

Reach *and* Read

OCTOBER 28 - NOVEMBER 22, 2024



Reach and Read

SPREADING LITERACY, ONE COMMUNITY AT A TIME

As part of the National Book Week celebration, the University of Perpetual Help System Laguna once again proved its unwavering commitment to service through the annual community outreach program, "Reach and Read: Spreading Literacy, One Community at a Time." Held on November 22, 2024, the initiative took place at Bahay Pag-asa, Brgy. San Antonio, City of Biñan, Laguna—a home for children in conflict with the law who are working toward healing and reintegration.



Lighting the Path to Literacy: "Reach and Read" Brings Joy and Hope to Bahay Pag-asa

This year's program was a meaningful collaboration between the Library Department, International and External Affairs Office, College of Teacher Education, College of Criminology, and the Community Outreach Department, all united by a shared mission: to uplift young minds through the power of literacy and compassionate outreach. The day was filled with activities that ignited both minds and hearts. Children listened intently to engaging storytelling sessions designed to spark imagination and curiosity. The joy was evident as each child received a book during the book donation drive, turning stories into cherished possessions.

A feeding program followed, ensuring that the young participants were nourished not only intellectually but physically as well. The outreach also included the distribution of essential items—hygiene kits, diapers, and infant milk—to respond to the children's most immediate needs.

This year's program was a meaningful collaboration between the Library Department, International and External Affairs Office, College of Teacher Education, College of Criminology, and the Community Outreach Department, all united by a shared mission: to uplift young minds through the power of literacy and compassionate outreach.



PERPETUALISTA

THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

REACH AND READ: Spreading literacy, one community at a time



At the helm of this initiative were the university's dedicated librarians, led by Dr. Elizabeth D. Malabanan, Director of Libraries, and Dr. Josefa G. Carillo, Director of the International and External Affairs Office. Together with faculty members and student volunteers, they brought warmth, empathy, and educational support to the youth of Bahay Pag-asa.

This outreach effort is more than an event—it is a testament to the university's identity as a nurturing academic institution committed to nation-building. By equipping the next generation with the gift of reading and a renewed sense of hope, UPHSL fulfills its calling to empower communities, nurture lives, and above all, remain steadfast as Helpers of God in every act of love and learning.

TURNING PAGES, TOUCHING LIVES: WHY LITERACY OUTREACH MATTERS

We should carry out programs like "Reach and Read: Spreading Literacy, One Community at a Time" because literacy is a powerful foundation for a brighter future—it opens doors to knowledge, confidence, and opportunity. By reaching out to underserved communities, we not only share the gift of reading but also extend compassion, hope, and the belief that every child deserves a chance to learn, grow, and thrive.

