



FEB 18 2010

DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. **64**, s. 2010

NATIONAL WORK CONFERENCE OF SCHOOL HEALTH OFFICIALS ON PROJECT REACH AND PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM (4Ps)

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau Directors
Directors of Services/Centers and Heads of Units
Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents
Heads, Public and Private Elementary and Secondary Schools

1. Cognizant of the importance and relevance of gearing up school health resources for Project ReACH, this Department, through the Health and Nutrition Center, in close coordination with other concerned agencies shall convene school health officials for a National Work-Conference on Project ReACH and 4Ps on March 11-14, 2010 in a venue to be announced later. Its objectives are to:

- a. orient participants on the detailed mechanics of implementation of Project ReACH and 4Ps;
- b. explain the complementary relationship between Project ReACH and 4Ps as to finding/reaching and keeping children in school;
- c. analyze family mapping data specifically on children not in school and reasons for non-schooling;
- d. discuss strategies on how school health personnel can be fully mobilized during summer to find and reach children not in school;
- e. align Food for School Program and 4Ps beneficiaries/areas, in compliance with a Presidential Directive;
- f. discuss climate change and its impact on people's health, food security and environment; and
- g. prepare a division/regional work and financial plan to upscale Project ReACH through full mobilization of school health resources.

2. Participants in this conference are all Heads of Division Health and Nutrition Sections and the Chiefs of the seventeen (17) Regional Health and Nutrition Units. Under the supervision of the Schools Division Superintendents, Heads of the Division Health and Nutrition Sections manage the school health and nutrition programs and projects, and as such, they should be held accountable to implement the various health/nutrition-related activities planned to find and reach out to the children not in school and to keep them in school. Officials from partner agencies such as the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), National Nutrition Council (NNC), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), and Department of Agriculture (DA), selected officials from the Leagues of Municipalities/Provinces in the Philippines and the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP), as well as Health and Nutrition Center (HNC) and other DepEd officials shall be in attendance.



3. In view of the fact that 4Ps provide cash grants to One Million poor households, one conditionality of which is for their children ages 6-14 years old to enroll in school and attend 85% of the time, and that per Presidential directive, the Food for School Program should be aligned to the 4Ps beneficiaries, it is imperative to discuss how these two (2) priority government programs could motivate the children to stay in school, thus increasing participation rate. Likewise, climate change is of utmost priority of government, hence, this phenomenon should be well understood by the school health group so that they can effectively advocate to the school populace the various ways of preventing global warming and how to cope with the impact of climate change.

4. Documents to be brought to the Conference are as follows:

- a. Regional/Division Work and Financial Plan for Project ReACH, CY 2010;
- b. Local initiatives undertaken for Project ReACH;
- c. Consolidated data on Family Mapping (per municipality and/or province);
- d. Number of health personnel per division;
- e. 4Ps beneficiaries (no. of households per barangay per municipality in each province); and
- f. Food for School Program beneficiaries (list of schools per municipality per division).

5. Regional Directors and all Schools Division/City Superintendents are instructed to send their Division Health and Nutrition Section Heads/Schools Medical Officers to the conference **on official business**. Travel expenses shall be chargeable against local funds/downloaded school health and nutrition program monitoring/travel funds, subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

6. Board and lodging, kits, materials and supplies, travel expenses and honoraria of speakers, resource persons, facilitators and staff/secretariat and other operational costs shall be shouldered by the Health and Nutrition Center.

7. For more information, please contact the Office of Assistant Secretary Thelma G. Santos with tel. no.: (02) 638-8525 or e-mail address: asectgsantos@yahoo.com or Director Thelma R. Navarez at tel. nos.: (02) 632-9904/(02) 633-7245.

8. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


JESLI A. LAPUS
Secretary

Reference: DepEd Memorandum: No. 284, s. 2009

Allotment: 1- (D.O. 50-97)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
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