THIS DIORAMA IS A TESTAMENT TO THE PHILIPPINE LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY’S COMMITMENT TO FILIPINOS WITH EPILEPSY. IT SHOWCASES THE VARIOUS DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES, PROGRAMS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THIS ORGANIZATION OF COMMITTED VOLUNTEERS.
In the 1980’s, the first group of neurologists with subspeciality training in neurology started returning to the country from their fellowship studies in the United States. Eager to disseminate what they had learned to the local community of neurologists as well as to the public, they together with some colleagues, formed “The Epilepsy Society of the Philippines”. However, after two elections, the society became inactive. Attempts to reactivate the organization did not materialize until 1996 upon the initiative of Dr. Martesio Perez.

Dr. Perez convinced a core group of neurologists consisting of former members of the society to reorganize. Certain restrictions from the Securities and Exchange Commission prevented the use of the former name of the organization, so the new organization was named “PHILIPPINE LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY”. A Constitution and By-Laws was drafted by the group.

On June 18, 1997 at the Mimosa Golf Resort in Angeles, Pampanga, PLAE

Ratification of the PLAE Constitution and By-Laws in 1998

On February 11, 1998 the PLAE Constitution and By-Laws was ratified by the General Assembly during a meeting at the Philippine Columbian Association. This ratified version of the Constitution was submitted to the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 20, 1998. In November 1998, there were already 82 members.

The First Annual Business Meeting was held at the EDSA Shangri-la Hotel in Mandaluyong on November 22, 1998.
The first plans were made bold and daring, sounded more like wishful thinking.

There was so much to be done...

... to improve epilepsy care in the country.

Big dreams made by people who were prepared to do whatever it took to reach the goal.
MISSION

We are a non-profit national organization of professionals committed to the improvement of the quality of life of persons with epilepsy through education, research, prevention, advocacy and delivery of optimal health care.

VISION

• We are internationally recognized as the national chapter by the International League Against Epilepsy with regional representation all throughout the Philippines.

• We are acknowledged as the expert source of information and continuing professional education in the care of persons with epilepsy.

• We maintain a National Epilepsy Registry and fund for research.

We see persons with epilepsy…

• Who have ready access to an efficient referral system from the grassroots level to the experts in the field of epilepsy in collaboration with the Department of Health and other organizations.

• Who can avail of affordable and efficacious antiepileptic drugs and,

• Whose rights are protected by legislation.

OBJECTIVES

• The dissemination and advancement of knowledge concerning epilepsies among medical and other professionals whose field is related to epilepsy.

• The promotion of training, research and prevention concerning the epilepsies.

• The improvement of health care and the quality of life of persons with epilepsy
II. PLAE REGISTRATION WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION IN 1998
Official affiliation with ILAE

In 1998, the PLAE applied to become the national chapter of the International League Against Epilepsy. It was given probationary membership by the International League pending certain constitutional amendments. An emergency constitutional convention was held at the Pearl of the Pacific Resort at Boracay Island on May 28, 1999 to address this issue. The constitutional amendments were finally submitted and were approved to the ILAE in May 1999 which was approved by the ILAE Executive Committee one month after. The PLAE was finally presented to the ILAE body and given full rights and privileges as a member during the International Epilepsy Congress in Prague, Czech Republic on September 1999.
IV. NATIONAL EPILEPSY CONGRESSES
HELD BIENNIAIY SINCE 2001

• Provide updates on the pathophysiology, diagnosis, treatment, comorbidities, quality of life issues in epilepsy
• Through high level symposia, plenary lectures, panel discussions, interactive sessions
• To epileptologists, neurologists, neurosurgeons, and other medical and allied medical professionals engaged in the care of persons with epilepsy

2nd National Epilepsy Congress
Manila 2003
NATIONAL LAY SYMPOSIA HELD BIENNIALLY BACK TO BACK WITH NATIONAL EPILEPSY CONGRESS SINCE 2002

4th National Lay Symposium
Bacolod City 2007

Epilepsy Symposium for High School Students St. Mary’s Academy
Guagua, Pampanga 2008

6th Lay Symposium
Laoag City 2011
V. PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION 230 ON AUGUST 24, 2002 DECLARING THE FIRST WEEK OF SEPTEMBER EVERY YEAR AS “THE NATIONAL EPILEPSY WEEK”

The Campaign Objectives

- To increase public and professional awareness of epilepsy as a universal and treatable brain disorder
- To raise epilepsy to a new plane of acceptability in the public domain
- To promote professional education about epilepsy
- To identify the needs of people with epilepsy at national and regional levels.
- To encourage government and the Department of Health to address the needs of people with epilepsy, including awareness, education, diagnosis, treatment, care, services and prevention

The PAVES Project since 2002

Public Awareness Volunteers for Epilepsy (PAVES)

PLAE members who are committed to implementing the National Epilepsy Campaign in their areas

PAVES hold at least 2 lay seminars in their provinces per year

PAVES help train leaders and organize patient support groups
VI. CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL EPILEPSY AWARENESS WEEK FROM 2002

Why the need for Epilepsy Awareness?

**Epilepsy**

...is the most common serious chronic brain disorder in every country affecting some 50 million people of all ages world-wide.
...affects an estimated 800,000 Filipinos
...consultations constitute about 1/3 of total Neurology outpatient visits/year at large referrals centers and continue to be one of two most common reasons for Neurology consultations and admissions.

The lack of awareness and understanding about epilepsy leads to misconceptions and social stigma and hinders access to effective treatment.
...can have serious medical consequences and is both an economic and social burden.
...is treatable and majority of persons with epilepsy can lead normal lives, if properly and promptly diagnosed and treated.

“ Awareness was the first step to conquering epilepsy”

_L. Cabral-Lim_

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**3rd National Epilepsy Awareness Week 2004**

**Pinoy Olympics, 5th National Epilepsy Awareness Week 2006**

**Epilepsy Idol 2007 during the 6th National Epilepsy Awareness Week**
THEMES FOR NATIONAL EPILEPSY AWARENESS WEEK CELEBRATIONS:

DERIVED FROM THE NATIONAL EPILEPSY CAMPAIGN, WHICH IN TURN FOLLOWED THE GLOBAL EPILEPSY CAMPAIGN

EPILEPSY OUT OF THE SHADOWS

SEIZE THE DAY

LIGTAS NA MUNDO

BUILDING TIES, BUILDING LIVES

KAALAMAN, KASAYAHAN, KABUHAYAN

ANG EPILEPSY AY DI BIRO

EPILEPSY: KAYA NATIN ‘TO!!

EPILEPSY: TIGIL ATAKE... TULAY SA TAGUMPAY
VII. EPILEPSY EXEMPLAR AWARDS SINCE 2004

OBJECTIVE
...To recognize exemplary persons with epilepsy who have succeeded in their fields of endeavor despite their condition...

FIRST EPILEPSY EXEMPLAR AWARDS
2004

3rd EPILEPSY EXEMPLAR AWARDS
2008

2ND EPILEPSY EXEMPLAR AWARDS
2006

4TH EPILEPSY EXEMPLAR AWARDS
2010

5TH EPILEPSY EXEMPLAR AWARDS
2012

6TH EPILEPSY EXEMPLAR AWARDS
2014
VIII. EPILEPSY MANAGER PROGRAM SINCE 2004

A pilot program of the Committee on Medical Education, Philippine League Against Epilepsy

OBJECTIVE

...“To make available to the Filipino people within a one hour bus ride or less from their homes, a doctor who is competent in managing persons with epilepsy at the primary care level”

PILOT SITE:
Guagua, Pampanga

EPILEPSY MANAGER PROGRAM

The Epilepsy Manager Program

OTHER PROJECT SITES:
ILOILO, BACOLOD, CAMARINES SUR, MISAMIS ORIENTAL, DIPOLLOG, PAGADIAN

TOTAL NUMBER OF PROJECT SITES:
29

TOTAL NUMBER OF EPILEPSY MANAGERS TRAINED:
29

The Epilepsy Manager Program

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL

TINAMBAC, CAMARINES SUR

EPILEPSY MANAGER PROGRAM

Treatment access intervention: The Epilepsy Manager Program of the Philippine League Against Epilepsy

Maria Pelicidul Sato MD
Philippine League Against Epilepsy; Section of Neurology; University of the East; R 3 Medical Center; Quezon City, Philippines

The Philippine League Against Epilepsy has a community program which has been funded by the Epilepsy Manager Program. It was created in addressing the needs of people with epilepsy in the rural areas. An Epilepsy Manager is defined as a semi-trained person who will receive care to people with epilepsy in the primary care level. The process of the community to develop a service is the readily available, accessible, comprehensive service to the Epilepsy Manager. It was developed in partnership with Medical Colleges in different provinces. The program is ongoing. The training of the Epilepsy Manager and the results of the program after 3 years of implementation.
IX. THE NATIONAL EPILEPSY CAMP SINCE 2006

ADOPTED FROM THE EPILEPSY CAMP OF THE PHILIPPINE CHILDREN’S MEDICAL CENTER

OBJECTIVE:
The improvement of health care and the quality of life of persons with epilepsy through education

Held every 2 years in different regions of the country, for PWE, their families/caregivers, primary physicians, nurses, barangay health workers, teachers, pharmaceutical persons

FIRST NATIONAL EPILEPSY CAMP
CAMP SPELLBOUND 2006

2ND NATIONAL EPILEPSY CAMP
NUEVA ECIJA 2008

3RD NATIONAL EPILEPSY CAMP
BUTUAN CITY 2010

4TH NATIONAL EPILEPSY CAMP
SAN FERNANDO PAMPANGA 2012

5TH NATIONAL EPILEPSY CAMP
LUCENA CITY, QUEZON 2014
X. EPILEPSY SCHOOL CARAVAN SINCE 2009

OBJECTIVE:

...To promote epilepsy awareness among school-aged children

...To lessen the stigmatization and bullying suffered by children with epilepsy

...To inspire these school-aged children to become advocates for persons with epilepsy

MEMORANDUM ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ALLOWING SCHOOLS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EPILEPSY SCHOOL CARAVAN PROJECT OF THE PLAE

LAUNCHING OF EPILEPSY SCHOOL CARAVAN IN 2009

KIM ATIENZA READS THE EPILEPSY BOOKLET TO CHILDREN IN SM NORTH EDSA

LAY EPILEPSY BOOKLET: “MASAYA ANG BUHAY KAHIT MAY EPILEPSY”
Written by Lourdes K. Ledesma & Marilyn H. Ortiz, PLAE

“HAPPILEPSY”
by Nicanor Carlo M. Santos IV and Ma. Lourdes M. Santos

EPILEPSY SCHOOL CARAVAN, TAWI TAWI

EPILEPSY SCHOOL CARAVAN, SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA
XI. The BRIDGES Project since 2005

Provides the framework to fill in the gaps in epilepsy care in the Government health care system

Invites volunteers from PLAE members to:
- Hold a regular weekly epilepsy clinics in their communities to serve the indigent patients with epilepsy
- Implement the referral system prescribed by the PLAE for indigent patients
- Contribute data to the National Epilepsy Registry project

The BRIDGES Project

VISION:

“We see persons with epilepsy . . . who have ready access to an efficient referral system from the grassroots level to the experts in the field of epilepsy in collaboration with the Department of Health and other organizations.”
XII. PLAE IN THE NATIONAL, REGIONAL, INTERNATIONAL SCENES

XIIA: PLAE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & PHILIPPINE LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY

FEBRUARY 2012
DOH USEC: Ted Herbosa
PLAE President: Hazel Paragua

XIIIB: PLAE AND ILAE-COMMISSION ON ASIAN & OCEANIAN AFFAIRS: ASIAN EPILEPSY ACADEMY

ASIAN EPILEPSY ACADEMY SEPTEMBER 2013 BOHOL

ASEPA Faculty
XIIC. PLAE HOSTS THE 9TH ASIAN & OCEANIAN EPILEPSY CONGRESS AT THE SMX CONVENTION CENTER, MANILA, ON MARCH 22-25, 2012

XIID. INTERNATIONAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITION GIVEN TO PLAE AND EAAI MEMBERS

DR. LEONOR CABRAL LIM JOINS THE ROSTER OF THE 2012 ILAE CAOA ASIAN AND OCEANIAN OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT EPILEPSY AWARD IN MANILA, PHILIPPINES IN MARCH 2012

DR. MA. FELICIDAD A. SOTO, PLAE EPILEPSY MANAGER PROGRAM DIRECTOR, IS THE SECOND FILIPINO NEUROLOGIST-EPILEPTOLOGIST TO RECEIVE THE ILAE-CAOA ASIAN AND OCEANIAN OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT EPILEPSY AWARD IN 2014 IN SINGAPORE

Baldwin Kho, Epilepsy Exemplar, is one of the 2012 Outstanding Persons with Epilepsy in the Asian & Oceanian Region

Filipino awardees during the 9th Asian & Oceanian Epilepsy Congress

Filipino awardees during the 9th Asian & Oceanian Epilepsy Congress
Hosted by the Philippine League Against Epilepsy
March 22-25, 2012
SMX Convention Center, Manila

Dr. Leonor Cabral Lim
Asian & Oceanian Outstanding Achievement Epilepsy Award

Baldwin Kho
Outstanding Person with Epilepsy Award

PLAE MEMBERS IN THE REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL FRONT

JOSEPHINE C. GUTIERREZ
ASEPA FACULTY

MARIA ANNA S. BEREVA
ASEPA FACULTY

LEONOR CABRAL LIM
TREASURER, ILAE COMMISSION ON ASIAN & OCEANIAN AFFAIRS

HAZEL PARRAGU-IUZLEB
MEMBER, ILAE SUB-COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL THERAPEUTICS
XIIE. PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL EPILEPSY ACTIVITIES

STAND UP FOR EPILEPSY

INTERNATIONAL EPILEPSY DAY FEBRUARY 8, 2015

Mansueto “Onyok” Velasco (Olympics Silver Medalist, Boxing) and Gio Chang (child with epilepsy)
XII. PUBLICATIONS IN PEER REVIEWED REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL JOURNALS

Epilepsy surgery in the Philippines

Joseblee CBUA
Department of Neurosciences, University of the Philippines, Philippine General Hospital, Manila, Philippines

Abstract
One of the milestones in the management of epilepsy in the Philippines is the formation of the Philippine League Against Epilepsy in 1994. A number of projects have been implemented to improve the public awareness and care of patients with epilepsy. The comprehensive epilepsy program was started in 1997, mostly based in the St. Luke Medical Center. Since then, the program is continued in other hospitals where the St. Luke Medical Center. Video-EEG monitoring is also available in two other hospitals. Public education, high costs, and social stigmas are some of the factors for underdiagnosis of the surgical option for epilepsy treatment in Philippines.

Neurology Asia 2012; 17(2): 83 – 85

REVIEW ARTICLE

Epilepsy in Philippine language and dialects

Josephine Comacena-Guzmán
University of the Philippines – Philippine General Hospital, Manila, De La Salle University Medical Center, Dasmariñas, Cavite, Philippines

Abstract
In the Philippines, English and Filipino traditional "tagalog" are widely used for media and education. "Epilepsy" and "seizure" are commonly used terms. "Ila" and "Ila" suffer from a negative connotation based on a local unappreciated epideiologic knowledge, attitude and perception survey. Several popular dialects have epilepsy names (jaul, enal, liega, denom, balung) used in the study but not described in the conclusion. It can be seen that epilepsy also exist (Downing, Iliac, epilepsy).

Research priorities in epilepsy for the Asia-Oceania region

Patrick Avenell, Laurenah Cabalin-Lim, Dinahalal Morita, Michaela B. Tiongson, Kristine Mar, Christian Jose, Joel A. Atienza, Guillermo Ling, M. Veronica de la Raya, and the CARA Research Task Force

Neurology Asia 2012; 17(2): 83 – 85

Treatment access intervention: The Epilepsy Manager Program of the Philippine League Against Epilepsy

Mara Velasco-Seto
Philippine League Against Epilepsy, Section of Neurology, University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Hospital Medical Center, San Juan, Philippines

Abstract
The Philippine League Against Epilepsy has a community project which has been named, The Epilepsy Manager Program. It was created to address the needs of patients with epilepsy in the rural area. The Epilepsy Manager Program is a non-reimbursable cost for patients with epilepsy in the island of Samar. The program focuses on training the Epilepsy Managers. It uses a partnership model, enables an effective implementation of the services offered. This is an example of a successful implementation of the program. The success of the program is due to the training of Epilepsy Managers, and the results of the program after 5 years of implementation.
XIII. TRIPARTITE SYMPOSIUM ON MEDICAL MARIJUANA IN EPILEPSY

SEPTEMBER 2014

PHILIPPINE NEUROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
CHILD NEUROLOGY SOCIETY PHILIPPINES
PHILIPPINE LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY
VISION
To be the **CHAMPION** of every Filipino with epilepsy

MISSION
We are committed to:

- **PIONEER**
- **LEAD**
- **ADVOCATE**
- **PILEPSY CARE**

CORE VALUES
- commitment
-appy Teamwork
-ccountability
-lasakit
-assion
-egrity
-tanding Service
-turing Spirit

18 years
XV. EPILEPSY PATIENT REGISTRY
THROUGH AN UNRESTRICTED GRANT FROM ABBOTT

The PLAE EPILEPSY REGISTRY is a COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROJECT of the PHILIPPINE LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY. It is NEUROLOGIST-POWERED and PATIENT-CENTERED NETWORK.

The registry aims to build a body of knowledge to assess and strengthen local health care systems for patients with epilepsy and expedite researches to improve services and care for patients especially in areas of prevention, diagnosis and treatment.

PROJECT DIRECTOR: MADELEINE M. SOSA
PHILIPPINE LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY
PAST PRESIDENTS
1997 – 2013

MARTESIO C. PEREZ
PLAE FOUNDING PRESIDENT

VICTORIA G. BAEL
PLAE PRESIDENT 2008 - 2009

LEONOR CABRAL LIM
PLAE PRESIDENT 2000-2005

JOSEPHINE C. GUTIERREZ
PLAE PRESIDENT 2010-2011

ELMA MARANON
PLAE PRESIDENT 2006-2007

HAZEL PARAGUA-ZUELLIG
PLAE PRESIDENT 2012-2013
PLAE HAS INDEED COME A LONG WAY FROM 1997, WHEN A SMALL GROUP OF NEUROLOGISTS BANDED TOGETHER TO WORK COLLECTIVELY TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF FILIPINOS WITH EPILEPSY.

ARMED WITH VERY LITTLE FINANCIAL AND LOGISTICAL RESOURCES BUT WITH AN OVERABUNDANCE OF PASSION, ENERGY, DETERMINATION AND GENUINE CONCERN FOR THE WELFARE OF FILIPINOS WITH EPILEPSY, THIS ORGANIZATION OF COMMITTED VOLUNTEERS PURSUED ITS OBJECTIVES RELENTLESSLY, INNOVATIVELY, INDOMITABLY....

....TO THIS POINT IN TIME WHEN WE NOW CAN SAY THAT YES, WE HAVE MANY PROGRAMS IN PLACE THAT HAVE MET OUR GOALS:

• The dissemination & advancement of knowledge concerning the epilepsies
• The promotion of training, research & prevention concerning the epilepsies
• The improvement of health care & quality of life of persons with epilepsy

• AT 18, AT THE THRESHOLD OF MATURITY, PLAE IS POISED TO TAKE ON NEW CHALLENGES, TO SOAR EVEN GREATER HEIGHTS, FOR AS LONG AS EACH AND EVERY MEMBER CONTINUES TO EMBRACE OUR REASON FOR BEING....

THE WELFARE OF EVERY FILIPINO WITH EPILEPSY