

DSWD's partnership with TESDA paves way for women to excel in skilled labor



Photos show the women of Almeria, Biliran, trained by the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority on plumbing and masonry, putting into use their newly-learned skills in continuity for the water system project funded by the Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services.

As part of its continued thrust to institutionalize gender and development (GAD), the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Field Office (FO) VIII partnered with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) to train women on skills that are considered as fit only for men.

Recently given a special citation by the Philippine Commission on Women and the National Anti-Poverty Commission, DSWD FO VIII's GAD best practice provided livelihood skills training to the women- beneficiaries of the Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (Kalahi-CIDSS) of Almeria, Biliran on plumbing and masonry.

Kalahi-CIDSS: a program for empowerment

KALAHY-CIDSS is one of the DSWD's poverty alleviation programs which utilizes the community driven development (CDD) approach. It provides communities with the opportunity to identify sub-projects needed by their community, and later on manage its implementation once approved or funded.

As a CDD approach, the focus is to empower the community members in the decision making process, as well as in the implementation of the sub-projects where they have their own roles to play. However, there are cases when prejudice towards the involvement of women in the construction of the

sub-projects still prevail.

Addressing gender stereotyping in Almeria