



The News Around Eastern Visayas

Leyte Samar Daily Express

Tel.no: 321-4833 Email: lsdaily2@yahoo.com

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Son of Calbayog joins prestigious international group

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TACLOBAN CITY-Atlas Corps, an organization facilitating professional fellowships for the best of the world rising leaders announced the placement of its first fellow, Adam Christopher Tibe.

Tibe, 26, and born in Calbayog City, works for Operation Smile, one of the most prominent children's charities in the world, joined a network of more than 100 fellows from around the world who have completed a year of service at one of the 50 organizations in the United States and Colombia.

He is also the second Philippine non-profit leader to participate in the Atlas Corps Fellowship.

"We welcome Adam and Operation Smile to the Atlas Corps network with great enthusiasm," Atlas Corps Founder and CEO Scott Beale said in a statement.

"Now, more than ever, we see the value in building bridges across cultures and countries in our increasingly globalized world. Atlas Corps's work to address social issues, develop leaders, strengthen organizations, and promote innovation is achieving this goal by taking a new approach to facilitating international cooperation in the nonprofit sector," Beale added.

Tibe has over six years of experience in the non-profit sector as a student and professional. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Communications from Leyte Normal University in 2005 where he graduated cum laude, and is pursuing his Master's degree in Management at the University of the Philippines.

As a student, he was active in various school and community activities where he held significant leadership positions. He represented his province in the 4th National Youth Parliament, a biennial assembly of young people representing the various sub-sectors and geographical groupings nationwide to develop a legislative-executive agenda for youth development.

Soon after he graduated, he was selected to join the pioneer batch of Global Xchange Program leaders, a six-month exchange program between the UK and Philippines. Managed by Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) and the British Council (BC), the program aims to give young people from different countries a unique opportunity to work together to make practical contributions to local communities.

Immediately after completing the volunteer exchange program, he began working as a project/ technical officer at the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction – Sustainable Livelihood Projects for the Poor in Southern Philippines, a grant project supported by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), where he was responsible for overall management of the project in the Visayas Network.

At age 22, Tibe became the youngest addition to World Vision (WV) Philippines as a program officer. In four years at WV, he acquired experience and skills in program management in development and humanitarian relief projects.

In Bangladesh, he underwent training to set-up accountability mechanisms for development projects and programs. Through his pursuits in non-profit and volunteer work, Adam has grown into a conscientious, passionate and relentless development professional and volunteer.

Meanwhile, this year's class of fellows hails from seven countries and makes up the eighth class of Atlas Corps Fellows since the organization was founded in 2006.

The fellows will contribute their average of six years of professional experience to organizations, including Habitat for Humanity, Georgia Forward, Population Action International, Fundación Carlos y Sonia Haime, Fundación Escuela Nueva, and Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota. **(REYAN L. ARINTO)**



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