

EVERYONE CAN BE A LIFESAVER

Collaboration: An Australasian Experience



Shayne Baker

the Philippines

- Population of 92 million
- Archipelago of 7107 islands
- Shared concern on drowning issue
- Proud history in Aquatics
- Significant child drowning problem



Philippine Life Saving Society

Philippine Life Saving Target is to develop within each household “One trained lifesaver”

- Part of overall strategy to educate the Filipino people about water safety, encourage greater supervision, prevent unplanned contact between children and aquatic environs, teach children to “Swim & Survive”

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Collaborative Model

- Key components of relationship include:
 - Mutual respect by both parties
 - Willingness to listen as a means of developing understanding
 - Regular, timely communication
 - Sharing approach to program outcomes
 - Common commitment to the ‘prevention of drowning’

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Philippine Life Saving Society - Year End 2008

- Trained initial PLS volunteers in RLSSA Water Safety 7 Swim & Survive at Los Banos
- Established 3 Regional Chapters of the PLS - Luzon, Visayas & Mindanao
- 1000 volunteer lifesavers trained as Junior Instructors in Swim & Survive
- Established Memorandum of Agreements with teacher education colleges
- Full member of International Life Saving Federation

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Philippine Life Saving Society - Year End 2009

- Established 3 regional training centres at Bagiuio, Adventists University of the Philippines (Silang Cavite) & Malaybalay.
- Launched lifesaving competition - the Great Titan at Boracay Island
- Facilitated drowning research in collaboration with WHO in Laguna, Luzon and Iligan City in Mindanao
- Community activities incorporating water safety sessions in schools & community, active family fun days in Visayas & Mindanao, Open water swim in Cebu City & rescue operations following Typhoon Ketsana

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Philippine Life Saving Society

- Delegation visit to Australia in 2007
- RLSSA facilitated Water Safety & Bronze Medallion training in 2008
- Philippine Lifesaving accepted as full member with International Lifesaving Federation
- Philippine Lifesaving Festival 2009- Great Titan
- Affiliation with Philippine Life Guard, Philippine Amateur Swimming Association, Safe Kids Philippines & RLSSA



Philippine Lifesaving Society



- Pang Habambuhay ito...or
- Life Saving is a Life-long Passion/Commitment

References

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- Philippine Lifesaving Society (2008) “Philippine Lifesaving Year End Accomplishment Report”.
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Congratulations Philippine Lifesaving



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