

DOCUMENTATION OF BEST PRACTICES IN LAS PIÑAS CITY

I. TITLE : SAGIP BUKAS (Save the Future): A Community-Based Drug Rehabilitation Program for a Better Life

II. SUMMARY

Profile of Villar Sipag Foundation

Villar Sipag Foundation is a nonstock, nonprofit organization, which aims to support projects geared toward helping our less fortunate people break free from the clutches of poverty. Social Responsibility is the guiding principle of this organization.

Since its inception, Villar Foundation has initiated, implemented, and supported various projects aimed at improving the quality of life of the people in the communities of Las Piñas and other parts of the country.

Over the years, its advocacies and beneficiaries have expanded and diversified in order to reach people and sectors of the society. These include the poor and the underprivileged, overseas Filipino workers and their families, youth, women, the church, among others.

Villar Foundation's programs and projects include (but are not limited) to nutrition caravans (regular feeding programs for schoolchildren), medical and dental missions, river rehabilitation programs, religious projects such as the building of churches, repatriation of distressed overseas Filipino workers, and livelihood and entrepreneurship programs.

By sharing their resources to the Filipino people who have made possible the success of their endeavors, they strive to provide opportunities to the underprivileged and the economically disadvantaged, for them to rise above their limitations and pursue meaningful lives as productive members of society.

Ultimately, they envision a healthy, peaceful, decent and productive life for all Filipinos.

The organization is headed by its chairman, former Senator Manny Villar, with his wife, Senator Cynthia A. Villar, as managing director and his son, former Congressman and now DPWH Secretary Mark Villar, as secretary and treasurer at the same time. On the Board of Trustees are Marcelino Mendoza and Jerry M. Navarette.

Its office is located at C5 Extension Road, Barangay Pulang Lupa Uno, Las Piñas City.

III. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

SAGIP BUKAS (THEN)- Sagip Bukas (Save the Future) is a relaunch of the a movement for a drug-free Las Piñas way back in 1994. During that time, the program primarily addressed the students in the fifth and sixth grades and first to fourth years in high school, as well as their parents and teachers. More than just providing information on the perils of drug abuse, discussions were held on the important role of the family and

community in preventing and fighting the drug menace. To make the program inclusive and to encourage out-of-school youths to get involved, peer interaction and support group programs were simultaneously conducted. In 1994, the City of Las Piñas earned a special award jointly given by the Office of the President and the Department of the Interior and Local Government for its well-rounded approach to the drug abuse problem through the Sagip Bukas Program.

SAGIP BUKAS (NOW) – Mr. Manny Villar, chairman of the Sipag Foundation, business tycoon, and former senator, is a staunch believer of Pres. Rodrigo Duterte’s advocacy to rid society of the long-standing problem of drug addiction. In one of his meetings with the president in Malacañang, he pledged to support the anti-drug abuse campaign of the administration by providing community-based rehabilitation programs through his foundation, which was when the idea of reviving Sagip Bukas came to mind.

The relaunched Sagip Bukas is a community-based rehabilitation program for drug surrenderers of Oplan Tokhang that aim to gain back the dignity of the surrenderers and help them be brought back within the fold of society. The relaunch was held last October 21, 2016, at the SIPAG Farm in Barangay San Nicolas Uno, Bacoor, Cavite. The activity was well attended by various personalities, including, DILG Undersecretary John Casticiones, Department of Agriculture USEC Fred Serrano, Office of the President ASEC Baby Ignacio, Israel’s Ambassador to the Philippines Effie Ben Maityau, Thailand’s Ambassador to the Philippines Prasas Prasasvinitchi, Allied Botanical Corporation President Michael S. Caballes, Las Piñas Chief of Police PSSupt. Jemar D. Modequillo, Monsignor Mel David of the Diocese of Parañaque, Dr. Dodie Lopez of the Las Piñas Medical Center, City Health Officer Dr. Ferdinand C. Eusebio, and the punong barangays and barangay kagawads of the city.

The program will initially operate in Las Piñas and will soon be replicated in the Villar Farm School in San Jose del Monte, Bulacan.

The program is made possible in partnership with the Philippine National Police (PNP), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Health, Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Agriculture, Las Piñas City Mayor’s Office, and the Office of the President (OP). The initial beneficiary of the program are the 120 drug surrenderers who have already passed the Drug Dependency Examination (DDE) and have completed the values formation seminars provided by the organization.

The twelve (12) -week community-based rehabilitation program will provide free seminars on values formation, trainings on agri-farming, lectures on health and wellness, and seminars on the legal aspects of drugs and substance abuse. It will also include a Cash-for-Work program that will be tied-up with the Department of Environment and National Resources (DENR).

Sen. Cynthia Villar is optimistic of the sustainability of the program and its possible replication in other areas of the country.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURE

The Office of the President issued Executive Order No. 4 to create an inter-agency task force for the establishment and support of drug abuse treatment and rehabilitation centers throughout the Philippines. It is part of the continuous efforts of the government in the campaign against illegal drugs. The said EO will ensure that the growing numbers of drug dependents who have voluntarily surrendered to the authorities will be provided with appropriate treatment and rehabilitation services.

Among the functions of the Task Force is to establish the needed drug abuse treatment and rehabilitation centers and provide support for their operations with authority to call for assistance of government agencies involved in the said implementation.

The Task Force is composed to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government as the Chairperson. Said Executive Order No. 4 was issued last October 11, 2016.

Not all drug surrenderers have the need for appropriate treatment in rehabilitation centers. Those with light affectation may undergo the Community-Based Rehabilitation Program

Various efforts of local government units had been documented on their best practices on Community -Based Rehabilitation Program for drug surrenderers. Seldom will you find good practices initiated by a private organization much more a foundation. Sagip Bukas is one laudable good practice on public-private partnership. This materialized when Mr. Manny Villar pledged to support the present administration's crusade against the ill effects of drug addiction through the Community-Based Rehabilitation Program.

According to DOH records, about ten percent (10%) or 70,000 of the 700,000 surrenderers need not be treated in rehabilitation centers, while the rest or roughly 630,000 can recover through community based programs.

Sagip Bukas, a twelve (12) week community -based rehabilitation program for the initial one hundred twenty (120) drug surrenderers as initial beneficiary of the program will have three (3) phases in its implementation:

1) Physical Examination

For those who have surrendered under the Oplan Tokhang of the PNP with light affectation, they are made to undergo Physical Examination which is being undertaken at the Las Pinas District Hospital where x-ray and urinalysis examination will be done and then afterwards they will be referred to the accredited physician of the City Health Office to undergo assessment and screening. If the drug surrenders opt to forego with assessment, they are made to sign a waiver for that purpose for them to proceed to the next phase. The PNP, City Health Office and the

Anti-Drug Abuse Council (ADAC) are in close coordination with the Villar Sipag Foundation during the whole duration of the program ;

2) Values Formation Seminar

In support of the faith based Diocese of Paranaque , where Las Pinas City 6, Msgr. Mel David through his lay ministers will provide once a week values formation seminar to the drug surrenderers. The venue for the activity is at the Villar Sipag Farm in Bacoor, Cavite.

Drug surrenderers are made to understand the meaning of values and its importance to one's life. They are made to realize the role of values in relation to one's choices and decisions. In the course, they are made to appreciate how values are developed and formed, understand the meaning of and importance of self-awareness to one's holistic development and realize their self-worth and dignity as a human person

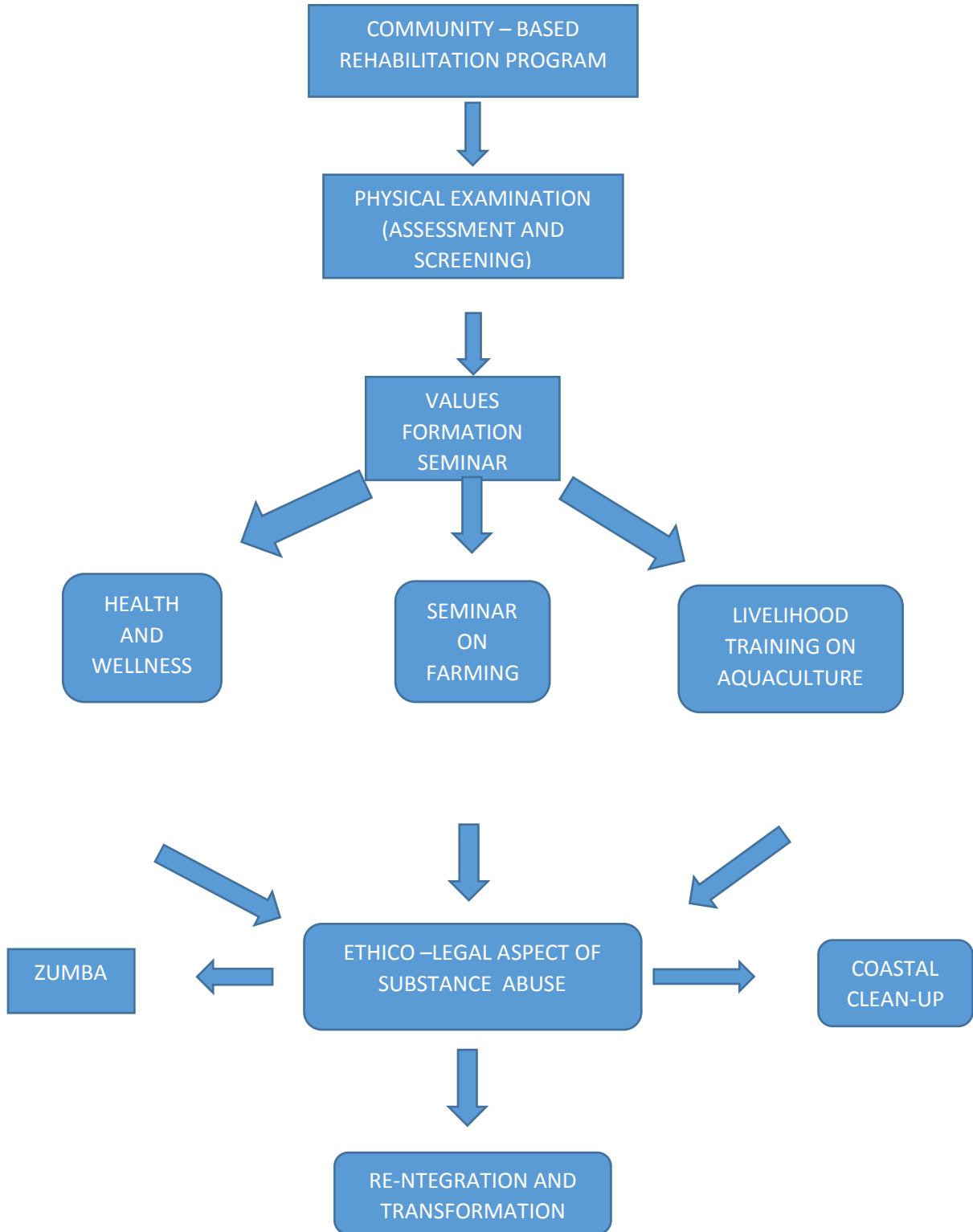
3) Conduct of Training on : (This is being done every Thursday from 8:00AM to 12 NN)

- a) Health and Wellness - The Las Pinas District Hospital is being tapped to handle this training module.
- b) Seminar on Farming - Through the free services of Allied Botanical Corp. they are taught basic urban farming. They are also trained to plant crops in the Villar Sipag Farm where they are allowed to harvest their own produce and sell them to augment their family needs.
- c) Livelihood Training on Aquaculture - this training being provided by the personnel from the Dept. of Agriculture where tilapia raising is one of the module.
- d) Ethico Legal Aspects of Substance Abuse - this seminar is being handled by thru the free services of Atty. Demi Daral which is being held every Thursday afternoon at the Las Pinas Hall of Justice after the livelihood training in the morning .

Every Friday they are made to undergo Zumba lessons , a component of their Health and Wellness Program

4) Community Integration - the objective of this is to provide interventions through a convergence of the services of various agencies e.g. sustainable livelihood programs, cash for works . This is where the local government unit will come in , together with the various national government agencies involved in this program like the DENR, Dept of Agriculture.

FLOWCHART



V. PROJECT RESULT/ IMPACT

While it is still on its early stage, Sen. Villar expressed her strong sanguinity on the sustainability of the program and its possible replication in other areas of the country. Interview with beneficiaries of the program affirmed for its sustainability because the foundation has been trusted over the years to deliver socially responsible projects not only in Las Pinas but in other parts of the country. Another point to consider also is that they have the needed resources, the networking and the support of its constituents to make every conceived project a sustainable in the years to come.

While the city government strongly support the program of the administration to provide community-based intervention for drug users, the conceptualization of this program is a welcome move on their part and vowed to support the crusade of the Vilar Sipag Foundation.

VI. ANALYSIS/ LESSON LEARNED

As Secretary Sueno emphasized in one of his speech that we don't have the luxury of time and that various government agencies and the private sector really need to help each other out here. Public-private partnership may be one of the key to help hasten the government address the growing number of drug surrenderers needing community based-rehabilitation. While the money to fund new drug rehabilitation centers and forms of treatment is not yet available or still subject to approval, LGUs have began to forge partnership with private organizations to help them in the their conduct of community-based rehabilitation programs. The President's on-going war on drugs, has forced some LGUs to seek the help of these organizatios because of the lack of immediate resources, to address the growing needs of the drug surrenderers seeking to reform their ways.

VALUES FORMATION SEMINAR BEING HELD AT THE VILLAR SIPAG FARM IN BACOO, CAVITE





ZUMBA LESSONS
BEING DONE AT THE
VILLAR SIPAG FARM
FOR DRUG
SURRENDERERS, PART
OF THEIR WELLNESS
PROGRAM



COASTAL CLEAN-UP, AS PART OF THEIR TRAINING IN CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT WHICH IS BEING HELD AT THE LAS PINAS –PARANAQUE CRITICAL HABITAT AREA







During the Opening program standing 3rd from left is USEC John Castriciones followed by USEC Baby Ignacio from the Office of the Pres., Ambassador of Israel to the Phils and Sen Cynthia Villar



DILG USEC John Castriciones delivering his inspirational message to the 120 drug surrenderers of Las Pinas during the launching of Sagip Bukas program of Villar Sipag Foundation, held last Oct. 21, 2016 at Villar Farm in Molino Bacoor, Cavite



Ceremonial planting of seeds after the launching program with the Drug surrenderers looking on

Prepared and Submitted By:

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