

RPRD takes on new challenge

“We are bound by our Christian faith to protect the gift of life. We cannot remain passive. It is a duty that falls upon us all.” -

The Most Revd Ephraim S. Fajutagana

Following the August 2016 statement of the Obispo Maximo XII on the unabated killings and culture of impunity under President Duterte’s war on drugs, RPRD, in partnership with Rise Up for Life and for Rights, comes in aid of survivors, families of victims and potential witnesses seeking justice for the extrajudicial killings committed under this bloody and fascist war. Rise Up is a network of faith-based and people’s organizations, with volunteers from the families of victims, campaigning against the drug menace and for the protection of human and people’s rights against drug-related extrajudicial killings and summary executions.

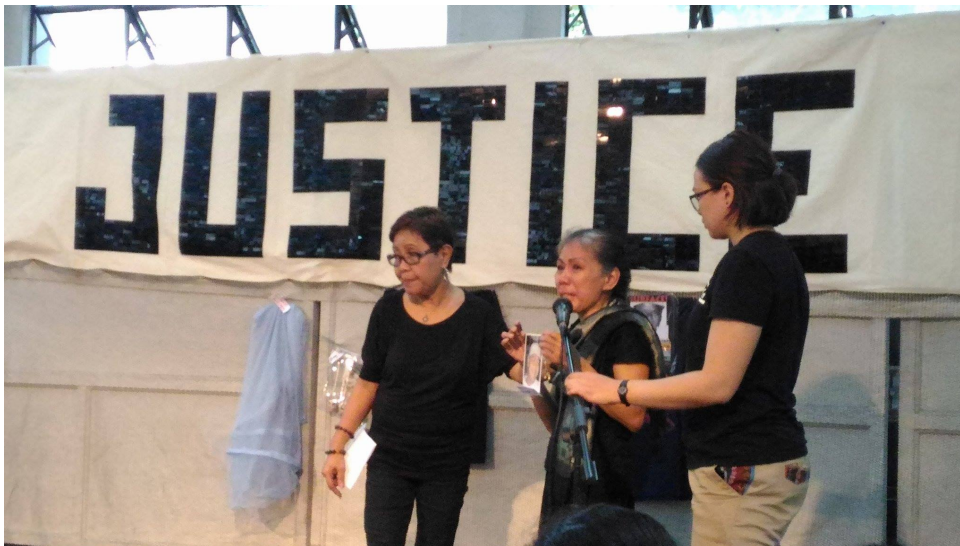
Aside from offering its regular sanctuary, medical, legal and emergency services, RPRD also shares the massive task to document these violations and demand justice and government accountability by joining Rise Up in interviews and community visits and by supporting basic documentation trainings and other informational activities. Through its clergy staff, it also extends pastoral care and spiritual support to the grieving families and traumatized witnesses and survivors. Last September, it also led the first batch of paralegal and documentation training of members of the National Priests Organization-South Central Luzon (NPO-SCL) to further equip IFI clergy in responding to human rights violations in their communities. Participants pledged to form and operate as the NPO-SCL Paralegal Team.

Now with around 13, 000 suspected cases of drug-related EJK and summary executions in the urban centers and the escalating politically-motivated violations and atrocities committed against activists and organized communities in the countrysides, RPRD, arms linked with its partner organizations, stands firm, in words and in action, to its

commitment to defend human rights and the sanctity of life.  
IN PHOTOS |



March 14, 2017 | Parish council members and volunteers from Marikina parishes gather to know more about drug-related EJKs and what they can do as church workers.



July 8, 2017 | Remember. Resist. RPRD supporting and hosting a gathering of victims of EJKs and other violations in UP Diliman





August 26, 2017 | Rev. Grace Masegman, RPRD staff and clergy in the Diocese of Rizal and Pampanga, joins ecumenical funeral prayer service for Kian delos Santos, the 17-year-old victim of police shooting during an anti-drug operation in Caloocan City.



September 10, 2017 | Rev. Grace Masegman speaks along with and in support of Mr. Bagcal, a potential witness coming out to insist police abuse and extrajudicial killing of the young Arnaiz. (Photo from <http://news.abs-cbn.com>)

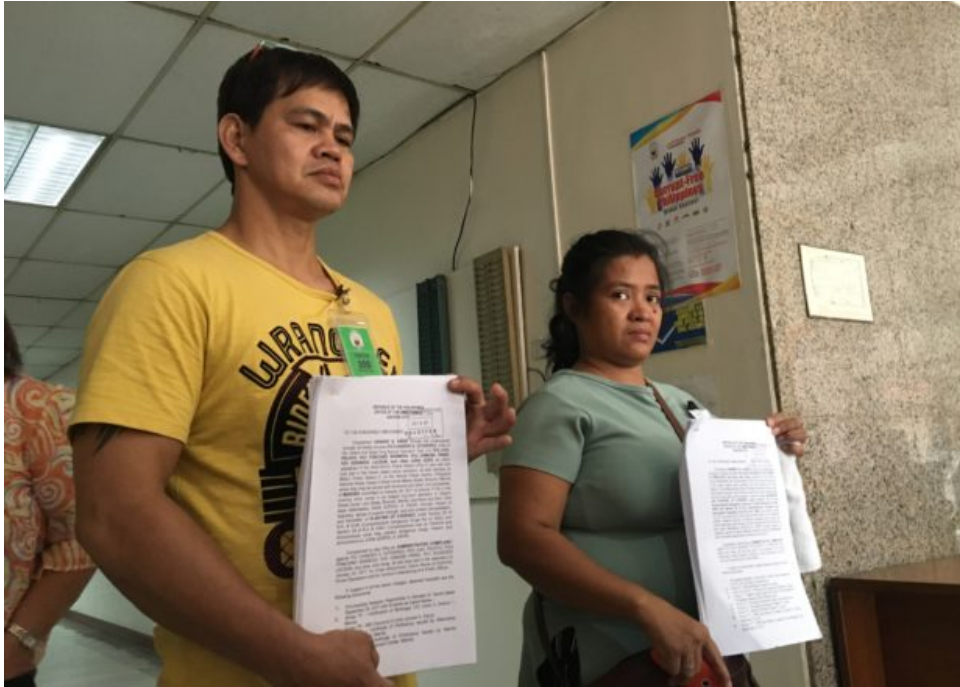


September 21, 2017 | Marching among thousands, IFI clergy, seminarians and lay, with the encouragement and support of RPRD, held and shout out calls to stop the killings and never again to tyranny and dictatorship.





September 25-28, 2017 | Gearing up to respond to the worsening human rights situation, select members of NPO-SCL gather in a skills training on paralegal work and documentation.



September 28, 2017 | With the support of Rise Up, National Union of People's Lawyers and RPRD, families of two young victims of drug-related EJK filed criminal complaints before the Office of the Ombudsman. (Photo from <http://newsinfo.inquirer.net>)