



# PhilHealth-Region I turns over proceeds from weeklong bazaar

By: Joseph A. Manuel

It was a very early Christmas treat when 16 women being cared for by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Haven for Women in Dagupan City received their wish on April 8, 2022 from PhilHealth Regional Office I (PRO I). PRO I raised funds for them by sponsoring the “GAD Tindaan nen Juana tan Juan For a Cause” which aimed to create awareness on gender issues such as gender-based discrimination and violence. The excitement of the 16 beneficiaries cannot be contained as each one excitedly opened their individually wrapped gifts, which included some items in their wishlist such as shirts, slippers, and underwear.



Hiyasmin Joy O. Nieva-Rabelas, Center Head of Haven for Women, expressed her warm appreciation using PhilHealth’s acronym PHIC: “Pasasalamat sa Handog na Ibinigay sa Client”. She further described the state insurer as “P-artnership, H-abitual Activity, Individual Effort (Initiatives), C-ommunity/Company using the same acronym. Recognizing PRO I as an active partner in this endeavor touched the hearts of PRO I representatives present in the event.





Rabelas emphasized that their institution is already Level III-accredited and a Center of Excellence. She was thankful to all private and public institutions like PhilHealth that continuously extend their support and concern to their beneficiaries.

The Haven for Women provides safe accommodation and intervention for women victims of gender-based violence in Bonuan Binloc, Dagupan City. This substitute home for abused women also provides skills training, modules and values inculcation.

PRO I GAD Committee Co-Chairperson Cynthia S. Santos emphasized that the Haven will always be open as a safe place for abused women and children. She underscored that the color purple, which some of the participants were wearing during the event, symbolizes women empowerment, gender sensitivity and progress in gender equality. *"By celebrating the National Women's Month, each of us is reminded to always help one another. One such example is PRO I's recently held bazaar in March 21 to 25, 2022, which also helped develop the*



*entrepreneurial skills of PRO I's employees and encourage them to support socially beneficial activities,* Santos said.

The gratefulness of the beneficiaries of the activity was felt through their warm and sincere smiles and loud cheers. The warm and happy reception gives the PRO I employees added strength and encouragement to perform their mandate and reach out to the underserved and marginalized communities as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility. ###