

Various institutions including national government agencies, local government units, state universities and colleges (SUCs) and other volunteer agencies attended the ceremony at the Capitol ground to show their support in fostering the importance of volunteerism.

Pangasinan Governor Ramon V. Guico III said that through the act of volunteerism, hope sparks and solutions are created in building a progressive nation.

"With volunteerism, we create solutions. One person cannot do it [all things] alone. We need other people to contribute to nation building. We need the fresh ideas from people [in different fields of specialization]. Together we can create solutions despite of the pandemic and other challenges we are experiencing," Gov. Guico added.

While other agencies volunteered in the sectors of investment and health, the Pangasinan State University, headed by its President, Dr. Dexter Buted, showed a unified goal with the provincial government in the education sector.

"The way I understand the good Governor ay gusto niyang pasiglahin ang ating mga kabataan. Magkaroon ng collaboration ang unibersidad at ang kapitolyo. Ang unang proyekto na na-discuss namin ay ang mga out-of-school youth. Ang ating mga out of school youth ay kailangan nating tulungan hindi lang sa scholarship kundi sa financial assistance," Pres. Buted said.

PSUnians also participated in the TATAKBOluntir: Bayanihan Color Run which took place at the Baywalk area of the Lingayen Gulf while the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) students helped maintain the orderliness in the program.

The Matalunggaring Dance Troupe (MDT) from PSU Bayambang campus showed their support in the importance of volunteerism in nation-building by rendering a cultural dance performance.

The morning session of the kick-off program concluded as the Pangasinan provincial government and the PNVSCA entered a memorandum of understanding (MOU) signing for the establishment of the first Volunteerism Center in the province.

## **PSU-OUS shares blessings to PDLs**

It is again the season of giving joy and commemorating the birth of our Savior.







As such, the Pangasinan State University - Open University Systems (PSU-OUS) embarked on a Christmas Gift-Giving Extension Activity for the Persons Deprived of Liberty at the Pangasinan Provincial Jail on December 19, 2022.

Bringing in the festive vibe, the activity started with a Zumba led by the OUS staff which led everyone groove to the beat.

Jail Warden Lovell V. Dalisay welcomed the PSUnians as he recounted the start of the partnership with a seminar on mental wellness at the height of the pandemic.

PSU-OUS Executive Director Dr. Phillip G. Queroda then stated in his message that the four fold core functions of the University are instruction, which aims to



teach; research which aims to conduct studies on various matters; production where various innovation centers are put up; and the fourth is extension which aims to help the community in every way possible.

"This year PSU-OUS decided to give and share love and blessings to our PDLs who cannot be with their families this Christmas season but are always in the prayers of the community. Sana pagbalik namin dito ay wala na kayo dito meaning malaya na kayo," Dr. Queroda said.

The Executive Director mentioned that the gifts are from faculty, staff and students of OUS with many of them from overseas.

Aside from game prizes, raffle draw prizes consisting of electric kettles, rice cookers, electric fans, pillows, grocery items, sacks of rice and blankets were given to the inmates. All 270 PDLs were also handed out goodie bags and hygiene kits.



To show their gratitude and appreciation to PSU, the PDLs showcased their talent in dancing and the PDL mayor extended his deepest thanks to the university in his speech. The event concluded with a community sing-along.

Indeed, Pangasinan State University is one with the whole Province of Pangasinan in giving peace, hope, love, and joy to everyone.



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