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Region III  
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**DIVISION ADVISORY**

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By \_\_\_\_\_  
DepEd Angeles City  
Division of City Schools

**To:** Heads of Public Elementary and Secondary Schools

**From:** OIC-Schools Division Superintendent

**Subject:** Philippine Tuberculosis Society, Inc.

**Date:** July 28, 2017

This is to inform all concerned that the Philippine Tuberculosis Society, Inc. (PTSI) – a non-profit and private organization – has been at the forefront in the battle against tuberculosis. It was founded in 1910, when cases of TB were rampant in the Philippines. To this day, the Society complements the government's National Tuberculosis Program (NTP) in the detection, treatment, and control of tuberculosis in the country.

Anent to this, the PTSI is asking for donations, in cash or check, to achieve its plan to scale up its TB control efforts in the Philippines. Donations may be deposited payable to the Philippine Tuberculosis Society Inc.'s BPI Savings Account No. 3041-1307-91. You may also call its Fund Raising Department at telefax no. 781-3747 / 781-3761 (loc. 132) and ask for Mr. Almario Alfonso, or email them at [rsalfonso.frd@philtbsociety.org](mailto:rsalfonso.frd@philtbsociety.org) to facilitate your donation.

Attached is a letter from Dr. Nelia T. Gonzalez, Treasurer and General Campaign Chairperson, for reference and information.

  
**MARIA CELINA L. VEGA**

OIC – Assistant Schools Division Superintendent  
Officer-in-Charge  
Office of the Schools Division Superintendent



# PHILIPPINE TUBERCULOSIS SOCIETY, INC.

QUEZON INSTITUTE COMPOUND, E. RODRIGUEZ SR. AVENUE (ESPAÑA EXT.), QUEZON CITY

P.O. Box 281, Manila  
Tel. No. 781-37-61 to 65

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June 26, 2017

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Dear Dr. Cunanan,

Greetings!

For more than a century now, the Philippine Tuberculosis Society, Inc. (PTSI)--a non-profit and private organization--has been at the forefront in the battle against tuberculosis. It was founded in 1910, when cases of TB were rampant in the Philippines. To this day, the Society complements the government's National Tuberculosis Program (NTP) in the detection, treatment, and control of tuberculosis in the country.

PTSI operates the Quezon Institute (QI) as its hospital arm, its Research and Training Divisions for technical support, and its Field Operating Division (FOD) in managing its provincial chest clinics. With its provincial network, PTSI actively implements the Community Outreach Program and Education (COPE) Initiative. Through COPE, tuberculosis victims in rural areas who have limited access to government facilities are identified and treated. Information and education on TB is also disseminated in hard-to-reach areas in the provinces.

Regrettably, the Philippines ranks 9<sup>th</sup> among the 22 high TB burden countries in the world with TB as the 8<sup>th</sup> most common killer disease among Filipinos. With the World Health Organization's (WHO) declaration of eliminating TB worldwide by 2030, there is an urgency for PTSI's plan to scale up its TB control efforts in the Philippines. We need help from all those who can partner with us in ensuring the success of our TB programs to achieve this.

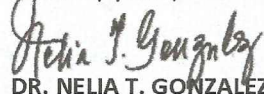
Being a charitable organization, we rely on our donors and our fundraisers who have allowed us to operate and pursue our mission for 106 years. It is for this reason that we approach you for your kind and generous support.

Should you wish to get involved and help the PTSI, you may deposit your donation, in cash or check, payable to the Philippine Tuberculosis Society, Inc.'s BPI Savings Account No. 3041-1307-91. You may also call our Fund Raising Department at telefax no. 781-3747 / 781-3761 (loc. 132) and look for Mr. Almarion Alfonso, or email us at [rsalfonso.frd@philtbsociety.org](mailto:rsalfonso.frd@philtbsociety.org) to facilitate your donation.

We enjoin you to let others know that the fight against TB is not over, but our willingness to support this most worthy cause is a significant step towards a better and healthier future free of TB.

Thank you and God bless!

Sincerely yours,

  
DR. NELIA T. GONZALEZ

Treasurer and General Campaign Chairperson

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## Paying it forward: One woman's fight against TB



*"Ate Lei", 46, was diagnosed with tuberculosis in 2013 while working as a barangay volunteer worker at Manda-luyong. Ate Lei shares her experience with TB and its complications, the help she received from PTSI and her courageous 3 year long fight back to health.*

Ate Lei has long been suffering from asthma so at a time when she thought she was having an asthma attack, she decided to have herself checked. Three months after that check up, she started to cough up blood. Ate Lei went to the nearest TB-DOTS where it was confirmed she had TB.

"I started taking the TB medication given to me but I kept vomiting. I couldn't hold it in, I would always puke after drinking the medicine", she recalls. She got a second opinion from another doctor who changed her prescription and also added anti-nausea drugs to her daily dose, hoping to minimize the side effects of the TB medication but it didn't." She went to visit a doctor in the Lung Center and had tests done. It was there she found out her liver was enlarged and she was allergic to the first line of anti-TB drugs.

Ate Lei was then referred to PTSI and it is where she finally finished her TB treatment. "The doctor in PTSI explained to me that although my TB isn't drug resistant, it will take a longer period of time to treat it due to my allergic reaction to the other medicines. My treatment lasted for almost 3 years. I was cleared of TB just last August 2016."

"My family was a big part of my treatment since they took care of me. KASAKA became family too. They are a big part of my TB experience because they treat you more than just a patient, they go out of their way to give you hope when you want to give up. PTSI also tries to make the daily trips easier. They help in other expenses."

Ate Lei is now TB-free and enjoying life with her family. She is currently a PTSI-KASAKA volunteer to the other TB patients. She shares her story especially to the patients who are experiencing bad side effects in the hopes that other patients will be comforted in the fact that they are not alone. The battle against TB is far from over but stories like Ate Lei's is proof that there is life after TB, maybe even better.

*Note: Quotations from the interview have been edited and translated for length and/or clarity.*