



CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR)
**A Better Life
for Our Community**

The Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) embarked on various corporate social responsibility undertakings in 2011 that reflected the agency's vibrant spirit of giving back to society that benefited various communities around the country.

While BCDA's CSR programs were inevitably focused on communities where it has ongoing projects, the involvement of its employees in reaching out to those in need gave more meaning and a deeper dimension to the agency's efforts to make a difference in the lives of others.



The advent of devastating typhoons during the year also prompted BCDA to prioritize giving assistance to those who were affected by the calamities which number by the thousands, particularly to residents of Central Luzon where BCDA's Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEX) project is located.

BCDA swiftly extended a helping hand to several families in two municipalities in Bataan that were severely affected by typhoon *Kabayan* in early August. The agency donated a total of 100 sacks of rice that were coursed through the local government units of Dinalupihan and Hermosa towns, and which were subsequently distributed to the typhoon victims.

In October of the same year, BCDA again responded to cries for help from residents of La Paz town in Tarlac who suffered greatly when typhoons *Pedring* and *Quiel* struck one after the other. BCDA officials donated 50 sacks of rice that were also coursed through the LGU.

A bigger and much more disastrous calamity struck in December of 2011 when tropical storm *Sendong* inundated large areas of the cities of Cagayan de Oro and Iligan in Mindanao that displaced hundreds of thousands of families.

As pleas for help came from the victims and even from the United Nations which recognized the scope of the devastation, the BCDA joined the entire nation in helping the victims with a Php200,000 donation that it coursed through the Department of Social Welfare and Development which was at the forefront of the *Sendong* relief efforts.

More importantly, rank and file employees of BCDA, moved by the utter devastation, passed the hat and contributed more than Php34,000 in cash from their own pockets aside from various food and clothing items that became the employees' personal and generous contribution to aid the typhoon victims.

In December of 2011, BCDA gave Php30,000 as a Christmas gift for some 50 street children under the care of the Reach Youth Ministries, Inc., a private entity that extends help to residents of poor communities as part of its ministry.

BCDA also continued its institutionalized CSR program in 2011 through its enduring partnership with the municipality of Floridablanca in Pampanga, one of the many towns hosting the 93.7 kilometer SCTEX.

The municipality of Floridablanca, with the support of BCDA, established the BCDA-Floridablanca Skills Training Center (FSTC) that is located in a resettlement area for those who were displaced by the SCTEX project. The project had a seed fund of Php1 million from the state-run agency and was formally launched in July 2010.

The FSTC is an offshoot of BCDA's continuing involvement with project-affected persons, which were initially extended short-term livelihood support and medical services until the local government unit proposed the establishment of the skills training center. Since its establishment, the BCDA-FSTC has conducted various livelihood and skills training programs that benefitted hundreds of residents of the Floridablanca resettlement area. The courses included Computer Hardware Servicing; Computer Literacy; a Barista Course; and Massage Therapy, among others.

In 2011, the BCDA-FSTC continued offering other courses including cosmetology, hairdressing, manufacturing of soap and fabric conditioner, automotive repair, and even a Korean language proficiency module. By the end of 2011, the skills training center has graduated a total of 449 people, mostly out-of-school youths, with a significant number of housewives and unskilled parents also taking advantage of the opportunity to learn new livelihood and vocational skills.