Mothering Nature into the Next Decade

The Community Technical College Leapfrogs Agroecology in 2019





Annual Report 2019

Community Technical College of Southeastern Mindanao, Inc.

"Information is not knowledge.... The only source of knowledge is experience.... It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge."

- Albert Einstein





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The Chairperson's Message



Indeed, what a year 2019 was. With the national economic and political outlook not as bright as expected, we succeeded in harnessing the energies and resiliency of our children and youth beneficiaries to bring our community a step closer to our vision. We remain ever hopeful of a just society where indigenous (collectively called as the LUMAD of Mindanao), poor peasant and worker families, enjoy equitably their economic and social rights, especially the education rights of their children.

We give thanks to the community volunteer educators of the Community Technical College, many of whom continued to serve the scholars for more than two years, despite meager volunteer allowances amid multi-tasks and a simple life style. We reach out and hug our community of local and international donors and sponsors, who continue to support our mission's work — to provide free, culturally sensitive and quality education to the least of our Filipino children —including the lumad.

We are especially grateful to our community of scholars, teachers and non-teaching personnel, who proved that organic farming as embodied by the agroecology framework, is the way forward to build a sustainable charity school that affords its

beneficiaries not only free tuition, but their boarding expenses as well as some funds for toiletries, health needs, uniforms and school supplies. In our small way, we have shown the way forward to mitigating the effects of climate change.

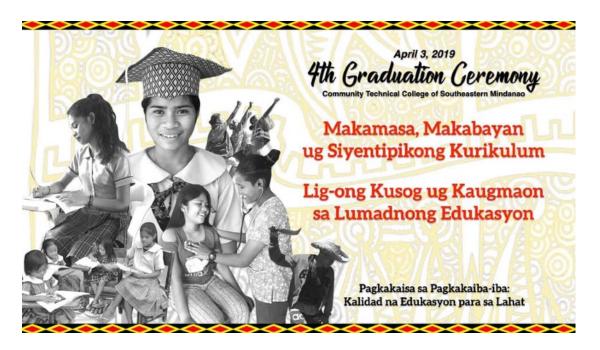
2019 marked the beginning of our sustainability journey via the agroecology pathway. Dear scholars, teachers, non-teaching personnel and the host of the Lumad Community College's supporters, let's march ever stronger towards 2020!

Sr. Concepcion P. Gasang, m.a., Ed.D.

Chairperson

CTCSM Board of Trustees

The 2019 Graduates



They stood proudly, happy and scared all at the same time of what would lie ahead of their paths. They were Batch 2019 — the Grade 6, Grade 12 and College graduates.

Their journey were fraught with challenges — foremost being financial. Many came from families who could barely afford to send them some PhP200 or \$4 allowance each month for whatever personal expenses they needed, or put together the necessary transportation budget so they could reach the school early on. Many worked during their free times during the summer and Christmas breaks as farm workers, eking out a few pesos to buy themselves branded 'ukay' pants and shirts (second-hand clothes discarded by their economically advantaged counterparts).

Cultural and academic challenges also bogged them along the way as they mostly came from remote schools were classes were often held three out of the five week days. They were seldom afforded books and other reading materials as they were



growing up. Parents could not be expected to guide them as they themselves were a generation left behind by literacy and educational opportunities of the public school system.

Dreams of being the first among their tribe to complete or graduate from school egged them on to success.

Leapfrogging Agroecology

The school year started off with a bang for Agroecology. A two-day seminar on Agroecology held in June engaged students and teachers alike. They listened to



seasoned organic practitioners, held discussions in farm-planning, learned the value of biodiversity and the symbiotic relationships between organic vegetables and "good insects," and the various organic fertilizers students can produce on campus.

The practical application of agroecology principles was leapfrogged by an incentive system where the boarding scholars' dormitory teams, guided by a teacher-adviser, could 'sell' their excess organic vegetable harvests. They gained





'school canteen credits', which could then be used to buy the team's needs and wants — from cleaning implements for use during their Sunday general cleaning schedules, to coffee and snacks.

TABLE OF HARVESTS - August to October 20, 2020

Organic Vegetables	No. of Kilos Consumed (based on estimates)	No. of Kilos Sold to the School Canteen	TOTAL
1. Cassava	300		300
2. String Beans	100	191	291
3. Okra	40	84	124
4. 'Alugbati'	120	66	186
5. Eggplant	75	36	111
6. Pechay	100	32	132
7. Mung beans	30	9.5	39.5
9. Water spinach	20	5.2	25.2
10. Squash	25	4	29



By August 2019, a
learning trip to an
organic biodiversity
farm was enjoyed by
Senior High School



students.

In October, the 2nd KASAULUGAN SA
PRODUKSYON festival celebrated the gardens and organic vegetable harvests of all dormitory teams. Representatives from MASIPAG
Mindanao, Hijo Resorts, and the Lapu-lapu
Elementary School helped judge all the participating teams.

Towards the end of the year, four hundred (400) heads of ducks and five hundred (500) coffee





seedlings were purchased with support from the Stichting Kook Foundation. These initiatives were undertaken as strategic engagements to increase the self-reliance capacity of the school.

Foundation Day 2019

October being the Lumad Technical College's foundation month, a week-long celebration highlighted by a community parade, sports and intramurals, mind games and the *SuperBida sa Katilingban* (the Community Superstar pageant celebrating the varied skills of barangay members such as carpenters, motorcycle drivers, teachers, farmers, etc) which drew in participation from the the surrounding community.



Special Projects

Mental Health Pedagogy

The project Lumad School Educators as Frontliners in Mental Health Pedagogy was set amidst a backdrop of ever growing human rights violations, militarization and attacks against lumad schools. The Save Our Schools Network documented 584 cases of attacks on schools between May 23, 2017 to July 2019.

High levels of stress and trauma have been reported among teachers and lumad scholars. The Philippines unfortunately, has an unhealthy scarcity of mental health professionals. There are 0.42 psychiatrists, 0.14 psychologists and 0.08 social workers per 100,000 Filipinos.



The long-term goal of the project was to develop pedagogical materials that could be used in classrooms in support of students exhibiting mental health problems.

Capacity building activities were undertaken with

the consultancy of two (2) psychiatrists, two (2) social work professors and two (2) psychologists. A total of fifty one (51) lumad school educators participated in the various activities.

Outcomes of the project include: 1) increased openness and demand among teachers for further trainings, coming from the recognition that the affected students depend on their teachers for their mental health problems; 2) at least ten mental health pedagogy materials developed and positively evaluated among peer educators; and 3) at least two mental health pedagogy materials pre-tested and assessed with and by senior high school lumad students.

Mothering Nature in Lumad Schools: Sustainable Organic Agriculture Training and Education among Lumad Scholars

This project aim to build the capacity of the Lumad Community College to offer a formal bachelor course on Agricultural Crops Production by developing its overall farm plan and create a niche in learning skills among the scholars. It also intends to enhance the capacity of CTCSM to provide training and education on Sustainable Organic Agriculture for at least 30 senior high school lumad scholars and its faculty.





Acquisition of hand tools and semimechanized equipment, installation of rain catchment
irrigation and a farm dormitory were among the
developments supported through this project.



Building an Indigenous College of Hope

A new corporate social responsibility

partnership was established iin 2018 in

cooperation with TELUS International
Philippines. The Building an Indigenous

College of Hope project helped develop

CTCSM's facilities in line with it's strategic

application for a permit to operate as a

school offering college courses.

The project enabled CTCSM to develop a spring-sourced water system in response to a long-standing problem of water supply for a school community population or more than three hundred fifty (350) scholars and



personnel. It also supported the upgrade of the school's computer laboratory.

Among the project outcomes were zero (0) cases of diarrhea and reduced cases of skin diseases resulting from increased water supply and hygiene lessons among the children, and increased computer laboratory log ins by the scholars for the school year 2018-2019. Inauguration of the upgraded computer laboratory was occasioned in April 2019 simultaneous with the Graduation ceremonies.

Senior High schools benefitted much from the enhanced computer laboratory as hands-on programming became a reality as part of their ICT / Empowerment Technology classes.



Save Our Schools, Protect Indigenous
Life

In the school year 2018, a Canadian
United Methodist Church missionary
spent a semester at the Lumad
Community College teaching Earth and
Life Science to junior high school students. A
church member granted him a sizable endowment
fund, the big chunk of which he donated to the
Lumad Community College to help enhance its

facilities and support core operational costs of the

school.





Among the facilities developed and enhanced through the project were the school's science laboratory, the senior high school and college library, and the partial construction of a new dormitory for future college scholars.

Scent of Rain, Sun and Soil: Stories of Agroecology by Lumad Youth in the **Philippines**

Egged on by the success of a community-wide campaign to engage in Agroecology towards

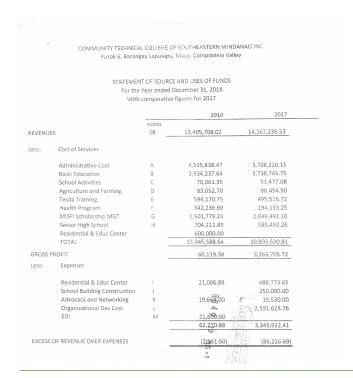


school, writers among the the Lumad Community College volunteer faculty sat together and dreamed of publishing a photo book on its experiences and outcomes. The dream took shape with the partnership of a visiting writer/professor of the Newcastle University in Australia. The book shall be published and distributed in April 2020.

Donors and Financials

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NOTE: 2019 Audited Financial Statements shall be submitted to the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Securities and Exchange Commission of the Philippines by April 2020.



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Donors and Financials

TABLE OF DONORS 2019

NAME OF DONOR	PROJECT OR COMPONENT SUPPORTED
Department of Education, Govt of the Phils	Senior High School Program Core Operations
2. United Methodist Church	Facilities Development Core Operations
3. Telus International Philippines	Facilities Development
4. Stichting Kook Foundation	Core Operations Agroecology projects
5. Taiwan Fund for Democracy	Mental Health Pedagogy project
6. Anawim mission	1. Desktop computers
7. Amicizia Friends of the Lumad Community College	Classroom repairs and upgrade Core Operations
8. Sales of CTCSM farm produce / harvests	1. Core Operations
9. Individual donors	Core Operations Special events like graduation, foundation day



Board of Trustees

NAME	PROFESSION	POSITION					
1. Sister Concepcion P. Gasang, m.a., Ed.D.	Doctor of Education, nun	Chairperson of the Board					
2. Father Hipolito P. Parracha, DVK	Master of theology, Diocesan vicar, North Cotabato	Vice Chairperson of the Board					
3. Dr. Rinante L. Genuba, Ed.D.	Doctor of Education	Corporate Secretary					
4. Dr. Giovanni Montejo, Ed.D.	Doctor of Education	Corporate Treasurer					
5. Dr. Judy Taguiwalo, rsw	Registered Social Worker, former Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)	Board member					
6. Dr. Aleli B. Bawagan	PhD in Sociology of Education, Executive Director, UP Institute of Small Scale Industries, former Assistant Secretary of the DSWD	Board member					
7. Fr. Carlos Ronquillo, CssR	Accountant, priest	Board member					
8. Emma D. Dawal, rsw	Social worker, educator	Board member					
9. Lourdesita Chan- Sobrevega	Head of University Research Center, Ateneo de Davao University	Board member					
10. Sister Eufrocina Bandigan, m.a.	nun	Board member					







Cultural Page



An art workshop in partnership with Mindanao artist Kublai Millan focused on the biodiversity of the Pantaron Range, home to the Manobos, the Philippine eagle, and a host of other endemic flora and fauna

Lupa'y Ipaglaban (Fight for Our Land)
ni Mary Jane David

Lupang kayamanan

na pagkukunan ng ating mga pangangailangan.

Dito tumutubo ang ating kinakain.

Dito nakatayo ang malalaking kagubatan,

sa gubat nakatira ang mga kahayupan

Ngunit bagyong dumating ang mga dayuhan

pinatag ang kagubatan

winasak ang lahat ng aming pangkabuhayan.

Kaya bumuo tayo ng samahang may paninindigan

Maglakad, magkaisa

sa malawak na kapatagan lupa'y ipaglaban ■



All new facilities of the school such as the springsourced water tank are blessed by a Babaylan to make use of these acceptable to the indigenous scholars and their families



Mime and body movements transcend crossethnic language barriers

Cultural Page



Dulangan, Kulamanon, Matig-Talomo sub-tribes of the Manobos pose after a cultural presentation

Lupa ang Buhay ng mga Mamamayan (Land is Life for the People) ni Jezel Senara

Ang lupa ay mahalagang kayamanan, kayamanang hindi kayang tumbasan,

mamahaling bagay o karangyaan.

Lupa ang solusyon sa suliranin ng mga mamamayan.

Sa lupa matatagpuan ang likas na yaman,
Dito rin tumutubo ang mga halaman,
na bumubuhay sa mga tao at kahayupan,
nandito ang aming bayan.

Sa kabila ng hirap na pinagdaanan,
Ay bumangon muli at maninindigan,
Huwag magkulong sa rehas ng nakaraan,
Tibayan ang loob na parang punong kawayan.

Sa halip ay lumikha ng unyon na makabayan,
Upang gisingin ang natutulog sa katotohanan.
Himukin ang sarili at ang mga kasamahan,
Sa paglalakad sa malawak na daan.

Nakataas ang kamay,

Kasabay ang pagsigaw ng mga taong bayan,

Na ibigay ang tunay na reporma ng lupa

Ngunit dahas ang isinukli ng pamahalaan.

Binabagyo ng bala ang nakipagsiksikan,
Sumuka ng dugo ang ibang natatamaaan,
Marami ang nagsakripisyo sa buhay na
makatarungan.



Participants of the Agroecology seminar highlight the biodiverse nature of their farm / garden plan



The A-frame is in much use for contour farming as the school's terrain is largely hilly



A resource person from MASIPAG Mindanao works with Senior High faculty to evaluate the Sustainable Agriculture 1 and 2 syllabi

The Community Technical College of Southeastern Mindanao (CTCSM) is a private charity school committed to providing a free quality transformative education to Lumad (Indigenous people of Mindanao), Moro (Muslim) and marginalised rural communities from over ten tribes from various regions throughout Mindanao in the southern Philippines.

The school's student population is made up of about 70 percent Lumad students from 13 different language groups. The curriculum is based on three pillars:

- 1. Academics and Indigenous knowledge;
- 2. Holistic Community-Based Health; and
- 3. Sustainable organic agriculture.



Organic vegetables harvested on a daily basis are weighed to ensure documentation of quantifiable outcomes across time

The Community Technical College of Southeastern Mindanao (CTCSM) is an innovative and comprehensive school and registered as a non-stock, non-profit educational institution that aims to uphold Indigenous people's rights to education and develop the next generation of young Lumad (Indigenous) and peasant leaders of disadvantaged communities, the Philippines and the world.



Chemistry experiment of Grade 9 students



Midwifery students teach preschoolers the principles of WASH



Phase 1 of the college dormitory constructed with support from a church group. It is part of the school's site development program.





The Booklovers' Club step up the campaign to encourage scholars to read by awarding the most voracious readers certificates of recognition during flag ceremony programs



Year Level	18-'19
Elementary	73
Junior High School	88
Senior High School	92
College	140
TOTAL	393

A pictograph of physical development sparks off a discussion among Grade 11 students in their Personal Development class



An exhibit of students for their performance-based exam on Understanding Culture, Society, and Politics



Barangay officials serve as judges of the scholars' field demonstration exhibitions as part of the 6th



◀ CTCSM faculty celebrate a successful 4th graduation ceremony



▲ CTCSM Filipino and English teachers partake of the collective creative energies at a training-seminar on Creative Writing



◀ CTCSM faculty join the Mental Health Pedagogy postseminar photo op

