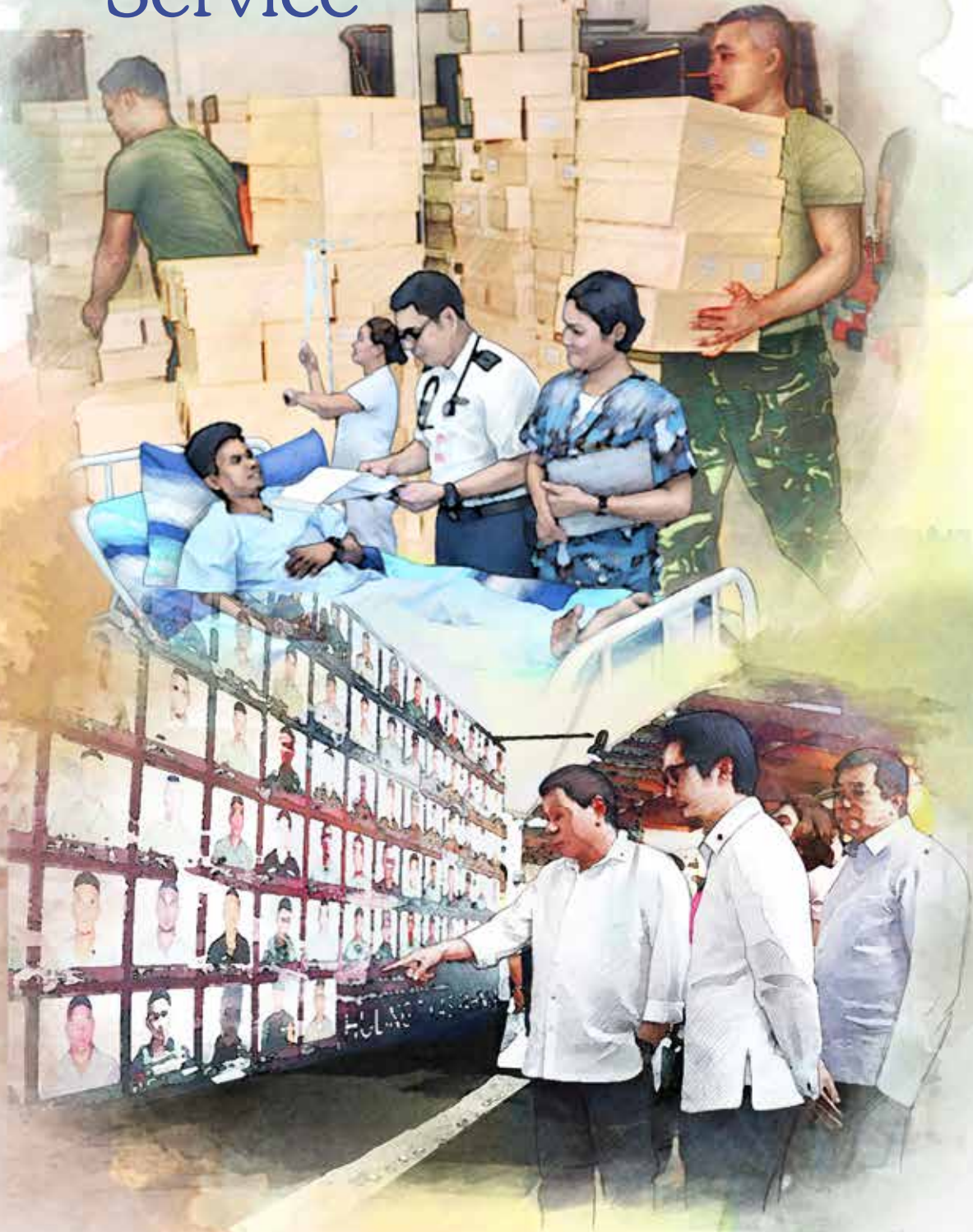


A Story of Service



Serving the Military and the Communities

BCDA President and Chief Executive Officer Vivencio Dizon says that the organization has always recognized the AFP as its primary stakeholder throughout its years of service. The difference now is that they are exerting as much effort in telling our country's soldiers what the BCDA does for them, and letting them feel it.



This AFP Forum at the Civil Military Operations School was one of 15 conducted in 2017.

“In the past, our relationship wasn’t so good because communication was a problem,” Dizon admits. The BCDA was even seen as an adversary or worse, land grabber.

He recalls it’s one of the first things he said on the job when faced with an audience of BCDA stakeholders. You feel badly—I get that, he remembers telling them. “Kailangan natin baguhin ‘yon (We need to change that).”

Establishing a Stakeholder Engagement Program for the military

As of end-2017, BCDA conducted 15 regular forums for the Armed Forces to boost awareness of programs and activities mainly benefiting the uniformed services—which, Dizon notes, is one of the major functions of BCDA as a government entity.

“You need to have a closer engagement with your number one partner and

stakeholder. You have to change their mindset,” he explains.

The BCDA is primarily tasked to convert former U.S. military bases into productive uses. In 2017, the agency remitted a record Php6 billion to the Bureau of Treasury (BTr).

BCDA remitted Php8.2 billion to the BTr as the share of the AFP, its major stakeholder, during the first two years of the Duterte administration. The amount represents 20% of the total Php40 billion received by the men and women in uniform from BCDA since the state-run agency was created in 1992.

“What we’re doing now is just upping the ante in terms of giving the Armed Forces the importance it really deserves,” says Dizon.

At the lobby of the BCDA Executive Offices, the mission, “We help strengthen our Armed Forces, while we build great

cities,” is prominently displayed like a daily mantra on their AFP Tribute Wall.

“It’s all about communicating that to the Armed Forces. And when you communicate that, you have to show it to them in action,” he adds. “They can’t just be words on the wall. You have to show them.”

He points to their ongoing partnership with St. Luke’s Medical Center—in which the BCDA shoulders the treatment of Marawi battle casualties in one of the country’s best hospitals—as something that has never been done before. The initiative exemplifies their message that the military is front and center, as the BCDA promises.

Emphasizing service to stakeholders—especially to recent casualties of the Marawi siege who received immediate medical assistance through the BCDA—has helped to uplift the agency’s image.

“We are an organization that has soul,” adds retired Brig. Gen. Carlos Quita, BCDA vice president for corporate services. He considers the BCDA’s contributions to go beyond money or modernization. Income generation is balanced with service delivery. “We help dignify the soldiers. In a way, we pay tribute to them for their heroic deeds,” he explains.

More than contributing to the modernization of the Armed Forces, 2017 also showed BCDA’s genuine care for the military troops who were deployed in Mindanao due to the Marawi siege by donating 2,000 hygiene kits to the Philippine Army Civil Military Operations Regiment (CMOR) in support of their project dubbed “Project Shoebox.” Personal care supplies with individual hand-written notes of encouragement were prepared by BCDA employees and officers in support of our brave men and women in uniform during the time of war.

Caring for women in the labor force

The organization doesn’t just cater to the military but also looks after the welfare of its officers and employees. There is equal attention devoted to developing technical capacity through workshops and training activities, as well as Gender and Development (GAD) initiatives—including orientations on sexual harassment and customizing office designs to accommodate the needs of mothers.

Quita proudly highlights that in 2017, BCDA was more proactive in its GAD-related initiatives, such as the *Serbisyo Para Kay Juana*: A 30-minute free massage session for BCDA employees. Organized by the BCDA GAD Focal Point System (GFPS) Committee in accordance to the program of Philippine Commission on Women (PCW), persons with disabilities (PWDs) or visually impaired masseuses were invited to BCDA’s corporate office to give its employees free massage service.

Further, BCDA actively participated in PCW’s National Women’s Month Celebration (NWMC)—an annual event held every March. For 2017, BCDA conducted a medical mission for the senior citizens of Barangay O’Donell in Tarlac City. The said activity also served as an information campaign to help promote the PCW’s program on women empowerment as well as the celebration of Women’s Month.

BCDA also held activities as part of its participation in PCW’s “VAW-Free Community Starts with Me” program—an 18-day Campaign to End Violence Against Women (VAW). A series of anti-sexual harassment talks for BCDA directors, officers, and rank-and-file employees was also held in August and December 2017. In coordination with the Taguig City Local Government and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), BCDA held an outreach project for the Taguig City street children who are the most vulnerable sector in the VAW campaign.

BCDA, in collaboration with the Fort Bonifacio Development Corporation (FBDC), has also opened the Bonifacio Technology Center Lactation Station in support of breastfeeding mothers in the workplace.

Fostering relationships

In 2017, Jollibee Foods Corporation, through its 1,000th store located in Bonifacio Global City—a former military camp—has donated gift certificates for the stakeholders of BCDA in support of BCDA’s corporate social responsibility (CSR) programs.

The military and the project-affected people (PAP) within the vicinity of New Clark City were the beneficiaries of CSR initiatives. A food sharing activity was held on December 15, 2017, for at least 100 soldiers wounded in Marawi who were confined in the AFP Medical Center, also known as the V. Luna General Hospital, in Quezon City. BCDA also shared Jollibee treats with the Aeta community residing in Sitio Tangkilan in Brgy. Aranguen, Capas, Tarlac, and those in Brgy. Madapdap in Malabacat, Pampanga on December 19, 2017.

Aileen Anunciacion Zosa, BCDA executive vice president, asserts that for BCDA, purpose is as important as profit. She likens their new direction to storytelling. “The roads, utilities, New Clark City, all these that we are building—why are we doing all these?” she explains. “We’re not just doing infrastructure because we like it. We have a new city because it will make the lives of Filipinos better, and give them a higher quality of life.”

“At the end of the day, it’s for people,” Zosa emphasizes. “That’s our story.”



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1. BCDA officers and employees volunteer to pack 2,000 shoeboxes filled with hygiene kits for the military troops in Marawi City through the Project Shoebox.
2. Wounded soldiers are given Jollibee treats during one of the outreach programs of BCDA for the AFP.
3. BCDA reaches out to its Project Affected People (PAP) through a community program in Capas, Tarlac.
4. BCDA holds an AFP Forum with the Philippine Air Force in Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga.
5. BCDA, in partnership with FBDC, officially opened Bonifacio Technology Center's Lactation Station catering to breastfeeding working moms in the building.