



Republic of the Philippines  
Province of Aklan  
Provincial Health Office  
**DR. RAFAEL S. TUMBOKON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL**  
"PHIC Accredited Health Care Provider"  
Kalibo, Aklan

July 5, 2016

**Chairman, Awards Committee**

Alex Esclamado Memorial Award for Community Service  
c/o Minority Media Services, Inc., GBM Bldg.  
1580 Bryant Street,  
Daly City, CA 94015  
USA

RE: Mending Faces

Dear Esclamado Award Committee:

As Chief of the Provincial Hospital in Kalibo, I have experienced three Mending Faces medical missions first hand. I wish to whole heartedly endorse their nomination for the Alex Esclamado Award because Mending Faces represents the best of American kindness and generosity.

Mending Faces is a unique mission in that they are respectful of the patients, the hospital and the staff. While they have been hugely successful in their missions, they work hard to minimize the disruption that their mission causes the hospital. They are also exceptionally courteous to the patients, not treating them as charity patients but as humans worthy of kindness in this difficult time. We at the hospital know that they work hard to ensure that all of the poor of Aklan can participate in the mission by funding travel, providing food and even giving the kids toys and other souvenirs of their life changing surgery.

While we are grateful for all the direct care provided by the mission, Mending Faces has extended itself to improve the hospital's ability to treat all its patients. Over the years they have donated three full sized anesthesia machines, 3 ventilators and countless supplies. Last February, we dedicated a brand new, fully equipped Post Anesthesia Care Unit made possible by Mending Faces. Valued at more than \$8,000, the hospital can now properly care for those during the most dangerous phase of surgery. Mending Faces' willingness to go beyond its medical mission and provide help that will last for years and years is extraordinary.

The Mending Faces mission also involves a significant contingent of volunteer nurses and other staff. They are courteous at all times, providing small gifts, meals and even an honorarium for those participating. Their efforts create huge good will among everyone in the hospital and we look forward to seeing them again in a year or two.

I would hold Mending Faces out as the gold standard for missions and hope that all groups will emulate them in the future. They clearly are worthy of the Alex Esclamado Community Award.

Respectfully Submitted,

**PAUL E. MACAHILAS, MD, MBA**  
Chief of Hospital II