

Religious of the Good Shepherd Province of Philippines-Japan

The 18-Day Campaign to End Violence Against Women

My VAW-Free Community Starts with Me

The Religious of the Good Shepherd Province of Philippines-Japan joins the international movement of different nations and civil society organizations to eliminate violence against women (VAW) through the 18-Day Campaign to End Violence Against Women. Every year, the campaign runs from November 25 to December 12, with the Philippine government adding an extra two days to the international 16-day campaign to also commemorate the International Day Against Trafficking which falls on the last day of the campaign.



This year, the province puts importance on keeping its own and immediate communities safe from VAW. It aims to engage its members, especially the men and youth, because their roles are critical in the protection of all women and children, and taking steps towards equality and justice for all people.



On November 27, Saint Mary Euphrasia Integrated Development Foundation, the development foundation of RGS in the Philippines, conducted “Usapang Lalaki,” literally translating to “Talk Between Men,” a conversation with its male staff on violence against women and children in the context of the biblical image of men. The men learned the importance of healthy expression and management of their emotions, which have been identified as one of the key factors of why violence against women and children occurs in the household and their communities. The men pledged to bring these new learnings to their own families and communities.







Usapang Lalaki parallels with the RGS Philippines social media campaign of featuring 18 men in its community and their pledges for ending VAW in the community and beyond.

RGS sisters from all over the Philippines, joined by lay mission partners and program participants, kicked off the campaign last November 25 with a community liturgy at the Good Shepherd Convent in Quezon City. Other activities lined up include VAW orientation for women in situations of prostitution, Usapang Babae (women), online safety talks for youth, art festival, and walkathon to end VAW.

