

“Strong Heart”



Ms. Edna Crisostomo during the PaNata Ko sa Bayan Awards at the Landbank of the Philippines Auditorium, Malate, Manila

Ms. Edna T. Crisostomo has been a volunteer of the Department of Social Welfare and Development Kapit-Bisig Laban Sa Kahirapan Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services – National Community Driven-Development Program (DSWD [KALAH](#)I CIDSS-NCDDP) since 2014.

Ms. Crisostomo

is best described by the residents of the community as a dedicated volunteer.

According to Marrian Nikki Tuanio, Former Municipal Community Empowerment

Facilitator (MCEF) DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS, Quezon, Nueva Ecija,

“Masasabi ko na siya ay one call away, kasi

kapag po sinabi kong may meeting, kahit ano pong ginagawa niya pupunta siya

agad sa barangay para gampanan ang pagiging volunteer niya

(Ms. Edna

Crisostomo is very dedicated with the volunteer work, because she is always

present during the meetings related to the program).”

Her volunteer

work gives her self-fulfillment which motivates her to actively participate as

a volunteer of the DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS and to their barangay.

She is a mother of five, widowed, and a resident of Barangay Sto. Cristo, Quezon, Nueva Ecija. Despite her busy schedule in the barangay as a barangay health worker (BHW), a volunteer of DSWD [Kalahi](#)-CIDSS and a sewer, she still manage to be a responsible parent. In fact, her children are honor students in their respective schools. This indicates that their

sacrifices pay-off. As a BHW she ensures that the residents of the community is aware and well informed to the different programs and health services of the barangay even those residents in the remote area. Her volunteer work also inspires the community to get involve to the different activities in the barangay.

Moreover, Ms. Crisostomo is also an active community volunteer of DSWD [Kalahi](#)-CIDSS since 2014 and one of her most significant accomplishments as community volunteer was the funding of their first cycle sub-project through DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS and local government of Barangay Sto. Cristo, Quezon, Nueva Ecija.

When they started volunteering in the program, the struggles they faced were 1) apathetic residents in their barangay, and 2) doubtful community members. Edna know she must do her best to encourage and change their behavior towards the program... and she did. Despite these struggles, she, together with other active community volunteers of the barangay became more motivated to participate until their sub-project (Road Concreting) was funded. Now, the project has a total number of 266 household beneficiaries and it's helping the residents to market their products.

In addition, their proposed sub-project for the 3rd cycle, Solar Powered Street Lights also funded by DSWD [Kalahi](#)-CIDSS will be also be beneficial for the 266 households of Brgy. Sto. Cristo, Quezon, Nueva Ecija, especially with their livelihood.