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# PNAC3 WATCH

The Official Publication: Philippine Nurses Association  
California Capital City Chapter



## A Message From the Editor

Happy New Year, readers!

As we step into a new year, on behalf of PNAC3, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to each of you for continuing to read PNAC3 Watch. This edition is extra special because it showcases the Third Annual PNAC3 Gala. From candid moments to highlights that captured the spirit of the night, we cannot wait to relive the experience with you. To our sponsors who supported us throughout the years and especially this event, we want to express our sincerest gratitude. Your help and support go beyond a page in our newsletter. Without your support we would not be able to support our members through education, provide for the children in the Philippines, and continue our local and international projects.

We hope this edition inspires you, adds value, and gives you a fresh sense of momentum for the year ahead. You can also join PNAC3 and experience the exciting adventures our chapter brings to the community. At the end of our newsletter, you will find instructions on becoming part of PNAC3!

- Kristina Rodriguez, PNAC3 Watch Editor & Recording Secretary

# A Culmination of Our Year-Long Relationship- Building with the Community - The Annual Gala

The PNAC3 Annual Gala successfully brings a strong centripetal force that binds us together in a very lovely evening full of energy, excitement and joyful smiles. It is one of the best months after all with the prelude of Thanksgiving and the wrap-up of the Christmas holiday spirit. It is the best time for families, friends and colleagues to gather up and celebrate - rekindle the spirits of gratitude and giving. This is how Filipino culture rolls to say the least.

The Gala challenges us all to prioritize. We all know that it is not until November or December of 202X, but booking starts not later than 9 months ahead of time because popular places go fast! Gala organizers are already planning next year's venue as it rotates among cities of Roseville, Sacramento and Elk Grove. Congratulations for the very well-executed event at District 56 (in Elk Grove). Next one up shall be in Sacramento. PNAC3 officers and members have to exert an effort to secure the next venue. As Sir William Shakespeare says "Better three hours too soon than a minute too late". I call it magic when things turn out well with proper pacing and prioritization.



# A Culmination of Our Year-Long Relationship- Building with the Community - The Annual Gala

The Gala is a business-grade trust-building experience. PNAC3 alongside business associates and sponsors, family members, colleagues and friends promise a welcoming atmosphere, friendly and accommodating gestures with genuine smiles, delectable shared meal experience, generous donation opportunity, vibrant visuals and dancing experience along with memorable photos and videos. Everybody supports non-profit causes for education upliftment, recruitment of the next generation of leaders, and provision of healthcare to the underprivileged. Friends pitch in because of mutual trust. The relationship goes deeper over time.

Last, but equally important is that PNAC3 holds this Annual Gala as a reminder of our very own humanity - that we like to see each other in person, dressed in our best outfit and strongest health, to celebrate! Everyone deserves a pat on their back for jobs well done during the prior months - small and big accomplishments here and there, too many to include on this reflection. Just one success can deserve a celebration! A lot of victories deserve a grand treat.

To be happy is to be content with simple pleasures like a roof over our heads, a tummy-filling warm meal, loving company like spouse, children, parents and friends; the gift of life itself to be in the moment! The Gala brings us together like a one-big-family even for just one night. We remain as a family after the music ends, the crowd withers away, and doors close. The spirit remains.

PNAC3 members have great values to share and wish to pass them on! Money follows. We enjoin anybody willing to hold up the beacon of “excellence in nursing care”. See our works in action - please join us in our community activities and see you in our next Gala!

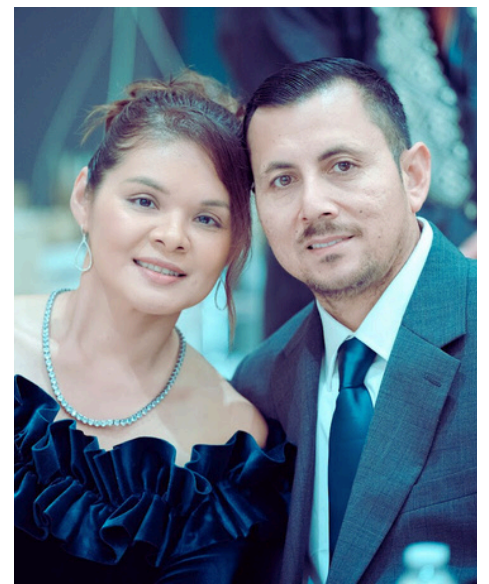
- Jojo Melendres, PNAC3 President



# PNAC3 Third Annual Fundraising Gala

On November 16, we held our PNAC3 Third Annual Fundraising Gala. It was a sold-out event! Here's a glimpse of the amazing event captured by our official photographer, Tronel's Photography. Make sure to visit their page: <https://tronelsphotography.com/>





# Philippine Nurses Association's Cultural Annual Gala: A Celebration of Heritage, Service, and Community Impact

The Philippine Nurses Association California Capital City's (PNAC3) annual gala delivered an evening of cultural richness and collective purpose, showcasing the organization's commitment to service, education, and community engagement.

The night opened with a welcome message from Jojo, Melendres, the PNAC3 President, who set a heartfelt tone with the reminder that a community rooted in service will always rise together. His words anchored the program in unity and gratitude, reflecting and reaffirmed the values that continue to guide the association's mission.

An equally inspiring message followed from Dr. Marlon Garzo Saria, the Philippines Nurses Association of America, Inc. (PNAA) President, who emphasized the enduring influence of purposeful giving. He highlighted the long-term impact of philanthropy and volunteerism within the Filipino nursing community. His message resonated deeply with attendees, reinforcing the organization's mission of advocacy and empowerment. The presence of the PNAA Western Region Vice President, Maricon Esteban and PNAA Executive Director Dr. Dino Doliente, further elevated the evening's sense of unity and national representation.

A heartfelt highlight of the night was the presentation of collected toys for the Dia De Reyes Toy Drive, a collaborative effort with Sacramento National Association of Hispanic Nurses. These gifts will be distributed to underserved children at Las Palmas Elementary on January 6, 2026, honoring the long-standing Catholic tradition commemorating the three wise men who brought gifts to Baby Jesus.

The program also shined a spotlight on this year's scholarship awardees, whose educational pursuits are made possible through the generosity of Sierra Donor Services. Honorees Mark Buan-Lagazo and Ma Milani "Jet" Zabala, represent the next generation of nursing leaders, individuals whose growth and professional development are made possible through community partnerships and sustained donor support.

One of the evening's most anticipated highlights was the inaugural cultural fashion showcase, a lively tribute to the Filipino passion for pageantry and design. Attendees graced the runway in elegant Filipino formalwear, from embroidered barongs to intricately crafted gowns made of piña and jusi. Native patterns, vibrant textiles, and traditional embellishments transformed the venue into a celebration of Filipino artistry. The program featured the selection of Best Dressed Male and Female, honoring those who exemplified grace, cultural pride, and impeccable presentation.

# Philippine Nurses Association's Cultural Annual Gala: A Celebration of Heritage, Service, and Community Impact

The Philippine Medical Mission 2025 was highlighted led by Maria Erespe and Jane Pena, both PNAC3 Executive Board Members. Reflecting on the mission, organizers shared how the gratitude expressed by the individuals served mirrored the profound impact of the program. Plans for 2026 include expanding the mission to offer dental procedures in addition to the existing medical services.

Throughout the venue, styled with native Filipino decor and handcrafted elements; the celebration underscored the meaningful purpose behind the event. Financial sponsors were acknowledged for their vital contributions that enable the association's ongoing initiatives, including the annual Philippine Medical Mission that provides approximately 800 medical checkups for children and adults, along with circumcision services for underserved populations. Sponsorship also supports educational scholarships for professional development and continuing education, along with expanded participation in local community programs aimed at increasing impact and outreach.

More than a gala, the event served as a testament to the strength of community, the richness of Filipino heritage, and the profound difference made when service and culture come together. The PNAC3's annual celebration not only honored tradition but also reaffirmed its mission to uplift lives - both locally and across borders.

- Amie Ragasa-Sta. Maria, PNAC3 Board of Director



# Filipino nurses: The Heartbeat of Global healthcare

Below are the PNAC3 executive board members and members who showcase their excellent skills and engaging presence. During the day they work as nurses, but this night they were the Masters of Ceremonies and had the energy, professionalism, and liveliness to connect with the audience for a truly memorable program.



Hosts: Maria Erespe MSHA, BSN, RN, CMSRN, Mark Buan-Lagazo, BSBA, MSN-Ed, RN, PHN, and Jet Zabala

# Filipino nurses: The Heartbeat of Global healthcare

Below are the PNAC3's executive board member and members who poured their dedication, hard work, and exceptional coordination in planning such an amazing event. Their tireless efforts behind the scenes, teamwork and attention to detail turned the event into a meaningful and memorable experience for everyone.



Gala event organizers: Zyrene Marsh, DNP, APRN, FNP-C, Amie B. Ragasa-Sta. Maria, MS, BSN, RN, PHN, NPD-BC, CIC, and Mary Lexie Jane P. Ignas, BSN, RN, AMB-BC (Left to right)

# Philippine Nurses Association California Capital City holds its second annual fundraising gala cont.



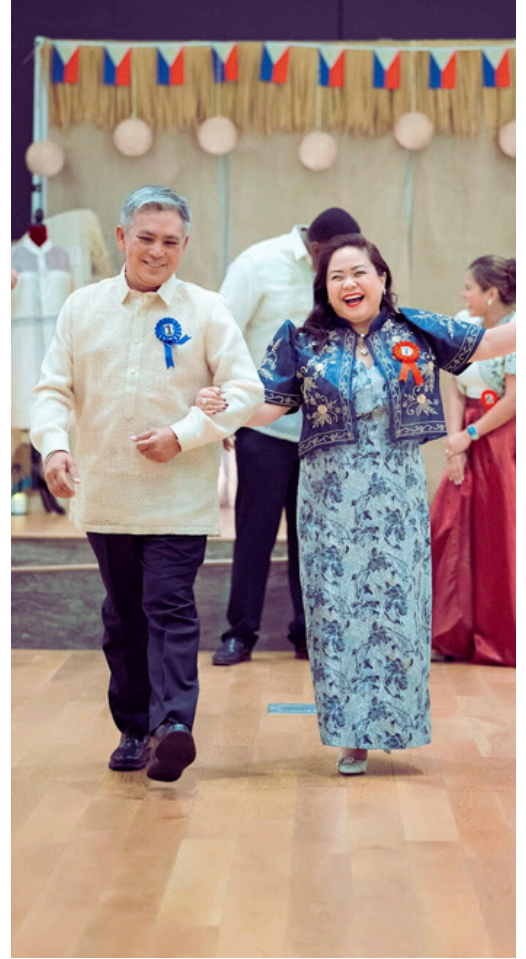
Sacramento Chapter of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses (SAC NAHN) president, Monica Aguilar, receives the Toy Drive donation from the PNAC3 Executive Board during the Gala Night. Members of the SAC NAHN were beyond grateful to collaborate with PNAC3. This partnership uplifts the community and advances the common good.

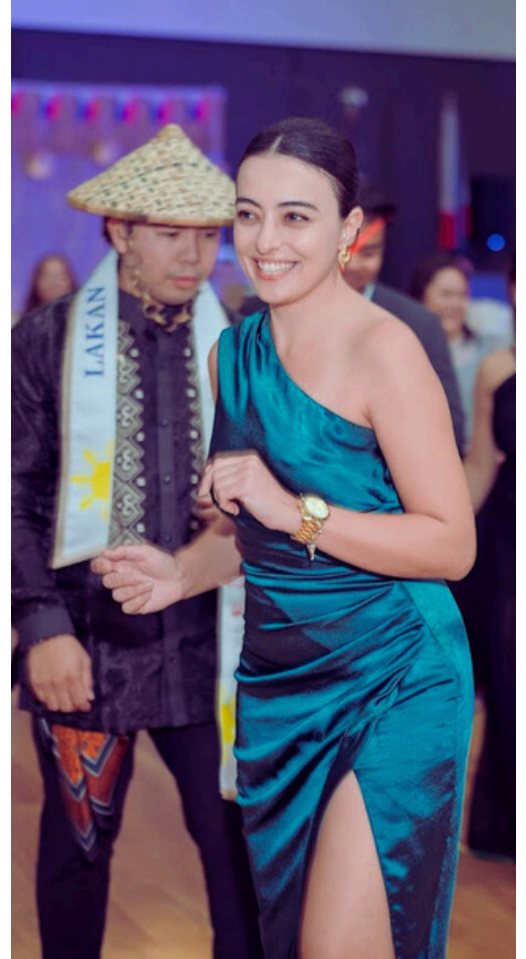
You can read more about our collaboration here: <https://www.sacnahn.org/post/honoring-generosity-and-partnership-philippine-nurses-association-of-california-capital-city-pnac3>



Scholarship awardees: Mark Buan-Lagazo and Ma Milani (Jet) Zabala

Sierra Donor Services provided scholarship money to Mark and Jet for their awards, reviewed by the Education & Scholarship Committee. They received the scholarships for pursuing an undergraduate or graduate nursing degree and the continuing education scholarship.





# Star Sponsors

Thank our amazing sponsors, without their support this event would not be possible!

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# Community Health Resource Fair

On October 4, 2025, California State Senator Angelique Ashby (District 8) hosted the Community Health Resource Fair at Southpointe Christian Center, led by Manager Andrew Powers. The Philippine Nurses Association of America, California Capital City Chapter (PNAC3), proudly joined this event as part of our kickoff celebration for Filipino American History Month.

PNAC3 volunteers supported the community through health screenings and flu vaccinations, an effort that underscored the spirit of service and unity within Sacramento's diverse population. In partnership with the Sacramento Chapter of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN), this collaboration reflected the shared commitment of healthcare professionals to advance community wellness.

The presence and leadership of our Family Nurse Practitioners, led by Dr. Zyrene Marsh, DNP, APRN, FNP, alongside Dr. Ron Ordon, DNP, FNP-BC, GS-C, WCC, and Rhoda Navarro, FNP, MSN, BSN, brought expertise and compassion to every interaction. Their dedication, together with the enthusiastic support of students, nurses, and community leaders, made this event both impactful and deeply meaningful.

This day served as a powerful reminder that when we come together in service, we not only promote health, but also strengthen the very fabric of our community.

- Amie Ragasa-Sta. Maria, PNAC3 Board of Director



Picture 1: L-R (Zyrene Marsh, Alexia Ignas, Lhotta Herмосilla, Rhoda Navarro, Amie Ragasa-Sta Maria, Mary Lexie Jane Ignas, Michael Sigua, Ron Ordon, Angela Ordon, Ariana Ordon)

Picture 2: L- R (Alexia Ignas, Zyrene Mrsh, Mary Lexie Jane Ignas, Ron Ordon and Amie B. Ragasa-Sta. Maria)

# PNAC3 Gives Back: Supporting Young Adults on the Path to Independence

PNAC3 is proud to support the Sacramento County Independent Living Program, an organization dedicated to helping young adults successfully transition into independent living. Each year, PNAC3 demonstrates its commitment to community service by participating in this meaningful initiative and giving back to those who need it most.

Through our partnership with UC Davis Health, PNAC3 donates one to two emancipation baskets annually to young adults entering their own homes for the first time. These baskets are thoughtfully assembled with essential household goods, helping to ease the transition and provide a strong foundation for independent living. For many recipients, these items represent more than necessities—they symbolize encouragement, stability, and community support at a pivotal moment in their lives.

PNAC3's involvement reflects our core values of service, compassion, and community engagement. By supporting the Sacramento County Independent Living Program, we are not only meeting immediate needs but also investing in the long-term success of young adults as they take this important step forward.

We are honored to continue this tradition and remain committed to making a positive impact beyond our organization, one basket at a time.

- Amie Ragasa-Sta. Maria, PNAC3 Board of Director



Picture 1: (L-R) PNAC3 members Amie Ragasa-Sta Maria, Gladys Sumo, Dr. Denise Angelo Prudencio  
(Source: PNAC3 Photo Collections)

Picture 2: (L-R) Shellie Helton, Dr. Denise Angelo Prudencio, Gladys Sumo, Amie Ragasa-Sta Maria  
Source: PNAC3 Photo Collections

# Global Nursing Education, Interprofessional Collaboration, and Medical Outreach in the Philippines (December 9th–15th, 2025)

**Project Overview:** This project encompassed a multi-day global health and education initiative conducted in partnership with Central Philippine University (CPU) in Iloilo and Universidad de Sta. Isabel de Naga (USI), integrating faculty development, interprofessional education (IPE), community immersion, and medical outreach activities. The initiative aimed to strengthen nursing education, advance understanding of the Advanced Practice Nurse (APN) role, and expand access to essential healthcare services in underserved rural communities in the Philippines.

**Day 1: Faculty Development and Nursing Education Exchange:** The project commenced at Central Philippine University in Iloilo with faculty members and clinical instructors from Nursing and Pharmacy, alongside global and military wound-care providers. A key focus was the exchange of best practices in simulation-based education.

Faculty from the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis, Jennifer Edwards and Haydee Pineda-Johnson, M.A. Ed, led a session on the effective integration of standardized patients into simulation, highlighting strategies to enhance realism, learner engagement, and competency development.

A UC Davis DNP student, Ashley Santillan, BSN, RN, CPN, presented her scholarly project addressing disparities in breast and cervical cancer screening among Filipino women. Her presentation resonated deeply with participants, underscoring the importance of culturally responsive approaches to women's health.

Dr. Ron Ordon, DNP, FNP-BC, GS-C, WCC, FAANP, and project leadership introduced participants to the role of Advanced Practice Nurses, a role not yet formally institutionalized in the Philippines. Discussions focused on APN education pathways, credentialing and certification processes, scope of practice, and core competencies. CPU faculty shared critical insights regarding regulatory, institutional, and systemic barriers that must be addressed prior to formal APN integration.

The day also included a thoughtful dialogue on reproductive health education within a cultural context shaped by religion and social norms. Participants applied the "5 Ps" framework to conduct comprehensive, respectful, and nonjudgmental sexual histories. The day concluded with a tabletop simulation facilitated by Dr. Charleen Singh, reinforcing the themes of advanced nursing practice, interprofessional collaboration, and ethical care delivery. The case highlighted that many Filipino nurses already perform advanced functions without standardized training or formal recognition, placing their licensure at risk.

# Global Nursing Education, Interprofessional Collaboration, and Medical Outreach in the Philippines (December 9th–15th, 2025)

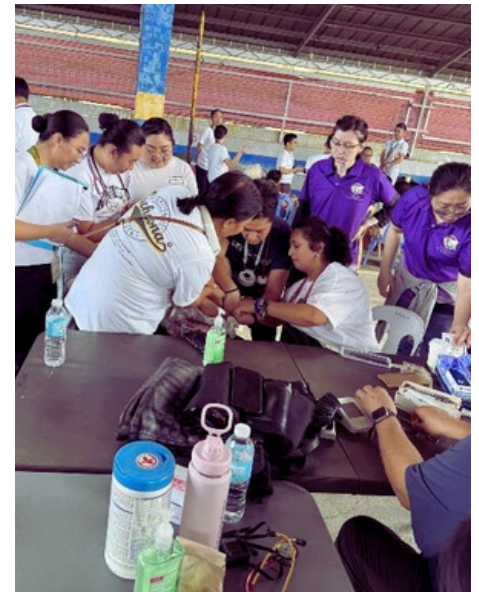


Day 2: Medical Outreach Activity in San Isidro, Iloilo: The Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis successfully concluded the first of three Philippine medical outreach activities in San Isidro, Iloilo. In collaboration with CPU nursing faculty and students, Iloilo Mission Hospital volunteer physicians, and local leadership, the team provided essential primary care services to 143 patients.

Services included wound care, chronic disease management, health education, and distribution of free medications. Many patients had not seen a healthcare provider for over a year despite living with chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, and prior stroke. These encounters underscored persistent challenges in healthcare access and affordability within the Philippine healthcare system and reinforced the need for sustained advocacy and systemic reform.

The outreach was made possible through the generous support of sponsors, including Jon Walker, Advanced Health Care, Larry H. & Gail Miller Family Foundation, Philippine Nurses Association California Capital City (PNAC3), and See's Candies.

# Global Nursing Education, Interprofessional Collaboration, and Medical Outreach in the Philippines (December 9th–15th, 2025)



Day 3: Community Immersion in Barangay Zaraga, Iloilo: The Iloilo activities concluded with a community immersion in Barangay Zaraga alongside CPU nursing faculty and students. The visit provided insight into local health systems, agricultural livelihoods, and community strengths. The CPU College of Nursing demonstrated a strong commitment to empowering barangay health workers as frontline educators and partners in health promotion, an essential strategy in areas with limited access to rural health clinics.

The immersion allowed participants to experience daily life within a farming community and witness the bayanihan spirit through shared meals, cultural activities, and home visits. The experience highlighted the resilience, interconnectedness, and generosity that sustain rural communities despite limited resources.

# Global Nursing Education, Interprofessional Collaboration, and Medical Outreach in the Philippines (December 9th–15th, 2025)



Institutional Engagement and Nursing Leadership: Prior to departing Iloilo, the team met with CPU President Rev. Dr. Ernest Dagohoy and his predecessor, Dean Melba Sale provided a tour of the Kabalaka Reproductive Health Clinic, where nurses independently perform Pap smears, provide sexuality education, order STI screenings, and manage prenatal care—responsibilities typically reserved for advanced practice nurses in the United States. This further emphasized the high level of nursing competence in the Philippines and the urgent need for formal certification pathways to ensure consistent standards of care nationwide and advance the Sustainable Development Goals.

# Global Nursing Education, Interprofessional Collaboration, and Medical Outreach in the Philippines (December 9th–15th, 2025)



Day 4: Interprofessional Education at Universidad de Sta. Isabel de Naga, Inc. Despite unexpected travel delays, the team arrived in Naga and was warmly welcomed by USI faculty and students. The interprofessional education program featured cultural performances and engagement across disciplines, fostering mutual respect and collaboration.

UC Davis DNP-FNP student Melanie Baccay presented her doctoral project on the use of the TIMERS tool for wound assessment in community nursing. Project leadership facilitated discussions on APN integration in the Philippines, while Dr. Earl Sumile of the University of the Philippines led an engaging session on best practices in public health nursing and the role of faculty in promoting community-based practice.

The day concluded with a tabletop simulation in which faculty members assumed interdisciplinary roles managing a rural fisherman with chronic wounds, diabetes, and hypertension. The exercise reinforced collaborative care, critical thinking, and application of learned concepts.

# Global Nursing Education, Interprofessional Collaboration, and Medical Outreach in the Philippines (December 9th–15th, 2025)



Days 5–6: Medical Outreach in Bicol Region: A two-day medical outreach in Pamplona, Camarines Sur, and New Caaluan, Tinambac was conducted. These rural and fishing communities are located 40 minutes to two hours from urban centers. Across both sites, the team provided care to 310 patients.

Approximately 8 volunteer physicians, 30 clinical instructors, and 40 students participated in the outreach. Interprofessional collaboration ensured efficient patient flow from registration through medical care, pharmacy services, and patient education. Free medications and vitamins were distributed with support from PNAC3.

In addition, gift packages were distributed to 256 families, generously sponsored by Jon Walker, Matt Taylor of Advanced Health Care, Larry H. Miller Senior Health, and the Larry H. & Gail Miller Family Foundation. Children welcomed the team with Christmas songs, and the outreach concluded with a short community program and gift-giving activity.

# Global Nursing Education, Interprofessional Collaboration, and Medical Outreach in the Philippines (December 9th–15th, 2025)



# Global Nursing Education, Interprofessional Collaboration, and Medical Outreach in the Philippines (December 9th–15th, 2025)



Day 7: Gift-Giving and Community Outreach in Naga City: The final day of activities focused on a gift-giving and community engagement event in Calle Trese, Bagumbayan Sur, Naga City, benefiting 54 families and 40 Marillac Grantees student assistants. This activity was intentionally designed to provide both material support and emotional uplift, particularly for families affected by recent natural calamities.

The program featured interactive games, an entertaining community-led program, and moments of shared joy that fostered connection and solidarity. Gift packages containing essential household and personal care items were distributed to families and students, addressing immediate needs while offering comfort and encouragement during the holiday season.

This culminating activity reflected the spirit of compassion, resilience, and collective responsibility that characterized the entire outreach. It served as a meaningful conclusion to the week's efforts, reinforcing the importance of holistic care that attends not only to physical health, but also to dignity, hope, and community well-being.

# Global Nursing Education, Interprofessional Collaboration, and Medical Outreach in the Philippines (December 9th–15th, 2025)



# Global Nursing Education, Interprofessional Collaboration, and Medical Outreach in the Philippines (December 9th–15th, 2025)



Gift-Giving and Disaster Relief Outreach in Cebu: In addition to the scheduled educational and medical outreach activities, the project included a targeted disaster relief gift-giving initiative in Cebu, supporting communities directly impacted by recent flash flooding and typhoons. Through this effort, 100 families received essential relief packages containing food and basic necessities to help address immediate post-disaster needs.

This activity was conducted in partnership with the Philippine Air Force, whose coordination and logistical support were instrumental in ensuring the safe and efficient distribution of aid to affected families. The collaboration exemplified the importance of cross-sector partnerships in responding to humanitarian crises and reaching vulnerable populations during emergencies.

The gift packages were generously sponsored by Advanced Health Care and the Larry Miller Foundation, whose continued commitment to community welfare made this relief effort possible. This initiative reinforced the project's broader mission of extending care beyond clinical services by addressing social determinants of health, particularly during times of crisis, and providing timely, compassionate support to families rebuilding after natural disasters.

# Global Nursing Education, Interprofessional Collaboration, and Medical Outreach in the Philippines (December 9th–15th, 2025)



Conclusion: This global outreach and education initiative exemplifies the mission of the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis to deliver high-quality, equitable care to underserved communities locally and globally. Across educational exchanges, interprofessional collaboration, community immersion, and medical outreach activities, the project highlighted the vital role of advanced practice nursing in strengthening health systems and expanding access to care particularly in rural and resource-limited settings.

Collectively, the team provided free medical care to a total of 453 children and adults across multiple communities and distributed gift packages to 450 families prior to the holiday season. These efforts addressed urgent healthcare needs while offering tangible support and hope to families facing economic hardship and the impacts of recent calamities.

This initiative would not have been possible without the dedication of academic partners, faculty, students, volunteer clinicians, sponsors, and community leaders. Together, these efforts represent a powerful expression of service, solidarity, and advocacy. What a perfect way to give back to those in need during this special time of the year—honoring the true spirit of the season through compassion, collaboration, and commitment to health equity.

- Zyrene Marsh, DNP, APRN, FNP-C

# Year-End Reflections: A Success Pays® Program Story: Featuring the Story of Daniel Aquino\*

\*This feature was from the American Nurses Credentialing Center. You can read more about this article here: [https://email.nursingworld.org/ancc-stories-of-inspiration-dec25?ecid=&utm\\_source=hs\\_email&utm\\_medium=email&\\_hsenc=p2ANqtz-861TtbCY8QyyIjcwKascKJ7naeT3UxbLy5sJ3AArXPkk5hCY0YQ4AUCnDUOT5tqjxkCxg3](https://email.nursingworld.org/ancc-stories-of-inspiration-dec25?ecid=&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-861TtbCY8QyyIjcwKascKJ7naeT3UxbLy5sJ3AArXPkk5hCY0YQ4AUCnDUOT5tqjxkCxg3)

Daniel Aquino knew from a young age that he wanted a career that would allow him to both provide for his family and be present in their lives. Growing up, his mother worked three jobs, and although his father held a full-time position, he was sometimes less present, navigating personal challenges. Due to his father's difficulties, Daniel took on more responsibilities at home and supported his family the best that he could.

Even though neither parent worked in healthcare, Daniel was surrounded by nurses within his Filipino family. He noticed that his cousins, whose parents were nurses, had the privilege of having their parents around more often. Wanting that same balance for his own future family, Daniel became drawn to nursing—even before fully understanding what the profession involved.

His refuge became education, though school alone was not enough. He immersed himself in collegiate organizations that focused on outreach to youth and the surrounding community, discovering a parallel passion for guiding young people toward higher education as he pursued his own path. Acceptance into the Bachelor of Science (BSN) program was bittersweet for Daniel. His grandmother—the family matriarch who instilled in him the importance of becoming the first in the family to earn a college degree—was no longer alive to share in the accomplishment she helped shape. Sadly, her death also marked the beginning of a downward spiral in Daniel's father's well-being. Despite numerous challenges, he graduated Cum Laude in his BSN program. As the first person in his family to earn a college degree, pursuing a graduate degree had never occurred to him; nevertheless, he successfully completed a Master of Science in Nursing with a concentration in Healthcare Leadership (MS-L).

To Daniel, ANCC certification represents a tangible commitment to professional nursing practice. While he is confident in his skills, certification allows him to demonstrate that confidence through action. It reflects the time, effort, and dedication he has invested in advancing his knowledge and expertise within his areas of practice. As a seasoned nurse, he recognizes that the requirements for certification help him remain accountable and push him to consistently perform at his highest level. In his role, he works closely with nursing students and newly hired staff, and his visibility reinforces his responsibility to lead by example. Daniel views certification as a way to embody and promote his organization's commitment to "Believe in Better," exemplifying excellence and professionalism through his own practice.

# Year-End Reflections: A Success Pays® Program Story: Featuring the Story of Daniel Aquino\*

Daniel admits that he initially did not take advantage of the ANCC Success Pays® program when he pursued his first board certification in Medical-Surgical Nursing (MEDSURG-BC). Although he passed on his first attempt, the process was accompanied by significant stress and fear of failure. Later, when he learned more about the program, he applied it to his second board certification in Nursing Professional Development (NPD-BC).

Although Daniel has historically performed well on exams, he often experiences anxiety throughout the testing process—from applying to studying and ultimately taking the exam. The greatest benefit of Success Pays® was the sense of security it provided. Knowing that he would not have to repeatedly pay for the exam in the event of an unsuccessful attempt allowed him to focus fully on the content rather than on the fear of failure. While the program did not make the exam itself easier, it helped reduce distractions, alleviated pressure, and gave him a sense of support throughout the preparation process.

Daniel's dedication to the nursing profession extends beyond certification and his work within his organization. He is actively involved in several professional organizations, including:

- Member of the American Nurses Association (ANA), the Association for Nursing Professional Development (ANPD), and the American Association of Men in Nursing (AAMN).
- Member and Research & Education Committee representative for the Philippine Nurses Association – California Capital City Chapter (PNAC3).
- Ally and collaborator with the Capitol City Black Nurses Association (CCBNA), National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN) Sacramento, Hmong Nurses Association (HNA), and Sacramento Association of Indian Nurses (SAIN)

Daniel's first Team DAISY Award ever presented at UC Davis Health in 2016, when he was still working at the bedside. At the time, none of the team members knew that this version of the DAISY Award existed, which made receiving it especially meaningful. The award recognized their efforts in conducting a wedding ceremony at the bedside for a dying patient, fulfilling his and his family's last wish. Daniel received a second Team DAISY Award in 2020 while working in the Center for Professional Practice of Nursing (CPPN). This recognition was particularly meaningful because it occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Year-End Reflections: A Success Pays® Program Story: Featuring the Story of Daniel Aquino\*

Nationwide restrictions significantly impacted nursing student education, but the hospital continued to support its students and even welcomed displaced students from other institutions. At the time, Daniel also held a part-time role as a clinical instructor.

He volunteered to onboard these students, ensuring they could complete their preceptorships. His efforts contributed to the graduation of 20–30 additional students who might not have graduated otherwise. With in-person gatherings restricted, his team organized virtual pinning ceremonies on the units, celebrating student success in a safe and meaningful way. In both instances, the DAISY Award recognized Daniel and his teams' dedication. For them, these efforts were never about receiving an award—they were simply doing what they knew was right: providing compassionate, human-centered care and supporting others in their profession. The recognition was a meaningful acknowledgment of their commitment and impact.



# Year-End Reflections: A Success Pays® Program Story: Featuring the Story of Daniel Aquino\*

We would like to recognize Daniel Aquino, MS-L, BSN, RN, NPD-BC, CSSGB, MEDSURG-BC, as our PNAC3 member highlight for his phenomenal contributions and outstanding dedication. His consistent high-quality work, proactive mindset, and commitment to excellence significantly represent what PNAC3 is all about. His advocacy for certification and impact on mentorship make us proud that he is a PNAC3 member.



# PNAC3 members as Fellows of the Academy of Diversity Leaders in Nursing (FADLN)

PNAC3 proudly celebrates the induction of Denise Angelo M. Prudencio, DNP, RN, Sandy Phan, DNP, RN, and Paul Borja, PhD, DNP, RN as Fellows of the Academy of Diversity Leaders in Nursing (FADLN) during the formal ceremony held on December 9 at the New York Academy of Medicine—a prestigious national honor recognizing nurse leaders who advance diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging through leadership, scholarship, and advocacy. Their fellowship reflects not only their individual excellence in mentoring, workforce development, and community engagement but also PNAC3's strong commitment to cultivating inclusive leadership and equitable healthcare for all.



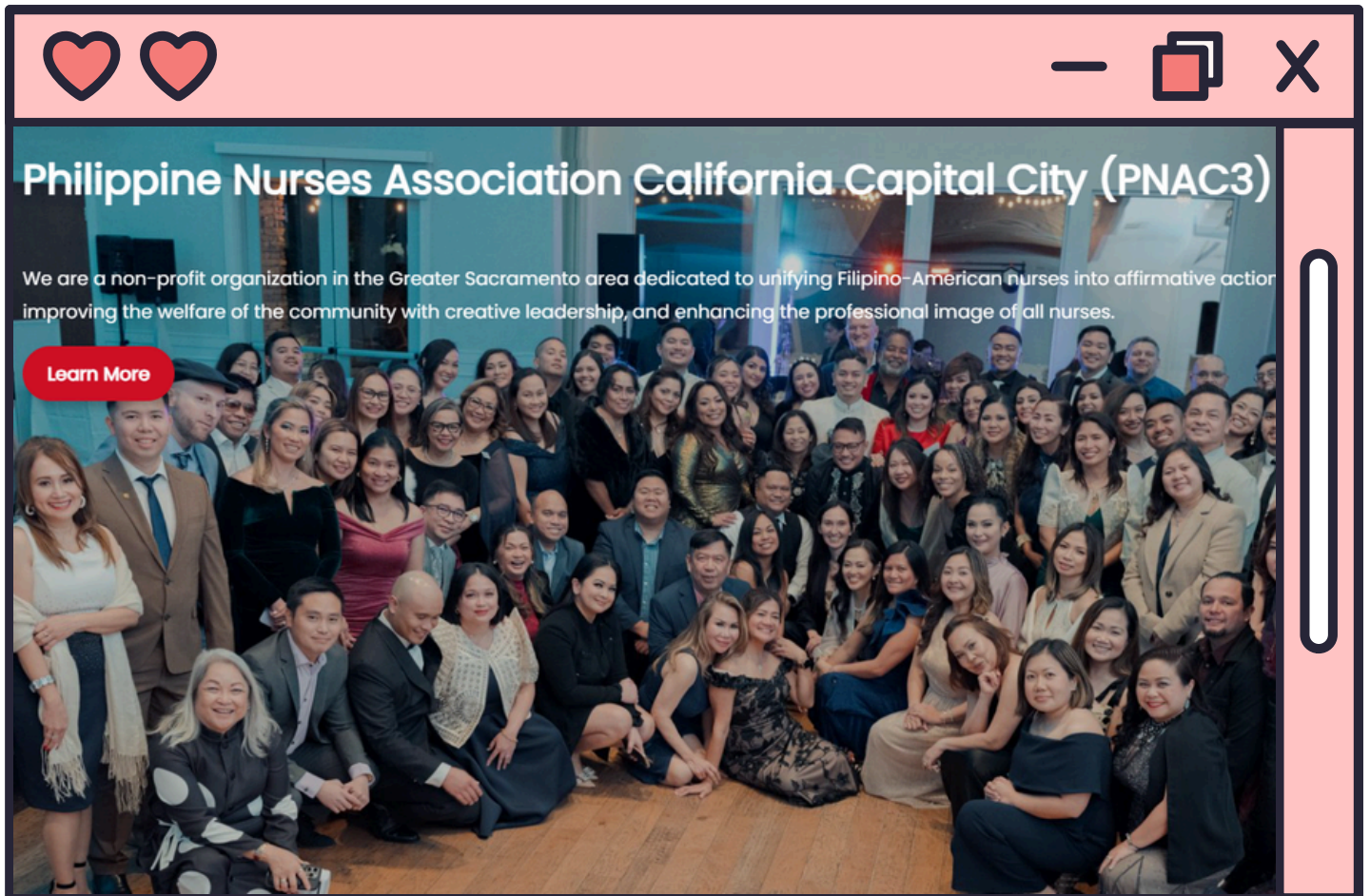
# PNAC3 recognition at the 1st Internationally Educated Nurses (IEN) Global Conference

Denise Angelo Prudencio, DNP, RN, was honored at the 1st Internationally Educated Nurses (IEN) Global Conference, a historic inaugural gathering celebrating the excellence, resilience, and leadership of globally trained nurses. During the event, Dr. Prudencio was recognized as an Inaugural Fellow of the Society of Internationally Educated Nurses (SIENNA Society), affirming the contributions of internationally educated nurses through service, scholarship, and advocacy. He also received a DAISY Award nomination, recognizing compassionate and extraordinary nursing practice.



# PNAC3 Website

Our website has some new exciting features we would like you to see! Visit: <https://pnac3.org>

A screenshot of a web browser displaying a form titled "PNAC3 Recognition and Dissemination". The browser's address bar is empty. The form contains the following text and fields:

Have you presented at a conference, published your work in a journal or newsletter, received any awards, completed a degree, or earned a certification?

Share your accomplishments with us so we can celebrate your achievements within our PNAAC community.

The name, email, and photo associated with your Google account will be recorded when you upload files and submit this form

\* Indicates required question

Email \*

Your email

Your Name \*

Your answer

Affiliation ( enter the name of your facility, hospital, institution you are currently with). \*

Your answer

The browser interface includes two heart icons in the top left and window control icons (minimize, maximize, close) in the top right.

Have you presented at a conference, published your work in a journal or newsletter, received any awards, completed a degree, or earned a certification? Visit our website and click "Recognitions" where you will be directed to a Google Form that will allow us to recognize your achievements within our PNAAC community or scan the QR code below:



# Connect with PNAC3

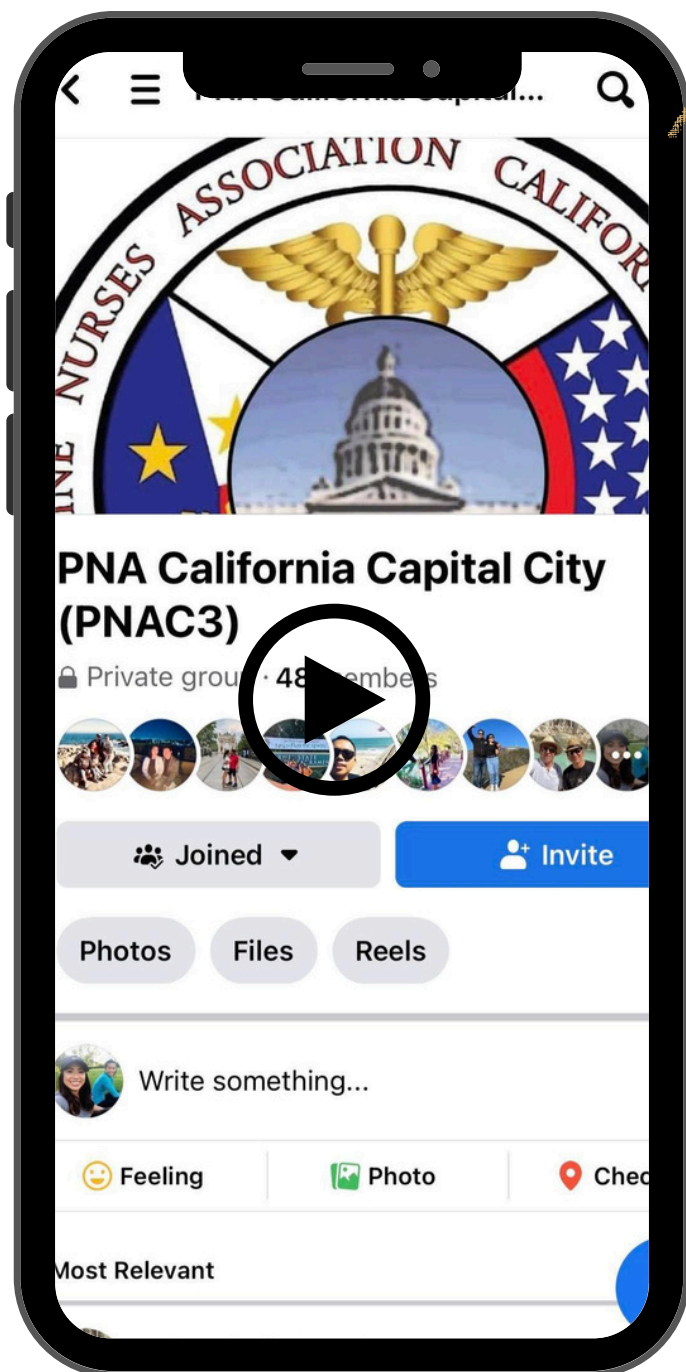
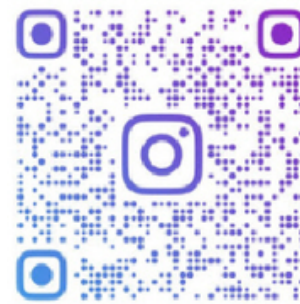
LinkedIn



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Follow us on our social media accounts to keep up with the latest content and event updates.



Scan the QR code to view our website or visit:  
[pnac3.org](http://pnac3.org)

# MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

## 1° STEP

Visit PNAA website at:  
<https://mypnaa.org/Join-Us>



## 2° STEP

Select Chapter Membership Level

- Active Member- licensed nurse of Philippine ethnic origin
- Associate Member-licensed nurse of non-Philippine ethnic origin



## 3° STEP

Enter your email address and complete the registration forms



## 4° STEP

Select PNAC3 Chapter Membership

- Pay the required fees



For more information on how to become an official member of the PNAC3, PNA California Capital City Chapter visit

<http://mypnaa.org/>

Contact our team if you have any feedback, questions, or reviews

[pnac3sac@gmail.com](mailto:pnac3sac@gmail.com)