



# DILGinsider

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## SPREAD UNCONDITIONAL LOVE THROUGH

"We are called to la la la la la love more," so goes the Kids for Christ song "Called to Love." And while many people went crazy over flowers, chocolates, and teddy bears during the recent Valentine's Day celebration, there are many children out there who are yearning to feel the love. These are the orphaned, abandoned, or neglected Filipino children.

In support of efforts to spread unconditional love this love month of February, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) personnel arose very early on February 11 and headed towards Liwasang Aurora at the Quezon Memorial Circle, Quezon City to join the Legal Adoption Campaign spearheaded by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).



DILG personnel hold their placard and flaglet during the early morning walkathon around the premises of Quezon Memorial Circle.

As early as 6 am, government agencies, civil society organizations, non-government organizations were ready for the Zumba session. Young and old, boys and girls, they all swayed their hips, waved their arms, shook their legs, and flexed their bodies to the music as they followed the movements of the two Zumba instructors who led the dance steps.

The activity was followed by a one-hour walkathon around the premises of the Quezon Memorial Circle. Participants either waved their flaglets, held their tarpaulins, or carried their placards during the walk signifying their support to the cause.

Fun games about legal adoption were also conducted afterwards for the participants. Small tokens were given to the lucky winners. At one end, locals and foreigners eagerly asked for assistance and advise at the DSWD's Legal Adoption Helpdesk. They asked questions, filled out forms, and hoped to legally adopt one of the orphaned, abandoned, or neglected Filipino children who are most in need of love.

Adoption is a socio-legal process that is facilitated by the DSWD while the

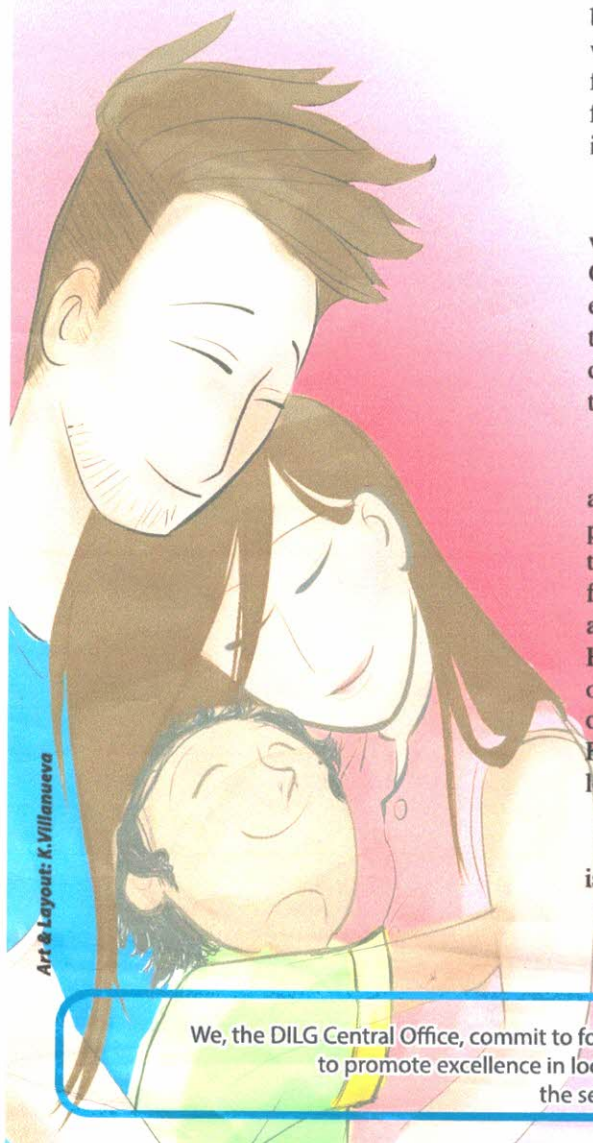
legal aspect is handled by the courts. This allows the abandoned, neglected or founding children in the DSWD centers to have a permanent family.

This year's celebration carries the theme "Pagmamahal Palaganapin, Legal na Pag-aampon Ating Gawin!" or "Spread Unconditional Love through Legal Adoption".

The declaration of the month of February as the Adoption Consciousness Month is in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) which is a legally-binding international agreement setting out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of every child, regardless of their race, religion, or abilities.

With over two million orphans in the Philippines, what better way to provide a home and show real love for them than legal adoption? So for those who do not have a biological child, you can go ahead and spread unconditional love through legal adoption. After all, you and I are called to reach out to those who need love. Now is the time to go out of our way, let us all share and bless others today by legally adopting them. La la la la la love more.

--- Ma. Evelyn B. Castino-Quilas



Art & Layout: K. Villanueva

### DILG-CO QUALITY POLICY

We, the DILG Central Office, commit to formulate sound policies and provide effective technical and administrative services to promote excellence in local governance, strengthen local government capacities, and enhance the service delivery of our Regional and Field Offices.