



Thank you to our generous donors!

UPDATE FROM THE FIELD

Dear New Pathways Supporter,

With deep appreciation of your generosity, I am proud to share this summary of our accomplishments during the first half of 2019. None of this would be possible without your caring, sustained support of our organization. I hope you enjoy reading about how your investment in New Pathways has benefited women living in poverty as they work toward their dream of a brighter future for their families.

Our programs have had a significant impact on the lives of over 500 individuals during the past 6 months, including impact on the livelihoods of 100 women, and indirectly improving their families' economic situations. Our livelihood programs have expanded to include three major initiatives in the Philippines

- *Learning to Livelihood™* (L2L), our flagship program with nearly 400 graduates, engages participants in the entrepreneurial cycle from business idea generation through start-up. We provide skills training and grants of equipment and materials necessary to launch micro-businesses.
- *Livestock Integrated Food Enterprise™* (LIFE), an innovative approach to small-scale farming, is advancing profitable agricultural businesses for more than 100 women. We provide training, building construction, equipment and materials for these small-scale agricultural businesses.
- *Looms for Livelihood™* (L4L), our newest program, provides women who select weaving as their livelihood with New Pathways-designed table top looms and training by master weavers. Women are enabled to earn income at home while fulfilling their family responsibilities.

Thanks to you, aspiring entrepreneurs are starting businesses and improving their families' lives. We are grateful for your support!

Christine S. Nielsen
President



Christine with Salustiana, MWA member

FEATURED COMMUNITY

Three participants, with us since 2012, shared insights for this article.



"New Pathways has changed my life."

Helen shared that she has gained confidence in her abilities. Her responsibilities have matured, her leadership skills are enhanced, and she is able to fulfill her desire to help her neighbors in a more systematic way.

Helen Gumata. President, MWA



"Thank you so much to all New Pathways' generous donors. Without you, we would not have reached where we are now. We are stronger, more resilient, and more united as an association."

Riza Castañeda Jumbas. Director, MWA Board; MWA Bookkeeper; and New Pathways Communications Coordinator



Ellanita and her husband will donate two of their sow's piglets to other MWA members. When those become sows, the beneficiaries will give two piglets each to others. So, the benefits to all MWA members will multiply!

Ellanita Castañeda. Member, MWA

Malingin Women's Association (MWA)



We are proud to recognize MWA's achievements with our Outstanding Association Award, and Helen Gumata, president, as an Outstanding Association Leader. Women in this remote hamlet have participated in our L2L program since 2012, growing from 16 to 24 participants. Earnings increase families' food supply, improve healthcare, and contribute to children's education. Women have experienced increased self-esteem, and enjoyment in their work. They have excelled across livelihoods from luxury beading to agriculture. Members turned a vacant lot into a prosperous farming enterprise with a LIFE Food House, plus model sow and hog-fattening pens, funded by the Universalist Unitarian Church of Annapolis, Maryland. Two members have constructed FHS in their yards.

OUR TEAM IN ACTION

New Pathways' LIFE program is enriched under the local leadership of Reynic Alo, an agricultural development professional with years of experience in working with agrarian communities.



Your generous donation is making life-changing impacts!

GOAL: Complete Livestock integrated Food Enterprise™ (LIFE) Livelihood Center in Danao-1

The LIFE Livelihood Center, owned and operated by the United Women of Danao-1, features 5 Food Houses (FHs), similar to mini-greenhouses, for vegetables and chickens, with model sow and hog-fattening pens nearby. Production integrates vegetables grown at waist height, making them easier to tend, with a fenced enclosure underneath where chicks safely run free. Responsibilities and profits are shared by 25 women, 5 women per FH. LIFE supports these goals:

- Enable women through innovative farming with income-generating opportunities.
- Develop integrated farming systems for vegetables, chickens, and hogs.
- Establish a reputation for humane treatment of animals and a healthy environment, including production that minimizes inorganic chemicals, and recycling and disposal of waste.
- Develop a sustainable business model, with market entry plans to reach urban markets accessible through local transportation.

ACHIEVED!



GOAL: Complete LIFE pilot projects in Alijis, Masaling, and Sagua Banwa

ACHIEVED!



Encouraged by prior success, we expanded the LIFE program to other L2L graduates. During the first half of 2019, nearly 60 women in three communities on Negros Island participated in construction of LIFE Food Houses, and completed over 45 days of training, including financial management. Each group receives bookkeeping training, with a lock box for securing cash until sufficient funds accumulate for bank deposit. All groups have raised and sold their first crops and are preparing for the sale of their first batches of chickens. LIFE generates profits by selling products with high-market demand, requiring only modest start-up supplies, and using inexpensive self-made organic fertilizers and insecticides. Experience shows that this business fits well within the women's daily responsibilities of child care, cooking, and helping their husbands.

GOAL: Initiate Looms for Livelihood™ (L4L) program in Taguig, Metro-Manila

This pilot project is in partnership with the Taguig City Water Lily Livelihood Center and the Mother and Child Association. Together we will begin by enabling 10 women who are keen to learn how to weave using the New Pathways' table top loom. New Pathways will provide the looms, training materials, and start-up grants for participants to launch their businesses. Our partners will provide master weavers to conduct training, mentoring, and marketing/sales assistance.

IN PROGRESS!



GOAL: Open Women's Bakery and Sewing Center in Mawacat

Despite unexpected obstacles in securing a location for the Center, New Pathways and our partner, Northwest Samar State University, are forging ahead. The Philippine Department of Science and Technology is providing a grant of 250,000 Philippine pesos (about \$5000) toward the purchase of necessary machinery and equipment for the bakery. The sewers have been operating for the past year (in the home of the local association president) earning profits from orders for school uniforms and other garments.

IN PROGRESS!



To learn more about NEW Pathways and our projects, please stay in touch: