



SEFI INTERCONNECT

SEFI, dedicated to continuing service to the Theresian Families, stands as a cornerstone of support and community engagement.

1. **Educational Support:** SEFI is committed to providing educational resources and financial grants to ensure that Theresian students can access quality education.
2. **Parental Engagement:** SEFI understands the crucial role of parents in a child's development. To empower parents, it conducts seminars on effective parenting strategies.
3. **Feedback and Improvement:** Committed to continuous improvement, SEFI regularly seeks feedback from the community to better understand their needs and enhance their services. This participatory approach ensures that their efforts remain relevant and effective.

Through these diverse and impactful initiatives, SEFI remains a vital support system for Theresian families, fostering a thriving and inclusive community.

Message of the SEFI President



Dear Parents, Grantees, Friends, and Benefactors,

Warm greetings from the Sambayan Educational Foundation, Inc. (SEFI)! At SEFI, our mission has always been to make quality education accessible to less privileged but deserving students. Through your unwavering support, generosity, and dedication, we continue to empower young minds, open doors of opportunity, and transform lives.

To our parents, thank you for entrusting us with the education of your children and for your continuous encouragement and guidance in their journey.

To our grantees, your hard work, determination, and commitment to excellence inspire us all. We believe in your potential, and we encourage you to persevere, not just for yourselves but for the communities you will one day uplift.

To our friends and benefactors, your kindness and generosity make our mission possible. Your support allows us to nurture future leaders and changemakers who will create a lasting impact on society.

Together, we are building a brighter future—one student at a time. Let us continue to work hand in hand in shaping a generation of educated, compassionate, and empowered individuals.

With gratitude and commitment,
Carmen V.F. Serina
President
Sambayan Educational Foundation, Inc. (SEFI)

SEFI HIGHLIGHTS

Seminar on Coping with Children's Mental Health Issues

On September 28, 2023, our knowledgeable and committed resource person, Ms. Carmela B. Dionisio, educated the parents/guardians of SEFI highlighting the importance of nurturing children's mental well-being during childhood. This included reaching developmental and emotional milestones, learning healthy social skills, and developing effective coping strategies. By ensuring that children are mentally healthy, children can enjoy a positive quality of life and function well at home, in school, and within their communities.



Seminar on Financial Literacy

Mrs. Carmen Viola Fernando Seriña, the President of SEFI and the STC Manila Alumnae Foundation, Inc., led a financial management seminar for SEFI parents and guardians on January 13, 2023. During the seminar, participants were grouped to discuss case studies and apply their knowledge about financial planning.



Mrs. Seriña further enlightened the audience about the importance of having a strong foundation in financial literacy and equipping oneself with the necessary skills to achieve financial security and peace of mind during these uncertain times and high inflation rates.

SEFI RECOGNIZES NEW ENDOWERS FEB. 2, 2024



The SEFI Recognition Day with the theme, "Together, We Can Make a Difference" was fantastic. The event had a great turnout with a large audience and many guests. His Eminence, Cardinal Pablo Virgilio S. David, D.D., celebrated the Mass and delivered a meaningful and touching Homily. The STC GS Chorale showcased their beautiful voices during the Mass, and the STCQC Ballet group performed a wonderful intermission number during the Recognition Rites.

Sr. Josefina Nebres, ICM, provided a brief yet comprehensive history, vision, and mission of SEFI, giving the audience a deeper understanding of the organization. This was followed by an award ceremony for the new SEFI ENDOWERS, with each recipient receiving a plaque. Three former SEFI grantees shared touching testimonies of their life success stories, attributing their achievements to SEFI's support. Their heartfelt accounts showcased the profound impact of SEFI's assistance, inspiring others to continue supporting the organization.



New SEFI endowers receive their plaque of recognition



Ms. Carmen Serina receives plaque on behalf of her family

Srs. Ma. Christine Oyales, ICM. and Jessy Augustine, ICM. receive the plaque on behalf of the friends of Sr. Simone Sergeant, ICM.



SEFI'S NEW NAME ENDOWERS

- 1. Gavino & Esperanza Viola–Fernando Endowment**
- 2. Gavino & Dolores Viola–Fernando Endowment**
- 3. Isabella Serina Pearson, Alessandra Serina De La Paz & Sebastian Serina De La Paz Endowment**
- 4. Georgia Rey James Endowment**
- 5. Theo Jack James Endowment**
- 6. Rocky Ortiz James Endowment**
- 7. Theresian Student Council School Year 2018–2019 Endowment**
- 8. Theresian Student Council School Year 2019–2020 Endowment**
- 9. Theresian Student Council School Year 2020–2021 Endowment**
- 10. Antonio Barreiro Endowment**
- 11. Friends of Sr. Simone Sergeant, ICM Endowment**
- 12. Mayorico H. Sandico and Jane Sandico Endowment**
- 13. Elmer and Edna Sarmiento Endowment**
- 14. STC QC High School Batch 1971 Endowment**
- 15. STC QC Grade School Batch 1972 & High School Batch 1976 Endowment**
- 16. STC QC High School Batch 1972 Endowment**
- 17. STC QC College Class of 1968 Endowment**
- 18. STC QC High School Batch 1983 Endowment**
- 19. Family Council Endowment of School Years 2019–2020, 2020–2021, 2021–2022 and 2022–2023**
- 20. Mr. Ambrosio & Mrs. Lily Padilla and Mr. Ernesto and Mrs. Elvira Rufino Endowment**
- 21. Ernesto, Jr and Josefina Padilla–Rufino Endowment
(In Celebration of their 60th Wedding Anniversary)**
- 22. Ernesto, Jr and Josefina Padilla–Rufino Endowment**

TESTIMONIALS FROM OUR SEFI GRANTEES

Miss Charmaine Masangkay – STCQC Batch 2012



I first encountered STC on the day of my entrance exam. I vividly remember the wooden door swinging open in the Parlor Room as my mom spoke with an adult inside. I ran through the hallway of the clinic area to the guidance room, unaware that this moment would change my life forever—serving as my ticket to becoming a Theresian.

My mom always reminded me to study hard, explaining that being able to attend a school like STC was a gift—a privilege. At the time, as an innocent little girl, I didn't fully grasp her words. As I grew up in the halls of STC, I began to realize I was different from many of my classmates. Unlike them, I didn't have new, big stroller bags, Disney lunch boxes, glittery ribbons, or shiny shoes. I carried a hand-me-down bag and wore an old uniform; my books even had big labels reading "COMPLIMENTARY COPY NOT FOR SALE," which embarrassed me when I took them out in class. Nevertheless, life went on.

As I got older, I became increasingly aware of what I lacked. I remember being called into the SEFI Office for interviews and check-ins, where questions about my home life were asked. I didn't realize at the time how crucial this was for maintaining my scholarship. My parents were going through a difficult phase and were on the verge of separation. Gradually, I understood that I was part of a program designed to assist students financially so they could receive a quality education. This meant I had to maintain good grades and volunteer during the summer at the SEFI Booth to support the SAPAK Program for students like me. I eventually accepted that I might never be like my classmates, but I chose to use what I perceived as shortcomings as my greatest strengths. Without these challenges, I wouldn't be standing here today.

Looking back, I may not have had every privilege, but I consider my experiences at STC to be life-changing gifts. I will always be grateful for taking that entrance exam and navigating the hurdles I faced. I wouldn't change a thing because those challenges shaped who I am today. I learned to take care of myself and make the most of what I had, thanks to my not-so-pleasant experiences growing up. I am forever grateful to STC for teaching me to love with a heart as big as Christ's so that there would always be room for others.



I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Board of Trustees of SEFI, the generous sponsors and donors, and the administrators of both departments. Thank you so much. Without your support, I wouldn't be where I am today or who I am today. I hope and pray that God grants you the grace and desires of your heart to help future Theresians access the exceptional education they deserve. You are the shining stars that inspired us to dream and work hard for the futures we once thought unattainable. May you continue to extend your helping hand to my fellow Theresians, the future generation, and the hope for a brighter tomorrow. As the saying goes, "God puts people in our lives for a reason." You are those special people who have paved the way for us to have a brighter future.

Angeline Aquino Abanto – STCQC Batch 2003

I come from a large family with six sisters and a brother. All of my sisters graduated from St. Theresa's College and benefited from the SEFI program. My father worked abroad as an overseas Filipino worker (OFW), specifically as a construction worker in Japan, while our mother stayed home to care for us. Given our situation, it was almost impossible for all of us to attend a private school. However, my mom always said, "Your education is the only inheritance we can give you." She wanted us to have the best education possible, which is why we were enrolled at St. Theresa's College.

In 2002, my father suffered a stroke, followed by another in 2004 and a final one in 2006 before he passed away at the age of 46. At that time, my youngest sibling was only 7 years old and in grade 2. We faced immense emotional, mental, and financial struggles. We could barely afford rent and utilities while we were still in school. Some relatives and friends suggested that we transfer to a more affordable school to finish our education, but my mother remained determined.

In 2015, we celebrated my youngest sibling's high school graduation. We made it! All six of us graduated from St. Theresa's College of Quezon City, and SEFI made this possible.

Today, our lives are much different from what they were years ago, and we owe it all to SEFI. Thank you for supporting us all these years. We wouldn't be where we are today without you. We can't express our gratitude enough. Poverty can indeed hinder access to quality education, but with the help of dedicated individuals like you, we can overcome this obstacle and create opportunities for every child to receive the education she deserves. Please continue your advocacy and mission; you are making a greater impact than you may realize. You will always be a part of our lives.

May God bless you with strength, health, and abundance to sustain your generosity. Again, on behalf of my family and all SEFI beneficiaries, maraming maraming salamat po! Let your light shine and be a blessing to others!



An Orientation Seminar for new SEFI Parents



40 more grantees are added to the SEFI Family. New SEFI Parents attended an Orientation Seminar to become acquainted with the SEFI processes and procedures, duties, and responsibilities as beneficiaries of the SEFI assistance.

Financial Literacy 2 Seminar

SEFI parents and guardians attended a follow-up seminar on Financial Literacy, led by SEFI President Mrs. Carmen Serina and her company. The seminar aimed to enhance their understanding of financial management and provide them with tools to navigate financial challenges.



SEFI parents share their collaborative report with the bigger group.

To utilize community resources, Ms. Carmela Dionisio and Ms. Angela Capangyarihan, the Grade 9 and 7 Counselors, were invited to share their expertise on Understanding Child Development and Psychology. This seminar was aimed to equip SEFI parents and guardians with good communication and parenting skills and a better understanding of their daughters' perspectives.



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our benefactors and friends who have continuously made a difference in the lives of our SEFI grantees and their families through your donations. We wish that God may continue to bless and shower you and your family with His blessings.

SEFI benefits from STCQCs Fundraising Activities



STCQC held a Fun Run on February 2, 2025, with the theme: RUN for H.E.R. (Health, Earth, and Recreation). Students from Grades 4 to 12, as well as STCQC personnel and parents, participated in the event. A portion of the proceeds from this activity was donated to SEFI.



The STCQC Bandfest, an annual event featuring school band and guest band performances was held on February 07, 2025, at the Sr. Marie Madeleine Multi-Purpose Gym. 100% of the proceeds went to SEFI.



On February 21, 2025, the Grade 6 students held their Annual SIG Fair. They set up their stalls and booths around the Grade School Lawn where they sold various snack items, including fries, nachos, donuts, fruit shakes, candies, and sweets. In addition to food, they offered games, stickers, and bracelets. All proceeds from this event went to SEFI.



The ABM Culminating Activity

From February 26 to 28, 2025, the graduating class of the Accountancy and Business Management strand participated in a Business Simulation activity. During this event, they set up their own stalls and booths at the STC Covered Court, offering a variety of food items. Their menu included ham and egg sandwiches, pizza, cookies, iced matcha, and Spanish lattes. They also sold kimbap, corn dogs, and lemonade, among other items. They also sold handcrafted bags, headbands and keychains in collaboration with GK Mothers Sewing Enterprise. The Gr. 12 ABM donated P16,000 to SEFI.



**Meet the SEFI Board of Trustees
for SY 2024 – 2025**



From left to right (1st row) Sr. Patricia Martinez, ICM, Sr. Filipinas Enanoria, ICM, Sr. Aurelia Caluza, ICM, Sr. Jessy Augustine, ICM. and Sr. Vicky Palanca, ICM. (2nd row) Atty. Emiluisa Peñano, Ms. Carmen Viola-Fernando Seriña, Mr. Jose De Jesus, Ms. Angelica Coquia-Lauchengco, Ms. Digna Santos and Sr. Marcy Badian, ICM. (not in the picture) Sr. Josefina Nebres, ICM, Atty. Faustino Madriaga and Mr. Emmanuel Plan.



**Message of the SEFI Chairman,
Atty. Faustino Madriaga, Jr.**

To the FRIENDS and SUPPORTERS of SEFI,

We all believe that THERESIAN EDUCATION is QUALITY, CATHOLIC EDUCATION. A THERESIAN is nurtured and acquires a solid spiritual, intellectual, moral, patriotic, and emotional foundation. Thus, it is one of the greatest legacies we can leave behind for our children and future generations.

Not every young girl is given the opportunity to acquire such preparation for life. But because of people like you, ever generous and always ready to help other people, Theresian Education is made available for more young girls.

It is therefore with profound and sincere gratitude that I thank you all sincerely for continuing to support the young Theresians whose parents may not have been able to enroll them in Saint Theresa's College of Quezon City without your valuable support.

Thank you and may God, who is never outdone in generosity, repay you a hundredfold.

Message of Sr. Josefina Nebres, ICM

Our heartfelt gratitude to:

- Atty. Faustino R. Madriaga, Jr and to all the members of the SEFI Board of Trustees for their dedication and devotedness to the cause of SEFI which sustains the trust of present and future donors;
- Our donors and endowers for their great generosity that sustains the fulfillment of the mission of this foundation;
- Our beneficiaries for their faithful participation and their adherence to the core values of the Theresian education that has formed them to be women with a strong sense of mission, have a heart for the poor, and are generously committed to serving our people, especially the poor;
- To the parents of the beneficiaries who participate and cooperate faithfully in the formation process of their daughters which ensures the success of their daughters to achieve their dreams in life and thereby upgrade the quality of life of the whole family;
- Gratitude to our partners in this ministry namely Mrs. Laarni Cadaoas, Ms. Precious Kate Orencio and Mrs. Cristy Dacut whose faithfulness and dedication have sustained the trust of all the donors, the beneficiaries, and the parents.



Sr. Josefina F. Nebres, ICM

STCQC Directress Emeritus
SEFI Board Corporate Secretary

Most of all, we thank God, our Father for His great generosity, His love and mercy in accompanying us to carry on our mission.
