

CLEFT LIP/PALATE MISSIONS

Batangas City - **34** children were operated on at the Batangas Regional Hospital by a surgical team headed by Dr. Mel Cruz and PBM Fellows Dr. Reden Abella and Dr. Gilbert Esquejo during a two-day Surgical Mission last 31 March. A total of 80 patients were screened but only 34 passed the clearance for operation.

Boac, Marinduque - **30** children were operated on at the Damian Reyes Memorial Provincial Hospital during a three-day mission 29 April to 1 May by a medical team headed by Dr. Mel Cruz and PBM Fellow Dr. Gilbert Esquejo. Congressman Edmund Reyes provided logistical support.

Occidental Mindoro - **35** children were operated on at the San Jose District Hospital during a three-day mission from 23 to 25 Nov. by a surgical team headed Dr. Hector M. Santos Jr. and PBM Fellow Dr. Christine Atienza. A total of 49 patients were screened but only 35 passed clearance for operation. The provincial government of Occidental Mindoro headed by Governor Josephine Ramirez-Sato provided logistical support.

"In-House Missions" were also conducted. One was held at the De Ocampo Memorial Medical Center with **37** patients being operated on June 1-4. Dr. Mel Cruz headed the team with Dr. Joseph Cabotage.

A second mission was conducted on June 11 & 18 at the Manila Doctors Hospital with Dr. Cesar Villafuerte and Dr. Virgilio de Gracia, with **27** patients operated on.

The St. Jude Hospital also undertook a mission for **18** patients from Zambales and Bataan, with medical team of Dr. Mel Cruz and Dr. Gilbert Esquejo.

In commemoration of Disability Week in July, PBM conducted missions in San Martin de Porres, De Ocampo Memorial, FEU Nicanor Reyes, Las Piñas District Hospital, Pasay City General, Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial (Trece Martires, Cavite), Jose Reyes Memorial Medical Center and Baguio General. A total of **60** patients were operated on.

