

This special Acta Medica Philippina issue on Child Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation is a celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Child Protection Unit at the University of the Philippines Manila Philippine General Hospital (CPU-PGH). The experience and researches of CPU-PGH have served as the guide for the establishment and growth of the health care delivery system for abused women and children in the Philippines. From one center at PGH, there are now 123 Women and Children Protection Units in 61 provinces and 10 independent cities in the country.

We have learned through the years the value of research and that in the end it will benefit all the patients that we see. There are so many abused children and so little resources. The programs that we implement should be the ones that have been shown to work. There are still so much that we need to learn but we also know so much more now than when we started.

I am being accorded the Ramon Magsaysay Award for 2022, Asia's version of the Nobel Prize, just as we celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CPU PGH. This is the highest recognition for the work that we do. This award is for all of you who have toiled side-by-side with me through all these years and not expecting any recognition. You embody the greatness of spirit that the award celebrates!

Bernadette J. Madrid, MD Head, Child Protection Unit, UP-Philippine General Hospital Executive Director, Child Protection Network Foundation