



UM BLIS Program Donates Books to Catigan National High School

The Community-Based Rehabilitation and Aftercare Program (CBRAP) known as TARA NA (Tabangan Atong Reformists Aron Naay Asenso) is the University of Mindanao's flagship response to drug rehabilitation and reintegration, anchored on the national Yakap Bayan Framework. Launched in November 2019, the program continues into its sixth year, targeting over 11,000 drug reformists across the communities of Los Amigos, Biao Guianga, Biao Escuela, and Maa Magtuod in Davao City.

As of 2025, the program has enrolled 3,894 individuals, though challenges remain—over 1,800 dropouts were recorded due to weak support and motivational lapses. Despite this, CBRAP has delivered transformative outcomes for those who remain engaged:

163 titles of books distributed.

167 volumes of books were donated to Catigan National High School.

Barangay leaders have taken on active roles in rehabilitation, resulting in improved local governance, community responsiveness, and reduced stigma toward reformists.



The program's success lies in cross-sector collaboration, especially through the UM Professional Schools, which have driven community organizing, capacity-building, digital innovations, and livelihood initiatives between 2022–2026. Its holistic design makes it a replicable model for other cities seeking to implement inclusive and locally embedded rehabilitation systems that go beyond punitive approaches.



Teacher Education Reaches Out to an IP School for a Reading Tutorial Program

The College of Teacher Education (CTE), through its student organization AGENT (Association of Generalist Teachers), once again demonstrated its commitment to education by distributing learning materials to Bagobo Tagabawa pupils in Barangay Catigan. This outreach activity complemented CTE's extension initiative, "Pagpaambit sa Kinaadman," which recently concluded a three-month Reading Intervention Program at Catigan Elementary School.



Cognizant of the global call for Education for All, the college strives to address barriers to learning often faced by disadvantaged groups such as indigenous communities. Through "Pagpaambit sa Kinaadman," CTE works to bridge educational gaps by equipping learners with foundational skills in reading, thereby fostering academic growth and self-confidence among young learners.

By extending education beyond the classroom and into communities, the University of Mindanao reinforces its mission of shaping teachers who are not only educators but also advocates of lifelong learning, equity, and social transformation.





Magbasa Para May Pag-asa: UM Penaplata's SDG 4 Model for Literacy and Hope

UM Peñaplata College is committed to bridging educational gaps through its community-based reading tutorial program, a literacy campaign that delivers free, inclusive, and bilingual reading support to underserved learners. Since its launch in 2022, the initiative has helped over 300 elementary pupils from both public and private schools enhance their reading skills, comprehension, and confidence in learning.

Through two-week intensive reading camps conducted annually, the program provides English and Filipino literacy interventions, distributes donated storybooks and school supplies, and engages teacher education students in meaningful, hands-on teaching experiences.



This initiative has made a measurable difference in the lives of over 300 young learners in the Island Garden City of Samal—children who might have otherwise struggled to acquire basic literacy skills due to limited access to resources and support. By equipping them with the ability to read, comprehend, and learn independently, the program empowers these children to succeed in school and beyond, laying a foundation for better educational and life outcomes.

Teachers and administrators from partner schools have reported significant improvements in students' reading levels, with many participants showing greater academic confidence and advancing to the next grade. The project not only uplifts individual learners but also contributes to the broader goal of eradicating learning poverty in marginalized communities—an investment in human capital that has lasting effects on families, schools, and local society.

Inspired by the program's success, UM Peñaplata plans to expand its reach through a Barangay Reading Outreach Program, targeting out-of-school adolescents and hard-to-reach learners. Strengthening partnerships with local government units will be key to scaling the project and making literacy accessible to all. By building on its early gains, the university aims to ensure that no learner is left behind in the mission to create a more educated and empowered society.



The program actively promotes inclusive, equitable, and effective learning for all. By addressing foundational literacy gaps, supporting at-risk students, and empowering future teachers through community engagement, the initiative contributes meaningfully to improving educational quality and access—especially in underserved areas.