

Mid-Year Newsletter 2012



LINK's 10th birthday!

This year marks our 10th anniversary. "Filled with blessings" is how we would describe the last ten years. We are grateful to the people we met and worked with who share our dreams and things we value. We also value the challenges of accomplishing one project after another and the accompanying stress and pressure.

These sometimes bring out the "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" in us but always leave us with a new learning. To celebrate this milestone, the team went on a pleasure trip to Macau and Hong Kong in February. We enjoyed the winter season, the food, and the pleasure of Mickey Mouse's company in Disneyland!

We look forward to what the next ten years would bring!

Summer Training for teachers

In April and May, we held the Phase 2 of the cluster training for "Enhancing Access for Secondary Education for Children with Hearing Impairment" given to secondary teachers and Phase 1 and 2 of the "Regional Teacher Training Program in Sign Language" for elementary teachers. A total of 281 teachers from the different regions of the country participated in the program which took place in Cebu, Cagayan De Oro, and Baguio City.

Everyone enjoyed the jam-packed summer training which combines education and entertainment. On top of the sign language training and SPED seminars, activities also include sharing of experiences and best practices, film showing, small group discussions, and everyone's favorite, fiesta!



The project is supported by Boeing Global Corporate Citizenship; Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and Philippines-Australia Community Assistance Program; Misereor, Germany; and the Department of Education.

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Update on scholars

This school year, our Educational Support Program has 51 scholars enrolled in varying educational levels from basic education to higher education. We thank all the sponsors for bringing these deaf children and youth a step closer to achieving their dreams.

In March, we are delighted to see 5 deaf students, the first batch of Technical Vocational deaf graduates, receiving their Certificates in Bread and Pastry Making from the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) last March. The students were enrolled in Miriam College Adult Education (MAE). The scholarship was made possible by MAE, Miriam College-Southeast Asian Institute for the Deaf, and LINK Center which provides free interpreting services for the students.



Meeting with Boeing focal person



Carol and Marie Ui, LINK Center's President and Managing Director went on a side trip to Malaysia in July after their paper presentation during the Asia Pacific Congress on Deafness in Singapore. They met with Halina Ibrahim, Boeing Global Corporate Citizenship focal person for Southeast Asia. The informal meeting provided an opportunity to re-introduce LINK Center to our partner organization as well as, on a more personal note, to get to know, the focal person directly in contact with LINK Center in implementing its projects supported by Boeing. Carol and Marie described the meeting as very light and a friendly "chance" meeting.

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Celebrating NDPR week with FAN roadshows

In celebration of the National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation Week (NDPR) in July, we did Voter's Registration Campaign Roadshows in several schools. The activity is part of the Disability Inclusive Elections Project or popularly known as the Fully Abled Nation (FAN). Students in six schools in Makati, Pasay, Caloocan, and Quezon City were assisted to fill out registration forms and were enlightened on their right to suffrage. A PWD or Persons With Disability Sensitivity Training with Introductory Lesson in Sign Language were also given to employees of Quezon City Hall.

FAN is an initiative of The Asia Foundation with support from the Australian Agency for International Development.



Rest, Recreation, Retreat

We were off to Tagaytay in August for our annual retreat with the theme "Give me a drink." Everyone enjoyed this time of spiritual rest and marvel on the beauty of God's creation as we trekked to Taal Volcano's crater.



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Upcoming Activities

LINK Center is the lead agency for Deaf Awareness Week (DAW). Check out our website or our facebook for the activities and events.

Deaf and Able!

A Deaf Awareness Week Celebration

November 10-17, 2012

<p>Photography Workshop for 9 years old and above Last week of October (TBA) De La Salle College of St. Benilde (3 students per organization) *Bring your own camera</p> <p>Inter school basketball tournament(elimination rounds)-REGISTRATION NEEDED Oct 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28 Miriam College Covered Courts</p>	<p>Opening Day Quezon City Memorial Circle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Ecumenical Service 7:00-8:00 AM ◆ Simultaneous Activities 8:00 AM - 12:00 NN Amazing Race, Face Painting, Origami Workshop, Arts and Crafts, Rosary Making, Indigenous Music Workshop, Hip hop Dance Workshop, Magic Show, Palarong Pinoy, Soccer Clinic, Photo Booth, and more. ◆ Amateur Video Making Contest Launch ◆ Inter-school Basketball Tournament (Finals) 	<p>Run for FAN (Run for a Fully-Abled Nation) UP Academic Oval 5:00-8:00 AM</p> <p>Recollection for deaf individuals Rozen Hall, Don Bosco, Makati (Open to teenagers) *Can accommodate Confessions 12:00 NN-5:00 PM</p> <p>Signed Mass Our Lady of Pentecost, Varsity Hills, QC 12:00NN</p> <p>Simultaneous Signed Masses in the different parishes of the Dioceses of Manila and Quezon City</p>
<p>Nov 13, Tuesday</p>	<p>Photo Exhibit: Ribbon Cutting Ceremony 3:00 PM</p>	<p>Weeklong Activities, Nov 10-17</p>
<p>Video Production Workshop for 13-40 years old October 22-23, 2012 Tan Yan Kee Building, UST *Bring your own video recording camera</p>	<p>Story Telling 4:00 – 6:00 PM</p> <p>Venue: SM North EDSA (The Block)</p>	<p>Story telling (caravan) Nov13 - Philippine School for the Deaf Nov14 - Miriam College – South East Asian Institute for the Deaf Nov15 - Bagong Silang Elementary School</p>
<p>Nov 17, Saturday</p>	<p>Closing Program CAP Auditorium-Makati 9:00 AM</p>	<p>Free Hearing Test Better Hearing Philippines, UST</p>
		<p>Post-DAW Activity Nov 24, Saturday Sayaw, Hataw, Galaw!(dance concert) Amoranto Theater Matinee Show 12:00NN Dinner Show 7:00PM</p>

