REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Press Release
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LA PCG Participates in PALAD's Virtual Discussion: *"Filipinos Lead in Healthcare"*

19 May 2020, Los Angeles – The Philippine Consulate General participated in a livestream discussion entitled, "*Filipinos Lead in Healthcare*," organized by the Pilipino American Los Angeles Democrats (PALAD) on 16 May 2020.

Filipino-American resource speakers included 1) Ms. Zenei Triunfo-Cortez, RN, President of National Nurses United; 2) Dr. Antonio Moya, Board-certified neurologist and Los Angeles County Department of Health Services scholar; 3) Ms. Aquilina Soriano Versoza, Founder and Executive Director of the Pilipino Workers Center of Southern California; and 4) Ms. Gennie D. Samala, Client Care Coordinator of Special Service for Groups (SSG). The discussion was moderated by PALAD's Vice President for Outreach, Ms. Victoria Perez, RN.

The webinar, which discussed how the CoViD-19 pandemic is affecting the physical and mental health of the Filipino-American community and the support needed to address the community's concerns, was the third part of the ***Virtual House Party: Merienda Series*** organized by PALAD in celebration of the Asian-American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month (APAHM) in May.

The series aims to keep the momentum of discuss on important issues leading up to the Presidential Election in November 2020, especially those which impact the Filipino-American community. PALAD also aims to use this platform to promote Filipino-owned restaurants that have remained open for delivery and takeout services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Consulate General participated as an observer and was represented by Cultural Officer Maria Dolores C. Sales.

PALAD is a political organization first chartered with the Los Angeles County Democratic Party in 1987 whose mission is to promote political empowerment and increase civic engagement and participation among the Filipino American community. It is currently headed by Ms. Jessica M. Calloza, Fil-Am Commissioner of Board of Public Works in the City of Los Angeles. END.