

Through the help of PFPI

Calamianes Eco-Warriors turn over handwashing facilities to schools, fish landings

With the threat of the COVID-19 still upon us, the peer educators of Calamianes Island Group (CIG), who call themselves Eco-Warriors, decided to add another advocacy to their plate – promote proper handwashing to avoid virus transmission.



(Above left) Busuanga Youth Eco-Warrior Elmar Darol talks about his group's advocacies and activities. (Above right) Busuanga MAO Tess Rabe (second from left) during the ceremonial ribbon cutting held July 31. (Below) Linapacan Youth Eco-Warrior _____ speaks during the turnover of the handwashing unit held at the Palawan State University last August 14. The other unit was turned over by the Linapacan Eco-Warriors to the the San Miguel wharf.



On August 14, the Linapacan Eco-Warriors turned over a handwashing unit each to the Palawan State University (PSU)-Linapacan and the municipal government, which intends to put the facility at the San Miguel wharf.

The idea of constructing handwashing facilities came from the Calamianes Eco-Warriors, who sent a proposal to PATH Foundation Philippines, Inc. (PFPI). PFPI later looked for donors and raised enough funds for the construction of 10 handwashing facilities.

Last July 31, five Eco-Warriors from Coron and five from Busuanga joined hands to organize the turnover of three handwashing facilities to schools, such as the Concepcion National High School, the Salvacion National High School and the Western Philippines University, all located in Busuanga. Present during the turnover were representatives from each of the school, the local government unit (LGU), the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff and and C3 Philippines, a PFPI partner.

“Promoting proper handwashing is closely related to our advocacy to conserve marine biodiversity,” says Elmar Darol of the Busuanga Youth Eco-Warriors. “Community members need to stay healthy to enable them to protect the health of our marine resources.”

Municipal Agriculturist Tess Rabe of the Busuanga LGU thanked the Calamianes Eco-Warriors for their initiative. “Their (Eco-Warriors) contribution to helping ensure the health of our communities is most welcome and highly appreciated, especially during this time of the pandemic.”

Two additional handwashing units will be turned over by the Calamianes Eco-Warriors to Culion (one for the Baldat barangay hall, the other for the Burabod fish landing area) and three more in Coron (intended for PSU Coron, Bintuan fish landing area and Tagumpay fish landing area). All facilities will be maintained by the recipients.