Peace Corps Alumni Foundation for Philippine Development — Building Futures Since 1983

# Scholarship Recommendation Form

Recommender Information

Name: PAULENE B. DIAZ — Relationship to applicant: Organization Provincial Leader

Organization/School: CFC - Youth for Christ — Email address: paulenebejardiaz@gmail.com

Applicant Information:

Name: Mikayla Zoe Canda — Current School: Bloomingfields Academy

Recommendation

I have known and worked closely with Mikayla for the past three years through Youth For Christ. I first worked with her as her Chapter Head, and I now continue to witness her growth in my role as Provincial Youth Head. Throughout these years, I have seen not only her potential as a leader but also her kind heart, perseverance, and genuine willingness to serve.

As a Household Leader, Mikayla is someone who listens to her members and co-leaders. She is willing to say yes whenever she can help, and she consistently makes time for service despite having many responsibilities of her own. For the past three years, I have seen her remain consistent and persevering in her commitment. Even when she is handling several responsibilities, she makes sure to give her best to each one without allowing one responsibility to compromise another.

In our community, Mikayla always makes time to share her creativity and talents according to the needs of the area and the people we serve. She is a talented young person who genuinely enjoys exploring her gifts and finding ways to develop them. I have also seen her use her talents through her small business, which shows her resourcefulness. She does not simply recognize her abilities; she takes initiative to develop them and find meaningful ways to use them.

She is also organized, both in the work she contributes and in how she manages herself as an individual. She takes ownership of the responsibilities entrusted to her and makes an effort to ensure that what she contributes is done well.

Beyond her leadership and talents, Mikayla has a naturally sweet and warm personality. She is almost always seen with a smile, and her smile has a way of lighting up the room and making the people around her feel at ease. She is approachable, genuine, and easy to work with. I have seen how this warmth helps her build meaningful relationships with her members and co-leaders and creates a positive environment wherever she serves.

Another quality I deeply appreciate in Mikayla is that she is anchored in her faith. I believe this foundation gives her the courage to step forward, the confidence to engage with others, and the strength to remain committed even when things become challenging. Her faith is reflected not only in what she says but also in the way she chooses to serve, listen, and make herself available to others.

I have also witnessed her ability to balance her different responsibilities. Her junior high school happens to be my alma mater, and I have heard about her leadership and involvement on campus.

**Recommender Name & Signature:** PAULENE B. DIAZ **Date:** 09/28/2026

Despite being active in various extracurricular activities and serving in YFC, she continues to excel academically. Seeing this alongside her three years of consistent service has shown me her discipline, perseverance, and ability to manage her time well.

More than her accomplishments, I see Mikayla as a young person with a kind heart, strong potential, and a genuine desire to grow and serve. She makes use of the gifts she has been given, remains open to learning, and willingly takes opportunities to develop herself. I believe that with the support and opportunity provided by a scholarship, she can continue to develop her talents, pursue her education, and use what she learns and receives to contribute meaningfully to others.

**Recommender Name & Signature:** PAULENE B. DIAZ **Date:** 09/28/2026