



EDUCATION < Surviving Distance Learning Amidst a Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has become a global health issue and has had a major impact on education. Students face challenges in adapting to the new learning methods, but despite the situation, they are able to continue through determination and support, preparing for the next grade level.

Grateful Students' Letters

The Pandemic affects us students, physically, mentally, and financially. As a college student, the Covid 19 outbreak had a greater negative impact on me every day. Being an online student is challenging to attend classes and submitting all the activities on time. Thanking PAGA for the monthly allowance, I am able to continue my studies this school year. I no longer worry about my daily load for my classes and some school supplies. I actually keep 500 for my load and 500 for supplies.



Jennyvie W. Duenog
1st year college
B.S. Hospitality Management

The year 2020 was a very challenging year for all of us because this year, Covid-19 changed our lives. As a student, it is a big challenge for us to pursue our studies because due to the pandemic, everything changed. I graduated from Senior High School but I didn't experience a graduation ceremony. It's so sad that I've waited for that moment but it turned out this way. I'm now in college and there is a big adjustment in the learning process. And the big challenge is the capability of the students to have the gadget to use in their studies with an internet connection.

I am so thankful that my guardians did not hesitate to provide us what we needed in pursuing our studies – having a gadget and access to the internet! Despite the hardship, I'm still able to cope with my studies. I am also thankful that we are healthy. Thank you PAGA and all the board members, who are very supportive of us, to achieve our dreams of finishing our studies. I promise to do all my best to be better.



Charl Arminiel Surla
1st Year College, BSA Information System
Sta. Rita College, Pampanga

My personal experience during online classes in the past quarters is quite challenging. I learned to be independent and manage my time properly. There is so much pressure about the deadlines, and sometimes my connection was unstable. Online learning taught me to realize how lucky I am, to have the opportunity to advance my knowledge.

I am grateful that I knew things that I didn't know before in terms of Technology. Now I have a few weeks to end the last chapter of being a grade 10 student and ready to move forward in 11th grade.

Thanks to AAP and PAGA Sponsors for all the support and kindness I am blessed to have you all.



Tza Gorospe
Grade 10

In many places around the world, the COVID-19 pandemic means perpetually living under the gun. When we walk outdoors, we can't let our guard down. Even grocery shopping can feel frightening, with danger, and greatly limits the scope of many lives. Moreover, many people fear for their jobs and futures.

I am very thankful to PAGA for being there especially in this time of the pandemic. PAGA didn't bring us down, they did everything just to make sure we are healthy, safe, and well. PAGA gives their whole heart, strength, and wisdom to help all the beneficiaries in this time of the pandemic. As a student and a beneficiary of this Association, I am blessed because I am here. They helped us a lot even before this pandemic, and now at the present time, they are still there giving and guiding us in our lives.



Judy Ann Santos
1st Year College, BS Information System
Technological University of the Philippines

In this time of the pandemic, there are many things that I did not expect to happen this school year with using technology.

I don't have a gadget and internet connection, but PAGA gave me a learning opportunity using different types of applications and being able to continue my studies.

In online learning, many students have difficulty because of the internet connection but the teachers do everything possible so that each student can follow the lessons and make sure that everyone understands each other.

The financial assistance provided by PAGA for their beneficiaries are very helpful because of the hardships of life; solving the payment for internet connection, and for our school projects required by our teachers.

I'm a graduating grade 12 student and, had a hard time in the past but it's fine because in three months' time, I will successfully finish the school year and look forward to college life.

Thank you for everything PAGA.



Jesha R. Banzon
Grade 12

Distance learning is new to all of us, especially for students and teachers. On the first day of class, I was not aware of how to use an online platform; Google classroom, Google meet, Google drive, zooms, including email. We are not oriented on how to use these online platforms before the class started. Teachers give considerations to students with difficulties in internet connection.

Also, online classes give the teachers and students advantages; we are just staying in the house, easy to search about something that we can't understand in class/activities, we can do house chores while listening to the teacher's discussion.

The allowance we are getting from PAGA is also having a big role in our life during the pandemic, with this, we can buy school supplies that we need, for load and sometimes our food. Thank you so much for the allowance. I am also thankful for our parents for not giving up and working hard for us.

Lastly, I am thankful to be part of PAGA, you are all helping us to make learning easier especially now that we have this pandemic. We are all blessed, I can't express or describe how thankful I am. God bless all the members of PAGA. Thank you so much! You are all appreciated.



Princess Lising
1st year student - BSTM -102
City College of Angeles

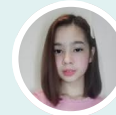
I would like to inform you that I am grateful that I am one of your beneficiaries. Right now I am studying my lessons via blended learning. Some of our subjects were downloaded from Facebook messenger and then the activities were answered and printed, to be submitted to our subject teacher by our parent/guardian.

We also had a scheduled video lesson once a week, to be watched on our local TV channels and can be heard over the local radio station of our school district, with follow-up activities that we need to accomplish within the week.

I am lucky that I can study in many ways. Half of my allotted allowance for the month was used for my internet connection to be able to comply with my needs for studies.

I am thankful that no matter how big or small you give, it doesn't matter. What matters most is the value of how I spend it for my studies. You made my online and modular class possible as a grade 10 student. I am looking forward to my virtual moving up.

Thank you very much - to God be the Highest Glory!



Syb DR. Cohen

ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE RESOURCES

The family of Cenia Gregorio received assistance from the Master Choa Kok Sui Caring Heart Foundation, Inc. for the cost of one (1) set Femur Nail with a power drill and complete instrumentation was provided for the knee surgery of her son who met a motor accident. Ms Donna Bigcas, Program Coordinator of MCKS directly purchased the turned over the amount to the family witnessed by SW Rory at the Phil Orthopedic Center (POC) on March 29, 2021. PAGA has been tapping resources for beneficiaries and their families with medical concerns.



<< SW Rory with Ms Donna Bigcas, MCKS Program Coordinator showing proof of purchase to patient

Please help PAGA - paga.ph/donations

THE PHILIPPINE AMERICAN GUARDIAN ASSOCIATION, INC.

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FEATURED PAGA PROFILE

Barangay Sagad Fire Volunteer

I am Jericho R. Ignacio, a fire volunteer at Brgy. Sagad fire and rescue. I have wanted to be a firefighter since I was in Grade school.

It started when I was in Elementary school every time I heard the fire siren, instead of being afraid like other kids, I was feeling excited and amazed. Whenever a fire truck passes by, I will definitely stop just to look at them. So, when PAGA had a medical mission years back, I got excited because I saw BFP personnel and observed what they were doing. After an incident where I happened to help a PWD who fell from his bike and hit his head, I assisted him until the ambulance and medics arrived, I told myself and realized how happy I am helping other people, I decided that I want to be one of the Fire Volunteers in our Barangay.

During my Senior High school, I met someone, a long-time Fire volunteer who inspired me to pursue my interest. So in the first week of July 2019, one of my friends asked me if I wanted to come with him because he was going to apply as a Fire Volunteer. My mother talked to the BDRRMO Chief of our Barangay, and he replied that we are qualified to be a Fire Volunteer. On the first day, we went to the Sagad Fire and Rescue base and they taught us what tools inside that we are going to use. They also taught us about the Fire Truck and the strategy for hose rolls. After that, I realized that one of my dreams already happened; to be one of the Fire Volunteers in our Barangay.

On July 13, 2019, I attended the BASIC FIRE FIGHTING TRAINING, later called a SAGAD PROBIE 10. Since then, we have always been involved in responding to fire situations. The first fire I went to was on November 2, 2019, in Brgy. Cembo, Makati City. Since then, we've responded to many fire incidents in cities of Metro-Manila; and with each response, I have gained a lot of knowledge on fire strategies and experiences. Right now, I am trying my best to become a regular member, be given a 'call sign' which when given, is an achievement as a fire volunteer. I will also try to learn how to be a first aider inside an ambulance.

I'm happy to be a Firefighter/Volunteer even though it's a risk on our life. Because we help people, we save lives and properties, and, we keep them safe. But when people thank us, all of our tiredness disappears, we're happy that they appreciate our efforts to save their lives and properties. Being a Fire Volunteer/Fire Fighter is a huge responsibility, you've to do it with all your heart.

Again, I am Jericho Ignacio a beneficiary of the Philippine American Guardian Association and also a Fire Volunteer.

Jericho Ignacio
1st yr. B.S. Criminology

Editor's note: Jericho, supported by his family, and being a PAGA beneficiary is doing well in his studies, honing his learning and skills in preparation for his future. He continues to be a living testimony of a responsible and contributing member of society. It is PAGA's vision to "dedicate and serve underprivileged Filipino Amerasian children by enabling them to live life and become independent, productive and responsible members of Filipino society". Jericho is one example.



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