

# 39<sup>TH</sup>

# EDSA

## People Power Revolution

Educational Research & Development  
Assistance (ERDA) Foundation, Inc.



# ERDA UPDATES

FEBRUARY  
2025

Dear Friends, Supporters and Donors of ERDA:

Greetings of Peace, Joy and Good Health!

We celebrated the historic 39th anniversary of the EDSA People Power Revolution. It was the world's first Bloodless Revolution. There is a need to continue honoring the bravery of the Filipino people and their strong faith in God.

At this time of February, the temperature in the country is cold, with some rain, thunderstorms, and flash floods in some provinces and towns in the country.

We are still facing the issue of high prices of basic commodities like rice, fish, vegetables, and meat among others. The poor are the ones suffering the most.

The legislative body, the lower house of Congress, has finally filed the impeachment case against the Vice President of the Philippines and submitted it to the Senate for the trial to begin. However, the Senate has been closed and will only discuss the impeachment when it reconvenes in July 2025. Seemingly, they do not want to take action. The senate has not yet decided on the trial dates. It is very political as the majority of the senators are on her side.

In the Philippines, celebrating Valentines Day is a "big deal". We are also preparing for our upcoming election on May 12, during which we will elect 12 senators, local government officials—including governors, mayors and congress representatives, and others.

ERDA's program social development workers are busy conducting and monitoring meetings, home visits, school visits, consultation, capacity building and recruitment. They are also interviewing possible additional beneficiaries for the School Year 2025-2026. The official opening of public school classes is on June 16, 2025.

To reiterate, the majority of classes and graduation ceremonies for this School Year 2024-2025 is April. We have a total of 2,085 graduates in various levels: elementary – 1,311, secondary – 723, alternative learners – 56, college – 49 and voctech – 2.

We facilitated the visit of Ms. Katrin Morales of Jesuit Mission Austria to two communities in Manila.

ERDA's various partner organizations, corporations, schools, universities, and non-government organizations are facilitating capacity building, trainings, medical mission, feeding program, medical research, catch-up, tutorials, games, play, creative activities, and designing clothes for fashion show. Eight ERDA beneficiaries from Tondo participated in fashion show initiated by ERDA partner DEAR ME.

Our social workers continue to strengthen the organization of sectors, parents, children and youth through capacity building, community sector project, activities, meetings, general assembly, events, organizing and participation. Some parent organizations have begun conducting their evaluations for SY 2024-2025 and planning for SY 2025-2026.

The good news is that the ERDA beneficiaries—both former and current children, youth and leaders are helping ERDA in facilitating, conducting trainings, capacity building to the assisted children, youth in the community. They facilitated training on Leadership, Organizing, Organizational Management, Human Sexuality and Reproductive Health. Children and youth leaders from Caloocan City, Quezon City and Baseco were initially mobilized by the social development workers.

The social protection program was facilitated through emergency assistance provided to some beneficiaries, like medical and burial assistance and facilitated access to government and partner organizations' social protection programs.

Discussions on the Strategic Plan for School Year 2025-2031 is on-going. The management and the consultant facilitated the discussion on strategic plan based on the recommendations by the Board of Trustees. The draft of the Strategic Plan will be presented to the staff and submit to the Board of Trustees.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) National Capital Region conducted a monitoring visit to ERDA. They checked and reviewed ERDA documents like policies on program, administrative, financial, human resource among others. The staff were also interviewed. ERDA is consistently working on securing and facilitating the requirements of the regulatory bodies, license, registration and accreditation in all areas—policies, reports, programs, financial, administrative, staffing, properties, donors and among others. Previously, ERDA was granted a 5-year accreditation from DSWD and the Philippine Council for NGO Certification (PCNC) and in effect the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) issued a Certification and now we are working on the License to Operate from DSWD. All these accreditations and certifications are renewable depending on the validity period provided by the regulatory bodies.

During the recent DSWD monitoring, ERDA successfully met all 34 integrated requirements, achieving full compliance in all areas monitored.

Two foreign volunteers from Germany facilitated tutorial sessions and gave inputs to the children and youth.

That's all for now. Thank you very much, and God Bless!

Sincerely yours,



Dolara H. Cardeño  
Executive Director

# Monitoring Visit

Ms. Katrin Morales - Jesuit Mission Austria



# Capacity building sessions and trainings for children and youth



# Capacity building sessions and trainings for children and youth



# Community

visit, meetings, evaluation & planning



# Community engagements by ERDA partner schools



Refreshingly blissful lattes

# German volunteers



# Recruitment of new ERDA beneficiaries

