

# INSPIRE

*The official e-newsletter of JCI Alabang*



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## Leadership in the Time of Corona

*By Iza Antonio*

No one expected year 2020 would be like this. As I swore my President's oath back in October during the Presidential Ball in Natcon, Naga, I had high hopes that 2020 would be a great year for the chapter. After all, they say that 2020 was an auspicious year for it resembles one's perfect vision, and a clear vision is indeed a key element in any leadership role.

A few weeks after, my term was marred by the sudden passing of our dear 2019 President Kiel Villamin. I had heard the news from PP Vicky when she called me on the phone that night. I couldn't move for 30 minutes realizing how fleeting one's life could be. I couldn't understand how God could take away someone too soon when he had his whole life ahead of him.

Fast forward to January and Taal Volcano erupted.



PHOTO FROM ABS CBN WEBSITE

**”as much as i would like to help out, i was afraid to go out.”**

With heavy hearts, we had to cancel 3 of the biggest projects we had for the year, The Induction, The Nerd Fest and The Angat Pinoy which was the most heart breaking part since we had worked on that project since October. During those dark and uncertain times, i realized that even leaders could also feel vulnerable and afraid. As much as i would like to help out, i was afraid to go out and let the members and the BOD go out as well. Luckily, our member Martin Aguilar, started the campaign to do DIY Face Shields and the rest was history. To date, JCI Alabang has given a total of 3,000 face shields for Muntinlupa Public Market, RITM, and Asian Hospital. We have also donated a sanitation tent, fog machine, and food for the frontliners of Alabang Medical Center.



This July, we are scheduled to do two donation drives for Haven for Children and SOS Childrens Village. We have also made use of technology and have given the members 4 A-Circles training sessions, 4 GMMs, 1 OTI, 2 Quiz Nights and 4 Online Medical Missions via Talktodok.com since the lockdown. Covid may have hindered us from leading the chapter the traditional way but when your heart wants to serve, you find other ways to help and be of service to those who need it most.

Phivolcs didnt even announce any volcanic activity. The chapter had to postpone some projects cause it wasnt safe to go outside due to the dangerous sulfuric ashfall in the air. We though we saw the worst of 2020 but aparently that was just a teaser.

February came and the news of Covid-19 had spread like wildfire. People got scared and the BOD didnt really know what to do.

# JCI Alabang 2020 Board of Directors

By Gian Nacino

Presenting the new set of leaders of JCI Alabang.

President - Iza Antonio

EVP - Gian Nacino

VP Nat Rel - Miguel Carandang

VP External - Ravi Amarnani

VP Internal - Vishal Murjani

Secretary - Debbie Wong

Treasurer - Joy Uytensu

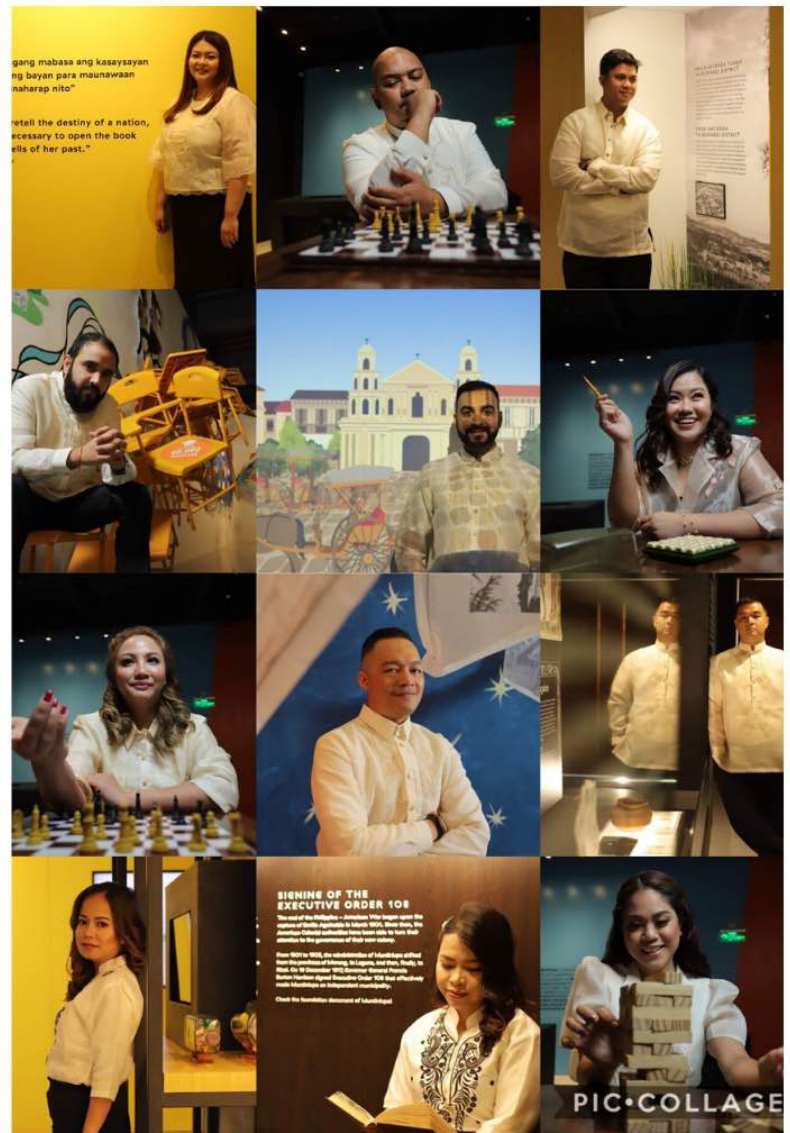
Dir for Individual - Martin Uytensu

Dir for Spec Proj - Raymond Braganza

Dir for Comm Dev - Charm Obaob

Dir for Recruitment - Kyra Ceralvo

LTD - Marga Dumlaog



This year's roster of leaders is a mixture of both seasoned and rookie BODs. There are 3 Veteran BODs who have served the chapter for 4 years (Iza, Gian, and Miguel), 2 second time BODs (Ravi and Vishal) and 7 first time leaders of the chapter. Having new leaders on board is a good sign that JCI Alabang is true to its mission of developing leaders and creating opportunities for development. 6 of the 7 newly minted BODs were only baby jaycees during Pres Kiel's term last year. We hope to continue on the streak in the many years to come and recruit more young active citizens who want to take on leadership roles for the chapter in the future. Ultimately, to "BE BETTER" is what we want all members to achieve when they graduate from JCI Alabang.

# Half a Year in Pictures

By Iza Antonio

Since October 2019, JCI Alabang has done roughly 50 projects ranging from Official JCI Trainings, A-Circles Business Forum, Oplan Kaagapay Donation Drives, Zoom webinars and Quiz nights, and several partnerships with other charitable institutions to name a few. Here are some of the successful projects we have accomplished since then.





# Nakaka Kielig sa Legacy: A Kiel Villamin Story

By KC Ang

“I want to make a difference for individuals and society.” President Kiel Villamin joined JCI Alabang as a Baby Jaycee last 2015. He became Director for Business in 2016. In 2018, he was the Vice President for Internals of the chapter, then in 2019, he became the 15th President of JCI Alabang. His dedication to JCI was always something to be admired about. Pres Kiel Villamin was a brilliant and selfless leader. His theme for 2019 was “Building Bridges,” a theme that resonated the cornerstone of his presidency, which was to create and increase partnerships with individuals, and charitable institutitons.



During his presidency, JCI Alabang was able to create partnerships with charitable institutions, such as AHA Learning Center, SOS Village, Elsie Gaches, Haven for Children, and Marillac Hills. Through his leadership, JCI Alabang has reached out to thousands of beneficiaries that have been neglected by society. By Building Bridges, children who had no educational support received books, orphans had JCI to call as family, the elderly had meals to eat, the sick had medicines to take, the victims of the war in Mindanao had a chance for their voices to be heard.



Outside JCI, Pres Kiel was always a fun-loving, cheerful and friendly person. “If I weren’t a real estate broker, I’d be a dancer for The Maneuvers,” he used to say. The Maneuvers will probably have to step aside as Pres Kiel could shred some tito ballroom dance moves on his own. Aside from his signature bicycle dance routine, Pres Kiel always had a knack for making people happy through his Halloween



PRES KIEL IN HIS MINION COSTUME

costumes. He used to dress up as a minion, a pokemon, and a banana and would go around villages giving out candies, making little kids happy. He was a loving son, uncle, brother, and a friend to many.

The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well." - Ralph Waldo Emerson. This was prevalent in Pres Kiel's life story. He had honor. He had compassion. He had love for others. Anyone who knew him could say his legacy was that he lived a life that is of service to others. And that was enough to create a lasting and remarkable difference.

## Baby Jaycee Corner: Meet Admore

Admore Alzate joined JCI Alabang early this year. A true born Ilocano from Abra, he works as the corporate partnerships head for SOS Children's Villages Philippines, located inside AAV.

When asked why he wanted to join JCI Alabang, he fervently said: "Surrounding myself with people with a great purpose in life is an effective strategy to continue growing and improving as a person. Through JCI Alabang, I can make friends with the right individuals while making a difference in the lives of many."

Admore might be a 'baby' in JCI, but he's not new to community development. Despite his experience with the development sector, he remains open to learning the JCI ways. He provides empowerment sessions and life coaching to youth, so if you need a person to talk about random facets of life, he's the guy to turn to.





# What would the King of the World Do Now?

By Miguel Carandang

Sometimes when a soldier walks into a new environment; say a room or a parking lot, all his faculties are alert. His eyes and ears are open, his fist shut and his posture is ready to pounce or run. The same alert mannerism is true for criminals and trauma victims.

In this trying time of the Covid19 pandemic, the same may be said for all of us. In a way we are all soldiers now traumatized by an unseen enemy polarising our whole civilization.

Indeed, it is a terrible thing to be afflicted by this enemy but to ignore it would be foolishness. Maybe the words of a philosopher of a past civilization can show us the way.

Marcus Aurelius, 121-180 A.D. was the Emperor of Rome. The Philosopher King, and at that time he was The King of the World. He also practiced Stoicism and wrote "The Meditations" a series of letters to himself about this very philosophy.

According to him and other Stoics, we can't change the world but we can change our mind about the world and thus our perceived and real position in it by overcoming any uncertainty with acceptance and tranquility.

"You have the power over your mind -not outside events. Realize this and you will find strength."  
-Marcus Aurelius

So the next time you walk in a new room or a parking lot during this pandemic; keep your eyes and your ears open, your fists shut and your posture ready to pounce or run.. and wear a mask. The knowledge that you have accepted that anything can happen but you are doing everything in to keep your loved ones and yourself safe gives you real power and tranquility over your fears. Because you are the King of Your World.



# Saving the World, One Bottle at a Time

By Iza Antonio

What would you do when a group of 15 year old teenagers come up to you and asks you to help them save the world? - You say YES immediately!

Aug 2019 marked the very first ecobrick project of JCI Alabang together with Kaligiran Student Org from Beacon International School. Their advocacy is to reduce anreuse plastic by making ecobricks - a plastic cola bottle filled with plastic scraps that can be used as brick replacement. Each brick weights 500 grams to pass quality control. Since plastic doesn't decompose in 100 years, its a cheaper and more environmentally friendly alternative to using hollow blocks and stone bricks.



The objective of the project is simple, create 500 bricks and turn it into a bench which will be placed inside Haven for Children. It would create a sense of fulfilment and ownership to the kids since they were a part of its creation.

The first project done last Aug 2019 started with an awareness campaign seminar about the harmful effects of plastic to the environment followed by a step by step instruction how to create the ecobricks. After 2 hours, the kids were able to make 30 pieces. The day ended with us giving the kids snacks to reward them for their hardwork.



The second run was held last November 2019. The kids were all excited to make them again and even had new strategies on how to fill them properly. (It wasn't really that easy to fill it to 500grams because you needed strength to do so). In the end, the kids improved their performance since they finished this time with 42 bricks.

The project may look simple but the value and awareness it creates to the kids is immeasurable since it teaches them to care more about the environment. The best legacy we can leave behind the future generation is a better, cleaner and safer Earth so what better way to help save the world than to teach the younger generation to start now.

## Spreading the Christmas Spirit: Haven for Children Christmas Party

By Marga Dumlao

Last December 14 2019, JCI Alabang hosted a Christmas party at our partner organization, Haven for Children.

There were almost a hundred young boys and staff members who eagerly participated in the event. The party started off with a number of fun games which the children greatly enjoyed, especially since there were interesting prizes to be won.



After the games, a handful of participants showed their enthusiasm by presenting a dance number for the hosts. Everyone enjoyed a great meal of the usual favorites: spaghetti and lumpia. To cap off the program, JCI Alabang distributed gifts for these boys of different ages, ensuring that each child received a gift specifically for their age.

As a sign of their gratitude, some of the boys stepped up and offered touching words of thanks. One boy in particular, expressed how thankful they were especially for people and volunteers like JCI Alabang and the sponsors who have been so helpful and have made them really appreciate kind and generous people who give them hope. Thanks to our sponsors Zen Insurance Agency of Philamlife, we were able to provide the children, a great Christmas lunch, amazing gifts and prizes, and heightened holiday spirits



## Everyone is Online, Including Doctors!

By Gian Nacino

As JCI Members, it is in our nature to want to help others. In today's world where the threat of infection from Covid-19 is high, people would rather stay home. Everything is transacted online to keep us safe. But what happens if we need to consult a doctor. Do we risk going to the hospital knowing very well that there are covid 19 patients there too?

It is because of this that talktodok.com was born. Spearheaded by our past president Vicky Martinez - Esquivias, she created a website where people can access a pool of volunteer doctors who willingly give free ONLINE medical consultations and prescription to those in need. The service is absolutely free to be able to help more Filipinos. To date, the chapter has sponsored 4 runs of the online medical consultation and has helped close to 250 patients since May.

TalktoDok 



### Free Online Consultations

We're here for you in these tough times. Talk to us at our chat box sa ibaba!

Specialist schedule:

- General Surgeon: 4-6pm, Monday to Wednesdays
- Internal Medicine and Oncology: 3-5pm on July 5
- Clinical Psychologists (stress, depression, neurodevelopment disorders such as autism): 2-5pm, Tues and Thurs starting July 7

Consultations for general concerns is on **Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:30-5pm**. Replies to all other health questions and messages **sa labas ng mga araw at oras sa itaas ay sa e-mail niyo po papasok**. Paki abangan na lang po ang e-mail galing sa TalktoDok.

### COVID-19 Self-Check Tool

Answer a few questions about your condition and exposure to find out what to do next.

 Chat <sup>1</sup>

# Sharing the Love: Cavite Pet Relief Goods Operation

By Marga Dumlao

The uncertain and impending explosion of Taal Volcano last January 12 left thousands of people homeless and scrambling to find a more suitable shelter. The heavy ashfall that showered nearly half of Luzon displaced numerous citizens, driving them out of their home due to the dire situation and separating them from their beloved pets.

Difficult as it may have been for the owners, hundreds of animals were left stranded in empty homes with no one to fend for them. Thankfully, a number of brave volunteers banded together to go rescue these pets in need of shelter, food and

medical assistance. Edsel Paaredez, a good samaritan from Batangas, offered his house to be the temporary home of the rescued animals while waiting for their owners to claim them.

last January 26, JCI Alabang, with the sponsorship of Toyota and other generous donors, stepped forward to offer a helping hand to offer relief goods and services to help alleviate the situation. Our JCI members drove to Bgy Kabulusan in Magallanes, Cavite to deliver the goods which included pet food, medical supplies, and other necessities.



Aside from delivering the goods, our JCI Alabang members also offered their assistance by helping the volunteers clean the cages, wash feeders, and provide food to the pets. This was a wonderful opportunity for our members to spread the love not just to other people, but also to those beloved pets that mattered a lot to people.



There were at least 300 dogs and 20 cats of different species all of which were saved from different areas within Batangas. It was both heartwarming and heartbreaking seeing all these lost animals waiting to be reunited with their owners, but seeing how they were well taken care of by various volunteers was a testimony of the strong bond that humans shared with them.

After the relief goods donation drive, our volunteers rewarded themselves with a hearty lunch, leaving the area with full stomachs and even fuller hearts.

## Announcements regarding the Areacon and National Convention

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, JCI Philippines has rescheduled the Metro Area Convention originally set on Sept 4-6, 2020 at Royce Hotel and Casino in Angeles Pampanga to it's new schedule on November 14-15, 2020. The arecon will be done online to ensure the utmost safety of all members and sponsors.

The National Convention that was scheduled on the first week of October 2020 in Tacloban will now be rescheduled to February. Announcement whether the event will be an online or a physical event is yet to be confirmed.

We hope that despite the changes, JCI Alabang members would still join this once a year event. Rest assured that the host chapters will do their best to make the event a memorable one.

# AAV Mart Team and JCI Alabang Connection

By 2019 RVP Aimee Flordeliza

AAV Mart is composed of JCI Alabang members, KC Ang, Trina Castillo, Janette Lim-Dy and myself. We are resellers of a carefully curated list of grocery and non-food items for the residents of Ayala Alabang Village and nearby communities. This list includes Nutriasia products, Locally Fruit Juices, Unimagna Chest Freezers, Evergood Sausages, Nathan's Famous Meal Kits, Le Sucre Lab, Guin's Homemade Empanadas, Jamaican Patties, Prime-Rose Kitchen Crunchy Garlic, Minami Gyoza, and many more items.



During the Quarantine in April, the opportunity to be a community partner of Nutriasia presented itself. Trina shared with us that she was invited to be a community seller of Nutriasia products. A conversation in Viber turned to a Zoom call where we discussed the mechanics of this service.

After the Zoom call, the team decided that we will start a Facebook page called AAV Mart.

Trina made the Facebook Page, took charge of coordinating with Nutriasia, and manned the text orders. KC made the AAV Mart Gmail account and product posters. Janette designed the Inventory and Financial tracking sheet. I made the Google Order Forms and Linktree account.

For the first week, we were just distributing Nutriasia products—Golden Fiesta cooking oil, Mang Tomas, UFC ketchup, and other sauces. We promoted the products extensively through social media. Seeing our posts, our friends approached us to include their products in our list while other friends also referred us to their friends with restaurants. For Mother's Day, we distributed Le Sucre Lab cakes to dozens of homes in and out of Ayala Alabang Village when people don't know what to give their moms! Our products

have reached Cainta! It has been a great experience to be part of AAV Mart. I enjoy working with these wonderful ladies and have learned how to apply the strategies that worked for AAV Mart to my other businesses. Through the JCI Alabang connection, I am enjoying this quarantine hustle.

**AAV MART**  
Your Village Grocer

Order Form:  
<https://linktr.ee/aavmart>  
FB Messenger: @aavmart  
Call, Text, or Viber:  
0917-841-7681

Do you want to include your product in AAV Mart? Send us a message in AAV Mart Facebook Page or [aavmartorder@gmail.com](mailto:aavmartorder@gmail.com). You can also see and order products in [linktr.ee/aavmart](https://linktr.ee/aavmart).

Aimee Flordeliza is the 2019 RVP for Metro South and the 2015 JCI Alabang LO President.

# Education Amid Covid 19 at SOS Childrens Villages Philippines

By Admore Alzate



Children are at risk of losing the quality education they deserve and they need urgent help as schools resume this August.

SOS Children's Villages Philippines is a nonprofit organization that provides a total, quality, family-like care to orphaned, abandoned and neglected children. Children at SOS get to enjoy a happy childhood in a normal family environment until they become self-reliant young adults and contributing citizens of the society. They operate in Bataan, Manila, Lipa, Cebu, Iloilo, Calbayog, Tacloban, and Davao for over 53 years now.

JCI Alabang has been collaborating with SOS Manila for the past years in providing quality care to children and youth who have lost parental care. During the Taal Volcano eruption, we had the opportunity to visit and help the families at SOS Lipa. We, at JCI Alabang, continue to work and ensure that no child grows up alone.

To help SOS Philippines, visit [www.sosphilippines.org/donation](http://www.sosphilippines.org/donation). For inquiries, you may contact them at (632) 8373-8767 or +63 917 515 5767 for Globe and +63 998 848 4777 for Smart. Or email SOS at [Care.Partner@sosphilippines.org](mailto:Care.Partner@sosphilippines.org).

Let's help provide a loving home for every child!