



PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL NEW YORK  
**P R E S S R E L E A S E**

PR-MDL-97-12

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PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL IN NEW YORK CALLS ON FIL-AM BAYANIHAN  
SPIRIT FOR OPLAN KAPITBAHAY  
**OPENS MOBILE DEVICE CHARGING STATION; FREE WIFI ACCESS AT  
PHILIPPINE CENTER NEW YORK**

31 October 2012, New York – The Philippine Consulate General in New York called on Filipino-American Community Members to reach out to each other in the spirit of bayanihan.

Calling on Filipinos innate concern for their “kapitbahay” or “kababayan”, the Consulate General encourages the Community members to:

- Check on the conditions of their neighbors and other friends, acquaintance, fellow parishioners or officemates in their areas as soon as it is safe to go out of their homes
- To share power sources in their homes if they have electricity so that those in dire need can charge their mobile devices which are a critical means of communication
- To inform the Philippine Consulate General in New York at **Emergency No. 3473271884 and Assistance-to-Nationals Line at 6464219072** of any concerns so that this could be relayed to authorities and/or appropriate assistance provided, including those who are unable to contact family members or friends in affected areas
- To report any damage to power lines, lack of water, fallen trees and dangerous debris to the local authorities or utility providers and not to attempt to repair downed lines by themselves
- Share water, food, and other necessities to help alleviate immediate concerns
- To organize **carpools** for those who have working vehicles for the mobility of family members, friends, co-members of organizations, and officemates in view of the still limited public transport in affected areas
- If they have contacts with Filipino Community Leaders in their area to get in touch with them and relay any concerns as the Consulate General has been in touch with Community Leaders in the States under its jurisdiction.
- To monitor developments in the media, on social networks (e.g. Philippine Consulate General Facebook Page, twitter @pcgnewyork, and [www.newyorkpcg.org](http://www.newyorkpcg.org))

Mobile Charging Facility - In the spirit of bayanihan and public service, the Philippine Consulate General has set-up a **MOBILE DEVICE CHARGING STATION** for members of the Community who are currently out of power and need to recharge their mobile phones, laptop computers, and iPads. The station is at the lobby of the Philippine Center, New York and is open **from 9 am to 5 pm starting, 31 October 2012** until power normalizes in the Tri-State area.

WIFI Access – The Consulate General is also offering free WIFI ACCESS at the Philippine Center in New York for Filipinos who do not have any internet connectivity. Those wishing to avail of this service only need to bring their laptops or other mobile device to the Center at 556 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, New York (between 45<sup>th</sup> and 46<sup>th</sup> Sts) from 9 am to 5 pm, starting 31 October 2012.

In the meantime, the Consulate General continues to provide its usual services and is also open for Overseas Absentee Voting Registration. The Consulate General re-opened on 30 October 2012.

The Filipino-American Community's cooperation and understanding at this critical time is greatly appreciated. END



L-R Filipino-American filmmaker Janice Perez rushed to the Philippine Consulate to charge her mobile devices as her office building and her home in New York still do not have power; Mae Ermita and Mark Cruz of the Consulate assist applicants on the last day of OAV registration (photos by Mr. Ric Miranda)