



# THE ASCLEPIAN VOICE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ORDER OF ASCLEPIUS : WEST VISAYAS STATE UNIVERSITY – COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

VOLUME 1 ISSUE NO.17

MAY 13, 2015

## In the Spirit of SERVICE

Article by: John Ramel Rafael

Summer is the time of the year when we forget of all things academic and enjoy the endless slumber and tireless escapades. We embrace the blazing heat of the sun and set our footprints in the fine sandy beaches of the resort nearest us. While some of us are immersing themselves in the splendour of beaches and amusement parks, others are enjoying their summer vacation in a more humanitarian way.

Order of Asclepius, through its resident members took part in a medical-surgical mission spearheaded by the ABS-CBN News Department and Bantay Bata 163 in Isabela, Negros Occidental on May 12, 2015. The medical mission provided free consultation and medications to 400 individuals both in the pediatric and adult

age-groups. The surgical mission, on the other hand, catered to school-age boys aged 8-14 years old. A total of 102 individuals were successfully circumcised in the day-long event.

*“The summer surgical missions have always been part of the Order of Asclepius’ thrust to become service-oriented and relevant to the community.”* said Junior Lady Asclepian Ma. Celine Villo. *“Our medical-surgical mission here in Isabela really took us to the far-flung areas and that we had the privilege to help those who had very limited access to healthcare services.”*, she continued.

When asked what fuels her to go on with these activities, she replied, *“We can only do so much but what it all boils down to is our genuine desire to serve and foster the spirit of service*

*amongst us, Asclepians.”*

Aside from the OA resident members, Post-graduate Interns (PGIs) from the Bacolod Adventist Medical Center (BAMC) and students from the West Visayas State University – College of Medicine Class of 2017 (Excelsior) volunteered for the said event. Personnel from the Philippine Army and students from the University of St. La Salle – College of Medicine also took part in the one-day affair.

The said surgical mission was made possible through the efforts of the following: ABS-CBN News Department, Bantay Bata 163, Review for Global Opportunities (RGO) Foundation, Philippine Army, Order of Asclepius, University of St. La Salle Tambal and Rotaract Club of Bacolod South. #

