***Fact Sheet***

*Miss Philippines*

*on Wheels, Signs, and Visions*

1. ***Introduction***
   1. **TAHANANG WALANG HAGDANAN, INCORPORATED (TWHI),** is a non-stock, non-profit organization whose programs and services are geared toward the empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (PWD) by creating opportunities for them to be productive members of the society duly recognized by the Philippine Council for NGO Certification (PCNC) with accreditation number 041-2010.

Established in 1973 by Sister Valeriana Baerts, ICM, a Belgian nun, TWHI is by far the biggest non-government organization (NGO) to focus on addressing the needs of PWDs for capacity building and employment. Through the years, it has successfully developed different products and services which have been sufficient for the organization to exist for over 39 years.

* 1. **WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES LEAP TO SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS, INCORPORATED (WOW LEAP, Inc.)** is an organization founded by women with disabilities and implement programs for the advancement of women with disabilities and women caring for persons with disabilities (mothers, wives, daughter and women caregivers). WOW LEAP focuses on advocacy, economic empowerment, leadership development among women with disabilities and representation of the women with disability sector in all aspects of community life. It is now working on the organization of the national federation of women with disabilities and be represented in mainstream organization of women with disabilities.
  2. **Miss Philippines on Wheels, Signs, and Visions** is a pageant celebrating the empowerment of women with disabilities. TWH spearheaded the first-ever competition in year 1998, which was formerly known as Ms. Beauty on Wheels, was greatly participated by almost 40 candidates all over the Philippines. To mention a few of its advocates, we have: The Fashion Designers Association of the Philippines, Preview Magazine, and the highly sought Director, Mr. Jojo Lucila. This project was a brainchild of TWH’s COO Ms. Joy Garcia who is a silent advocate of inner beauty. Now as we benchmark its 2nd time, TWH is proud to announce the project that would platform the talents and abilities of Filipino women with disabilities in the year 2013.

TWH, in partnership with WOW LEAP (National Organization for Women with Disabilities), is spearheading another beauty pageant and this time it would present the ortho, the blind and the deaf women.

1. ***Mission***
   1. The mission of this pageant is to provide opportunity for women with disabilities to advocate and educate the public of their achievements and involvement in the communities despite their physical limitations.
   2. Unlike traditional beauty pageants, Miss Philippines on Wheels, Signs, and Visions is not only a contest to select the most attractive and talented individual but who can best represent the sector. The selected representative must be able to communicate and uphold rights of persons with disabilities, environmental concerns, and economic empowerment.
2. ***Duties of Miss Philippines on Wheels, Signs and Visions*** 
   1. The winner or the national titleholder has numerous duties. These include:
      1. Promoting awareness of the need to eliminate architectural and attitudinal barriers,
      2. Informing the able-bodied public of the achievements of the millions of people with disabilities across the nation, and
      3. Assisting with the establishment of programs hand in hand with the National Council on Disability Affairs, in different parts of the country.
      4. During her year-long reign, she will have the opportunity to travel visiting advocacy groups, making public appearances and conducting radio, print ad and TV interviews. The commitment and personal example of the titleholder serves to further the mission.

***Rules and Guidelines***

1. ***Qualifications:***
   * 1. Open to single women with disabilities (i.e. orthopedic, visual and/or hearing impairments)
     2. Contestant should be from 18 – 30 years of age at the time of the pageant
     3. Contestant must be articulate
     4. Contestant must possess a pleasing personality
     5. Contestant must possess a good moral character and a positive disposition
     6. Contestant must be a natural born Filipina
     7. Contestant must be willing to uphold disability issues and carry out the duties and functions of the titleholder.
2. ***Requirements***
   1. For screenings, the applicant must bring/submit with her the following documents:
      1. Original copy of Birth Certificate
      2. Medical Certificate/ PWD Identification Card
      3. Recent, 5R, Colored pictures: Whole Body, Half Body, and Head Shot
      4. Self Video Presentation(with self presentation and corresponding answer to the advised questions)
      5. Police / Barangay / NBI Clearance
      6. Filled-out application form
3. ***Information Dissemination***
   1. To help promote, advertise and inform the public of the event, sufficient information dissemination measures must be undertaken by all stakeholders. This shall include online promotion (company websites, social networking sites, blogs, etc.)
   2. These measures include department circulars, memoranda and the like. The pageant rules and guidelines, pertinent schedules and focal persons must be indicated in the said circulars and memoranda.
4. ***Screening Process***
   1. All screening committees must abide by the following criteria for selection:
      1. ***Beauty and Personality (30%)***
         1. Attention is focused on personality, physical fitness and the confidence with which each applicant carries herself.
      2. ***Articulateness and Spontaneity (30%)***
         1. This will showcase the speaking skills or the confidence for self presentation of an applicant. This portion would also reinforce their beauty and personality.
      3. ***Intelligence (40%)***
         1. Committee members spend time with each applicantportion would also reinforce their beauty and personality.he confidence with which each applican to learn about her successes, talents, goals and ambitions. Attention is focused on her poise, charm, self-confidence and her ability to communicate and answer questions with substance.
   2. All interested applicants must send/submit via email the above mentioned requirements to the advised email address of the following coordinators.

* Local Government Units/City Municipalities – c/o DILG
* WOW LEAP Chapters – c/o WOW LEAP
* Rotary Club Clusters – c/o CDAG (Civil Defense Action Group)
* AKAP Pinoy
* National Anti-poverty Commission (NAPC)

1. ***National Beauty Pageant*** 
   1. Pre-Pageant
      1. The pre-selected committee must abide by the following criteria for selection of the 9 Semi-Finalists per disability category:
         1. ***Beauty and Personality (30%)***
            1. Attention is focused on personality, physical fitness and the confidence with which each applicant carries herself.
         2. ***Talents and/or Special Skills (30%)***
            1. This will showcase the innate talent of an applicant. This portion would also reinforce their beauty and personality.
         3. ***Intelligence (40%)***
            1. Committee members spend time with each applicantportion would also reinforce their beauty and personality.he confidence with which each applican to learn about her successes, talents, goals and ambitions. Attention is focused on her poise, charm, self-confidence and her ability to communicate and answer questions with substance.
      2. Contestants will be pre-judged at this level. From all the successful applicants, the selected committee members would choose 9 candidates per disability category. The said 27 candidates would be called the Semi-Finalists of the Miss Philippines on Wheels, Signs, and Visions.
      3. The Semi-Finalists would be presented to the public at the pocket events and on the Coronation Night.
   2. Coronation Night
      1. All the selected National Level contestants will be present at the Coronation Night.
      2. The top 9 Semi-Finalists from each disability category will be announced.
      3. The executive committee must abide by the following criteria for judging the Semi-Finalists in selecting the 3winners per disability category:
         1. ***Long Gown (15%)***
         2. ***Sportswear (15%)***
         3. ***National Costume (15%)***
         4. ***Question and Answer (40%)***
         5. ***People’s Choice (15%)***
      4. Three winners will be announced per disability category:
         1. Miss Philippines on Wheels, Signs and Visions
         2. 1st Runner-up
         3. 2ndRunner-up
      5. In the event that the winner fails to satisfy her functions, it is understood that the 1st Runner-up will assume the title.