



**NURTURING INDIGENOUS RESILIENCE
AMIDST A CHANGING WORLD
ANNUAL REPORT 2020**

CULTIVATING INHERENT STRENGTHS

ABOUT THE COVER

As the world has had to navigate a new reality in 2020, we at Cartwheel Foundation, Inc. (CFI) choose to remain rooted in our peoples' inherent strengths. Indigenous wisdom sheds light on how continuing growth is still possible: by embracing our interconnectedness as fellow members of humanity and living as good stewards of our planet home.

CFI is honored to take part in the thriving of Filipino indigenous communities despite the challenges of these times. By co-creating safe spaces through expressive change, there remains plenty of opportunity to keep learning, encouraging, and accompanying each other—ultimately inspiring hope for a more humane and inclusive co-existence for all.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

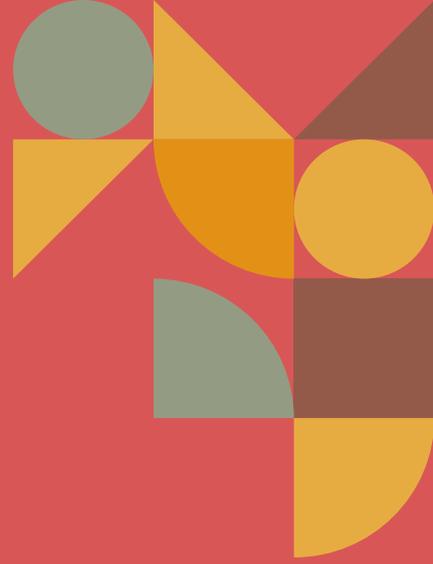
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Jocelyn Dela Cruz	Accountant
Ma Antonette C. Bacsain	Program Officer for Health (until March 2020)
Christian Jay D. Idias	Volunteer Community Learning Associate (until August 2020)



FOSTERING A SENSE OF COMMUNITY



VISION

A Philippines where Indigenous Peoples enjoy their rights to quality education, self-determination and active participation in community life amidst a thriving heritage.

MISSION

Cartwheel Foundation, Inc. (CFI) exists to empower Indigenous Peoples' communities by harnessing self-sustaining capacities through culturally relevant education.

EDUCATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (ECD) PROGRAM

Culion, Palawan (Tagbanua)
Kasanyangan, Zamboanga City (Bajau)
San Dionisio, Parañaque City (Sama-Bajau)

YOUNG INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (YIP) LEADERS PROGRAM

Lantapan, Bukidnon (Talaandig)
Sinakungan, Agusan del Sur (Higaonon)
Talacogon, Agusan del Sur (Manobo-Agusan)



THRIVING THROUGH INTERCONNECTEDNESS

IP CHILDREN AND YOUTH



263

young learners (91 new learners enrolled for SY 2020-21) supported through alternative learning modes



66

young learners supported through COVID-19 hygiene kits



6

college grantees' alternative learning and psychosocial needs supported

84%

of learners in partner learning centers with sustained access to relevant education and essential services

69%

of young learners in Palawan, Parañaque and Zamboanga moving up to the next competency level

100%

college learners continuing on to the next year level or graduating from college

FAMILY AND NUCLEAR COMMUNITY



133

families supported through COVID-19 response efforts (i.e., food, cash and restarter care packages)



427

individuals receiving reusable face masks with culturally-relevant design



17

duty bearers trained in rights-based and safeguarding approaches (i.e., IP rights, children's rights)



14

teachers/learning facilitators trained in culturally-relevant, rights-based and resilience-based approaches

92%

of community members involved in the education, safety and well-being of their children and families

WIDER COMMUNITY



11

public & private stakeholder groups engaged in prioritizing IP welfare amid the pandemic

49%

increase in committed resource counterparts by government and civil society partners for COVID-19 response efforts and IP-focused programs

ENCOURAGING TEACHERS TO GROW

DALOY NG KARUNUNGAN SA GITNA NG KRISIS VIRTUAL TEACHERS' TRAINING



“I am committed to continuing my work in guiding the teachers especially in the time of pandemic. I would like to make sure they remain effective in their teaching our young learners; I would like to be present as a support system for them too. I am very grateful to have remained part of this process of learning, re-learning, and unlearning.”

Fatima Ahiyal

Program Officer for Education,
Ateneo de Zamboanga University
Center for Community Extension Services
(originally shared in Tagalog)

“Daloy ng Karunungan sa Gitna ng Krisis” was a virtual training series held for volunteer teachers and community facilitators who serve Sama-Bajau learners in Zamboanga, Manila and Parañaque. Its main objective was to provide them with a safe holding space to hone their capacities and creativities in delivering rights-based, culturally-relevant and resilience-focused education to indigenous learners, amid the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The first series spanned five weekly sessions between June 11 to July 9, 2020. The second was held on November 17, 19, and 24, 2020. Both were organized by Cartwheel through its partnership with Consuelo Zobel Alger Foundation, in coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development-National Capital Region, the City Social Welfare and Development Office of Parañaque, and the Ateneo de Zamboanga University’s Center for Community Extension Services.



ENABLING LEARNERS TO FLOURISH

SMART LEARNING KITS AND SAFE LEARNING SPACES AT HOME

"It is a delight to see the unique activities included in the SMART Learning Kits. The children enjoy it very much and respond very well because of the games and the use of the arts."

Marilyn Bayona

Senior instructor
Education and Child Development Program
for Sama-Bajau, Parañaque (originally shared
in Tagalog)

The SMART Learning Kit is a packet of age-appropriate and teacher-approved activities, targeting multiple intelligences through art, play, science, and literature. It contains engaging, tactile, and kinesthetic activities designed for young children. With support from development partner Consuelo Zobel Alger Foundation, in cooperation with The Learning Child (TLC) School in Muntinlupa City, Cartwheel acquired 17 SMART Learning Kits in September 2020 for use of each of the learners enrolled in the Education and Child Development (ECD) Program for the Sama-Bajau community residing in Brgy. San Dionisio, Parañaque City.

Home-based classes were also opened in September 2020. Sama-Bajau families who live together and remain very supportive of their children's education have agreed on a common area that they have turned into their home-based classroom. Despite being small and simple, it has been set-up to be a safe space for the children where they know they can freely play and learn together with their peers. Teacher Faida Faisal, also Sama-Bajau herself who resides in the same area as her students, would meet with the class four days a week.

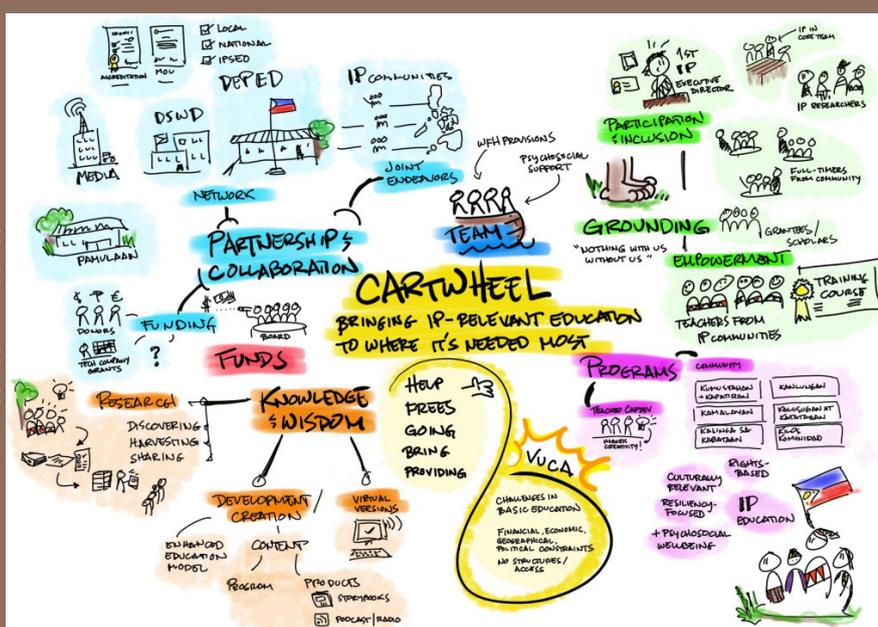
EXPLORING POSSIBILITIES WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION

CO-CREATING THE FUTURE THROUGH EXPRESSIVE CHANGE

Cartwheel's stakeholders engaged in a continuing dialogue to collectively discern new ways for the organization to remain truly responsive to the needs of Indigenous Peoples, in the face of the new realities posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The *Inscaping* approach based on expressive change became the foundation of their sustained connection with each other. It is the social innovation practice of *surfacing the inner experiences of organizational members during the normal course of work to shape and guide the organization* (Nilsson and Paddock, 2013).

Cartwheel seeks to live out an approach that is expressive of the future that it would like to create by taking inspiration from practices that have helped its partner indigenous communities cope in times of adversity, namely: (i) *community dialogue* and (ii) *cultural artforms* (i.e., traditional songs, dances and visual art expressions that draw from indigenous heritage). For the Cartwheel Team, this translates to providing *spaces for conversation*, and integrating *expressive arts* into its practice.

As the foundation of Cartwheel's organizational development and wellness practice, the experience of employing inscaping and expressive change as an innovative approach was also shared with various groups in online learning events in coordination with partner organizations such as MAGIS Creative Spaces and the Association of Foundations.



Visual representation of the Cartwheel Board of Trustees' aspirations for the Foundation

(August 2020)
Art by Alwin Macalalad



EXTENDING HELPING HANDS

COVID-19 RESPONSE EFFORTS FOR PARTNER COMMUNITIES

COVID-19 response efforts have been initiated by Cartwheel together with its partners since March 2020 to help Sama-Bajau families gain access to essential needs even as their areas have been on lockdown.

On March 19, April 7, and September 18, 2020, much needed food packs and hygiene kits were distributed to the Sama-Bajau community residing in Barangay San Dionisio, Parañaque City. This was part of Cartwheel's complementation initiatives with the Department of Social Welfare and Development-National Capital Region (DSWD NCR), the City Government of Parañaque, and the Barangay Local Government Unit (BLGU) of San Dionisio; and through the generosity of development partner, Consuelo Zobel Alger Foundation.

On the week of April 2, 2020, emergency cash assistance was facilitated for 58 Sama-Bajau families residing in Kasanyangan, Zamboanga City, through the generosity of the youth group, Lacuna, and in coordination with the Ateneo de Zamboanga University's Center for Community Extension Services (ADZU CCES).

From June 22-July 31, 2020, reusable face masks were produced and distributed for a total of 427 individuals. Forty-five families received food packs, hygiene kits, and vitamins, as part of the Restarter Care packages distributed. This initiative was led by Cartwheel through its partnership with Consuelo Zobel Alger Foundation, and in coordination with the ADZU CCES and the BLGU of Kasanyangan.



NOURISHING FRIENDSHIP WITH GRATITUDE

Even as the nation remains behind face masks, friends and partners have let their generous goodness shine. This has made way for opportunities to continue in encouraging one another in the shared mission of nurturing indigenous capacities and creativities through culturally relevant education. Thank you!

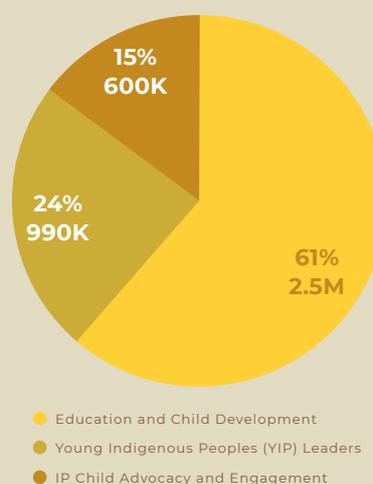
DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS AND DONORS

Abaya, Ana Gabriela | Adarna House | Alfonso Yuchengco Foundation | Anonymous Donors | Assisi Development Foundation, Inc. | Association of Foundations Philippines, Inc. | Assumption Antipolo, Grade 11, SY 2019-2020 | Atabug, Rosemary | Blair, Jonathan | Bulatao, Aurora | Camara, Miguel | Cartwheel Foundation International, Inc. | Consuelo Zobel Alger Foundation | Crisostomo, Milette | Dario, Gabby | Dela Cruz, Alex | Fronteras, Lestie | FuND Philippines | Gamban, Kristine "Bambi" | Gil, Cherie | Global ShareResource Foundation | Hernandez, Aileen | Lacuna PH | Largoza, Nyra | Lawyers of Romulo Mabanta Law Office | Legends of the SEA (Southeast Asia) | Lorenzo, Jo Ann | MAGIS Creative Spaces | Metrobank Shoebox Project | Menez, Emily | Nuñez-Tañada, María | Osawa, Osamu | Pamulaan Center for Indigenous Peoples Education | Resurreccion, Angie | Reyes, Gerard | Reyes, Isabela Severia | Sison-Go, Marites | Suan, Isa | Tasy, Carolyn | The Learning Child School | Xavier School | Yeo, Victoria | Yuyucheng, Frances | Zhang, Alex

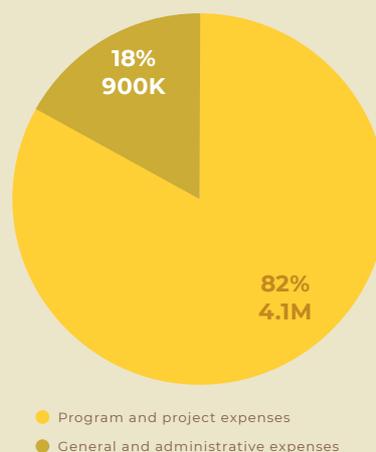
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FUND UTILIZATION



PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES



The ratio of Program Expenses to Administrative Expenses was at 82:18. Of CFI's overall total expenditure amounting to P5,062,667 in 2020, P4,148,389 were utilized for Programs and Projects, while P914,278 went to General and Administrative Expenses (based on CFI's 2020 Audited Financial Statements).



FOSTERING PARTNERSHIP FOR THE FUTURE



DONATE

Help a child grow in culturally relevant learning! Be a sponsor and match our partner communities' efforts in education their children. Visit www.simplygiving.com/nonprofit/cartwheelfoundation for more details.



INITIATE

Start a project to fundraise for our indigenous learners in a thousand creative ways! Your bright ideas can contribute much to the education of our partner communities.



ADVOCATE

Tell others about our IP advocacy and the urgency of our work with Filipino culture-bearers. Or you may invite the CARTWHEEL Team to speak at your organization—we would very gladly oblige!



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