

Helping Hands

BAROG SIARGAO

In response to the plea for assistance in the aftermath of Odette's destruction, Mara Nepomuceno Fortich heeded Siargao's call for help.



Mara's home was one of the many devastated by Odette in 2021.

Mara Nepomuceno Fortich was captivated by Siargao, prompting her to make the island her home. She not only started a family on the island but also extended her efforts to uplift the local community. Among her noteworthy initiatives is the Cosama Collective, a space that fosters co-living and co-working, providing a platform for individuals to discover their creative rhythm and unlock their own moments of inspiration in their work and business endeavors.

In the aftermath of Typhoon Odette's devastating impact on Siargao in December 2021, Mara's deep connection to the island spurred her, along with fellow residents, to initiate "Barog Siargao."

This movement aimed to provide sustainable aid to the island, rallying people to contribute through various means, including monetary donations via GCash or bank

deposit, as well as in-kind support. By leveraging the power of social media, Barog Siargao managed to raise over Php700,000.

This generosity translated into the donation of three truckloads of essential supplies, encompassing water filters, construction materials, medicine, and nourishment. Many of the AC Girls donated, stretching their helping hands, the kind plaid hearts are strong.

Now, with two years having passed, Siargao has triumphantly recovered from the adversity. The island's tourism is flourishing, and its landscape is dotted with burgeoning establishments. However, Mara and her husband Momon, needed to let go of their Cosama Collective dream. Because of the typhoon, the losses were tremendous, they had their property lease out. The family is now in Manila, bouncing back from what happened and putting their faith what life can offer in the city.



Barog Siargao Communication Materials