COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP in Service-Learning: The St. Paul University Philippines’ Experience

Allan Peejay M. Lappay
St. Paul University Philippines is an internationally recognized institution dedicated to the formation of competent leaders and responsible citizens of our community, country and the world.
By serving and learning, SPUP becomes aware of the needs and desires of its partner-communities and positions itself to be responsive and relevant.
Service-Learning being integrated with academics enriches students learning experiences, fosters social responsibility, and empowers people in communities.
Basic Education Unit

SPUP

SMAMC

SASTE

SHS

SITE & SAB
In SPUP, Service-Learning involves methods and techniques, such as community needs assessment, strategic planning, vision-mission-values development, community fora/dialogues, skills training and capacity building in all aspects which requires patience, commitment and dedication over time.
SPUP has strong linkage and partnership with different stakeholders in the locality through the Local Government Units (LGU’s) - community leaders and affiliates.
SPUP accord full administrative support to the implementation of all service-learning engagement activities.
SPUP’s Service-Learning manifests its strong commitment towards the upliftment of the quality of life of its partner-communities, while providing learning opportunities and experiences to all Paulinian learners.
Through Learning Feedback, SPUP determines the extent how Paulinian learners face the challenges and how they take inspiration in their Service-Learning.
Excerpts from the Learning Feedback Diary of Paulinian Learners:

“We have to stop wasting gifts from God, the food, comforts, etc.”

-from a Basic Education Student
“To help improve people’s health and well-being in the community speaks of the caring aspect of nursing. It also reflects the quality policy of SPUP of providing caring environment to its learners.”

-from a BS Nursing Student
Excerpts from the Learning Feedback Diary of Paulinian Learners:

“Teaching Catechism to pupils in public schools is my way of sharing in God’s mission and the proclamation of our faith. Through this, SPUP has helped me strengthened my faith.”

—from a BS Secondary Education Student—
Excerpts from the Learning Feedback Diary of Paulinian Learners:

“Living in a disaster prone area, it is necessary to know what to do during times of catastrophes. Through service-learning, I was able to share to the community not only what I have learned in class, but also our University’s advocacy on disaster preparedness and volunteerism.”

-from a BS Biology Student-
“Building a house is like building a future... In the community, I realize that if people’s welfare are strongly built through good governance, then a society has a brighter future.”

-from a BS Public Administration & Legal Management Student-
Excerpts from the Learning Feedback Diary of Paulinian Learners:

“In conducting livelihood programs in the community, it made me realize the value of the saying: teaching man how to fish is a manner of teaching him how to live.”

-from a BS Entrepreneurship Student
Excerpts from the Learning Feedback Diary of Paulinian Learners:

“In the community, I am able to put into practice what I have learned. While learning, I encountered different experiences that deepens my passion for service in the nursing profession in the future.”

-from a BS Nursing Student
“Organizing women and children’s group in the community gave me a concrete learning that indeed, there are sectors in the society who need full attention.”

-from a Social Work Student
Excerpts from the Learning Feedback Diary of Paulinian Learners:

“The experience of teaching children in our partner-community gave me a broader perspective on my future teaching profession.”

-from a BS Elementary Education Student-
Excerpts from the Learning Feedback Diary of Paulinian Learners:

“Imparting knowledge on computer technology to High School students is sharing what I have learned in the University. In a way, it may also help these students in the future.”

-from a BS Information Technology Student-
Excerpts from the Learning Feedback Diary of Paulinian Learners:

“As an Electronics Engineering student, it is always important to consider the safety of homes and people in every community. Thus, sharing what I know is a my little way of contributing to people’s safety.”

-from a BS Electronics Engineering & Computer Science Student-
Excerpts from the Learning Feedback Diary of Paulinian Learners:

“Our University forms us to be responsible citizens. As a social responsibility, knowing the right persons to vote for is essential. Through voter’s education, I can share that suffrage is a sacred duty for it determines the future of our community and country.”

-from a BS Management Student-
Excerpts from the Learning Feedback Diary of Paulinian Learners:

“Empowering the youth in the community gave me the opportunity to share the manner SPUP empowers its students. The support the University gives its students provides leadership skills and competencies.”

-from a BS Accountancy Student-
SPUP asserts that partnership in SL enriches service access, increases support and assistance for learning, addresses barriers to learning, enhances opportunities for learning and development, and generates new approaches towards students’ learning and the communities’ well-being and sustainability.
As Paulinians, SPUP’s Service-Learning finds inspiration in the life of the venerable founders of the SPC Congregation, Father Louis Chauvet and Mother Marie Anne de Tilly, whose life pursued a legacy, that there can be no better service than to live God’s life working for the betterment of humanity.
Caritas Christi urget nos!

Thank you very much!