



SOROPTIMIST[®]
Investing in Dreams

Club History

Soroptimist International of Silangan

The birth of Soroptimist International of Silangan came after the New Year's celebration. The hand-over of the Charter Certificate to Charter President Purificacion Malabanan-Echiverri last January 9, 2006 was highlighted by a beautiful and solemn Chartering and Induction Ceremonies with the presence of SIPR Governor Dulce Gozon and other Soroptimist International Club officers and members.

SI Silangan was chartered by SI Nova Central headed by President Liza Derilo. SI Silangan started with a small group of women from different professions who have the same sense of responsibility and passion for service. Together they mapped out plans and programs that would set in motion the vision and mission of Soroptimist International of Silangan. They buckled down to work and identified areas of concern that needed to be addressed. They implemented and launched several programs and projects.

On June 26, 2006, SI Silangan established and inaugurated, the Pregnancy Support Services for Asia Caloocan City, a Chapter of the Pregnancy Support Services for Asia which is an affiliate of the Heartbeat International and a pro-life NGO based in the United States. This Center was located in a commercial area which provided support to women experiencing problems in their pregnancies through the provision of Natural Family Planning and women counseling, pregnancy testing and counseling, medical care referrals, and single parent support groups. For those pregnant but homeless, they were provided with host homes and given community referrals in coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development and other Religious Organizations and NGO. With this program we were able to save mothers and their unborn babies, as we believe every child has a right to be born in this world.

SI Silangan partnered with the Philippine Population Commission by giving seminars on Responsible Parenting and Natural Family Planning to couples from 188 Barangays, in Caloocan City. Simultaneously we hired professional trainers in Natural Family Planning to train interested community workers and other mothers as well so we were able to establish several Natural Family Planning Centers in various Barangays in Caloocan City where couples who were about to get married took seminars on Natural Family Planning as well as couples unable to conceive were soon able to conceive the natural safe way.

SI Silangan was able to help a group of mothers set up a community Day Care Center in Camarin Caloocan City by providing the structure and books needed by the Day Care Center through funds raised from various fund raising projects of the club.

SI Silangan launched the SIS 188 Days @Work wherein multi-faceted services were brought to the various barangays in cooperation with partner government agencies and Barangay officials of Caloocan City. We have included health services in the form of free Bone Scanning Services and distribution of free calcium tablets, bloodletting, Pap smear, ultrasound and other medical examinations. Livelihood seminars on reflexology, hair cutting, manicure, pedicure, food products and herbal medicine preparations were conducted. Urban Herbal Gardens were established in some barangays to propagate the use of natural medicinal plants, preparation of natural tea leaves such as malunggay tea, ginger and lemongrass tea to name a few which can be a source of livelihood and income to the community.

SI Silangan conducted seminars on RA 9262, otherwise known as the Violence Against Women and their Children Act, in order to inform and educate the women and children populace about their rights. Likewise, after the seminar we distributed the Primer on RA9262 booklets which Metro Manila Northeast District, to which SI Silangan belongs, published.

SI Silangan have conducted several seminars and webinars on Urban Gardening to which Urban Gardening Starter Kits were distributed, likewise, provided Psychological 1st aid webinars during the onset of the pandemic, etiquette during online meetings, and online class for teachers and students. In partnership with the UP College of Education, we published the "Psychological First Aid Manual for Covid 19" that were distributed to our returning OFW, partnered NGOs and adopted barangays and Centers.

We have launched the, "Handog Busog" program, feeding 1000 Vulnerable Children for 7 months to which we partnered with an NGO. We have given free flu and pneumonia vaccines to inmates in the Women Correctional and Senior Citizens.

SI Silangan's dream is to give women and girls the chance to live their dreams of being full and equal partners in their homes, jobs and communities.