For many rural communities, access to educational books and supplementary learning material for school-attending children is not always easy. Books are expensive and local schools and libraries have limited supply to answer the young ones’ growing hunger for learning. But, over the last couple of months our community-based partners in the Philippines have found novel new ways to support primary education in the communities where they work. Take a look!

First, with the support of Human Development Facilitators (HDFs) from Outreach Philippines Incorporated (OPI), community-based organizations from two different communities, gained access to more than 5,000 books from different Philippines-based bookstores. This includes textbooks, supplementary learning materials, and reference guides - all invaluable resources for bolstering local students’ learning, especially during times when home-based learning is the go-to avenue for teaching and learning.

The community-based organizations and their leaders then handed over the books to the primary schools in their communities, ensuring the books land in the hands of those who need it most. They did this during ceremonies in their respective communities, with all relevant stakeholders present.

Story Book Ending

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We hope you enjoy this March 2021 edition of the Partnership Program Updates! If you need more resources to share with your group, please visit our website at outreach-international.org/resources. If you have specific questions about your giving report or just want to say “Hello!”, please contact Marsha Penrose at m.penrose@outreachmail.org.
present. The ceremony’s response ranged from village captains appreciating the contribution toward the betterment of their communities, to school principals grateful for the powerful resource.

What is perhaps the most significant in this whole story is that the attainment and distribution of the books strengthened our community partners’ confidence in successfully alleviating their communities’ challenges. This is what Elvis, the practitioner supporting these community-based organizations, shared:

“I could see the confidence in the leaders’ faces; Their ear-to-ear smiles proved their excitement and confidence when they updated the Village Captain, hearing them say that everything is possible even in these hard times.”

We’re not sure what the word is to describe how impressed we are, but we bet we could find it somewhere in one of those books!