



# Empowering Communities to Combat Poverty

The Pure Bayanihan Philosophy

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## **Table of Contents**

Introduction The Pure Bayanihan Model for Success	i ii
<b>Mission and Story</b> Mission Story Starting in the Philippines	1
<b>The Partner Network Model</b> Our Unique Network of Volunteers In Times of Crisis: Strengthening Bonds in the Face of Typhoon Ulysses How It Works Importance of Community Partners Local Synergy: Maximizing Resources Through Local Networks	<b>3</b> 4 5 7 9
3-Tiered Approach to Poverty	12
The Importance of Livelihood Tier 1: Empowering Parents with Substantial Livelihoods Tier 2: Liberating Children Through Education Tier 3: Fostering Community Support and Collaboration The Fischt for Education	13 14
The Fight for Education and a Better Life: The Story of Ecko	15
Principles of Operation	17
Core Values	18
Sustainability Empowerment Keeping It Local Bayanihan Spirit Feeding Program for Undernourished Children in Saguday, Quirino Province: A Tale of Bayanihan Spirit	20 21 22 23
Partnering with Other Nonprofits	25
Avoiding Duplication Complementary Collaboration Environmental Sustainability and Conservation	26 28
Finances	29
Administrative Cost Coverage Funding Sources Grants Corporate Partnerships Individual Donors Profits from Sister Companies	
Operations	30
Volunteer Utilization Offshore Resource Utilization Marketing Administration Accounting Web Development	31

The Importance of Video	32
Creating a Historical Record of the Project Allowing Donors to Be a Part of the Project Showing Life Beyond Words Capturing the Heart of Each Project	33
Inspiring Stories	33
Nurturing Dreams in Sitio Kalapnit: Building Hope Through Education and Community Support Home Building Partnership Creates Abundance of Possibilities Changing Lives in Sierra Madre's Heartland with Deep Wells: Watering Hope	35 37
epo	0,

### Introduction



Pure Bayanihan is dedicated to lifting communities out of poverty by weaving together livelihood opportunities, resources and education, leading individuals on an empowering journey from poverty to self-sufficiency. This guide outlines our core principles and strategies for success.

#### What is Bayanihan?

Working together as a community to achieve a common goal.

In the Philippines, the word Bayanihan carries great significance. It's an old house-moving tradition where a group of men lift a house on their shoulders to relocate to somewhere safer after a big storm. This is all done expecting nothing in return.

#### The Pure Bayanihan Model of Success

The Pure Bayanihan model of success is a remarkable endeavor that has gained recognition as a model of success within the field of community development and poverty alleviation. This model embodies the organization's commitment to positive change and empowerment.

Impactful Community Development	Pure Bayanihan has a track record of making a tangible impact on communities, uplifting lives, and fostering sustainable change.
Innovative Approaches	Through innovative strategies and collaborative efforts, Pure Bayanihan has demonstrated the power of collective action and community engagement.
Global Recognition	Pure Bayanihan has garnered attention not only for its effectiveness but also for its ability to serve as a model that can be replicated in various regions.
Pure Incubation Foundation's Commitment	Pure Bayanihan reflects the organization's dedication to driving positive social change through meaningful and sustainable projects.
Continued Growth	Pure Bayanihan's success continues to inspire and drive further initiatives aimed at addressing poverty, enhancing livelihoods, and promoting education in underserved communities.

#### Key Points:

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES TO COMBAT POVERTY



#### Mission

Our mission is to help create 1 million livelihoods for those living in poverty by partnering with local communities to craft unique solutions that work best for them, while doing so in the most financially responsible way possible.

#### Story

After 25 years building award-winning companies, creating 1,000s of global jobs and celebrating success, we now aim to use our expertise, vast networks and resources to build successful communities and make a difference in the world.

#### **Starting with the Philippines**

Prior to establishing Pure Bayanihan, some of the founders and directors were involved in a company that managed a significant subsidiary in the Philippines, overseeing a dedicated team of 1,000 individuals. This experience provided them with a deep understanding of the local culture, laws, and community, allowing them to establish valuable connections.

It also offered a firsthand view of the challenges faced by underprivileged communities in the Philippines, and at the same time, allowed them to witness their potential to rise above adversity. Inspired to make a difference, this is where they knew they would begin.

### What first drew us to work in the Philippines all those years ago?

Strategic U.S. Ally	Geographic location and diplomatic ties make the Philippines a vital partner
Tech Savvy Workforce	A skilled and tech-savvy workforce ready for modern challenges
Compatible Culture	Cultural alignment facilitates collaboration and understanding
Exceptional Work Ethic	A strong commitment to hard work and dedication
Developing Economy	Opportunities for growth and development
High Quality Services	Delivering top-notch services to global markets.
Job Creation and Investment	Supporting employment and economic growth







#### The Partner Network Model

#### **Our Unique Network of Volunteers**

With more than ten years of successfully working with our colleagues in the Philippines, we've built a strong network of local volunteers.

Our team is comprised of seasoned leaders and mobilizers in the Philippines, boasting years of on-ground experience working with communities.

We collaborate closely with local leaders to understand the unique characteristics and challenges of the people we serve and tailor solutions that best suit their needs. Our partners not only enable us to make a profound impact but also ensure we do so with exceptional financial efficiency.

This unique model serves as the cornerstone of our global approach.





### In Times of Crisis: Strengthening Bonds in the Face of Typhoon Ulysses

The idea all began when Typhoon Ulysses devastated Region II of the Philippines. Cara Smith was a member of a Philippine work group associated with a multinational business with a presence in the nation and would go on to become the Executive Director of Pure Bayanihan. Her crew experienced many difficulties after the typhoon, including heavy floods, extensive damage, and communication problems. They awaited word of the safety of their coworkers with trepidation, and it took two days before they heard from a site director who had traveled six kilometers to get WiFi.

The bulk of the personnel from the Philippines were unharmed, but the area sustained significant damage, including flooded roads and restricted access to food and water. With everyone off the grid, Smith and her U.S.- based team didn't know what to do to help their Philippine colleagues. They were so far away that they felt totally helpless.

However, they soon discovered that a group of PH staff members had already set up a fund drive to send help to the affected communities – and had begun actively delivering aid. Smith and her counterparts in the U.S. had no idea what to do and no access to deliver assistance, but those on the ground in the Philippines did. And they did it well.

Each of the PH employee volunteers had a trusted contact in a different region that was acting as a community partner into that specific community. That contact would take the funds sent and purchase goods to distribute locally, knowing the unique needs of the people in their direct community.

In two days, this group of Philippine colleagues set up an entire system to take in funds and send them to their trusted contacts – who then were able to purchase medicines, supplies and hot food, and distribute them immediately to those in need – all within that day! This was all done quickly, efficiently, and with the utmost financial integrity, which included receipts, bank account reports, project photos and transaction histories – all available after each day's transfers and projects.

A year later, it was those same Philippine employees who were the first to volunteer to help set up the partner network model for the Bayanihan Project.

This partner network model is now the system that makes Bayanihan Project what it is today.

Typhoon Ulysses' destruction had a significant effect on Cara Smith's team as well as the area it hit. They saw the Filipino people's tenacity in the face of such hardship and realized they urgently needed help.

The typhoon not only highlighted the vulnerability of the local populations, but it also sparked a desire to change things for the better among Smith and her U.S.-based team. They looked into creative approaches to forge a more intimate and effective relationship with the partner network in the Philippines because of their group's resolve to offer help despite the great geographic distance.



The community partner's relief efforts during Typhoon Ulysses

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#### **How It Works**

Our Partner Network Model consists of **Partner Advocates, Community Partners,** and **Recipients**.

The model is fundamentally driven by partnering with local communities to craft

#### Our Model of Success

#### PARTER ADVOCATES

A network of trusted colleagues who nominate community partner and act as liaison between them and the foundation

#### COMMUNITY PARTNERS

A trusted leader, pastor, teacher, doctor, or social worker that resides in the local area, knows the community first-hand has a proven record of service

#### RECIPIENTS

Those directly on the receiving end of the projects. We ask that they pay it forward and help others once they have been uplifted

unique solutions that work best for those facing poverty in the Philippines.

#### **Importance of Community Partners**

Community partners are the backbone of Pure Bayanihan and act as engines for long-term progress. We make sure that our projects are in line with the demands of the community, the local economy, and the unique conditions by enlisting dependable community leaders who are already committed to the cause and enjoy the respect and trust of the residents.

We want to engage beneficiaries in decision-making by consulting them and utilizing their special expertise, insights, and opportunities to create solutions that are best for their neighborhood. Instead of imposing our views and actions on our beneficiaries, we take great care to listen to them and cooperate with them. This strategy has been the deciding factor.

#### **Partnering with Communities Promotes Empowerment**

Empowerment is a core principle of Pure Bayanihan. By providing people with the opportunity, tools, and resources they need to take control of their lives, we can break the cycle of poverty and help build a future of thriving, independent communities. By fostering a sense of ownership and agency, empowerment enables individuals and families to break free from dependency and chart their path toward a brighter future.

In 2021, we began our relationship with the Ayta indigenous community in the Zambales region of the Philippines. Through our partnership network, we learned that the tribe was displaced from their land by a volcanic eruption and was struggling with food insecurity and hunger while living on borrowed land. With the support of Randy Bernales from the National Commission on Indigenous People, we met with tribal leaders to see how we could support the community.

Although we had offered food packs and medicine, the tribal leaders had a more personal request. They asked for

carabao (Filipino water buffalo used for tilling the land and transporting crops to be sold) and seedlings. With these animals and supplies, the community could grow enough food to sustain their community and earn an income by selling excess vegetables on the side of the highway.

It was clear to us that the tribe did not want to become dependent and strongly preferred help to make lasting, sustainable change.

With the support of our incredible donors and volunteers, we returned to the tribe with two sets of carabao, 40 pounds of seedlings, and food packs for each family to sustain them in the short term. The local government was eager to get involved in the project, so they helped install a water pump near the farmland.

Seeing so many people come together to support the community was incredibly moving. But the most important people involved were the tribal members. Their vision for a sustainable future transformed our relationship from a simple donation to an agriculture project with long-term impact.



Displaced since the Pinatubo eruption, the Ayta community in Zambales struggled without land. Pure Bayanihan's farming and livelihood support has empowered them to return to the mountains and begin anew.

#### Local Synergy: Maximizing Resources in Nonprofit Management through Local Networks

In the world of nonprofits, the adage "it takes a village" couldn't ring truer. While nonprofits are often associated with grand global ambitions, their effectiveness often hinges on tight local connections in the communities they serve. At Pure Bayanihan, our success relies on these relationships.

Below, we delve into the advantages of tapping into existing local networks to magnify your impact. We explore how a nonprofit organization can leverage existing local networks to cultivate stronger relationships and achieve its mission more efficiently. When you uncover and fortify local networks, you're not just boosting your organization's impact – you unleash a world of possibilities.

Here's why it's an absolute game-changer:

**Local Expertise**: Partner organizations often have in-depth knowledge of the local context, including cultural norms, languages, and specific challenges. This expertise can help your nonprofit navigate complex issues and make informed decisions.

**Community Empowerment**: Collaborating with local partners often involves training and capacity-building initiatives. These empower community members, strengthen local organizations, and enable them to continue their important work long after your nonprofit's involvement.

**Access to Resources**: Partner networks can provide access to vital resources such as supplies, facilities, vehicles, and equipment. This access can help stretch a nonprofit's budget and increase its capacity to do more projects.

**Community Trust**: Local partners have established relationships and trust within their communities. This trust can facilitate acceptance of your nonprofit's initiatives and improve community engagement and participation.

**Shared Goals and Values**: Partnering with organizations that share your nonprofit's mission and values can lead to more aligned and impactful programs. It ensures that everyone is working towards the same objectives.

**Increased Reach**: Partner networks can extend the reach of your nonprofit's work, helping you reach more beneficiaries and have a broader impact. These are especially valuable in areas with limited resources.

**Risk Mitigation:** Operating in foreign countries can have challenges and risks. Partnering with local organizations can help mitigate risks by providing on-the-ground support and guidance.

**Cost Efficiency:** Collaborative efforts often lead to cost savings. Through teamwork, your nonprofit can make the most of its financial resources.

**Diverse Perspectives:** Partner networks bring together individuals with diverse backgrounds and experiences. This diversity can lead to innovative solutions and a broader range of ideas.

**Capacity Building:** Collaborating with partner organizations can be a learning opportunity. Your nonprofit can benefit from their knowledge and skills, helping to build your capacity for future initiatives.

**Sustainability:** Partner networks can contribute to the longterm sustainability of your nonprofit's work by providing stability, continuity, and ongoing support. **Leveraging Local Networks:** Local partners often have extensive networks to leverage for advocacy, fundraising, and outreach purposes.

**Compliance and Regulations:** Navigating local laws, regulations, and compliance requirements can be challenging in foreign countries. Partnering with organizations familiar with these aspects can help ensure your nonprofit operates within legal boundaries.

**Cultural Sensitivity:** Partner networks can guide your nonprofit in being culturally sensitive and avoiding unintentional misunderstandings or offenses.

**Monitoring and Evaluation:** Collaborating with local partners can facilitate better monitoring and evaluation of your nonprofit's projects, as they better understand the local context and can provide real-time feedback.

**Broader Impact:** By working with a partner network, your nonprofit can contribute to a more comprehensive and coordinated approach to addressing complex social issues in foreign countries.



A pastor treks for hours to aid Sitio Guh-ban's mountain community, cut off and relying on fishing for livelihood. With their vital boat in disrepair, Pure Bayanihan donated a new boat to support their transport and livelihood.



At Pure Bayanihan, we firmly believe in the transformative power of education, especially in developing countries where poverty often traps individuals and communities in a cycle of disadvantage. Nelson Mandela, the inspirational leader and the first democratically elected president of South Africa, once proclaimed,

#### "Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world."

With this profound statement as our guiding principle, we are dedicated to making quality education accessible to children in the Phillippines, recognizing it as a catalyst for social and economic empowerment. Through our unique 3-Tiered approach, we strive to help create a brighter future for generations to come.

Envision the plight of a child who, instead of embarking on a path to school where they will learn, play, and make new friends, finds themselves searching for ways to find food for their hungry family. In the lives of children in the Philippines, the prospect of education is a distant aspiration as they shoulder much of the responsibility of supporting their family's survival. This is a heavy burden on children, leaving them standing at a critical crossroads where they must make a choice between ensuring a better future or meeting basic needs. Children are left to make painful decisions that compromise future opportunities and perpetuate the cycle of poverty.

With nearly 33 million people living in abject poverty in the Phillippines, Pure Bayanihan, a nonprofit based in the U.S. with strong ties to the Philippines, saw the urgency of this situation. In response, we created a three-tiered approach to end this vicious cycle of poverty, one family at a time. Our concentrated attention on parents, children, and the community, breaks the shackles that bind children to hunger and deprivation. The ultimate aim is to free and empower these children to access ongoing education and forge a brighter future for themselves, their families, and their communities.

Pure Bayanihan aims to help families escape poverty through education and livelihood programs. Through this approach, we actively engage with communities to understand their unique requirements and strive to meet them effectively.

#### Tier 1: Empowering Parents for Sustainable Livelihoods

One of the cornerstones of Pure Bayanihan's approach is the support and empowerment of parents. Through skill development, job training, and entrepreneurship, parents can now establish sustainable livelihoods. A shift from a survival mindset to an education mindset enables parents to break free from the cycle of poverty, ensuring a stable income for their families. As their economic situations improve, the burden on their children to toil for food money diminishes, paving the way for their educational pursuits.

#### Tier 2: Liberating Children through Education

Impoverished students who manage to attend school face a daunting task just to stay enrolled. As a result, we work with the children to ensure they have supplies, lunch money, and transportation necessary to get to school. Pure Bayanihan recognizes the importance of breaking down barriers that hinder their educational journey. By providing essential resources such as school supplies, solar panels, nutritious meals, clean water, and transportation allowances, we fully support children in a brighter future. By alleviating the financial and emotional burdens that often impede their progress, the project enables these children to fully engage in their studies, unlocking their potential and fostering a love for learning.

#### Tier 3: Fostering Community Support and Collaboration

Finally, Pure Bayanihan believes that the community plays an integral role in overcoming the cycle of poverty and making education possible. Through collaboration with government bodies, nonprofit organizations, and individuals, we help create a supportive ecosystem for sustainable change. Projects that encourage local business, vocational training, empowerment community. and economic lift the Furthermore, by creating joint projects, such as water purification, community gardens, or shared livelihoods, an entire community reaps the benefits. Now, the community is an active participant in becoming prosperous and selfreliant.

By empowering parents, liberating children through education, and fostering community support, this comprehensive strategy tackles the root causes of poverty and creates a powerful, lasting impact.

THE FIGHT FOR EDUCATION AND A BETTER LIFE



# The Fight for Education and a Better Life: The Story of Ecko and the Balagtas Community

In a world where dreams seem out of reach, Ecko, a 16-yearold aspiring to become a pastor and a businessman, faced family immense challenges. Ecko's belongs to the marginalized sector of society in the Philippines. Their financial struggles, triggered by the loss of his father's construction job, plunged them into abject poverty. For mere survival and daily food, Ecko resorted to rummaging for junk in trash heaps and sold his finds at the local shops. Despite the fear and daily challenges he and his family faced, Ecko's spirit remained optimistic and strong.

#### **Empowering the Parents**

Pure Bayanihan first partnered with Ecko's parents, fostering a strong alliance with them and the community leaders. Together, they embarked on a journey to forge new livelihood opportunities. The initial venture, a vegetable business for Ecko's mother, faced setbacks when a flood decimated her produce. Undeterred, the volunteers and Pure Bayanihan rallied around them, guiding them towards a new path – chicken raising. Through this venture, the family found financial stability, paving the way for Ecko to pursue his education.

#### Support the Education of Children

Understanding the vital role education plays in shaping Ecko's future, Pure Bayanihan worked with the community volunteers to eliminate barriers to his learning journey, paying off his phone bill so he could attend online classes and meet his basic needs.

Now, equipped with a school uniform, supplies, and solar lights to illuminate his evenings of study, Ecko's path was clear to push forward and pursue his dreams Providing Hope and Vision

To further support the long-term success of Ecko, the volunteers knew his parents would need hope and vision from someone who had pursued education and broken free from this painful cycle. They came up with a great idea: to host a seminar at the local church with a speaker who broke free from poverty through education. His heartfelt and inspiring words deeply resonated with the young students and their families, breathing life into dreams that had long been dormant. Families who never believed education was possible for their children vowed to do whatever it would take to ensure their children were not left behind.

#### **Community Expansion**

When we asked Ecko what else we could do to support him, he humbly answered "Please, just help more people. Not only me but the rest here in my community." So, after seeing the success of this original project, Pure Bayanihan and its partners now felt they were ready to expand and embrace fifteen new families in need. Through an upcoming comprehensive program in financial literacy and personalized business startup mentorship by local partners, these fifteen families will have similar opportunities to grow their livelihoods and ensure their children can also get an education. All in the spirit of Bayanihan.



In Navotas City, a pastor gives students 100 pesos weekly from his own funds to support their education and future careers. Pure Bayanihan joined forces with him to enhance this support.

#### **Principles of Operation**

Pure Bayanihan has 4 principles of operation. The first is "SURROUND." We work to foster a climate in which people and communities can prosper without becoming reliant on our foundation. The next step is "EMPOWER," where we provide communities with the information, skills, and resources they need to take charge of their life and escape the cycle of poverty. Then, we "UPLIFT" by encouraging long-term, viable solutions that result in significant advancement. In the end, we want to leave a lasting "IMPACT" on the communities we work in, creating a legacy that will help future generations.



#### **Core Values**

#### Sustainability

Sustainability to Pure Bayanihan refers to developing initiatives and solutions that will continue to work well and be relevant long after our involvement is over. The goal is to leave a lasting legacy for future generations. Every project we work on incorporates our dedication to sustainability. We work hard to make sure that the effects of our initiatives are long-lasting rather than only a temporary fix.

#### How to Make Livelihood Projects Sustainable

Charities play a crucial role in making livelihood projects sustainable by implementing several key strategies:

1. Skills Training, Education, and Mentorship: This equips individuals with the knowledge and tools to manage and sustain the project.

2. Promote entrepreneurship: charities can promote income diversification by encouraging entrepreneurship and helping communities identify multiple sources of revenue. Diversification reduces reliance on a single income. 3. Facilitate Networking and Collaboration: fostering partnerships and knowledge-sharing that contribute to long-term success.

By integrating these approaches, charities can create sustainable livelihood projects and have a lasting positive impact on communities.



In addition, generating income through sales of projectproduced goods can be a viable strategy for sustaining its operations. Sales create economic opportunities for the community and establish a reliable source of revenue to cover costs.

Thoughtfully coordinated and planned livelihood projects are an efficient way to support and empower people in the Philippines and beyond. By implementing these specific strategies, organizers can make a profound difference in the lives of the community they serve. The collaboration between charities and communities in creating livelihood projects has

#### Empowerment

Our guiding principles are built around the idea of empowering those we serve to instill a sense of ownership and pride. In Sitio Camile in Ilo-ilo, kangkong farmers face a daily battle for survival. They labor tirelessly in their fields, cultivating water spinach, only to see the fruits of their labor undervalued due to the grip of middlemen. This situation often leads to despair, particularly since they are the main contributors to a family income that scarcely suffices for their basic needs.

Pure Bayanihan stepped in to change this. By providing the farmers with a vehicle, we've helped them sell their produce directly to markets, earning what they truly deserve. This intervention has done more than just increase their income; it has instilled a sense of pride and opened up a path to a sustainable future. Now, these farmers are not just growers of kangkong; they are entrepreneurs charting a new course for their families.



#### Keeping It Local

We have a strong belief in the efficacy of regional solutions. Keeping it local entails honoring and recognizing regional customs, cultures, and knowledge. In order to boost the local economy, it also entails working with small businesses and craftspeople nearby and procuring materials locally if possible. We make sure that our projects are pertinent and long-lasting by maintaining a connection to the local context.

Juanito Cortez, who lives in San Manuel, Pangasinan, saw his house burned to ashes and was in full astonishment.

Like many people in his community, Juanito struggled with money on a daily basis despite his efforts to make ends meet. He had to constantly worry about providing for their next meal as a street seller while also working nonstop to support his living.



Juanito's family was left without anything following the horrific fire. All of their possessions, which would have provided a fresh start, were gone.

However, things were about to turn around for them.

Pure Bayanihan, in collaboration with a local police organization in their town, came up with a solution: giving negosyo carts or business carts. They did this after seeing the major contribution street vendors make to the Philippine economy and their vulnerability to poverty.

However, the carts were purchased locally so that not only the recipient is helped, but the local economy is boosted and the entire community benefits. This localization of sources is also a way to ensure financial efficiency and keep costs to a minimum.

As soon as Juanito set eyes on his negosyo cart for the first time, it represented more to him than just a cart; it was a way to a better future. Once exclusively on his shoulders, the destiny of his family was now shared by his community and others who had nominated him for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Juanito is now determined to maximize this new beginning with a heart full of appreciation.

#### **Bayanihan Spirit**

The Bayanihan Spirit, which is ingrained in Filipino culture, embodies the concepts of group solidarity and collective action. Not only do we promote this attitude among our beneficiaries, but also among our



volunteers, partners, and team members. It involves cooperating, delegating duties, and supporting one another in order to accomplish shared objectives. In the Philippines, the word Bayanihan carries great significance. It's an old house-moving tradition where a group of men lift a house on their shoulders to relocate to somewhere safer after a big storm. This is all done expecting nothing in return. This spirit of collaboration and community is what guides us.

#### Feeding Program for Undernourished Children in Saguday, Quirino Province: A Tale of Bayanihan Spirit

In the province of Quirino, the spirit of Bayanihan was strong. After Pure Bayanihan started partnering with the community to start a project, so many in the community volunteered and came to help and serve.

In the midst of the difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, a concerning problem—an increase in child malnutrition and undernourishment—emerged in rural areas of the Philippines. Many young children were deprived of vital nutrients since canned goods predominated in their diets, making them a less than ideal ally in the fight for healthy nutrition.

The Ladies Club of Quirino Police, led by P/Col Rommel A. Rumbaoa and made up of committed ladies from the provincial police office, stood as a ray of hope in the midst of this food crisis. This non-profit, motivated by compassion, set out on a mission to lessen the suffering of malnourished children. Their perseverance prompted them to team up with Pure Bayanihan and ask for funding for a 30-day program that would nourish these young spirits back to health.

Through the combined efforts of the Ladies Club, Pure Bayanihan and the local women's projects, 21 children successfully finished the feeding program and reached their desired body weight thanks to the combined efforts of the Ladies Club, Pure Bayanihan, and the neighborhood women's group. This achievement was a key step toward achieving "healthy" nutritional status. But this was not where the dedication to the welfare of these kids ended. In order to help parents maintain these achievements, the program expanded its scope.

In order to provide families with the knowledge and abilities to grow wholesome produce for their households, vegetable gardening classes were provided to the families.

The mothers who took part in the program also received instruction in a variety of livelihood fields, such as manufacturing soap, caring for fabrics, and cooking regional meat specialties. These kids' bodies were nurtured by this allencompassing approach, which also created a sustainable environment for their communities and families.

This is the spirit of Bayanihan in action.



#### **Partnering with Other Nonprofits**

Pure Bayanihan places a strong emphasis on collaboration with other non-profits as part of our strategy for bringing about long-lasting change. We think that by collaborating with other groups that share our values, we can increase the impact of our combined efforts and make greater progress in resolving the urgent problems of poverty, education, and community development. Our approach to partnerships is based on three core ideas:

- **1. Avoiding Duplication**
- 2. Complementary Collaboration
- 3. Environmental Sustainability and Conservation

By following these guidelines, we not only aim to be efficient but also to make the most of the distinct skills and qualities that each non-profit has to offer.

#### **Avoiding Duplication**

Our strategy for cooperating with other non-profit organizations is based on collaboration. We actively work to prevent wasting time and resources on redundant tasks. Instead, we search for new chances to strengthen alreadyexisting programs. We may maximize our combined impact by collaborating and communicating with other groups effectively.

Our cooperation with <u>Wipe Every Tear</u> is one instance of how we cooperate and avoid duplicating efforts in partnerships with other nonprofits. They provide the girls education and release them from the sex trade, but we have stepped in to help the parents by providing a means of support. Many girls won't quit their jobs if they fear their parents will go hungry. They now have the chance to concentrate on their schooling as a result.

#### **Complementary Collaboration**

The adage "it takes a village" is accurate when referring to nonprofit organizations, highlighting the critical importance of local connections within the communities they serve. Pure Bayanihan is aware that these intimate bonds are essential to its effectiveness. There is a transformative potential of using local networks already in place to increase the effect of our nonprofit. Utilizing these networks opens up a wealth of benefits, which changes the game for nonprofit work.

We are aware that every non-profit has particular skills and strengths to offer. Our goal is to uncover ways in which the work of our partner organizations can be improved and complemented by the work we do. We can deal with difficult problems more successfully and effectively by working together.

#### Finding Complimentary Projects to Increase Impact

<u>Wipe Every Tear</u> is a nonprofit dedicated to breaking the chains of sex trafficking and poverty, providing shelter, nourishment, and educational support. Over the years, they have been successful in rescuing many women whom they have supported throughout their education. Many have graduated, started their own careers, and are now able to provide for their families and send their younger siblings to school.

However, they know that more is yet to be done. As long as the women's families back home are still struggling in poverty, the women will always be torn between staying in school and going back to the nightclubs to earn and help their families. That is where Pure Bayanihan came in.

Pure Bayanihan partnered with Wipe Every Tear to offer livelihood opportunities for the families of these women. The project aims to empower their families so that women may focus on their healing and work on transforming their own lives for the better without worrying about their loved ones going hungry.

Pure Bayanihan and Wipe Every Tear have brought renewed hope to these women and families as they became the recipients of livelihood support: a small convenient store, a motor taxi, and funds to help with raising poultry.

Helping their families back home to find a more stable, sustainable income has, in many ways, set these women on their way to a better future and unclipped their wings. "We are finally free to look forward to who we could become. One of use could become a business woman, a social worker or maybe an engineer. I am happy I can finally see the future," one says.



Pure Bayanihan and Wipe Every Tear provided women with livelihood support—a store, motor taxi, and poultry funds opening paths to brighter futures. "We're now free to dream about becoming businesswomen, social workers, or engineers. The future is clear," one recipient shares.

#### **Environmental Sustainability and Conservation**

Pure Bayanihan has formed effective alliances with numerous groups, each of which contributes particular capabilities and expertise, in order to further our aim of eradicating poverty and bringing about long-lasting change. Our relationship with Green Earth is one of these priceless alliances.

<u>The Green Earth Heritage Foundation</u> shares our dedication to preserving the environment and promoting social harmony. They specialize in eco-friendly programs that strengthen neighborhood communities while simultaneously preserving the environment. We have included sustainable principles into all of our projects—from agricultural initiatives to livelihood programs—thanks to this relationship.

In the heart of San Miguel, Bulacan, Romnick Blanco faced daily challenges as the son of a farmer, but his life took a dramatic turn when the Green Earth Heritage Foundation's Child Sponsorship Program arrived in his community. With their support, Rom applied to multiple universities, ultimately securing a spot at Harvard, a feat once unimaginable.

His extraordinary journey, propelled by faith and supported by groups like the Green Earth Heritage Foundation, not only changed his life but also served as a source of inspiration for many others. A deep lesson—that dreams are not constrained by circumstance or background—is at the core of Rom's story.

Rom's dedication to sharing his experiences with others, along with the collective efforts of organizations like Pure Bayanihan, empowers the next generation of Filipinos to dream big and envision a future free from the shackles of poverty. Together with Green Earth, we are pursuing a more promising and sustainable future for all, one in which thriving communities and a healthy environment coexist.

#### Finances

We take seriously our commitment to financial openness. Donor contributions go entirely toward our efforts to reduce poverty. We receive a range of financial support that keeps our programs going, including grants, corporate partnerships, individual donations, and profits from sister companies who share our values.

#### Administrative Cost Coverage

Thanks to the help of our devoted board and kind contributors, we are pleased to be able to pay for all administrative expenses internally. This ensures that resources are used as effectively as possible for the benefit of the communities we serve and that 100% of every donation goes directly to our efforts to reduce poverty.

#### **Funding Sources**

Diverse financing sources, such as grants, corporate donations, and individual donors, are responsible for our financial stability. These sources of income give us the tools we need to start and maintain our programs, allowing us to reach and affect more people.

#### • Grants

Grants from foundations and organizations that support our mission of bringing about constructive social change are actively sought by us. These funds offer essential support for particular activities and projects.

#### • Corporate Partnerships

Corporate collaborations are essential to our long-term financial viability. We collaborate closely with businesses who uphold social responsibility and understand the value of fostering community growth and reducing poverty.

#### Individual Donors

Local and foreign individual contributors are essential to the success of our mission. Their efforts, no matter how big or small, have a big impact on our capacity to complete projects and enhance the lives of others who are less fortunate.

#### • Profits from Sister Companies

We are fortunate to have sister companies that are committed to the same goal of having a positive social effect. These businesses' earnings are invested back into our programs to increase our reach and influence.

#### Operations

Pure Bayanihan's Operations are centered on our constant dedication to eradicating poverty, empowering local communities, and promoting long-lasting change. Our procedures have been created to support these goals.

Each component is precisely tuned to guarantee our organization functions with efficiency and purpose, from utilizing the strength of volunteers and offshore resources to the crucial responsibilities performed by marketing, administration, accounting, and web development.

These systems work as a unit to form the backbone of our mission, moving us closer to our goal with every step we take.

#### **Volunteer Utilization**

Pure Bayanihan is aware of the enormous contribution that volunteers make to our initiatives. Our committed volunteers are essential to making a difference.

#### **Offshore Resource Utilization**

Our creative use of offshore resources ensures costeffectiveness while promoting local growth by utilizing global resources to benefit local communities.

#### Marketing

Our marketing tactics and how we make use of them to spread the word, involve supporters, and advance our cause.

#### Administration

We rely on this essential administrative task to keep our organization functioning efficiently so we may concentrate on what really matters — changing lives.

#### • Accounting

We uphold openness and honesty in our financial dealings to make sure that every donation is put to good use in the fight against poverty.

#### Web Development

Using web development, we build a digital platform for storytelling, interaction, and reaching out to supporters around the world.



#### The Importance of Video

In our attempts to share and promote Pure Bayanihan's impact, our <u>YouTube</u> channel has become a vital and dynamic medium. Within our operations, it fulfills FOUR key functions:

#### → Creating a Historical Record of the Project

We can track each project's progress from beginning to end using video documentation. We establish a permanent historical record that not only safeguards the heritage of the project but also offers insightful information for upcoming endeavors by documenting milestones, difficulties, and triumphs. It guarantees that our work is remembered and serves as an inspiration for future generations.

#### → Allowing Donors to Be a Part of the Project

The distance between our donors and the communities we serve can be filled using video. It gives donors a firstperson, immersive experience that enables them to see the transformative influence of their donations. We increase contributors' sense of connection and commitment by virtually connecting them to project locations.

#### Showing Life Beyond Words

The greatest way to communicate some parts of our work is via images and sound. In a way that words usually cannot, video brings to life the experiences, struggles, and victories of the communities we work with. Viewers are able to relate and connect on a very emotional level because it offers a vivid insight into the daily lives, aspirations, and resiliency of the people we serve.

#### → Capturing the Heart of Each Project

Video highlights each project's spirit and heart, going beyond facts and figures. It displays the real-world experiences, feelings, and cultural diversity that characterize our work. We highlight the effects of our programs on individuals, families, and entire communities through compelling graphics and anecdotes, which helps people relate to and be inspired by our purpose.

#### **Inspiring Stories**

#### Nurturing Dreams in Sitio Kalapnit: Building Hope Through Education and Community Support

Nestled amid the majestic Aurora mountains, lies Sitio Kalapnit, a captivating and quaint village. This hidden gem is a haven of natural beauty, boasting a remote and picturesque location in the heart of the Philippines. Sitio Kalapnit's community faces its share of challenges despite its breathtaking surroundings. Most notably, the absence of a high school poses a marked obstacle for the children, hindering their dreams and future. With the nearest high school four hours away down a dangerous unpaved road, it is an impractical and unsafe journey for these young people, leaving them with little chance to learn and improve their life.

The village is connected to the lowlands by a road, but it remains unpaved, becoming impassable during the rainy season. Transportation poses a significant challenge for these families. This road further complicates the opportunity to advance to secondary school, with only a primary school available in the mountain village. The students, therefore, must travel to the faraway city to pursue a high school and college education. The children have two choices: to endure a grueling four-hour walk each way or miss school. Our team, for example, experienced a 1-1.5 hour ride by kolong-kolong motorcycle to reach the community, highlighting the extensive effort needed for simple access.

This complex situation and a potential solution were brought to our attention by a local advocate for Pure Bayanihan. This advocate and ally of Pure Bayanihan introduced us to a local hero, Pastor Fred, a revered leader in the community whose heart brims with compassion. Living closer to the distant high school in a modest one-room cement home, he has opened his doors to 24 students from the village. He has taken the initiative to care for these students during the week, providing them shelter in his modest home, even though it requires him to sleep outside in a hammock. His unwavering support aims to uplift the students and empower them to improve their lives, transcending the barriers they face. While he does not have beds or desks for the students, and they sleep on thin floor mats, these resilient children are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to attend high school. We welcome you to our promising new project: Children with Dreams - in Sitio Kalapnit.

Ultimately, Pastor Fred and the Sitio Kalapnit community were formally nominated for this project by one of our advocate

volunteers. They expressed an urgent need for resources, including bunk beds, mattresses, a few laptops, solar panels, and the construction of a new one-room dormitory to accommodate boys and girls separately. Surprisingly, the total cost for these essentials amounts to just \$4000. In an unexpected turn of events, Pastor Fred generously offered to oversee the construction of the dormitory if we fulfill the necessary materials. This collaborative effort saves costs and ensures a financially efficient project. We aim to raise funds for this impactful initiative to provide a path to higher education and a brighter future for the children, parents, and community.



In Kalapnit, Aurora, a pastor sheltered mountain village students in his home for school access. Pure Bayanihan built a dorm for better accommodation, provided a vehicle, and set up a livelihood program to support the expenses of over 20 students.

#### Home Building Partnership Creates Abundance of Possibilities in Davao Oriental - Bayanihan Project x Pabahayanihan

Thunder booms, and another storm threatens to crash against a couple of humble homes standing precariously beside a creek in the town of Lupon in Davao Oriental, Philippines. Jennifer Carillo, a loving mother of three, constantly grapples with fear and worry that engulf her life near the creek. The rising floodwaters during rainy seasons pose a grave danger to their modest home.

Every drop of rain is a reminder of how vulnerable her children are.

But with each passing storm, Jennifer's determination grows stronger, fueled by a burning desire to provide her children with a safer and more stable environment. They aspire to become teachers, and Jennifer wants their dreams to come true.

She has heard of Pastor Ruben Colmo, the compassionate visionary behind Pabahayanihan, and how they build houses for those in need. She wonders what it would be like if her family could experience such generous help.

And she does not have to wonder for long.

Through the collaborative efforts of the Bayanihan Project and Pabahayanihan, Jennifer's dreams and the lives of many others are forever transformed.

This initiative goes beyond providing shelter; it is about empowering families to break free from the chains of poverty. Along with their new home, livelihood packages are provided, solidifying a fresh start for the recipient families. As she stands there grateful for their new home, Jennifer cannot help but envision the possibilities it holds. The realization that her children's dreams can truly become a reality fills Jennifer with hope and renewed determination.



#### Changing Lives in Sierra Madre's Heartland with Deep Wells: Watering Hope

Filipino farmers like Albert Adriano struggle against the harsh summer sun and a lack of water in the searing heat of the Sierra Madre foothills. For these farmers, their little parcels of land provide a safety net that keeps their families out of the shadow of abject poverty. Albert travels a rigorous distance to the closest creek every day in the hopes of gathering enough water to irrigate his crops. However, this water source is erratic and frequently insufficient to support their agricultural activities. These farmers are left at the whim of erratic weather when the stream inevitably dries up, and a poor harvest could result in hunger and misery. The hard work is not worth giving up on. Albert and his fellow farmers know that giving up is not an option because farming is more than simply a way of life for them.

A partnership between <u>Green Earth Heritage</u> and Pure Bayanihan has provided optimism in the face of this difficult reality. A deep well was built as a result of this collaboration, with considerable funding provided by Pure Bayanihan. With the help of this deep well, farmers like Albert will finally have a dependable source of water for their crops throughout the entire year, free from the stress of the sweltering summer months. This program not only improves the quality of their lives but also cultivates agricultural communities that can survive under the most challenging circumstances.

#### **About Pure Bayanihan**

Pure Bayanihan is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization on a mission to create 1 million sustainable livelihoods in the Philippines, the U.S. and beyond.

Find out more about our projects, community stories, and how you can make a difference.

Visit <u>purebayanihan.org</u> Email us at info@purebayanihan.org

You can also follow us on our social media sites on Facebook <u>@purebayanihan</u> Instagram <u>@purebayanihan</u>