

**WORLD
SURGICAL
FOUNDATION
PHILIPPINES**



**ANNUAL REPORT
2019**

Introduction

Following the expanding efforts from 2018, the World Surgical Foundation Philippines (WSFP) continued this trend of growth in 2019. WSFP accomplished even more outreach programs in 2019, while also developing and hosting a number of different projects and events to raise funds for the organization.

More than just fundraising, the projects and events accomplished in 2019 were all in line with WSFP's goal of easing the surgical burden for the Filipino people. These included the second phase of the Safe Surgery Initiative, G4 Alliance Global Conference, Philippine College of Surgeons SURE Commissions, the Music as Healing benefit concert, along with other partnerships and collaborations.

Our Mission

In Collaboration with the partners of WSFP, provide accessible, quality, and sustainable healthcare to the needy.

Our Vision

Quality surgical healthcare for the needy

The World Surgical Foundation Executive Board of 2019:

Dr. Lester Suntay – Founding President

Dr. Henrique Da Roza – Vice President of External Projects

Dr. Rhoderick De Leon – Vice President of Internal Projects

Erven Manzano – Treasurer

Arlene P. Keh – Secretary

Dr. Beda Espineda – Trustee

Don Eliseo Lucero-Prisno III – Trustee

Mayo Santiago - Trustee

Atty. Raoul Creencia – Trustee/Legal Counsel

Eliseo Jojo Prisno CRPC, MS – Trustee/Finance

Candy Emnas-Prisno – Trustee

Dr. Domingo Alvear – Advisor

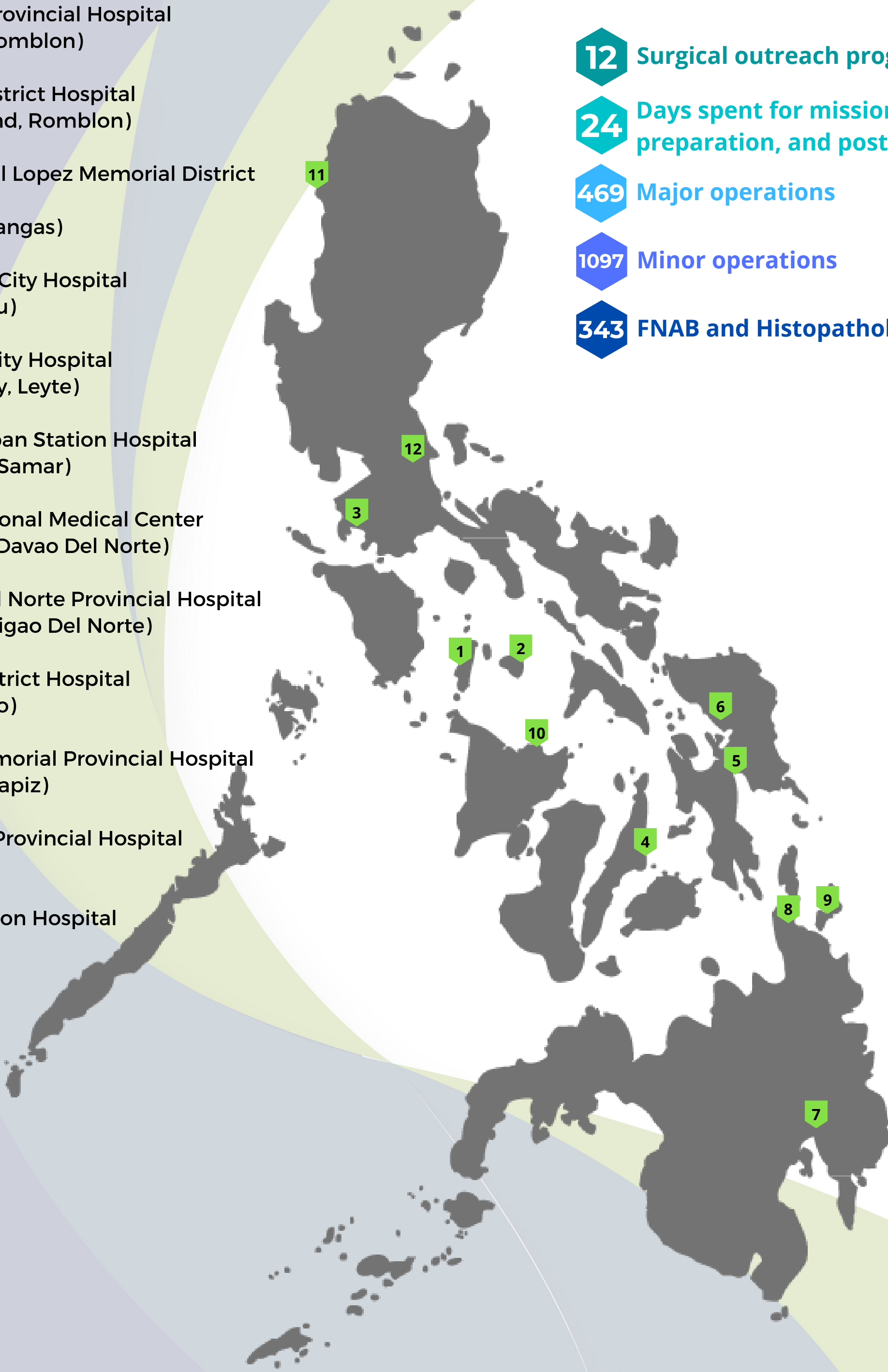
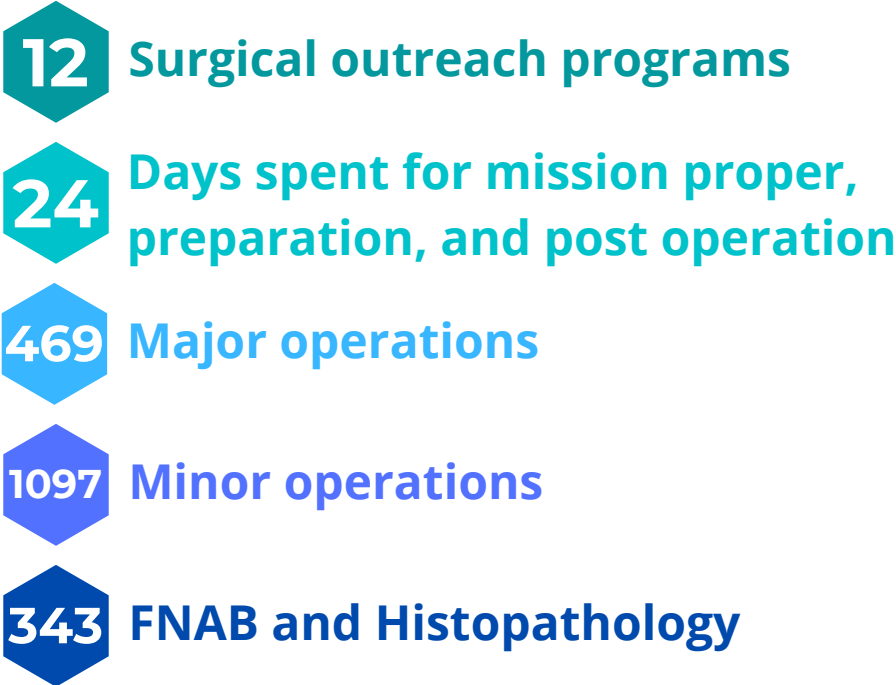
Joseph Emnas – Advisor

Manuel Salak – Trustee



2019 Surgical Outreach Programs

- 1. Romblon Provincial Hospital
(Odiongan, Romblon)
- 2. Sibuyan District Hospital
(Sibuyan Island, Romblon)
- 3. Don Manuel Lopez Memorial District Hospital
(Balayan, Batangas)
- 4. Lapu-Lapu City Hospital
(Mactan, Cebu)
- 5. Tacloban City Hospital
(Tacloban City, Leyte)
- 6. Camp Lukban Station Hospital
(Catbalogan, Samar)
- 7. Davao Regional Medical Center
(Tagum City, Davao Del Norte)
- 8. Surigao Del Norte Provincial Hospital
(Sta. Cruz Surigao Del Norte)
- 9. Siargao District Hospital
(Dapa, Siargao)
- 10. Roxas Memorial Provincial Hospital
(Roxas City, Capiz)
- 11. Ilocos Sur Provincial Hospital
(Vigan City)
- 12. Army Station Hospital
(Tanay, Rizal)



Alleviating the Burden of Surgery

An alarming issue that the Philippine medical sector must face is the heavy congestion in both public and private hospitals due to the overflow of patients. This issue can further cause further issues such as medical staff working overtime, long queue times for patients, and other such work environment issues. With the population constantly growing, and the lack of substantial urgency of government expenditure for the medical sector, the WSFP aims to alleviate this burden in the surgical aspect through the aforementioned surgical outreach program.

To put the numbers into perspective, the division of pediatric surgery in the Philippine General Hospital (PGH) had a total of 2,566 admissions and referrals in 2018 (Philippine General Hospital Annual Report 2018), and the National Children's Hospital (NCH) had a total of 1007 (National Children's Hospital Annual Report 2018). In the twelve outreach programs that the WSFP had in 2019, a total of 1,881 patients were provided the surgical care that they could not access, a number comparable to that of PGH and NCH.

In the upcoming years, the WSFP aims to increase the number of patients served throughout the surgical outreach programs, as to decongest the general and private hospitals around the Philippines. This goal can become possible with increased support from our sponsors and partners, more volunteers, and other sources of income and manpower.



Safe Surgery Initiative

The Safe Surgery Initiative (LifeBox Project) was one of WSFP's first non-mission program that aimed to address the issue of the lack of funding and support for safe anesthesia in Low to Middle Income Countries (Philippines). One essential component of safe anesthesia, as recommended by the 2018 National Health Standards, was Pulse Oximetry.

This project, sponsored by Americares, was led by Henrique Da Roza and Sugar Ferre. During their surgical outreach programs around the country, the WSFP team had assessed the state of equipment and training of the different hospitals around the country. They felt the need to further improve the capacity of these hospitals through the Safe Surgery Initiative. Though baseline data was difficult to assess, the team saw this project as a necessary effort.

The goal of the project was to distribute handheld pulse oximeters to identified government hospitals in need of such equipment. This was done in partnership with Operating Room Nurses Association of the Philippines (ORNAP), Philippine Society of Anesthesiologists (PSA), and the Philippine College of Surgeons (PCS).

In 2019, the Safe Surgery Initiative served as the umbrella term for several different projects that aimed to ease the surgical burden of the Philippines through the donation of surgical equipment to patients and public hospitals. It further expanded with the distribution of colostomy bags in collaboration with Project CURE, the distribution of anesthesia airway kits in collaboration with Dr. Dan Tapia (Project DAN PH), and the Philippine Society of Anesthesiologists. Moreover, the Safe Surgery Initiative was to provide training and education to the recipient medical teams, provision of pulse oximeters, and to conduct follow-up sessions on the hypoxia action plan, pulse oximetry and the WHO Surgical Safety Checklist.

Phase 2 of the Safe Surgery Initiative started in March 2019 and ended in October 2019. In those 7 months, a total of 500 pulse oximeters were distributed to 172 different hospitals, along with a total of 1,781 individuals (nurses, operating room staff, doctors, and administrators) who volunteered for the different activities. Though some hospitals were not qualified to receive pulse oximeters due to the lack of personnel or operating room equipment, participants from these hospitals were still invited to attend the lectures of the program.

As with the previous phase, the project encountered different issues throughout the duration, some of which were issues faced in the previous year. These issues included missing batteries from the pulse oximeters, inclement weather, and the cancellation

of planned hospital visits. These issues were the causes of delays in the project timeline, revisions of plans, and an unexpected increase in the required budget. In total, the allocated budget for the project was PHP 2,381,000 (USD 46,686).



Dr. Henrique Da Roza illustrating proper use of the pulse oximeters



Ms. Sugar Ferre hosting the lecture on safety and guidelines

Month	Hospitals	Pulse Oximeters Delivered	Checklists Delivered	Personnel Trained
March	1	3	3	16
April	7	19	9	45
May	12	30	30	96
June	30	74	74	232
July	6	15	15	60
August	54	151	160	568
September	56	161	172	537
October	16	47	60	227
Total	182	500	523	1781

Safe Surgery Initiative Results 2019

Music and Healing Concert

In cooperation with Depending Family Values Foundation Inc., WSFP hosted a classical benefit concert entitled “Music & Healing: Together We Change Lives”. It was held in St. Scholastica’s College, last July 27, 2019. Both advocates and volunteers were invited to celebrate music and the healing properties that it can exhibit

Among the performers were Odin Rathnam, a world-renowned violinist, accompanied by Filipino pianist Mariel Ilusorio. Together, the two performers emphasized the ‘healing power’ of music, in support of the healing efforts of the WSFP. As a general fundraiser, the proceeds were not directed to specific beneficiaries. Rather, all the proceeds would be used as resources for future outreach programs of WSFP.



Dr. Marcus Lester Suntay
expressing his gratitude to the
volunteers and advocates of WSFP



Odin Rathnam and Mariel Ilusorio performing their piece

Philippine College of Surgeons SURE Commissions

Formally established to ensure surgical equity to Filipino indigents and geographically challenged areas, the PCS Surgery for the Underserved Regions and for Education (SURE) Commission was a Collaboration of private foundations and surgical mission groups supporting the eradication of neglected surgical diseases. This included medical professional societies involved in the service delivery programs like the Philippine Society of Anesthesiologists (PSA), Operating Room Nurses Association of the Philippines (ORNAP), Philippine Society of Pediatric Surgeons (PSPS). Furthermore, WSFP regularly participates in the annual conventions of PCS, PSA, and ORNAP to promote awareness among and recruit volunteers.



WSFP's booth setup in the various conventions

WSFP Hosts the 6th G4 Alliance Global Conference

The Global Alliance for Surgical, Obstetric, Trauma and Anesthesia (SOTA) Care, commonly known as G4 Alliance, is an international group that aims to ease access to safe, essential and timely SOTA care. Over the years, it has made important progress in raising awareness of the need for investment in surgery. The group's advocacy was instrumental to the formulation of World Health Association Resolution 68.15, which calls member states to strengthen surgical and anesthesia care, with the goal of securing access to SOTA care for at least 80% of the world population.

The sixth G4 Alliance Permanent Council Meeting was held in Manila, Philippines last **November 19-20, 2020**, wherein WSFP being a permanent council member, volunteered to host the event together with the Philippine College of Surgeons. The meeting was attended by representatives of member and guest organizations around the world. Over the course of two days, the 70+ members of the G4 Alliance engaged in conversation, collaboration and discuss about future goals and strategies. The meeting's final message was to move beyond awareness-building and on towards the strategic pillars such as policy development and implementation and resource mobilization.

SOTA critical to UHC

The global health community is honoring the principles behind Universal Health **Care**, which means that every person in the world should be able to get the health services they need - as a basic human right - wherever they live and without facing catastrophic health expenditures. As advocates and healthcare practitioners, G4 Alliance members believe that health coverage is not universal if it does not include universal access to safe, timely and affordable SOTA care. Strengthening trauma and emergency care services, as well as essential surgery capacities are crucial aspects of an integrated healthcare delivery.

UHC demands greater accountability from governments to install the needed physical infrastructure, training and compensation for health workers at all levels of care, logistics for medications, supplies and equipment, appropriate health financing and health information system. This also means that quality and safe SOTA care should be accessed within reasonable amount of time, without catastrophic spending.

Contextualizing UHC and SOTA Care through LGU Engagement Timely and fitting with the recent national direction on UHC law implementation in the country, WSFP proudly shared its collaborative work with the local governments in responding to the need for surgical interventions. LGU partners Mayor Denise Bragas of the

municipality of Danglas, Abra and Mayor Trina Firmalo of the Municipality of Odiongan, Romblon, whose municipalities are both categorized as Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas by the Department of Health, shared their first-hand experience in providing the surgical care to their constituents. Mayor Firmalo presented the use of Finders Keepers, an app developed by a G4 member Mr. Henry and Dr. Jaymie Henry. As a pilot program, the app is utilized to track the neglected surgical diseases (NSDs) in the municipality through the help of the community health workers. Patient data were collected and as soon as surgical cases were identified, WSFP supported by validating the diagnoses of local doctors and coordinated the delivery of care with various NGOs specializing in treatment for these conditions. Mayor Firmalo noted that before the app, she had limited knowledge about the incidence of NSDs in her area. She was surprised of the reality that despite having a specialist coming every month to do surgeries, there were still patients picked up by the tracking mechanisms of the app. This use of technology in health ensures that nobody falls through the cracks of the system.

Beyond surgical care

As member of the G4 Alliance, WSFP aligns its directions with the UHC commitments and goals, both at the global and local levels.

WSFP recognizes that surgical treatment alone cannot address the gaps in surgical healthcare. Hence, in the coming years, WSFP will endeavor in creating a national surgical plan that encompasses the spectrum of surgical care: social preparation, national and local census of surgical needs through an app which can be utilized by Local Government Units to track surgical patients in real time, train local surgeons and collaborate with the Department of Health, Philhealth, medical societies and surgical organizations to craft policy reforms to make surgical care accessible in local health systems and equitable in its distribution of services. All of which are aimed to ensure the advocacy that no Filipino will be left behind in getting the right healthcare, particularly surgical treatment, they deserve.



The attendees of the G4 Alliance Global Conference keeping the promise of universal access to surgical, obstetric, trauma, and anesthesia care



Members from the executive board of WSFP, along with some of their advocates were attendees of the event

Partners and Sponsors for 2019



ABS-CBN

LINGKOD KAPAMILYA
FOUNDATION



Ateneo de Manila Batch 80



Integrity Service Excellence
GERRY ROXAS
FOUNDATION

GMA
KAPUSO FOUNDATION, INC.

Partners and Sponsors for 2019



www.injapfoundation.com



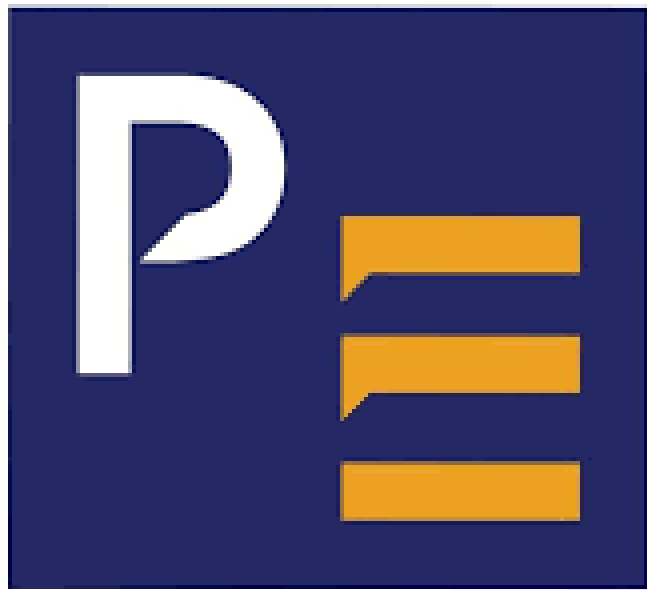
Maryknoll Batch 58



MEGAWIDE
FOUNDATION



Partners and Sponsors for 2019



P/E Capital Investments



Philippine Information Agency



8th Infantry Division Philippines



Partners and Sponsors for 2019



2nd Infantry Division Philippines



Partners and Sponsors for 2019

2nd Infantry Division Philippines
8th Infantry Division Philippines
ABS CBN Foundation
Ateneo de Manila Batch 80
Balayan Club of Chicago
City of Vigan
Department of Health
Du30 Cabinet Spouses Association
Gerry Roxas Foundation
GMA Kapuso Foundation
INJAP Foundation
Mabuhay Padala
Maryknoll College Batch 58
Megawide Foundation
Office of the Vice President
Operating Room Nurses Association of the Philippines
PCS SURE Commission
P/E Capital Investments
Philippine Information Agency (Andanar)
Philippine Medical Association
Philippine Military Academy
Philippine Society of Pediatric Surgeons
Sun Life Foundation Philippines
Ms. Arlene Keh
Mr. Bonito Singson
Ms. Edna del Rosario
Ms. Estelita Ignacio
Mr. Ninno Rios

CONTACT US:



WorldSurgicalPH



info@wsfphilippines.org.ph



worldsurgicalph



0995 954 5368

No. 435 Z.P De Guzman St., Brgy 393, Quiapo, Manila

wsfphilippines.org.ph