

<b>VISION</b> The Visayas, which form the center of the Philippine Archipelago is composed of different and unique regions, islands and provinces. We envision bridging these regions and uniting its people in order to establish a single Visayan community having a common aspiration for just, fair society with love for their own culture, environment and country.		<b>MISSION</b> To provide the Visayas people here and abroad with accurate, credible, relevant, balanced and up-to-date news and information. To cater to the specific needs of the Visayas readers inspired by our desire to offer genuine public service that comes from the heart.
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Today is Monday October 11, 2010

 

## Persons with disabilities mull livelihood projects

SAN Jose, Antique – The Association of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in the towns of Laua-an and Barbaza proposed livelihood projects in their respective municipalities.

Corazon Dalumpines, president of the Association of Persons with Disabilities in Laua-an, Antique (APILA), said their project will not only allow them to earn a living but also provide them an opportunity to become partners in development.

Their proposed projects are bamboo-craft for Laua-an and canteen or food service for Barbaza.

These projects are supported by Handicap International (HI), a non-government organization facilitating the implementation of community-based rehabilitation program.

Jasper Rom, project manager of HI, said persons with disabilities should not remain as beneficiaries but should also become service providers or play an active role in development undertakings.

Their concerns should be mainstreamed in development plans so that they can be agents of progress, he stressed.

Gov. Exequiel Javier and representatives of national government agencies committed to support the project.

Jose Divinagracia and Marilyn Aguilar, provincial directors of the Department of Trade and Industry and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, respectively, pledged to support the technical aspect of the project.

Lazaro Petinglay, provincial social welfare and development officer, also reported that the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Antique has already approved an ordinance creating the Persons with Disabilities Affairs Office. (PIA/PN)



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Published by:  
FILES Publications  
TIN 253-451-760-000  
BIR OCN 9RC0000212126  
DTI Cert. # 00512596

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FOUNDATION, INC.  
TIN 006-230-436-000  
BIR OCN 2005-074-006069  
SEC Registration # CN-200259802