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Art 385
Interaction Design

Hiraya is a game that features interactive Javascript, that takes you on a journey as a volunteer for Save Our Schools Network. These interactions raises the question of what contributions can I make within our own communities, throughout this website it is seen that truly small actions can make a huge difference. Hiraya uses simple, but meaningful illustrations that demonstrates what a volunteer can do to help and how hardwork doesn't get unnoticed. Now, get ready to learn about Save Our Schools Network through exploring it throughout this game.

Save Our Schools Network is a network of child-focused non-governmental organizations, church-based groups and other stakeholders advocating for children's right to education. Children's rights violations are widespread in the Philippines, including the military occupation of schools and interruption of education. International laws prohibit the use of public places like schools, hospitals, and rural health units for military purposes. However, over the years, there has been an increase in reports of militarization at schools, now being used as barracks. This is the recurring and ongoing violation of child rights and interruption of education by the Philippines government that Save Our Schools Network is trying to fight against.

This February in New Bataan, Davao de Oro, Mindanao, Save Our Schools volunteers Chad Booc, Jurain Ngujo, Elgyn Balonga, Robert Aragon, and Tirso Anar were targeted and killed by the Armed Forces of the Philippines. These teachers, healthcare worker, and drivers make up the New Bataan 5, people who were targeted after serving the indigenous Lumad communities in the Philippines.

Through this project, I have chosen to do the perspective of a volunteer because it brings awareness to the user about the Save our Schools organization, as well as these actions are very common to contribute to organizations. Awareness is the least thing we can do as individuals, but it is the first step. Throughout the game, it is clear that my style of illustrations are simple and unique. My approach to the overall aesthetic was to be welcoming to the subjects within each experience.