Sa pagbangon natin, DAWN ang kaagapay

Narapat lamang pasasalamat ang ibigay natin  
Mahusay nating gampanan iniatas na tungkulin  
Sa Poong Maykapal, sa tuwina'y idalangan  
Nawa ang DAWN patuloy na umunlad,  
at laging pagpalain.

by: Analisa Carimpong

# ENTREPRENEURIAL TRAINING SEMINAR

*By Mary Joy E. Barcelona*

The initiative and interest of being an entrepreneur is always there. But how to nurture and develop oneself to become an entrepreneur is what the training is all about. The seminar with 20 participants was held last March 22-23, 2014 in Los Baños, Laguna. It aims to help the participants practice entrepreneurship in their own work and livelihood.

The activity started with expectation setting, followed by a team exercise called "Coin Logo" the main objective of which is for the participants to combine their coins (small amount of money) and make it into a productive representation of each group using other materials provided to them. Each group shared the process of making their logo and how they came up with it. Anna Lissa Junio shared their logo of business venture cycle - sources of materials, marketing, selling and financial management. Rosie Verano showed a women logo, which according to them means women are strong in managing a business and Connie Sato shared a pyramid logo which according to them means a strong group.

The lecture started on how to be an entrepreneur, the definition of entrepreneurship, the culture, the role, traits and its advantages and disadvantages. The rewards of being an entrepreneur were also discussed. Being an entrepreneur is neither a part-time or a full-time job, it is a life style. Entrepreneurs own and manage the business.

The seminar provided the management style, the legality of business - the registration, location of the business, sources of materials and other necessary things needed to run a business. One thing that was emphasized, is the business plan that will guide in running a certain business. A business plan includes the marketing, production, organizational and financial aspects of a business.



*The women conceptualizing their Team Logo*



*The women brainstorming on business ideas*

To boost the interest of the participants, the video "Best Motivational Video for Startups and Entrepreneurs" by Tom Corson-Knowles was shown. After the video presentation and to wrap up the lecture, an outdoor activity was done. Each group was asked to walk around the area and generate business ideas and business opportunities. Since most of the participants are working and have their own/family members' livelihood, the participants had a fruitful and innovative sharing during the plenary.

On the second day, the seminar continued on financial management and the difference between business and the needs and wants of the family. It was emphasized that separate account of the capital and income is important. Recording of in and out of finances, sales and loans and inventories of assets and liabilities were discussed. The challenges with the kind of business they engage with: single proprietorship, partnership and the cooperative were enumerated. They were able to identify the advantages and disadvantages of single ownership and with partners or cooperative in terms of financial and decision-making in running the business. After the two lectures/discussions, the participants were asked how they can apply their learnings in their own livelihood, their present work and at the DAWN Multi-purpose Cooperative which is also run by most of the participants themselves.

The participants shared the ups and downs in managing a business specially in financial management. Among the important lessons they shared are to keep one's interest in the business, be responsible in all the decisions you make and be a risk taker. One should also be innovative and open-minded. Recording is important, but planning is the first step in any kind of business, small or medium.

## CAPABILITY BUILDING FOR JAPANESE-FILIPINO CHILDREN (cont'd)

The Children's Rights Camp was the follow-up activity conducted on March 22-23, 2014 held at the Splash Mountain Resort, Los Baños, Laguna. This two-day activity was attended by 20 JFC.

Through different structured learning activities the following were discussed with the participants: The United Nation's Convention on the Rights of the Child which has 54 Articles, Four Guiding Principles, and 10 Children's Rights.

The four Guiding Principles include: Survival Rights which refer to the child's rights to life and needs that are essential to existence such as: family, shelter, clothing, health services & food;



*Listening to input of four guiding principles of children's rights*



*Interaction between and among participants regarding children's rights*

Development Rights which refer to the child's rights to reach his/her fullest potential such as education, recreation, leisure and cultural activities, freedom of expression, thought and religion, freedom of association; Protection Rights which refer to the child's rights to be free from all kinds of deprivation, discrimination and exploitation like trafficking, child abuse, child labour, drug abuse, armed conflict/war, pornography, disability, torture and deprivation of liberty; and Participation Rights which refer to the child's rights for freedom to express views, opinions, and ideas, decision making in school, community and family, freedom to join or form associations and defining their own needs or interests.

The 10 Children's Rights are: (1) Right to be born, to have a name and nationality; (2) Right to have a family that will take care of the child; (3) Right to be free; (4) Right to receive a good education; (5) Right to have enough food, shelter and healthy body; (6) Right to have an opportunity to play; (7) Right to be given protection against abuse, danger and violence; (8) Right to live in a peaceful community; (9) Right to be protected by the government and other institutions; and (10) Right to choice and right to make decisions.

In between the activities/sessions, one of the sentiments verbalized by the children was their inability to participate in decision-making. The participants realized that they should know their rights. However, they were reminded to remember that for every right, there is a corresponding responsibility and that the four guiding principles are not divisible and many times children's rights are interconnected.



*Structured learning activity focus on participants' perception of different issues concerning children*

### SUBSCRIPTION

Development Action for Women Network  
(DAWN)  
Rm. 514 Don Santiago Bldg.  
1344 Taft Avenue, Ermita 1000  
Manila, Philippines  
Tel. No. (632) 5269098  
Fax No. (632) 5269101  
E-mail: dawnphil@pltdtsl.net  
Website: www.dawnphil.org

YES, I would like to subscribe to SINAG. Enclosed is my check payment for:

P150 (one year, local)

US\$15 (one year, international)

This entitles me to four (4) issues of SINAG. (Please make check payment to the Development Action for Women Network)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

# PEOPLE, PLACES, EVENTS



*Mr. Ric Casco and Mr. Benjie Lelis of IOM visit DAWN's Sikhay, ask Jane Kuraoka the different steps in weaving*



*Ms. Sylvie Eid Aoum of the Caritas Lebanon Migrants Center visit DAWN and observes Rosalie Akase's weaving of a shawl while Mel Nuqui explains*



*Prof. Asato Wako and students from Kyoto University discuss with Mel Nuqui DAWN's programs and services for the women and JFC*



*Mel Nuqui gives orientation on DAWN's work to Prof. Chiho Ogaya and students from the Yokohama National University (YNU)*



*Ms. Catherine Laws of the ILO ASEAN Triangle Project visits DAWN's projects. At the background is Gilda Mosatalla, the pattern-maker/cutter/sewer*



*The DAWN women during a Women's Rights Seminar in celebration of the International Women's Day, March 8*

# CAPABILITY BUILDING FOR JAPANESE-FILIPINO CHILDREN

By *Miriam R. Ong*

A two-day Leadership Training for the DAWN Japanese-Filipino children (JFC) was conducted on February 22 and March 12, 2014 at the DAWN office. Twenty participants attended the trainings.

For the tone setting, the participants were asked to draw something that will highlight their strengths and weaknesses. The children then shared with the group the interpretation of their drawings that somehow represent what they experienced as JFC.

They used their drawings in creating a JFC Community collage focusing on their similar positive traits that they believe will help them to be a good leader such as honest, humble, loyal, responsible and obedient. The children had fun while doing the activities. Through different structured learning exercises that the participants enjoyed doing, the following topics were discussed: Definition of Leadership, Styles of Leadership, Principles of Leadership, Leadership Qualities and Basic Communication,



*Creating a JFC Community Collage using their drawings*

The children shared that they developed their ideas of leadership according to who they see as a leader. It was clarified that a leader should not be a copycat of another person but can be inspired by that person. The children's upbringing and their present situation play an important role in developing their skills as leaders.

On the other hand, their negative experiences as they grow up abandoned by their fathers could also affect in developing their self-confidence to be leaders.

More activities will be conducted for them to overcome this challenge.

***(to be continued on p. 5)***



*Presentation of workshop output on the principles of leadership*



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.

#### **EDITORIAL TEAM**

Prof. Corazon R. Arboleda  
Carmelita G. Nuqui

#### **CONTRIBUTORS**

Mary Joy E. Barcelona  
Analisa Carimpong  
Mirriam R. Ong  
Ma. Cristina S. Tenorio

**LAYOUT:** Lance A.S. Velasco

# KFAW VISITS DAWN

*By Mary Joy E. Barcelona*



*KFAW participants with Prof. Mitsuko Horiuchi and DAWN JFC, women and staff*

The Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women (KFAW) with 15 participants led by its President, Prof. Mitsuko Horiuchi visited DAWN on Saturday, March 1, 2014 from 9am to 3pm. Prof. Horiuchi is DAWN's Vice-President.

The activity started with the DAWN Orientation given by Ms. Mel Nuqui, DAWN Executive Director with Prof. Horiuchi as the interpreter/translator. After the powerpoint presentation about the programs and services of DAWN, there were questions and answers, after which the group visited the SIKHAY projects: weaving, sewing and the wellness center. The KFAW participants appreciated the different SIKHAY products and bought some for themselves and for their families and friends back home.

For the interaction, the KFAW members and DAWN members were divided into two groups. The interaction revolves on the sharing of the life situation of the women and children. The children introduced themselves in Japanese, while the KFAW participants introduced themselves in English. There was also a sharing on the different culture of both countries.

We then had lunch together with Filipino dishes, i.e. chicken/pork adobo, pinakbet, lumpiang shanghai, miki-bihon and rice. We had ripe mangoes and bananas for our dessert. Everyone enjoyed the lunch and the sharing. The KFAW participants thanked the DAWN JFC, women and staff, and a group photo was taken. DAWN thanked the participants as well.

Development Action for Women Network (DAWN)

Room 514 Don Santiago Bldg.  
1344 Taft Avenue, Ermita 1000  
Manila, PHILIPPINES  
Tel. No. (632) 526-9098 Fax (632) 526-9101  
E-mail: dawnphil@pltdsl.net  
Website: www.dawnphil.org

ENTERED AS THIRD CLASS MAIL

at the Manila Central Post Office  
Under Permit No. 1041-97  
Valid until December 31, 2013  
Subject for postal inspection