

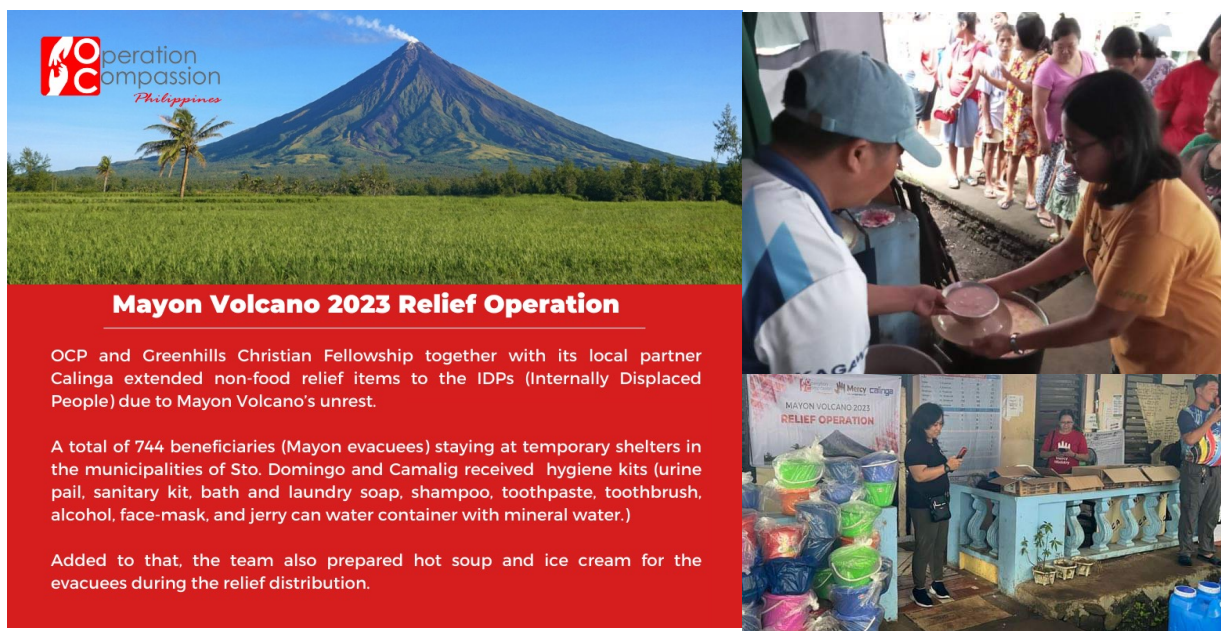
2023 Annual Accomplishment Report

Report on OCP and Partners' Relief and Community Development Efforts in Albay and Catanduanes (2023)

In 2023, Operation Compassion Philippines (OCP), in collaboration with Greenhills Christian Fellowship - Mercy Ministry and Calinga, demonstrated a commendable commitment to humanitarian aid and community development in the Bicol region. This joint effort addressed the urgent needs of Internally Displaced People (IDPs) affected by the unrest of Mayon Volcano and focused on empowering a vulnerable community in Catanduanes through structured developmental initiatives.

Relief Distribution in Albay

The eruption of Mayon Volcano displaced thousands of families, necessitating immediate intervention. OCP and its partners prioritized providing non-food relief items to 744 families, equating to approximately 2,600 beneficiaries housed in temporary shelters in Sto. Domingo and Camalig municipalities.



Mayon Volcano 2023 Relief Operation

OCP and Greenhills Christian Fellowship together with its local partner Calinga extended non-food relief items to the IDPs (Internally Displaced People) due to Mayon Volcano's unrest.

A total of 744 beneficiaries (Mayon evacuees) staying at temporary shelters in the municipalities of Sto. Domingo and Camalig received hygiene kits (urine pail, sanitary kit, bath and laundry soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrush, alcohol, face-mask, and jerry can water container with mineral water.)

Added to that, the team also prepared hot soup and ice cream for the evacuees during the relief distribution.

The relief packages were comprehensive, containing essential hygiene items such as chamber pots, sanitary kits, bath and laundry soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, alcohol, and jerry cans filled with mineral water. These provisions were critical in addressing the beneficiaries' basic needs, promoting health and hygiene, and preventing potential disease outbreaks in densely populated shelters.



In addition to material aid, the team extended warmth and comfort to the evacuees by preparing and serving hot soup and ice cream during the distribution. This gesture of compassion fostered a sense of care and community, enhancing the morale of families navigating the challenges of displacement.





I-FOSTER

In 2023, the i-Foster program of Operation Compassion Philippines Inc. showcased significant efforts to address the needs of vulnerable children and families through adoption and foster care services. By integrating innovative approaches and strategic partnerships, the program made notable strides in promoting child welfare and empowering communities.

Client Inquiries and Engagement

OCP effectively utilized multiple communication channels to reach prospective adoptive and foster parents. The organization received **68 social media inquiries**, reflecting the growing reliance on digital platforms for information dissemination. Additionally, there were **197 telephone calls**, highlighting the importance of direct interaction, and **17 walk-in clients**, demonstrating OCP's accessibility for those seeking face-to-face consultations. These engagement statistics underline OCP's comprehensive approach to outreach, ensuring support for families through varied and convenient means.

Strategic Partnerships

To broaden its impact, OCP established key partnerships with organizations aligned with its mission:

1. **I am Hope:** This collaboration aims to empower women through capacity-building initiatives and livelihood assistance opportunities. By supporting women, particularly those in vulnerable circumstances, OCP indirectly

enhances the stability of families and communities, creating a more supportive environment for child welfare.

2. **GCF-Mercy Ministry:** Partnering with this ministry, OCP extended scholarship and educational assistance to Puraran, Catanduanes. This initiative ensures that children in the region have access to education, addressing one of the critical factors in breaking the cycle of poverty and vulnerability.

Adoption and Foster Care Statistics

OCP maintained its dedication to facilitating domestic administrative adoption, providing a pathway for children to find permanent homes. As of 2023, the organization is handling **70 adoptive parent applications** across four categories:

- **17 regular applicants**, reflecting standard adoption cases.
- **36 relative adoption cases**, indicating a strong preference for family-centered placements.
- **15 stepparent adoptions**, showcasing the integration of blended families.
- **1 adult adoption case**, illustrating the program's inclusivity for diverse adoption needs.

Foster care remained a foundation of OCP's child placement services, considering that it is the first subprogram under I-Foster, with **23 licensed foster parents** actively caring for children. These placements underscore the program's ability to provide temporary, nurturing environments for children awaiting permanent homes.

Pre-Adoption Forum



In 2023, Operation Compassion Philippines successfully organized five onsite Pre-Adoption Forums, welcoming a total of 60 attendees. These forums served as an essential platform for prospective adoptive parents to gain a deeper understanding of the adoption process. During the sessions,

participants were guided through the intricacies of adoption, including the legal,

emotional, and practical aspects involved. The forums also provided an opportunity for attendees to engage with experts and share experiences with other parents, fostering a supportive community. This initiative ensured that adoptive parents were well-informed and prepared for the journey of building their families through adoption.



“Bring your Mission Home” as a Tagline for the I-Foster Program

The tagline *“Bring Your Mission Home”* encapsulates the heart of Operation Compassion Philippines' I-Foster program, which advocates for foster care and adoption. This strategy challenges churches to take action in addressing the orphan crisis by actively engaging their congregations. Through this initiative, parents within the church community are encouraged to become licensed foster or adoptive parents, opening their homes and hearts to care for orphans and children in need. It emphasizes the call for the church to live out its mission by transforming compassion into tangible care within their own communities.

Impact and Commitment

The i-Foster program’s 2023 achievements demonstrate OCP's steadfast commitment to improving the lives of children and families. By leveraging innovative outreach strategies, fostering impactful collaborations, and addressing the varied needs of adoptive and foster families, OCP has reinforced its role as a leading advocate for child welfare in the Philippines. The partnerships with I am Hope and GCF-Mercy Ministry further exemplify the organization's holistic approach, addressing root causes of instability and promoting sustainable family and community development.

As OCP continues to build on its successes, the program's focus remains on ensuring that every child has the opportunity to grow up in a safe, loving, and supportive environment. Through its dedication to fostering and adoption, OCP

upholds its mission of transforming lives and empowering communities for a brighter future.



HIGHLIGHTS OF 2023



January - October
2023

Foster

Courtesy and Partnership meeting

OCP had its courtesy and partnership meeting with NACC Assistant Secretary/Deputy Director for Services Atty. Arezu Jam and Ms. Gina Escalante on May 23, 2023.

NACC is a newly created attached quasi-judicial agency of DSWD, all duties and responsibilities of ICAB, DSWD, and other gov't agencies relating to alternative child care is transferred to NACC.





Meeting with the Child Placement Agencies

The meeting /write shop aims to work on the cost computation proposed rates of adoption fees using the guidelines set by the National Tax Research Center.



Launching of Omnibus Guidelines

OCP is one of the invited CPAs during the launching of the omnibus guidelines for Domestic Administrative Adoption.

OCP is part of the group in crafting and finalizing the Omnibus guidelines for Domestic Administrative Adoption and Foster Care.





Adoption and Alternative Child Care Week

OCP joins the celebration of Adoption and Alternative Child Care Week, this is part of the RA 11642 designation of the 2nd week of June as Adoption and Alternative Child Care Week



Spearheaded the Adoption Forum

OCP spearheaded its 1st Pre-adoption Forum last August 23, 2023
A total of 15 couples or 30 participants attended the said pre-requisite for the adoption application.



Online Pre - Adoption Forum



OCP conducted an online Pre-adoption Forum for applicants from Singapore, Australia and the United Kingdom. It is a pre-requisite to all the applicants for adoption



Case Conference and Entrustment of the child

Case conference with Cribs Foundation and entrustment of the child to its foster family licensed by OCP Mr. and Mrs. Van Den Engel of New Zealand



Foster

Regular Adoption Entrustment to Adoptive Parent

Case conference and entrustment of the child from St. Rita Orphanage to its Adoptive family (Mr & Mrs. Pulido) - the very first entrustment of OCP after 7 months of waiting.

Right now they are under the 6 months supervised trial custody



17th Global Consultation on Child Welfare Services



OCP participated in the **17th Philippine Global Consultation on Child Welfare Services** at the Hilton Hotel in Pasay City. The event serves as a venue for central authorities, foreign adoption agencies, embassy partners, child caring and child placement agencies, as well as other allied professionals to discuss concerns and address emerging issues affecting the placement and adoption of Filipino Children.