

Dr. Gerry Duwin A. Dela Zerna is a SPED professor, and an advocate of the integration of children with special needs in society. He is also a social, human capital and organizational development consultant, educator, trainer and researcher with expertise on curriculum design, organizational development, project development & operational management of Corporate Social Responsibility events and social and community development initiatives, research & evaluation, educational television, special education and therapy for children with disabilities.

Aside from his professional engagements, he finds time to help children with disabilities by providing psycho-social rehabilitation treatment through a community-based program which he brings to the provinces with low disability awareness level. He founded and currently the president and managing director of *Guided and Unified Interaction for the Development of Children, Inc.*, a multi-awarded volunteer service organization, the prime project of which is the psycho-social rehabilitation of children with various disabilities and training of service providers and volunteers in response to programs intended for these children.

He had received numerous recognitions and citations for his outstanding work in the academe and non-government organizations. Some of these are the outstanding professor award twice given by Far Eastern University, outstanding performance by a professor as evaluated by students of the University of Makati, National Outstanding Volunteer Award by the Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency, a special commendation for his outstanding work for children with special needs from the Diocese of Daet, award for public responsibility for his outstanding work in Team-Mindanao, a USAID funded project by the Lopez Group of Companies, recognition for outstanding leadership and commitment to the cause of special children given by GUIDE, Inc., recognitions accorded by the Department of Education and many others. He is also one of the Pitong Pinoy Modern Day Heroes bestowed by the Yahoo South East-Asia. He was also rewarded by Ugat Foundation and ABS-CBN with a Geny Lopez Bayaning Pilipino.

He had his advanced and post graduate studies in clinical psychology and business administration with cognates in human resources management from the University of Santo Tomas, and educational management and special education from the Philippine Normal University. His undergraduate degrees include AB major in English, BS Psychology, and BS Commerce major in Management. He also holds a diploma in education obtained from FEU and is a holder of a professional license to teach. He also completed the Executive Project Management Course from the Center of International Education, an affiliate of the University of Cambridge and completed a professional diploma in organizational development at De La Salle University. He is a holder of the Career Executive Service Officer for government service.

He is a much-sought speaker and trainer, here and abroad and has toured the whole Philippines for a series of teacher training and social development initiatives for foreign assisted projects. He has also spoken at local and international conferences on various issues and topics.