

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL NUTRITION COMMITTEE
Caraga Region

RNC Resolution No. 02
Series of 2020

**ENJOINING ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO HARMONIZE NUTRITION
FOR THE FIRST 1000 DAYS OF LIFE THROUGH A STRENGTHENED AND
INTEGRATED PROGRAM FOR MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH AND
NUTRITION**

WHEREAS, the First 1000 Days refers to the period from conception to a child's first two years of life and is considered the "golden window of opportunity" for the child to achieve his or her full potential in the different aspects of development;

WHEREAS, recent scientific evidence showed that to arrest early onset of malnutrition, proper nutrition should start on the first 1000 days of a child's life, starting from conception up to two years;

WHEREAS, this is the period during which key health, nutrition, early education and related services should be delivered to ensure the optimum physical and mental development of a child;

WHEREAS, during the First 1000 Days, rapid brain growth and development occurs. When neglect happens during this critical period, children's survival suffers and they succumb to illnesses and diseases, lose their full and inherent capacity to grow, and become a productive member of his or her community in the future;

WHEREAS, good nutrition is important for growth and brain development. Poor nutrition can have irreversible effects on the physical and mental development of the child;

WHEREAS, any nutritional deficiency in a child's first 1000 days will have irreversible effects on their health and their physical and mental development, thus, preventing the child from completing schooling and eventually acquiring decent employment. Children are more prone to die of illnesses such as pneumonia, diarrhea and viral infections;

WHEREAS, the 2015 Updating National Nutrition Survey by the Food and Nutrition Research Institute- Department of Science and Technology (FNRI-DOST) showed that poor infant and young child feeding in the first two years of life coupled with bouts of infection, explain the high levels of stunting in the country;

WHEREAS, exclusive breastfeeding (EBF) in the first six (6) months of life continues to be a challenge in the country. Based from the 2019 NNS, Non-EBF deprives the infant of needed nutrients for optimum growth and development at the time when his or her growth is most rapid;

WHEREAS, any nutritional deficiency in a child's first 1000 days will have irreversible effects on their health and their physical and mental development, thus, preventing

the child from completing schooling and eventually acquiring decent employment. Children are more prone to die of illnesses such as pneumonia, diarrhea and viral infections;

WHEREAS, the 2015 Updating National Nutrition Survey by the Food and Nutrition Research Institute- Department of Science and Technology (FNRI-DOST) showed that poor infant and young child feeding in the first two years of life coupled with bouts of infection, explain the high levels of stunting in the country;

WHEREAS, exclusive breastfeeding (EBF) in the first six (6) months of life continues to be a challenge in the country. Based from the 2019 NNS, Non-EBF deprives the infant of needed nutrients for optimum growth and development at the time when his or her growth is most rapid;

WHEREAS, consistent with the recommendations from the Lancet Series on Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition in 2008, one of the strategic thrusts of the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) 2017-2020 is to focus on the First 1000 Days of life;

WHEREAS, the First 1000 Days Program is a comprehensive package of nutrition specific, sensitive, and enabling interventions to achieve significant changes in key nutrition indicators and achieve complete child development outcome;

WHEREAS, RA 11148 – *Kalusugan at Nutrisyon ng Mag-Nanay Act* (First 1000 Days Act) emphasizes the need to institutionalize and scale up nutrition in the First 1000 Days of life in the plans of the national level down to the local government units' investment plans to ensure the health and nutrition of children, especially those aged zero to two years and of the pregnant and lactating women;

WHEREAS, integrated program for maternal and child health nutrition aims to ensure the nutritional stability of the new born child through provision of prenatal and post-natal maternity care services to pregnant women. The program shall include awareness of the significance of good maternal nutrition and proper infant and young child feeding practices, particularly, exclusive breastfeeding, timely, safe and appropriate and high-quality complimentary food, and appropriate micronutrient interventions;

WHEREAS, the nutrition programs, projects and activities in the First 1000 Days of life shall be integrated in the Local Nutrition Action Plans of the Local Government Units and integrated in the Annual Investment Program and Local Development Plan to ensure the allocation of funds;

WHEREAS, the specific nutrition programs in the First 1000 Days were aligned in the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition 2017-2022;

RESOLVED FURTHER, the harmonization of nutrition efforts in the First 1000 Days through strengthened and integrated programs on maternal and child health nutrition at the regional and local level;

RESOLVED FURTHER; the nutrition investment in the First 1000 Days of life by integrating nutrition and health programs on maternal, infants and children in the Annual Investment Program for funding support of the LGUs;

RESOLVED FURTHER; the Regional Nutrition Committee to continuously provide technical assistance and nutrition advocacy for effective and efficient implementation of programs in the First 1000 Days of life;

FINALLY RESOLVED, to request the Department of Interior and Local Government XIII for the dissemination of this resolution and monitor its compliance and implementation.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, this 29th day of September in Butuan City.

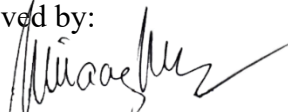
Certified true and correct:



RETSEBETH M. LAQUIHON, RND, MPD, MDM

OIC – Regional Nutrition Program Coordinator
National Nutrition Council Caraga

Approved by:



JOSE R. LLACUNA, JR., MD, MPD, CESO III

Chairperson, Regional Nutrition Committee
Director IV, Department of Health
Center for Health Development Caraga