

# UPDATE LETTER

June 2026, Tagaytay City, Philippines



"T" is for Teatro: Members of Teatro Pag-asa strike their signature ensemble pose.

Led by a 13-member team of social workers, educators, and staff, Pag-asa supports 301 youth and 215 low-income families. Through regular home visits, health monitoring, and rigorous reporting, we ensure resources directly impact education, medical care, and nutrition, turning vulnerable environments into spaces of long-term stability.

## HOPE IS OUR STORY

### Chapter 1: The Heart of Our Youth (Grassroots Impact)

Dear long-time friends and newfound ones,

As we reach the midpoint of 2026, we know the world stands at a difficult crossroads, from energy challenges in Europe and the USA to inflation here in the Philippines. Yet, your unwavering support allows the spirit of Pag-asa (Hope) to shine brightest, translating global adversity into remarkable milestones for our families.

### From "Receiving" to "Giving Back": Teatro Pag-asa Uplifts Tarlac

At Pag-asa, our deepest commitment is transforming our youth into values-driven leaders. In April, 17 children from our youth theater group, **Teatro Pag-asa**, traveled to Tarlac City for a for-a-cause

musical concert titled *Youth and Hope* at the San Sebastian Cathedral, organized alongside the Roman Catholic Diocese of Tarlac and the Focolare Movement.

Under the theme "Together, Let us be the Light of Hope," our youth delivered a spellbinding performance. Remarkably, the children channeled the discipline they witnessed just five days prior during an educational excursion to see **Ballet Philippines** perform at Solaire, incorporating that world-class stage presence into their own production.

Admission was free, but all free-will offerings went directly to the local *Desk of the Poor* to support families in extreme crisis. What began as a modest workshop

has blossomed into a professional touring ensemble under program directors Mr. Rommel Bartolo and Mrs. Maricon Villanueva Eliazar. Thanks to you, our children are no longer just passive beneficiaries, they are active agents of compassion.

### Running for a Greener, United Tomorrow: The 2026 Run for Unity

Hope, love, and unity captured the spirit of the **Run for Unity** held this May. Organized by the Focolare Movement, we were blessed to participate and host this vibrant gathering right at our foundation's facilities. Far from a standard race, this run served an ecological purpose: as the youth ran toward our center, they actively collected roadside trash, promoting environmental teamwork. The event concluded with team-building games and the traditional Focolare passing of the flag, symbolizing a shared youth responsibility for peace.

### The Canvas of Opportunity: Celebrating Art Workshop 2026

In May, 17 beneficiary children completed an enriching, four-week **Art Workshop 2026**, gaining deep confidence and self-expression. The program marked the return of volunteer **Ms. Riah Padilla** (who first taught painting here in 2023), who secured full logistical and materials sponsorship from the **Insular Foundation, Inc.** (the CSR arm of Insular Life). Aligned under their "Education and Literacy" pillar, corporate volunteers Mr. Nic Magora, Ms. Michelle Ann Dima, Ms. Sheila Mae Geroche, and Mr. Elvis Baturi mentored our youth weekly.

In a heartwarming display of solidarity, Riah was joined by her parents, Mr. Red and Mrs. Mylene Padilla. Sir Red is a long-time ally of Pag-asa who frequently coordinates disaster relief drives through **BISIG Pilipinas**. Within



Creative Finale: Students proudly display their textured geometric masterpieces during the final paper-weaving session of Art Workshop 2026

their network, Pag-asa and Sir Red serve closely together as members of **BISIG PUHON**, focusing strictly on environment, education, and social awareness. The workshop concluded with a paper-weaving module where the children hand-wove their own abstract paintings into textured geometric masterpieces.

### Our Story Continues Online

With so many milestones unfolding as we approach our **30th Anniversary**, two pages cannot hold all our updates. We invite you to experience the remaining chapters of this update online:

- **Chapter 2: The Power of Collaboration** (Our international visits from Hong Kong and Germany, and our operational upgrade with the *Irenisus* platform).
- **Chapter 3: Securing the Future** (The historic launch of the **Pag-asa Endowment Program**, alongside our leadership elections at the Association of Foundations General Assembly).

### How to Read the Full Stories:

- **Our Website:** Open your internet browser and type [pagasasocialcenter.org](http://pagasasocialcenter.org) into the top bar.
- **Our Facebook Page:** Search for [facebook.com/pagasasocialcenterfoundation](https://facebook.com/pagasasocialcenterfoundation) to view performance videos and photo galleries.

Your generosity bridges every distance across the globe. You have proven that hope is not bound by borders, nor is it dampened by global challenges. Wishing you and your loved ones safety, peace, and deep comfort.

With our constant prayers and deepest gratitude,

## Your Pag-asa Family

### Missing Our Emails?

If you aren't receiving our digital updates, please check your Spam or Junk folder. To ensure future letters reach your inbox safely, select our message and mark it as "Not Spam" or add us to your email contacts.

### About the Pag-asa Social Center Foundation Inc.

Founded to provide holistic development to marginalized families, Pag-asa is located along the ridge of Tagaytay City, Cavite (60 km south of Metro Manila). Though our region is thriving in tourism and agriculture, it is sharply divided by hidden pockets of poverty where families face high living costs and unstable incomes. As a localized anchor of support, Pag-asa delivers vital programs in education, youth formation, and basic welfare, empowering children and families to overcome systemic barriers and build a hopeful, resilient future.



*Shining Bright: Teatro Pag-asa youth delivering a powerful, grace-filled performance during their Tarlac concert.*



*Unity in Action: Participants transforming their race into a collective effort for a greener tomorrow.*



*Rachel Ann Amulong,  
1st Year College Beneficiary*

*"Pag-asa Social Center has shaped me in many ways, especially in teaching me how to be responsible and aware. The seminars they provided changed my perspective, helping me look beyond myself and care deeply about everyone I interact with, to be more sensitive and perceptive to others. This formation has not only brought me closer to God, but it has also given me a chance to know myself better. Most importantly, it allowed me to meet outstanding people who I aspire to become like one day. Pag-asa has truly been one of my greatest guides as I develop and hone who I am."*

*- Rachel Ann Amulong*

### Important Notes for Sponsors

#### Contacting Us or Your Sponsored Child

- **Mailing Address:** Pag-asa Social Center Foundation, Inc., Focolare Compound, Calamba Road, Iruhin Central, 4120 Tagaytay City, Philippines
- **Email Address:** [pagasasocialcenter@yahoo.com](mailto:pagasasocialcenter@yahoo.com)

#### Letter Writing Privacy

To protect everyone's privacy, please write your return address **only on the outer envelope**. Do not write your address anywhere inside the personal text of your letter.

#### Extra Donations & Special Gifts

While extra birthday or holiday donations are deeply appreciated, individual gifts can create

inequalities among the children. To ensure fair access to opportunities for the whole community, we will joyfully pool your extra donation to benefit all the children, but **only if you explicitly state this in your donation reference**.

#### Discontinuing Your Sponsorship

If you are no longer able to continue your financial commitment, please email your local Country Coordinator or the AFN-Grottaferrata headquarters **promptly before your renewal date**. Giving us early notice allows us to safely re-entrust your child to another sponsor without interrupting their care. We thank you deeply for your cooperation.