Parañaque, Philippines
Grant Period: 2010 - 2013

Inspires deserving students to pursue professional careers that once seemed unattainable.

The BTE-Parañaque, Philippines program—a partnership between Johnson & Johnson, World Vision Development Foundation, Parañaque City Health Office, Parañaque National High School, and the University of the Philippines—strives to inspire and motivate the underprivileged but deserving students to pursue post-secondary education and health-related careers.

The partnership targets students in their last two years of secondary school and offers a series of unique opportunities, including health career seminars, Red Bag sessions (lunch & learn meetings with Johnson & Johnson executives), BTE Immersions, scholarships, professional development, and mentoring/guidance sessions.

Upon completion of the program, select students are awarded scholarships to the University of the Philippines Manila – School for Health Sciences (UPM-SHS) to obtain a Community Health Worker degree. This degree is part of UPM-SHS step-ladder curriculum, where students initially enroll in and obtain a midwifery degree and have the option to continue their education until a degree in medicine is achieved. All BTE Scholars are required to work in the Parañaque community following graduation, giving back to their community.
For three BTE-Parañaque, Philippines students, the BTE high school experience that involved health career seminars, mentoring, immersions, and academic support culminated with the award of a full scholarship to the University of the Philippines Manila – School for Health Sciences (UPM-SHS) in Palo, Leyte.

Recently completing their first year, Febe, Aizel, and Melanie hope to pursue higher levels of education after graduating with their midwifery degree and give back to their community. As stated by Aizel in a local newspaper article, the BTE experience “opened her eyes to the need of her community.” For Febe, she saw the BTE experience paving the way to higher education in the Philippines, where she could continue to work in her community, rather than leave the country.