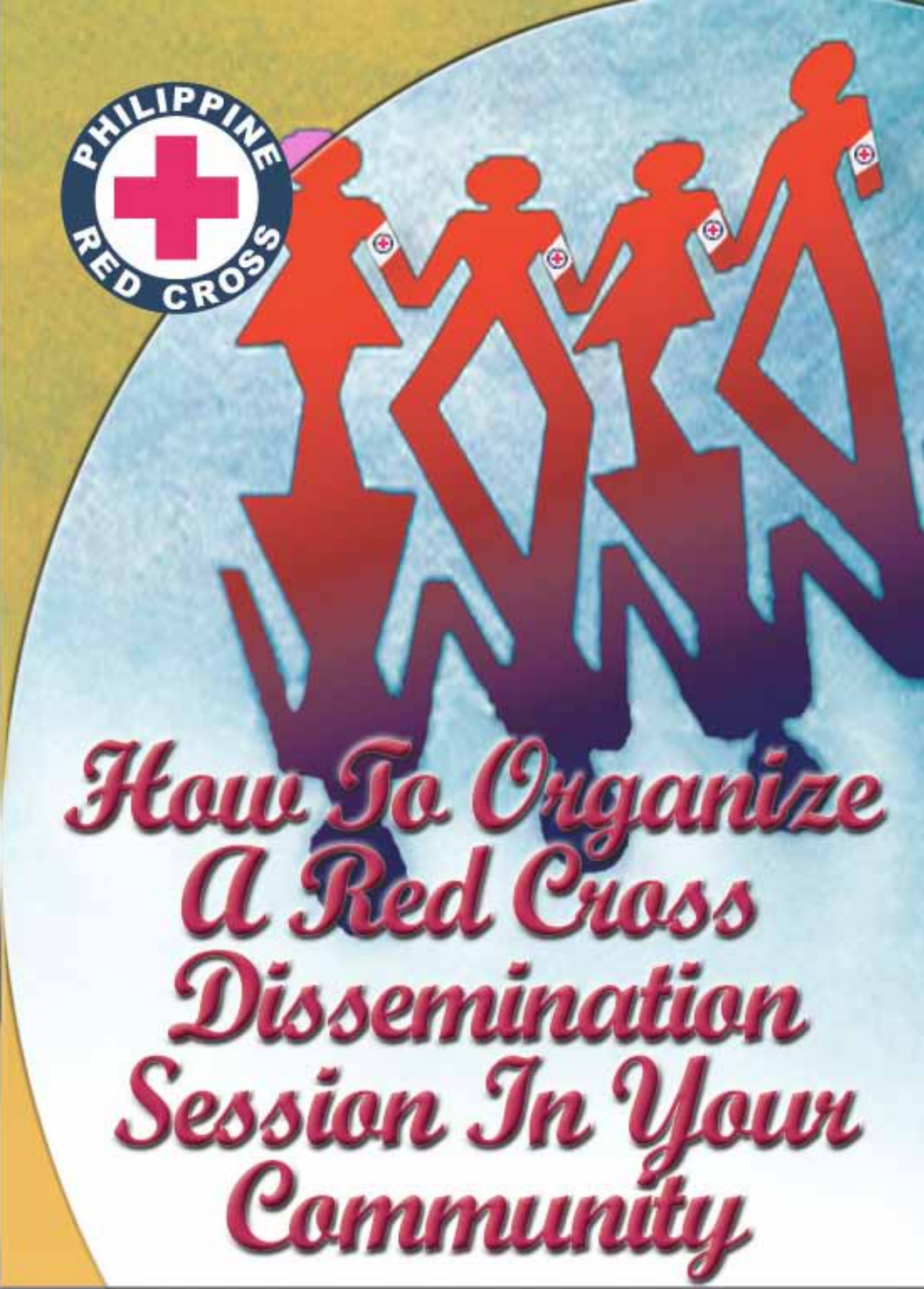
PHILIPPINE RED CROSS



# How To Organize A Red Cross Dissemination Session In Your Community

RED CROSS 143

VOLUNTEERS TOOLKIT

# Key messages to the volunteers

* We are the world's ***FIRST HUMANITARIAN FORCE.***

* Globally and locally, we are committed to ***SERVE THE COMMUNITY.***

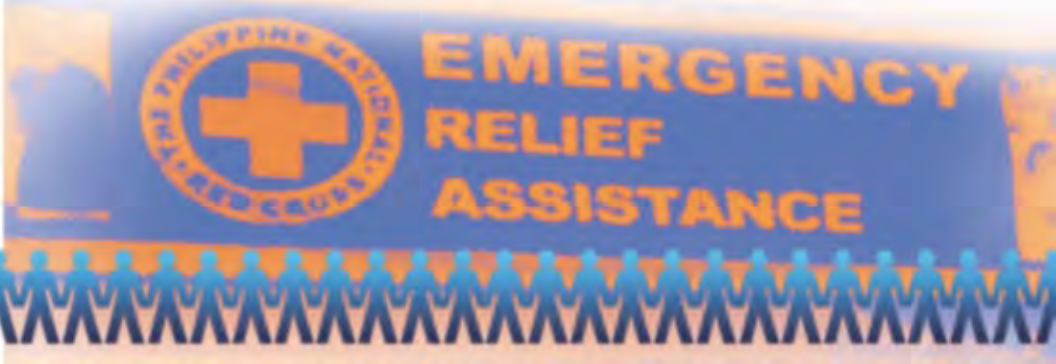
* Our emblem stands for quality service which is ***VOLUNTARY, IMPARTIAL AND NEUTRAL.***

* The ***MOST VULNERABLE*** are our first priority.

* Our ***VOLUNTEERS ARE TRAINED, SKILLED***, and ***COMMITTED*** to save and improve life wherever they are needed.

* We ***RESPOND QUICKLY*** to emergency and help people help themselves.

* We attract ***SUPPORT FROM PEOPLE*** in every walk of life and are accountable to them.



* ***PEOPLE CAN COUNT ON US*** to get things done.

* We have a proven track record of delivering ***EFFECTIVE HELP AND CARE.***

* We are ready to take on the ***CHALLENGES OF THE MILLENNIUM.***

# Activities You Can Do To Your Community

## Steps in Organizing a Red Cross Dissemination Session in the Barangay

### 1. Introducing the Activity:

- The volunteer disseminator should coordinate closely with the host sitio / purok; should arrange the session with the sitio/purok leaders.

## 2. Identification of sitio/purok in the barangays

* History of armed conflict in the sitio/purok;
* Sitio/purok in the barangay that are prone to armed conflicts or where armed groups are often reported that have been seen;
* Distance of the sitio/purok to the town proper, mode of transportation of the barangay residents;
* Access of the sitio/purok to various government services, particularly health;

## 3. Gathering of Participants

* Members in the community
* Co-volunteers
* Youth/Leaders in the Community
* Others

## 4. Choosing the Venue

* Venue of the dissemination must be in a place not only conducive for learning but more importantly, accessible to the participants;
* Some sitios/purok- usually that those are affected by armed conflict-cannot send a participant due to transportation problem;

## 5. Start of the Session

* Ask assistance from local chapter disseminator.

## PRC - How it Started, Who We Are, and What We Do

### How did it All Start?

*Ready your travel luggage and Buckle up yourself as we take a trip back in the past to trace how Red Cross is founded...*

### Getting to Know the Man Behind the Creation of International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement...

On ***24 June 1859*** the Austrian and French armies clashed at Solferino, a town in Northern Italy. **HENRY DUNANT**, a Swiss citizen and businessman, by chance, arrived in the area for he was looking for Emperor Napoleon III of France.
He was horrified by what he saw. He also saw the need of adequate medical services for both armies since thousands of wounded soldiers were left unattended to their fate. Dunant set about organizing care for them, without discrimination, helped by civilians from neighboring villages.

*Unable to forget...*

On return to Switzerland, Dunant wrote "A memory of Solferino", which he published at his own expense in 1862 and circulated to friends, philanthropists, military officers, politicians, and royal families too.
The book was an immediate success.

# *What's in the book?*

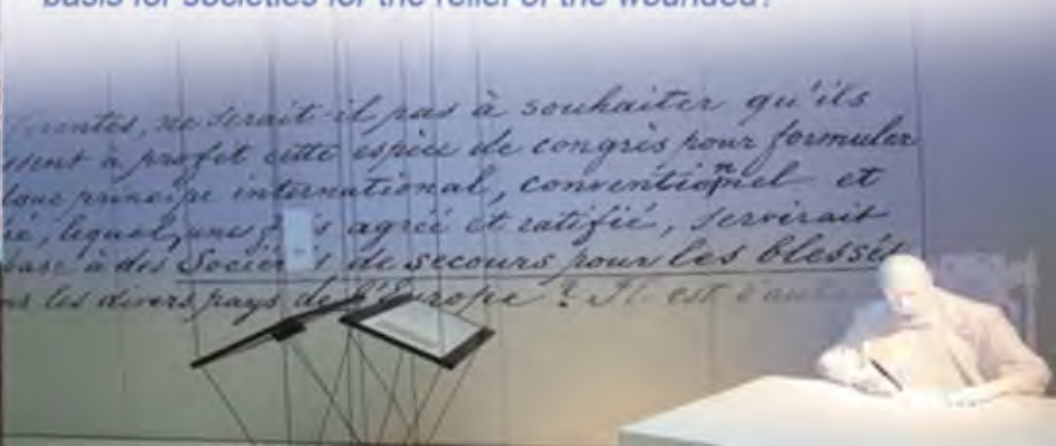
At the latter part of Dunant's book, he proposed two ideas which eventually laid the foundation of humanitarian assistance worldwide.

**First Idea:** *"Would it not be possible in time of peace and quiet, to form relief societies for the purpose of having care given to the wounded in wartime by zealous, devoted and thoroughly qualified volunteers ?"*

**1st Fruit:** **It led to the creation of the National Red Cross (and later, Red Crescent) Societies.**

On 9 February 1863, a committee of five was set up to consider how Dunant's ideas might be implemented. This committee founded the "International Committee for the Relief of Military Wounded in Time of War." Today this is called the **"International Committee of the Red Cross." (ICRC)**

**Second Idea:** *"Would it not be desirable to formulate some international principle, sanctioned by a convention inviolate, which one agreed upon and ratified, might constitute the basis for societies for the relief of the wounded?"*



**2nd Fruit:** It led to the development of modern international humanitarian law, which first found written expression in the Geneva Convention of 1864, then called Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded in Armies in the Field. (protection of wounded soldiers in the battlefield)

## 3 HEADS ARE BETTER THAN 1...

True enough, The Red Cross, both as an institution and as a movement, is now called, "The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement." and it has three (3) components:

1. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

2. The National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

3. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (The Federation)

## *What does the red cross stands for ???*

"During the said conference of 16 states and four philanthropic institutions in 1863 – a red cross on white background – was adopted, actually the reverse of the Swiss federal flag, as a compliment to Switzerland that initiated the conference."

**In 1876, during the Russian-Turkish war, the red crescent was adopted for the Islamic countries as they deemed appropriate to their belief and culture.**

## Please Take Note on This:

The red cross as an emblem has no religious connotation; and the same is true with the red crescent. Thus the Red Cross and Red Crescent have the same meaning: help and protection to all victims of disasters – human-induced and natural.

## What are the Uses of the Emblem?

### *1. Protective Use*

A large, visible red cross and red crescent on white background, sign of protection granted by the Geneva Convention during war time.

**The protective use of emblem is granted only to:**

- Military medical services (AFP)
- Red Cross workers – The Philippine Red Cross (PRC), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (The Federation).

ICRC

### *2. Indicative Use*

A small logo of red cross or red crescent with the name of either PRC or ICRC or The Federation.

## *Can the emblem be used anytime and anywhere?*

**Imitation** – use of signs that may be confused with the emblem.

**Improper use** – unauthorized use by persons or institutions

**Grave misuse (abuse)** – markings of armed combatants or military equipment in wartime for protection.

## WHAT DOES THE LAW SAYS ?

In the Philippines, the symbol and words "Red Cross" are protected by RA 10072.

**It is exclusive for:**

- The Philippine Red Cross
- AFP Medical Services

**It prohibits:**

- Unauthorized use
- Imitation

## If you Break the LAW ...

Here are the Penalties:

- **Court discretion** for each offense
- Fine of not less than **Php 50,000.00** and/or
- **Imprisonment** for not more than one (1) year

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is guided by the **7 FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES...**

*These are:*

- HUMANITY (Sangkatauhan)
  *"We serve people but not systems"*
- IMPARTIALITY (Walang Pinipili)
  *"We care for the victims and the aggressors alike"*
- NEUTRALITY (Walang Kinikilingan)
  *"We take initiatives, but never sides"*
- INDEPENDENCE (Kasarinlan)
  *"We bow to needs, but not to kings"*
- VOLUNTARY SERVICE (Kusang-loob na Paglilingkod)
  *"We work round the clock, but never for personal gain"*
- UNITY (Pagkakaisa)
  *"We have many talents but a single idea"*
- UNIVERSALITY (Sanlibutan)
  *"We respect nations, but our work knows no bounds"*

# PRC - Who

Since its birth in 15 April 1947, the Philippine Red Cross assists and coordinates with the government in humanitarian-related activities like blood banking, safety and health education, relief assistance and many more. The Philippine Red Cross is neither a government nor a non-government organization. Through its Charter, Republic Act 10072, the Philippine Red Cross as a humanitarian organization acts as an auxiliary arm to the government in the humanitarian field. From 1863 until today, the Red Cross not only operates in armed conflict situations but also in natural disasters.

## Milestones of Philippine Red Cross

- **1899**, Mrs. Hilaria Aguinaldo was the president of Red Cross (Philippine Women's Red Cross)
- ***August 30, 1905**, The Philippine Branch of the American National Red Cross (ANRC) was organized by Filipino and American leaders at the Ayuntamiento*
- **1942**, the Red Cross was controlled by the Japanese
- ***March 29, 1947**, Mrs. Aurora Aragon Quezon was the first chairman of the PRC*
- **September 17, 1947**, The PRC was admitted as a bonafide member of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

## PRC VISION

The Philippine Red Cross will be the foremost humanitarian organization in the Philippines, in services provided and number of people served.

## PRC MISSION

The Philippine Red Cross brings timely, effective and compassionate humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable without consideration of nationality, race, creed, gender, social status or political belief.

# PRC VALUES

The Philippine Red Cross is a non-profit, donor-funded, volunteer, humanitarian organization.

*These are our core values:*

1. We exist to bring timely, effective and compassionate assistance to the most vulnerable without consideration of nationality, race, religion, gender, social status or political affiliation.

2. We strengthen our capability to assist the most vulnerable by expanding our donor base and by increasing the number of our well-trained volunteers.

3. We honor ourselves, our donors and volunteers by managing and utilizing our resources effectively, efficiently, with integrity and transparency.

4. Our work ethic encourages and rewards teamwork, excellent performance and the achievement of goals.

5. We value our staff and volunteers and encourage them to grow their full potential in the organization.

6. We are a stalwart member of the International Red Cross/ Red Crescent Movement and advocate staunchly its Fundamental Principles and the International Humanitarian Law.

7. We cooperate with our sister National Societies, Government and other organizations engaged in humanitarian services to complement each other's competencies thereby maximizing the delivery of assistance to the most vulnerable.

8. We are Filipino and, by the consistent excellence of our conduct, performance and achievements, we aspire to be a worthy representative of the best of Filipino values and skills.

# PRC SERVICES

## Disaster Management Services

Guided by the principle of "Predict, Plan, Prepare, Cope, Mitigate, Relief, Rehabilitate, and Resurrect", the Disaster Management Services conducts rescue, relief, and rehabilitation operations in times of disasters, as well as disaster preparedness programs and mitigation measures in vulnerable communities. It has first-class rescue equipment that allows it to respond to emergencies fast and efficiently.

## Safety Services

The Safety Services implements a nation-wide education campaign to ensure the safety of the Filipino people. It conducts world class training in First Aid, Basic Life Support- CPR, Water Safety and Accident Prevention; renders first aid, life guarding, rescue, and ambulance services.

## Community Health and Nursing Services

The Community Health Nursing Service (CHNS) has long been in the fore-front in educating the Filipino on basic health care and in providing access to health programs for vulnerable groups and communities.
The beneficiaries of CHNS include children, the elderly, pregnant and breastfeeding mothers and persons with disabilities.

## Social Services

The Social Services fosters family and community welfare through a wide range of programs including stress debriefing, tracing, communication facilitation, health and welfare reports, and referrals to hospitals and welfare agencies. Among its client population are disadvantaged women, elderly, physically disabled persons, disaster victims, and overseas migrant workers.

## Red Cross Youth

The mission of the Red Cross Youth is to educate and empower the children and youth in the spirit of Red Cross through constructive trainings and effective leadership, and provide opportunities for directing and harnessing their energy and idealism into worthwhile humanitarian activities.

## National Blood Services

The Blood Services is one of the only two organizations authorized to collect, screen, and issue blood in the country. With state-of-the-art technology to ensure safe, adequate, and quality blood supply nationwide.
It promotes a system of free and voluntary blood donation program that aims to save the lives of patients in need of blood and blood products. Advocacy programs are conducted regularly to encourage to donate their blood.

# Activity:

Supply the missing letter/s to reveal the right words:

1. H __ __ ry __un__ __t

Clue: Father/ Founder of Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

2. r __ d cr__ss

Clue: signifies or symbolizes the Red Cross societies

3. __uma__it__

Clue: "We serve people but not systems".

4. NATIO__N__L __L__OD S_RVI_ES

Clue: Promotes a free and voluntary blood donation program.

5. V__l__nta__y Se__v__ce

Clue: "We work round the clock, but never for personal gain".

Answer:
1. Henry Dunant 2. Red Cross
3. Humanity 4. National Services
5. Voluntary Service

The Philippine Red Cross (PRC) is a non-profit, donor funded, volunteer, humanitarian organization. It is the premier humanitarian organization in the country. We exist to bring timely, effective and compassionate assistance to the most vulnerable people regardless of sex, creed, religious beliefs and political opinion.

**Now is the time to:**

## SHARE !

A Red Cross volunteer shares unselfishly his time, talent, knowledge, skills and treasures for the benefit of all.

## CARE !

A Red Cross volunteer has the compassion to serve others without expecting something in return. A Red Cross member has sense of involvement and participation in community works.

## SUPPORT !

A shared and caring commitment is a lifetime support of a Red Cross member. The support in all the undertakings of the Red Cross is a dedication of a real Red Cross volunteer.

We need you! Yes **YOU!**

*Everyone is invited, young and old, to support all the services and be part of Red Cross!*

Be a Red Cross Volunteer Now !

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