

# ERDA UPDATES

November 2024



Dear Friends, Supporters and Donors of ERDA

Greetings of Joy and God's Blessings!

This November, we experienced four (4) consecutive strong typhoons that caused landslides, flash floods, big & continuous flooding that affected more than 5 million people. More than 2 million families almost all over the three main islands were affected, with the northern part of Luzon Island and portions of Southern and Central Luzon, being the most severely affected. An estimated more than 8 billion pesos worth of properties, infrastructure and agricultural products were destroyed.

More than seven hundred (700) ERDA families were affected. ERDA's partner organizations and supporters donated cash and in-kind donations including rice, canned goods, food packs, milk, water, clothes, medicines and health kits. Most of these families live near the bay area, while some reside along the riverbanks. There were some families whose houses were destroyed, majority were affected by floods and landslides.

Not so good news again in the last week of November, we had a big community fire in our assisted communities in the City of Manila, Isla Puting Bato, Brgy.20. The fire affected 2,000 people, 1,000 families and 74 ERDA assisted families. Their houses were burned down. In response, we initially distributed some in-kind assistance to those affected.

Simultaneously with these disasters, the government is facing several political issues that are affecting the country and its citizens. These includes corruptions, disunity, impeachment, utilization of budget, confidential fund and life threatening pronouncements. These issues involve the legislative and executive bodies, including the office of the President, Vice President, Speaker of the House, and even the wife of the President. The Vice President threatened to hire killers to target the President, his wife & the Speaker of the House.

ERDA continues to facilitate the implementation of programs, services, activities, and assistance for the victims of disasters, including typhoon, flooding, and community fire.

In the Philippines, we celebrate Children's Month in November to commemorate the Philippine Senate's ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). This celebration also serves as an opportunity to advocate for, promote, and celebrate children's rights through various activities and events facilitated by government, non-government organization, religious groups, schools and other structures and sectors with programs and services for children and youth.





ERDA facilitated various activities in celebration of Children's Month. These included discussions and inputs in relation to child's rights, leadership, mental health, values, depression, social media, digitalization, online sexual abuse and exploitation and computer literacy, among others. In addition, activities were organized to showcase children's talents and skills such as dancing, singing, drawing, poem recital, writing, creating artworks, games & play and others.

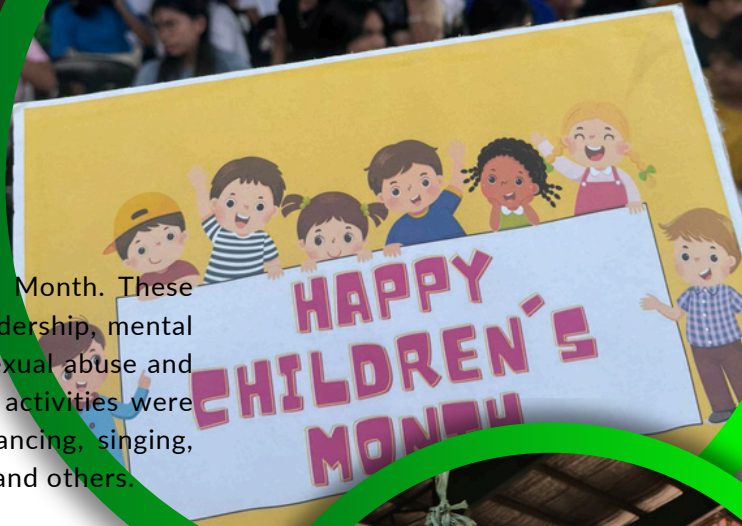
Partners, volunteers, networks, schools, and universities conducted developmental and participatory activities with children and youth in various communities. These included games, play, capacity building, and video viewing. Feeding program and distribution of health and food packs were also integrated into these activities. The children and youth enjoyed and appreciated the events, especially the games and play where they had the opportunity to showcase their talents and artistic skills.

The Junior Educators in some communities continue to conduct and facilitate tutorial sessions focused on reading and mathematics.

Graduating children and youth in elementary and secondary education participated in recollections organized by the social worker with an invited facilitator.

The organized association of parents, children and youth held and facilitated regular meetings and consultations. During these sessions, they discussed their plans and upcoming activities, and some members conducted monitoring and assessment of the activities and events that had been carried out.

Some parents participated in skills training on pedicure and manicure, as well as candle making.





The youth groups in the two communities conducted trainings on Reproductive Health and facilitated discussions on Disaster Risk Reduction Management.

The organized savings group of the parents, CoMSCA, is starting to have their share-out, consolidating their savings for the year. These funds will be used for Christmas activities, house repairs, the education of their children and for some, travel back to their provinces.

The social worker and staff facilitated the visit of some foreign students from Australia and Japan. During their visit, they conducted capacity building activities, engaged in dialogue with the children and youth, and organized games and play.

The DEAR ME organization facilitated feeding program to 500 beneficiaries at the same time facilitated inputs on Climate Change.

The social workers participated in various capacity-building activities, including the partner network evaluation and planning sessions which were initiated and facilitated by partners and the network.

The Annual Staff Performance Evaluation for School Year 2023-2024 and the Bi-Annual Evaluation School Year 2024-2025 have been conducted.

This has been a busy and stressful month at all levels--from the communities to politicians, the government, the people, both the corrupt and the honest, and most importantly for the ERDA staff, assisted families, parents, children and youth. All I can say is God Bless us all!

Thank you very much!

Sincerely yours,

Dolora H. Cardeño  
Executive Director





# CHILDREN'S MONTH CELEBRATION



# CHILDREN'S MONTH



# CELEBRATION





# CHILDREN'S MONTH

# CELEBRATION



# RECOLLECTION OF GRADE 6 & 12 STUDENTS



# RECOLLECTION

## GRADE 6 & 12 STUDENTS







**Developmental activities conducted by ERDA partners, volunteers, schools & universities**



**Developmental activities conducted by ERDA partners, volunteers, schools & universities**



# Visit of Australian and Japanese students

# Typhoon Aftermath

