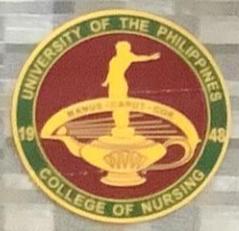




COLLEGE OF NURSING UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES MANILA



From Left:
Prof. JJ Posadas
Ms. Rina Shoki
Ms. Hitomi Hamada
Ms. Mika Ninohei
Dean Shiela Bonito
Prof. Jo Cariaso
Prof. Len Lellamo
Prof. Peter James Abad

Newsletter



Asia-Africa Midwifery Research Center
St. Luke's International University, Tokyo



St. Luke's Nursing Team visited the College of Nursing, University of the Philippines, Manila.

Dr. Sarah Nagamatsu and master's and doctoral students of St. Luke's International University visited the College of Nursing, University of the Philippines, Manila on June 23, 2022. It was a great opportunity for the St. Luke's Nursing Team to meet Dean Shiela Bonito, Prof. John Joseph Posadas, Prof. Efrelyn Lellamo, Prof. Josephine Cariaso, and Prof. Peter James Abad. Both nursing teams immediately started discussing possible collaborations in the future.



Vol. 34

Aug 1, 2022



One-Day Program in the CANOSSA Health & Social Center



From Left:
Dr. Sarah Nagamatsu
Ms. Rina Shoki
Ms. Mika Ninohei
Sr. Regina Barcelon
Sr. Sharon Policar
Mr. Nelson Abarientos
Prof. Len Lellamo
Prof. John Joseph Posadas

Currently (2022), the CANOSSA Health & Social Center is still affected by COVID-19. The center's perinatal care, delivery care, DOTS, and outpatient clinic have been temporary closed. Instead, the center's volunteers send medications to tuberculosis patients and have been busy distributing foods and daily supplies to needy people. Even in their difficult times, the sisters, midwives, and health volunteers kindly accommodated us for a one-day program



Sr. Regina Barcelon is the Head of the CANOSSA Health & Social Center and is a nurse herself.

Program in CANOSSA Health & Social Center

- 9:00 Opening
- 9:15 Lecture 'Mission of CANOSSA'
Sr. Regina Barcelon (nurse)
- 10:00 Lecture 'Mothers and Children in Tondo'
Ms. Edna Masangya (midwife)
- 10:45 Visitation of slum areas in Tondo
- 11:45 Lunch
- 13:00 Reflections of the program
- 13:30 Closing



From the University of the Philippines, **Prof. Len Lellamo** (Midwifery) and **Prof. JJ Posadas** (Public Health Nursing) joined the program. Prof. Posadas who has a practice for nursing students in another barangay in Tondo shared his experience with nursing students. Prof. Lellamo kindly offered collaboration with St. Luke's International University to support activities in CANOSSA, Tondo.

Ate Edna Masangya is a witness to the hardships of many mothers in Tondo. Midwives work very hard to support women in Tondo from morning to night. She delivers 3-4 babies daily.



One-Day Program in the CANOSSA Health & Social Center: Visiting Slum Areas and Learning about Their Environment, Health, and Lives



Tondo is the most populous district in Manila which is the world's most densely populated city. Tondo hosts the Manila North Harbor Port and the dumpsite named Smoky Mountain. Tondo has developed a reputation for criminality and poverty. The main industry in Tondo is garbage recycling. People collect, sort, and sell garbage. Garlic stripping is a major income source for those who stay at home. The houses are extremely small and the infrastructures such as water, sanitation, and electricity supply are limited. Tuberculosis is a common health problem in this crowded area not only among adults but also among children. CANOSSA offers affordable healthcare, daycare education for children, and activities for empowering women.



The Nursing Team of St. Luke's International University and the University of the Philippines, Manila visited slum areas in Tondo to learn more about the environment, health, and lives of people living in Tondo. All team members wore a black shirt printed with the words: "St. Luke's International University; University of the Philippines; NURSING TEAM SUPPORT CANNOSSA".

Comments from St. Luke's International University graduate students who participated in the One-Day Program in the CANOSSA Health & Social Center

The CANOSSA Health & Social Center is located in Tondo, a poor area in Manila City. The center provides not only medical care services such as antenatal check-ups, childbirth care and DOTS, but also free breakfast, bread distribution to people living in the slums, and employment opportunities for women. The center is an important recourse for people who find it difficult to visit hospitals because of poverty. From this experience, I could learn that a deeper engagement with the community and an approach that goes beyond healthcare are very important to help address poverty and health-related issues.



Rina Shoki

Since this was my first visit to the Philippines, every moment was a fresh experience for me. I learned a lot about the health situation of the country. One of the big health problems in the Philippines is stroke. Many people suffer from stroke, but poor people cannot receive adequate treatment or rehabilitation because of financial problems. Adolescent pregnancy is also a serious problem. I learned that the mother's age keeps getting younger owing to the lockdown from the COVID-19 pandemic. Moreover, many people living in poor areas have bad hygiene environments, especially in slum areas. All of these shocked me, but at the same time, I was impressed with the wonderful local efforts against these problems. For example, the CANOSSA Health & Social Center takes care of the poor. Their activities are wide-ranging such as home visits, prenatal/baby check-ups, DOTS for tuberculosis, and many more. At the University of the Philippines, we met the nursing faculty and discussed health problems and future collaborations. Through these encounters, I was impressed with their great zeal and kindness. Their enthusiasm inspired me a lot, and I am very happy to have met them. I appreciate all who supported our visit, and I would like to apply all of my experiences to my research.



Hitomi Hamada

Magandang araw!

I am a master's student at St. Luke's International University. It was my first time to visit the Philippines. I had a wonderful experience there. I visited the University of the Philippines, CANOSSA Health & Social Center, and WPRO. I observed hypertension and diabetes patient programs, prenatal check-ups, and the DOTS program for TB patients at the center. I learned more about the healthcare system in the Philippines and the health challenges faced by poor people. I thought it is important to build a community support system to address health disparities. I would be happy to work together to resolve these issues. I really appreciate everyone's cooperation in the training.



Mika Ninohei

Newsletter preparation: Sarah Nagamatsu
Proofreading: Edward Barroga

This project is funded by JSPS Core-to-Core Program Asia Africa Midwifery Research Center
<http://university.luke.ac.jp/about/project/aamrc/about.html>

