



# EAGLE'S HORIZON

*Testimonies of scholars accomplishments  
and their journey ahead*





## WINGS TO SOAR HIGH: *MCNP - ISAP'S Gift of Opportunity*

**M**y name is **Jieucis Galotera**. Formerly Ms. Sabillo, a graduate of MCNP-ISAP batch 2012. I heard that you are asking for a letter to share the stories of previous grantees. I would like to share my part as a simple way of thanking my alma mater. Growing up without parents and brothers by my side was both depressing and terrifying. Moving from one foster family to another only added to the uncertainty. But the hardest part was growing up without love, where emotional, physical, and mental abuse created a monster in my mind. That darkness could have trapped me forever, but I fought my way out. No matter how poorly people treated me or looked down on me, I held onto my character, determined to preserve my sanity. With the help of God, I trusted my intuition and followed the light, even when fear tried to pull me back. That light was MCNP-ISAP, the beacon that saved me from losing all hope.

Thanks to their scholarship, I earned my degree—even though I didn't initially have a passion for the course I took. But I knew it was a necessary step toward realizing my dreams. MCNP-ISAP didn't just support my education—they clothed me, believed in me, admired me, and helped me discover my potential. They built my confidence and helped me believe in myself. They embraced me as a family and made me an inspiration to others. They did not just grant me an education but also helped me start and train by offering me work in

the administration after graduation. This opportunity allowed me to earn money for my board exam. After I passed, in God's grace, they absorbed me as an adviser/teacher. I later left to serve a mission for 18 months for the church I belong to. (During my mission, I regularly sent greeting cards to Ma'am Wilma, Ma'am Viva, and MCNP.) After my mission, I had the chance to work in a big company. But I am physically frail, and this became my setback. I work hard, but my body sometimes gives up. However, with the degree and the previous experiences I had through the help of my alma mater, I always had the advantage in job applications. My training in college became my bridge, allowing me to be considered by clients and employers, and giving me opportunities that I might not have had otherwise. Today, that degree has opened doors for me, allowing me to establish connections abroad while still being here in the Philippines. My drive to escape poverty pushed me to find my path, but without MCNP-ISAP, none of this would have been possible. They were the ladder that lifted me to where I am now. While I may not hold a high position in government or large agencies like some others, I am proud of how far I've come. I am already providing for myself and for the family I am starting to build. Life has had its setbacks, but my gratitude for MCNP is eternal. Although I am still working to rebuild what was lost in those tough years, I constantly think about how I can give back.

One day, I hope to sponsor a grantee, just as MCNP once believed in me. Now may not be the time, but the values of helping others and expressing gratitude were instilled in me by MCNP. I owe so much to those who believed in me and helped me grow my wings to soar. I love MCNP, and I love the Guzman family. They treated me like their own. I pray that they remain healthy and productive, and continue to grow so that many more dreams will be realized, more wings will be strengthened, and more achievers will rise.

My story is quite long but not enough to express how lucky to be a grantee and also meet the Guzman family. Thank you for this chance to express how deeply

grateful I am. Me now: I just realized, I have no photos (with colleagues at work, or charities attended) saved in my phone. So, the one I am sharing here is the fruit of my success. It shows that, now, I can go anywhere I want, eat the foods I crave, help and share blessings to others and fly on planes or ride on ships to see the beauty of the creations, and soon abroad.

### ***Jieucis Sabillo Galotera***

Student Grantee Scholar  
Batch 2008-2012





# CARVING DESTINY:

## *How Determination, Resilience, and Education Altered My Fate*

I am **Eunice Angihan Pagaddut**, a proud former student-grantee of MCNP-ISAP from 2014 to 2018, where I pursued a Bachelor of Science in Social Work. This is the story of my journey, the challenges I faced, the lessons I learned, and the path that led me to where I am today.

Destiny is indeed a matter of choice, a lesson that has resonated deeply within my heart through the journey of my life. My narrative began in a remote village in Nueva Vizcaya, where I was raised amidst the challenges of poverty and the absence of basic amenities like electricity and concrete roads. At just four years old, I lost my father, and my mother's vision gradually faded, leaving our family struggling to survive. My brothers were entrusted to our relatives while I remained in my mother's care, witnessing firsthand the sacrifices she made to provide for us.

The harsh realities of our situation ignited a fierce determination within me. Completing elementary school was an achievement in itself. Yet, my mother urged me to abandon further education and consider an early marriage, a common path in our village. But I dreamed of something greater. I yearned for a college degree, not just for myself but for my mother and future generations. However, dreams often seem impossible when resources are scarce.

However, a glimmer of hope appeared in the form of my cousin, who welcomed me into her home and gave me the chance to continue my high school education. In return, I helped with household chores. Leaving my mother and the familiarity of home was heartbreaking, but I knew this was the price of my dreams. The whispers from home, accusations that I was selfishly "enjoying" life elsewhere while my mother suffered, still echo vividly in my memory. However, those words only fueled my determination to prove that my pursuits were not born out of enjoyment but rather a resolute commitment to a brighter future.

Life, however, had more trials in store. The most devastating of all was my mother's passing due to a lack of medical care in May 2014. The dream I held so dearly, to give her a better life, was shattered. But even in the depths of grief, I refused to surrender to despair. Instead, I turned my pain into purpose.

It was during this time of profound loss that a new opportunity emerged. The Medical Colleges of Northern Philippines - International School of Asia and the Pacific (MCNP- ISAP) became my saving grace.



The institution not only provided me with free tuition but also ensured I had food and accommodations while taking my college degree. This generosity lifted an immense burden, allowing me to focus on my studies. It was here that I found a new home, a place that nurtured both my academic and personal growth. Away from home, I turned to faith, seeking comfort in God. The solitude became a blessing, allowing me to strengthen my spiritual connection and pursue my education without fear of judgment.

Balancing academics with the responsibilities of a working student was not easy, but my determination never wavered. The support from my alma mater, combined with the unwavering determination and resilience that had carried me through my darkest moments and the support of some of my relatives, propelled me forward. Eventually, I achieved what

once seemed impossible: in 2018, I graduated and passed the Licensure Examination for Social Workers, officially earning the title of Licensed Professional Social Worker.

That same year, MCNP-ISAP extended yet another opportunity by employing me as office staff at the Community Extension Office, where I served for eleven months. This experience not only allowed me to give



back to the institution that had given me so much but also prepared me for greater challenges ahead. The school gave me the confidence and foundation to extend my wings, empowering me to take my skills as a Social Worker beyond its walls and into institutions where my impact could grow.

Today, I stand as a Social Welfare Officer II at the Department of Social Welfare and Development - National Capital Region (DSWD-NCR), assigned to Marillac Hills. My journey has taken on a profound purpose: to extend the very hope and resilience that once carried me through the darkest of times to the survivors of abuse and exploitation. Through empathy, care, and unwavering dedication, I offer a hand to them, affirming that their stories are not defined by their past and struggles but rather by their unbreakable spirit and resilience. Beyond my profession, I now have the privilege of supporting my family, particularly my younger brother in his college education, an opportunity I once fought so hard to attain for myself. The cycle of poverty that once seemed inescapable has been disrupted, replaced with a legacy of perseverance and empowerment.

As I reflect on my journey, I realize that determination,



resilience, and education have been the catalysts that reshaped my destiny. Standing at the intersection of my past and present,

I see how the barriers that once confined me have been shattered. My story proves that education can change lives, that resilience gives us strength, and that determination allows us to shape our future. It is a reminder that no matter the challenges we face, we have the power to build our dreams into reality.

I owe much of my transformation to MCNP-ISAP and my supportive relatives, whose generosity not only granted me access to education but also eased the burden of financial hardship, allowing me to focus on my dreams. Their kindness and unwavering support became the foundation upon which I built my future, and for that, I am eternally grateful. Without the opportunities they provided, I would not be where I am today.

**Eunice Angihan Pagaddut**

Student Grantee Scholar  
Batch 2014 - 2018



ISAP changed my life in a way that it helped me shaped who I am now.

ISAP boosted my confidence. I used to serve in almost all of the programs and seminars in school, going up and down the stairs, with high heels.

That's one of the trainings I got in school.

Seminars, trainings, conventions, and USA -work and travel programs I attended presented me ideas on what I wish to do in the future. **ISAP helped me achieved my American Dream** and made me realized that I want to be a chef in the future.

That is the reason why I took this path; and for almost four years, I've been living my life and dream here in USA as a line cook and hoping to be a successful chef in the future.

I just celebrated my first anniversary of working at North Italia and all my hard work has been paid off by being nominated for promotion as a Shift Leader.

My advict to our HRM and Tourism students is to study hard, set your goals, believe in yourself, support our dear teachers and faculty, and attend your seminars, trainings, and conventions because these will help you a lot in the future.

### **Abigail Garcia Linda**

BS Hotel & Restaurant Management Batch 2018  
Chef/Line Cook – North Italia

## **Abigail Garcia Linda**



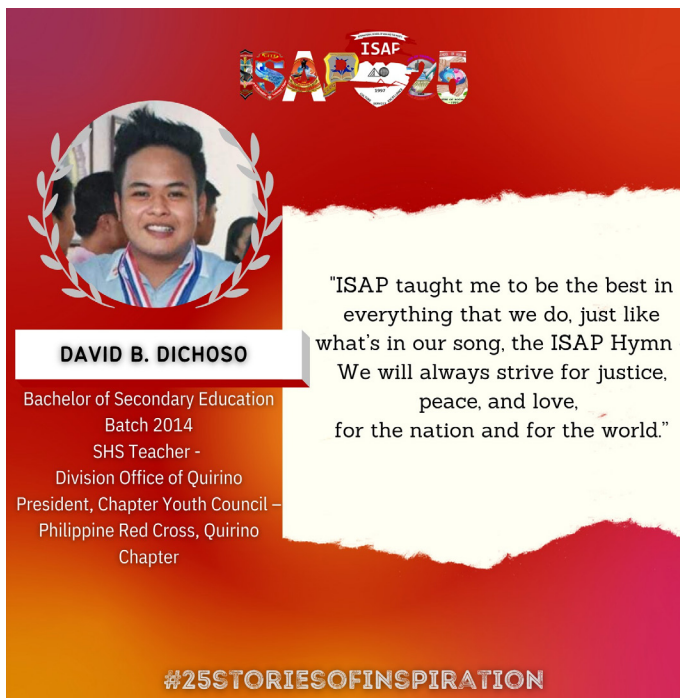
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**#25STORIESOFINSPIRATION**

## **David B. Dichoso**



**DAVID B. DICHOSO**

Bachelor of Secondary Education  
Batch 2014  
SHS Teacher -  
Division Office of Quirino  
President, Chapter Youth Council –  
Philippine Red Cross, Quirino  
Chapter

"ISAP taught me to be the best in everything that we do, just like what's in our song, the ISAP Hymn - We will always strive for justice, peace, and love, for the nation and for the world."

**#25STORIESOFINSPIRATION**

ISAP taught me to be the best in everything that we do, just like what's in our song, the ISAP Hymn - **"We will always strive for justice, peace, and love for the nation and for the world."**

My message to my fellow ISAPians, please do not give up on your dreams, like what Father Eagles always says, **"Study, Study, Study, and Pray"**.

There will be times that you will be facing a lot of troubles, but remember to look unto God and have faith in him for I believe that our lives are planned by God.

After you study, it's also time for you to give back to the community, like what I do now, I am a humanitarian at the same time a volunteer.

Whatever we do, whatever career path you choose, always do your best, and remember that it's always best to give what we can do for others.

### **David B. Dichoso**

Bachelor of Secondary Education Batch 2014  
SHS Teacher, Division Office of Quirino  
President, Chapter Youth Council – Philippine Red Cross, Quirino Chapter

## ***Roxanne K. Cabading, RSW***

Entering College gave me doubt if I should pursue or not due to financial incapacity of my parents, but ISAP opened a door for me to chase my dreams.

ISAP gave me the courage and motivated me to enroll in this institution through its academic program which is “free tuition and miscellaneous fee” for the whole duration of my study, and it is a big help for my parents as they don’t need to worry for my financial needs.

Throughout my stay here, the school opened my eyes to see the value of education, and exposed me to better and unlimited opportunities for growth and development.

With this, my life was not the only thing that changed but also the lives of my parents.

To our dear mighty eagles, I know that you are not used in this kind of situation with anxieties and uncertainties brought by this pandemic, and that you are struggling maybe financially, emotionally, or physically, but always remember God is watching us

and that He will never leave you nor forsake you.

And also, ***the school will always be here to guide and support you all throughout your journey in this institution.***

Continue to remain healthy in your thoughts and actions, and don’t lose hope that one day we will all go back to the normal education we had. But for now, help yourselves to remain motivated and determined as we work together and move forward towards a better tomorrow.

Always remember the words of our late father eagle, ***Dr. Ronald P. Guzman, “Study, Study, Study, and Pray”.***

***Roxanne K. Cabading, RSW***

BS Social Work Batch 2019

Social Welfare Officer 2 - DSWD FO 2



**ROXANNE K. CABADING, RSW**

BS Social Work  
Batch 2019  
Social Welfare Officer 2 -  
DSWD FO 2

"...ISAP opened a door for me to chase my dreams..."

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**#25STORIESOFINSPIRATION**

## Mark John A. Balayan, LCB

ISAP has taught me a lot of things, but one famous (and) remarkable (thing) is “EXCELLENCE”...to always strive for Excellence.

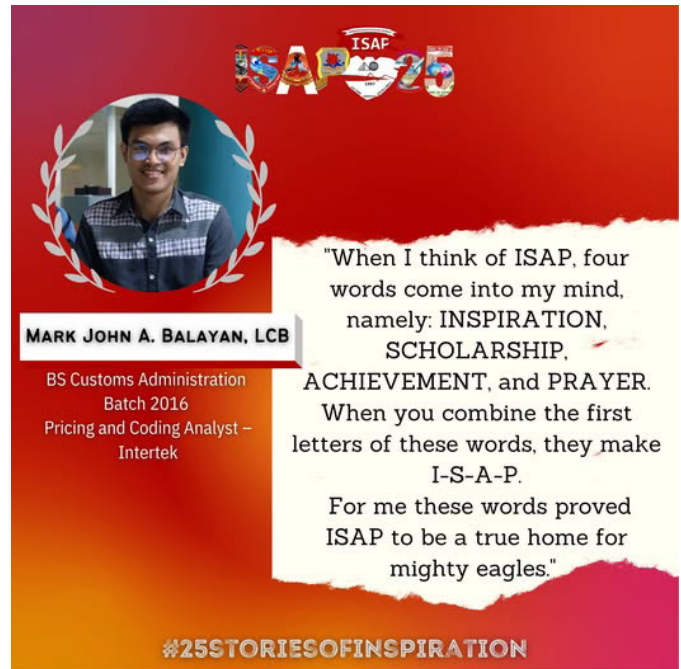
When I think of ISAP, four words come into my mind, namely: **INSPIRATION, SCHOLARSHIP, ACHIEVEMENT, and PRAYER**. When you combine the first letters of these words, they make **I-S-A-P**.

For me, these words proved ISAP to be a true home for mighty eagles. So, dear young eagles, be nurtured in this nest. Let it inspired you to be the best. Let it train you to spread your wings, fly high, and reach great heights.

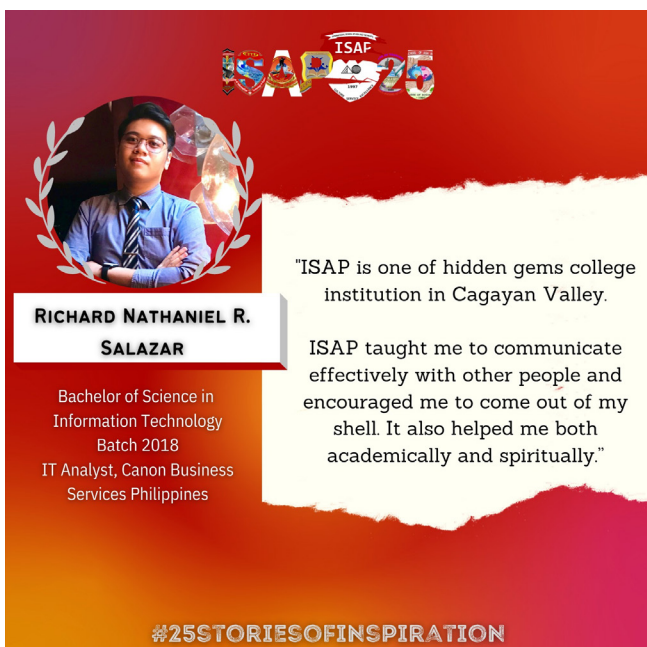
I was once an ISAP student, but will always be a mighty eagle – a proud ISAPian.

### Mark John A. Balayan, LCB

BS Customs Administration Batch 2016  
Pricing and Coding Analyst – Intertek



## Richard Nathaniel R. Salazar



ISAP is one of hidden gems college institution in Cagayan Valley.

ISAP at 25 years of existence, I want to share this statement not just to commemorate how long this institution has been existing, but to showcase how it really helped me when I was an undergrad, studying in the field of Information Technology.

ISAP taught me to communicate effectively with other people and encouraged me to come out of my shell. It also helped me both academically and spiritually.

***I'm so proud to be an ISAPian, and up to this day I will say this without any regrets – that I graduated in this institution.***

To all my classmates, friends I met during the Discovery weekend, instructors and especially to late Dr. Ronald P. Guzman, thank you! My fellow ISAPIans, both alumni and current students, let's celebrate the 25 years of excellence that Dr. Guzman shared to us! Let's keep the spirit of **Study, Study, Study, and Pray!**

### Richard Nathaniel R. Salazar

Bachelor of Science in Information Technology Batch 2018  
IT Analyst, Canon Business Services Philippines



# SOARING ABOVE ADVERSITY:

## *My ISAP Journey*

ISAP - the home of the mighty eagles. I owe a lot of things in this school. I was a transferee way back in 2014, and the school accepted me whole-heartedly. I had nowhere to go way back then because of some external factors that could affect my college schooling, but ISAP gave me hope to continue and pursue my dream to be a Certified Public Accountant.

In my almost 4 years of stay in the school, I have a lot of learnings. These learnings contributed much to my development as a professional, most especially, to where I am now. I was a student leader before - JPIA President, the Council of Leader's Chairman, and the Regional Vice President for Audit of our student organization. Because of the things that I have learned in school, my co-students entrusted me, and have seen a leadership skill in me. That's because of the teachings, especially "core values" that were instilled in me by the school

These experiences I had as a leader molded me to be strong and independent person. When my father and youngest brother left us in 2016, ISAP never left me during those difficult times. The administration, teachers, faculty and staff, and my co-students were with me.

I graduated as one of the **Outstanding Students, not just of the school, but also a nominee of the Ten Outstanding Students of the Philippines as a regional finalist for Region II, and that's because of ISAP.**

When I passed the board exam, I started my career as a novice instructor of the College of Business Education and the Senior High School for the ABM strand. I was also given the chance and privilege to lead the BS Accountancy program for 2 years, and I consider this as a primordial stage of my career development. I was a middle manager at a very young age. Who would have imagined that? But the school extended its support and entrusted me the department. We have made several adjustments to the department before for the benefit of all our stakeholders, and now that I'm already part of the San Miguel Corporation, particularly in its San Miguel Brewery Subsidiary as one of its Financial Analysts, I thank the school for giving me all the learnings and development that have been very significant to where I am now. I am not who I am now if not because of ISAP.

And to all of you mighty eagles, I've been constantly telling this to all my students, "Dream big and don't

listen to people who tell you that it can't be done. Life is too short to think small. You are destined to be a Mighty Eagle. Someday, you will soar high above the sky, spreading your wings as successful and world-class professionals and that is because of the learnings that you have gained in your stay at ISAP. By then, you are ready to conquer the world, but for now, you need to

**"Study, Study, Study, and Pray"** as our Father Eagle, Dr. Ronald P. Guzman would always say.

Today is sacrifice, but tomorrow is paradise. Do good every day and reap your labor in the future."

### **Mark John D. Gonzales, CPA, MPBM**

BS Accountancy, Batch 2017

National Top 20, May 2018 CPALE

National Top 1, National Certification for Tax Technicians 2018

Former Program Coordinator, BS Accountancy - ISAP

Financial Analyst, San Miguel Brewery Corporation



**MARK JOHN D. GONZALES,**  
**CPA, MPBM**

BS Accountancy, Batch 2017  
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Former Program Coordinator, BS  
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