



REGIONAL NUTRITION *Awarding Ceremony* 2023

10 November 2023
Chali Resort and Conference Center
Cagayan de Oro City



NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL

Nutrisyong Sapat, Para sa Lahat!

VISION

By 2028, NNC is the authority in steering stakeholders for sustainable nutrition for all Filipinos.

MISSION

We formulate, coordinate and monitor nutrition policies and programs for integrated multi-sectoral action towards sustainable nutrition.

CORE VALUES

A S P I R E

Accountability Sensitivity Passion Integrity Resiliency Excellence

NNC QUALITY POLICY

The NNC, as the highest policy-making body on nutrition, is committed to ensure improved access to quality nutrition and related interventions through formulation and coordination of policies and programs with excellence, integrity and transparency.

We shall endeavor to continually improve the quality management system to satisfy the needs and expectations of our clients with strict adherence to existing laws, rules and regulations.

NNC HYMN

I

*Tayo ay nagpupunla ng bukas na sapat
Lumaya ang bayan sa malnutrisyon
Tayo ay nagpapanday ng isang kamalayan
Walang magugutom sa bawat tahanan*

II

*Itataguyod ang pamamahala sa tamang
nutrisyon
Lokal man o pambansa, sa nayon at lungsod
Kasama ng ibang sektor, pangunahan ang
pagkilos
Sa wastong nutrisyon bayan ay susulong*

Chorus

*Tayo ang NNC, taos pusong nagsisilbi
San mang panig ng bayan, ating aabutin
Nutrisyong sapat, para sa lahat!*

*Tayo ang NNC, taos pusong nagsisilbi
Sa ating tungkulin, at iisang layunin
Nutrisyong sapat, para sa lahat!*

Nutrisyong sapat, para sa lahat!

Message from the Regional Development Council X

Warm greetings to all our partners in nutrition and health!

It is both a great honor and source of immense delight to play a part in this important occasion, the 2023 Regional Nutrition Awarding Ceremony, spearheaded by the National Nutrition Council (NNC) of Region X.

This year's ceremony represents another remarkable milestone in our unwavering commitment to the well-being of our communities. It is an occasion where we come together to recognize and celebrate the commendable efforts of every local government unit in their tireless pursuit of excellence in nutrition program implementation. Good nutrition stands as the cornerstone of building thriving and vibrant communities. It is a fundamental pillar that nurtures human potential and productivity, thus laying the foundation for sustainable development. When we invest in the health and well-being of our people, we are in essence, investing in the future of our province, region, and nation as a whole.

As the Governor of the Province of Lanao del Norte and the Chairperson of the Regional Development Council of Northern Mindanao, I wish to reaffirm our unwavering support for all your noble nutrition initiatives. We are steadfastly committed to working hand in hand with you to enhance the quality of life for all, irrespective of age or social status.

My sincerest congratulations go out to all prime movers, participants, and awardees. May this well-deserved recognition inspire you to strive for excellence in your ongoing quest to elevate the standards of nutrition and health for our people. The impact of our collective actions extends far beyond the confines of this event, shaping the health and future of our people, especially our children, who are our most vulnerable citizens. Therefore, I earnestly encourage all LGUs to persevere in their commitment to promoting nutrition programs and policies.

Together, we can enrich the quality of life, effect meaningful change, and contribute to the realization of **Ambisyon Natin 2040 para sa matatag, maginhawa, at panatag na buhay para sa lahat.**

Mabuhay tayong lahat!



IMELDA QUIBRANZA DIMAPORO
Provincial Governor, Lanao del Norte
RDC X Chairperson



Message from the National Nutrition Council

Congratulations to the winners of this year's regional nutrition awards including the outstanding local nutrition focal points and Local Government Units (LGU) for outstanding performance on nutrition program management! You now belong to the cadre of nutrition champions— the *crème de la crème* of nutrition.

The recognition of the recipients of the 2022 Regional Outstanding City Nutrition Action Officer, City Nutrition Program Coordinator, the Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar, and the 12 LGU recipients of the Green Banner Seal of Compliance Award are the fulfillment of years of hard work, dedication and sacrifices to deliver quality nutrition services to the people of Northern Mindanao. The annual regional nutrition awarding ceremony continues to be the venue to recognize the leaders and champions of nutrition in each regions and culminates in the national awarding ceremony. I hope that the winners will be able to eventually reach national level recognition for indeed Northern Mindanao has borne quite a number of national winners.

May you, the local chief executives, local nutrition focal points and members of local nutrition committees continue to inspire, to be challenged and to raise the bar of good performance in the delivery of quality nutrition interventions to reduce all forms of malnutrition in Northern Mindanao.

The PPAN 2023-2028 will provide the guidance and the enabling environment for this to happen. We are called to sustain our commitment, to create game changers and to initiate sustainable interventions towards improving food and nutrition security in the country. I call on everyone to collaborate and converge through well crafted local nutrition action plans that are budgeted and implemented.

NNC is here to support you in every step of the way— through the progress and challenges, together we will work to achieve our goals in nutrition of the region: One Region for Nutrition!

Daghang salamat at mabuhay tayong lahat!



AZUCENA M. DAYANGHIRANG, MD, MCH, CESO III
Assistant Secretary and Executive Director IV



Message from the Department of Health Center for Health Development-Northern Mindanao

My warmest felicitations to all our esteemed nutrition achievers!

The Department of Health spearheads the provision of health services in promoting, protecting, preserving or restoring the health of the people and is working hand in hand with National Nutrition Council to address malnutrition problems. The productivity of the citizens can be affected when health and nutrition are compromised. Malnutrition is also considered as the common underlying factor for morbidity and mortality among the very young.

I am delighted to recognize the efforts of all nutrition workers in Northern Mindanao as we continuously collaborate in implementing nutrition programs for the interest of our targeted beneficiaries, most especially the vulnerable groups. Despite the challenges and limitations, everyone continued to collectively enforce and execute nutrition services and information dissemination.

With this, the 2023 Regional Nutrition Awarding Ceremony is a venue to give the due appreciation and recognition of our performing local government units and stakeholders for their contribution in scaling up the nutrition situation in the region. Today's affair highlights the heroes behind the success of making into a reality the vision and mission of DOH which is to ensure that Filipinos are among the healthiest people in Asia by 2040.

Ensuring delivery of comprehensive and integrated health and nutrition services across all levels of care has been identified as a strategic intervention in the 8-point agenda of our Secretary of Health, Dr. Teodoro J. Herbosa so that *"bawat Pilipino, bawat komunidad at bawat health worker"* are given the much-needed attention for a *"Healthy Pilipinas kung saan bawat buhay ay mahalaga."*

May we continue to be inclusive and participatory in developing strategies and interventions for a productive, resilient, equitable, and people-centered health system. Lastly, let me take this opportunity to congratulate everyone for the commitment you have unselfishly given for a healthier nation.

Do accept our profound gratitude for your dedication to this noble cause.

Daghang salamat. Mabuhay kitang tanan mga ka-Nutrisyon!


ELLENIETTA H. GAMOLO, MD, MPH, CESE
OIC-Regional Director



Message from the Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office 10

It is reassuring that our partners have carried out their core functions with the aim of building an improved and healthier nation.

As the Vice-Chairperson of the Regional Nutrition Committee X, I would like to convey my congratulations to this year's Regional Nutrition Awardees for your steadfast commitments that significantly contributed to the country's nutrition status.

Food security is one of the pillars of good nutrition, along with good care and good health. The connection between nutrition and agriculture is vital in creating and improving nutritional status. Indeed, agriculture is seen as one of the foundations of national development that has created a strong impact on poverty and malnutrition.

The Department of Agriculture-Regional Field Office 10, in partnership with the LGUs has strengthened the campaign and its interventions not only focusing on production, but also on the consumption of nutritious food that is available and affordable, especially by vulnerable groups, including pregnant women and children.

The nutrition programs of the government have opened opportunities to bridge the gap in shaping the food system of the country. Our call for partnership and support for a stronger and healthier nation has built and improved nutritional outcomes.

May you sustain your efforts in alleviating the nutritional status of areas that need immediate attention. Congratulations!



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carlene C. Collado'.

CARLENE C. COLLADO, CPA
Regional Executive Director



Message from the Department of the Interior and Local Government X

Mabuhay and Greetings of Peace!

The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Region 10 is one with the National Nutrition Council in celebrating this joyous event of recognizing the exemplary performance of the local government units in nutrition program management. We congratulate the LGU awardees for achieving this difficult feat despite the different challenges they faced in their respective areas.

This demonstrates their desire to bring about an improvement in the lives of their constituents and their commitment to public service. We express our gratitude to our LGUs for consistently demonstrating their dedication to the general welfare of their constituents through the implementation of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive programs.

May they continue to strive efforts to improve the lives of their constituents and bring our government closer to the community through the effective implementation of these programs and projects. It is in this light that we hope to see the LGUs become better and better each year, maintaining their good practices while innovating and enhancing ways forward to achieve greater heights for their further improvement.

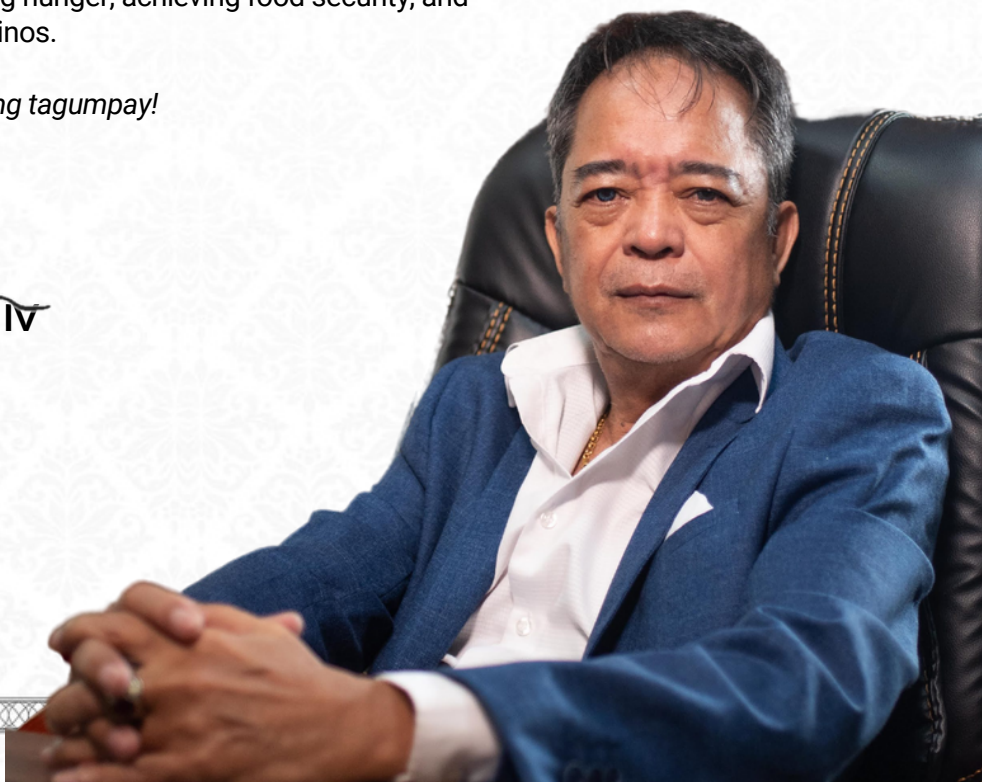
We also acknowledge the Regional Nutrition Committee members in Region 10 for enacting their roles and going beyond measures to ensure the successful implementation of the nutrition plan, projects, and programs for nutrition improvement at the regional and local levels. With their consistent efforts to ensure the communities' access to quality nutrition products and nutrition services, the achievement of the nutrition goals has gone so far.

We hope that the LGUs continue to serve their respective communities with the public interest above and exercise their power toward efficient and effective local governance. May the awards they reap today be just the start to the long list of achievements that the LGUs will achieve in the coming years consistently and steadily as they can be, and we wish for this to be a beacon of hope to the other LGUs that this is a feat that they can achieve if they plan, work together, act upon the plan and persist towards its successful achievement.

Together, let us work towards eradicating hunger, achieving food security, and improving the overall nutrition of all Filipinos.

Mabuhay at binabati namin kayo sa inyong tagumpay!


WILHELM M. SUYKO, CESO IV
Regional Director



Message from the National Nutrition Council Region X

My heartfelt greetings to all of you, our growing list of nutrition champions, partners and fellow nutrition advocates to this year's Regional Nutrition Awarding Ceremony!

The RNAC concludes the annual monitoring and evaluation of local government units and nutrition focal points undertaken by the National Nutrition Council X, together with its Regional Nutrition Evaluation Team. Additionally, we also give due credit to the steadfast advocates of nutrition.

All the LGUs and focal points who have shown exemplary performance in the implementation of nutrition program and delivery of nutrition services equally deserve to be recognized. Today, it is on this occasion that role models and exemplars are honored and awarded for achieving improved and favorable nutrition outcomes. A special occasion that has grown to be a tradition in and of itself.

While we celebrate your achievements, we also take this opportunity to learn and to be inspired, engaged, and ambitious. As awardees, you provide the standards that your fellow LGUs and focal points can benchmark. The fact that you are here today is a manifestation that although no one started it easy, achieving our vision for nutrition is not impossible. Despite the many difficulties we have in managing nutrition programs, Northern Mindanao has a reputation for inspiring and producing more effective Local Nutrition Committees and focal points.

With the new Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) 2023-2028, we are called to prioritize and accelerate its implementation and forge strong and functional partnerships. Emerging challenges in the nutrition landscape demand your committed leadership and ingenuity. Thus, as we jumpstart our new PPAN anchored to the Philippine Development Plan, we trust that you will be with us in unison to disseminate, integrate, and execute its priorities at the local level.

As nutrition champions, we invite everyone to pursue our cause, *"Nutrisyong sapat, para sa lahat!"* for us to bring the desired change to the populations needing our services the most.

Again, with great pride and honor, I congratulate this year's awardees. *Mabuhay!*




GLADYS MAE S. FERNANDEZ, RND, MDM
Regional Nutrition Program Coordinator



JOURNEY TO NUTRITION AWARDS

The National Nutrition Council is mandated among others, to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the country's food and nutrition plans and programs. Towards this mandate, NNC conducts Monitoring and Evaluation of Local Level Plan of Implementation (MELLPI) Pro to assess local nutrition program implementation among the local government units (LGUs) and performance of local nutrition focal points (LNFPs).

MELLPI Pro for LGUs covers assessment of nutrition initiatives along policy and legislation, nutrition service delivery, and capacity building. MELLPI Pro accounts the local nutrition programs' efficiency and effectiveness. In addition, it emphasizes evaluation of the LGUs' progress toward compliance to quality standards, evidence-based validation and mentoring through joint discussion with the LGU.

LGUs are conferred with the Green Banner Seal of Compliance if they can satisfy the following conditions: an overall rating of at least 85%, and with average rating of not lower than 60% per dimension. The Green Banner Seal of Compliance replaces the previous award called the Green Banner, where only the LGU with the highest score per LGU category can qualify.

Provinces and cities, and the highest-ranking municipality in each province who received the Green Banner Seal of Compliance for three consecutive years with a rating of at least 90% on the third year. Validation of the three highest-ranking municipalities will complete the shortlist of highest ranking LGUs, together with the evaluated provinces and cities. The Consistent Regional Outstanding Winner in Nutrition (CROWN) award will be given to the highest-ranking LGU in the region with a minimum score of 90%. The CROWN awardee must obtain increasing scores for three consecutive years, to obtain the Nutrition Honor Award, the highest recognition given by NNC to an LGU.

On the other hand, LNFPs with at least one (1) year in service, as frontline nutrition staff, are evaluated to assess their performance in carrying out core functions in line with delivering

nutrition services in the locality. There are five categories for this evaluation: Provincial Nutrition Action Officer, City/Municipal Nutrition Action Officer, District Nutrition Program Coordinator, City/Municipal Nutrition Program Coordinator, and Barangay Nutrition Scholar.

Highest-ranking focal points per category in the region with a minimum score of 90% shall be conferred the Regional Outstanding LNFP in their respective categories.

This year, the LGUs and LNFPs were evaluated based on their CY 2022 performance. The MELLPI Pro and Search for Regional Outstanding LNFPs culminate with the recognition of LGUs and LNFPs.

Northern Mindanao has so far produced 10 Nutrition Honor Awardees who received their accolades in the respective years indicated: Don Carlos, Bukidnon (2002), Malaybalay City, Quezon, Bukidnon, and Bukidnon Province (2005), Libona Bukidnon (2008), Kadingilan, Bukidnon (2011), Ozamiz City (2012), Valencia City (2016), Manolo Fortich, Bukidnon (2021), and the latest being Misamis Occidental Province (2022).



LGU AWARDEES

GREEN BANNER SEAL OF COMPLIANCE

El Salvador City	Lantapan, Bukidnon
Gingoog City	Maramag, Bukidnon
Cabanglasan, Bukidnon	Pangantucan, Bukidnon
Dangcagan, Bukidnon	San Fernando, Bukidnon
Impasug-ong, Bukidnon	Sumilao, Bukidnon
Kitaotao, Bukidnon	Talakag, Bukidnon

NUTRITION HONOR AWARD (NHA) AWARD OF MERIT

Bukidnon Province
Valencia City
Don Carlos, Bukidnon
Kadingilan, Bukidnon
Libona, Bukidnon
Manolo Fortich, Bukidnon
Quezon, Bukidnon

SPECIAL CITATIONS

for LGUs contending for national awards

Cagayan de Oro City
Nutrition Honor Award Contender

Sumilao, Bukidnon
*Consistent Regional Outstanding Winner in Nutrition (CROWN)
Contender*

2022 REGIONAL OUTSTANDING LOCAL NUTRITION FOCAL POINTS

HAZEL P. DONDONAYOS, RND, MGA

Valencia City

2022 Region X Outstanding City Nutrition Action Officer
Contender, 2022 National Outstanding City Nutrition Action Officer

SHERILL FAITH P. ESPAÑOLA, RND, MMPM

Cagayan de Oro City

2022 Region X Outstanding City Nutrition Program Coordinator
Contender, 2022 National Outstanding City Nutrition Program Coordinator

LOIDALIZA C. VIZCAYNO

Brgy. Balulang, Cagayan de Oro City

2022 Region X Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar
Contender, 2022 National Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar

FINALISTS:

Provincial Nutrition Action Officer
Category:

Dr. Gary Guido C. Tabios, Jr.
Bukidnon Province

City/Municipal Nutrition Action Officer
Category:

Alyanna Faith R. Caballero
Manolo Fortich, Bukidnon

Elma M. Clapano
El Salvador City

District Nutrition Program Coordinator
Category:

Rebecca R. Hibaya
Bukidnon Province

City/Municipal Nutrition Program Coordinator
Category:

Julie Ann C. Brigoli
Valencia City

Barangay Nutrition Scholar Category:

Marina M. Mangubat, Brgy. Kiara, Don Carlos, Bukidnon
Cindy B. Yabo, Brgy. 7, Malaybalay City
Angelina J. Sucda, Brgy. Mailag, Valencia City
Fe A. Adavan, Brgy. Mobod, Oroquieta City
Eden S. Ursal, Brgy. Pangabuan, Tangub City

NUTRITION PRIME AWARD

for LGUs with Scaled Up Nutrition Innovations

FOOD PRODUCTION CATEGORY

OZAMIZ CITY COMPLEMENTARY FOOD PRODUCTION FACILITY

Ozamiz City

Lone LGU-operated CFPF in the region assisted by DOST. Produces nutritious and budget-friendly complementary food products for preschool and school children.

G4 AND MORE

Misamis Oriental Province

Province-wide Search for Outstanding Barangay and Households implementing the Garden of Go, Grow and Glow (G4), supported by Sangguniang Panlalawigan Resolution No. 650-2020.

FARMERS' MARKET DISPLAY

Misamis Oriental Province

A platform for local farmers to sell fresh, local and organic produce directly to individual and institutional buyers. Weekly display is held at the Provincial Capitol Grounds.

NUTRITION EDUCATION (BEHAVIOR CHANGE) CATEGORY

#CDONUTRICLASS

Cagayan de Oro City

Weekly live and interactive virtual classes hosted by City Nutrition Committee - Cagayan de Oro Facebook Page. A total of 27 episodes aired for 2022 related to health and nutrition.

FIRST MILK LETTING ACTIVITY

El Salvador City

Information dissemination drive and milk letting dovetailed during the Buntis Congress. Micronutrient supplements were also distributed to participating mothers.

CITY-WIDE F1K CLASS AND MILK LETTING ACTIVITY

Cagayan de Oro City

Aims to increase breastmilk supplies at the Northern Mindanao Medical Center Human Milk Bank. Mothers are educated on the importance of First 1000 Days and breastfeeding. A total of 15,155 ml of expressed breastmilk were collected in 2022.

HEALTHY BABY CONTEST

Gingoog City

Institutionalized in its barangays, the Healthy Baby Contest encourages improved coverage for baby check-ups, immunization, breastfeeding and household classes.

ASENSO DOST PINOY

Ozamiz City

Nutrition education component of the Malnutrition Reduction Program of the DOST side-by-side with supplemental feeding. Different agencies and external partners serve as resource persons, and further augment resources for DOST PINOY implementation in Ozamiz City.

BUNTIS STAR CONTEST

Gingoog City

City-wide Search for Buntis Star promotes maternal health and provides support to pregnant mothers through prenatal care, education and awareness, support networks, improved access to services and advocacy initiatives.

CONTEST ON SHORT FILMMAKING 7.0: AFFORDABLE HEALTHY DIETS

1st Place:

Salvador National High School

Salvador, Lanao del Norte

2nd Place:

**Calamba National Comprehensive
High School**

Calamba, Misamis Occidental

3rd Place:

**Initao National Comprehensive
High School**

Initao, Misamis Oriental

Special Awards:

SOCIAL MEDIA FAVORITE AWARD:

Salvador National High School

MANGO DIEZ CHOICE AWARD:

Salvador National High School

BEST IN DRAMA FILM AWARD:

Calamba National Comprehensive High School

BREASTFEEDING TSEK PROMOTIONAL VIDEO-MAKING CONTEST

1st Place:

Salvador National High School

Salvador, Lanao del Norte

2nd Place:

**Misamis Occidental Science and
Technology High School**

Oroquieta City

3rd Place:

**Mount Carmel High School of
Baliangao, Inc.**

Baliangao, Misamis Occidental

Finalists:

Baliwagan National High School

Balingasag, Misamis Oriental

Misamis Occidental National High School

Oroquieta City

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD:

Salvador National High School

REGIONAL NUTRI-WEBBY AWARDS YEAR 4

1st Place: **City Nutrition Committee - Cagayan de Oro City**

2nd Place: **Manolo Fortich Municipal Nutrition Office**

3rd Place: **Valencia City Nutrition Committee**

4th Place: **Ozamiz City Nutrition Committee**

5th Place: **RHU Tubod Municipal Nutrition Office**

6th Place: **Baroy Municipal Nutrition Office**

Finalists:

*Malaybalay City Nutrition Committee
MNAO-Damulog*

*Don Carlos Municipal Nutrition Office
Municipal Nutrition Committee-
Kadingilan, Bukidnon*

Sidlak Nutrision sa Bacolod, Lanao del Norte

*Misamis Occidental Provincial Nutrition
Committee – MOPNC*

*City Nutrition Committee - Tangub City
Provincial Nutrition Committee of Misamis Oriental
City Nutrition Office of El Salvador Official
Talisayan Nutrition Committee*

HIGHEST NUMBER OF PAGE LIKES

1st - City Nutrition Committee -
Cagayan de Oro City

2nd - Baroy Municipal Nutrition
Office

3rd - Valencia City Nutrition
Committee

HIGHEST NUMBER OF RELEVANT POSTS

1st - Ozamiz City Nutrition
Committee

2nd - City Nutrition Committee -
Cagayan de Oro City

3rd - Valencia City Nutrition
Committee

HIGHEST NUMBER OF UNIQUE CONTENTS

1st - City Nutrition Committee -
Cagayan de Oro City

2nd - Ozamiz City Nutrition
Committee

3rd - Valencia City Nutrition
Committee

HIGHEST NUMBER OF POSTS ENGAGEMENTS

1st - City Nutrition Committee -
Cagayan de Oro City

2nd - Manolo Fortich Municipal
Nutrition Office

3rd - Valencia City Nutrition
Committee

HIGHEST NUMBER OF NNC X POSTS SHARED

1st - Ozamiz City Nutrition
Committee

2nd - City Nutrition Committee -
Cagayan de Oro City

3rd - Valencia City Nutrition
Committee

HIGHEST NUMBER OF ARTICLES SUBMITTED

1st - Valencia City Nutrition
Committee

2nd - City Nutrition Committee -
Cagayan de Oro City

3rd - Manolo Fortich Municipal
Nutrition Office

Best News Article

*"Empowering Association of Families for Nutrition
Improvement (AFNI) Members through Livelihood Training
in the City of Valencia"*

by Leah Mae A. Española, RND
CNPC, Valencia City

Best Feature Article

"Trendy and Yummy, but is it HEALTHY?"

by Kyl Marie G. Barrientos
Lourdes College Intern, Cagayan de Oro City

PHOTOS: 2022 MELLPI AND SEARCH FOR REGIONAL OUTSTANDING LOCAL NUTRITION FOCAL POINTS





Nutrition Honor Award Contender

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY



Cagayan de Oro City, a 1st class highly urbanized city and Northern Mindanao's regional center, has proven once again its impressive track record on nutrition.

The City Nutrition Committee (CNC), guided by Mayor Rolando "Klaxex" A. Uy and his RISE platform, remains dedicated to achieving its vision of having "a well-nourished and healthy *Kagay-anons*". City Nutrition Action Officer Nenita F. Rabe and staff of the City Nutrition Division proactively engage all bodies concerned to rally efforts and investments to achieve greater heights in nutrition.

Cagayan de Oro City is known for being a hub of best practices and scaled-up initiatives on nutrition. Among them are the following:

- **Breastfeeding Infant and Young Child Feeding Helpline**

An initiative that commenced during the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the Breastfeeding and IYCF Task Force provide support, guidance, and information to mothers on concerns regarding breastfeeding and complementary feeding. For 2022, a total of 93 mothers residing in the city and even areas outside Cagayan de Oro were assisted through phone calls and messages via SMS or Facebook.

- **First 1000 Days Forum and Milk Letting Activities**

Conducted by the Cagayan de Oro CNC and Breastfeeding and IYCF Task Force in partnership with Northern Mindanao Medical Center Human Milk Bank, J.R. Borja General Hospital, and Cagayan de Oro City Police Office, a total of 15,155 ml of breastmilk were collected and donated to the Human Milk Bank. Barangays convene their lactating mothers for lectures on the First 1000 Days and mobilize them to donate expressed breastmilk. Breastfeeding mothers undergo assessment prior the milk letting, and after each activity, are given tokens such as certificates, breastfeeding kits, and food packs. On separate occasions, several barangays also conduct First 1000 Days forum to further promote the advocacy to pregnant and lactating mothers.

- **Zero SAM sa Oro**

Various efforts are poured by the City Nutrition Committee, its partners and barangays to children suffering from severe or moderate acute malnutrition (S/MAM). Through the CNC's consistent provision of food packs, eggs distribution with the weekly supplies donated by the City Veterinary Office, provision of commodities under Philippine Integrated Management for Acute Malnutrition (PIMAM) Program, and nutrition counseling, 28 children with SAM, and 22 children with MAM were rehabilitated in 2022. In addition, regular case finding, referral, and monitoring are done by the barangays.

- **GIDA-centered *Himsog nga F1K***

Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas (GIDAs) are prioritized in dietary supplementation program and a series of Health and Nutrition Forum to promote proper nutrition during the First 1000 Days. The inclusive approach aims to address the needs of GIDAs while respecting cultural diversity. A total of 143 nutritionally at-risk pregnant women and 1,866 children aged 6-23 months were served through this program.

- **Urban Container Household Gardening (UCHG) Program**

Cagayan de Oro has implemented the UCHG Program to support *Pantawid Pamilya* Pilipino Program (4Ps) beneficiaries, with its goal to improve physical, social, and economic access of households to safe, sufficient, affordable, and nutritious food at all times.

- **LGU-NGO Partnership**

Non-government and civil society organizations are heavily involved in implementing and funding the programs of the city government. The CNC jumpstarted the NGO Forum to formalize its partnerships with organizations committed to help the nutritionally disadvantaged groups.

These best practices, among all the other priority programs in the City Nutrition Action Plan, were succeeded with a continuous decrease in all indicators of malnutrition among children 0-59 months old. Comparative results from 2020 and 2022 showed 1.10% to 0.44% reduction for stunting, 0.28% to 0.07% reduction for wasting, 0.60% to 0.35% reduction for underweight, and 0.20% to 0.13% reduction for overnutrition.

Unyielding and determined, the leadership, policymakers, workforce, and networks in the City of Golden Friendship now reap the golden outcomes of their dedication, efforts, and investments. More than the glory achieved by the city, it is the improvement in the lives of the people that makes such recognition meaningful and truly rewarding.



Consistent Regional Outstanding Winner in Nutrition (CROWN) Contender



SUMILAO, BUKIDNON



Sumilao is a 4th class municipality in the province of Bukidnon, and one of the anticipated local government units to be added in the region's roster of national awardees.

Under the leadership of Mayor Jose Antonio A. Villo with the support of municipal and barangay officials, the Municipal Nutrition Committee of Sumilao is committed to achieve their motto, "Healthy Sumilao para WOW!"

Below are Sumilao's best practices which enabled the local government to vie for the Consistent Regional Outstanding Winner in Nutrition (CROWN) award:

- **Nutrition Code**

The local government of Sumilao, Bukidnon envisions a well-nourished, healthy, socially and economically productive Sumilaonon by eliminating hunger and reducing all forms of malnutrition in the municipality. To attain this, LGU Sumilao passed Ordinance No. 01, series of 2020 entitled "An Ordinance Establishing the Standard Policies in the Implementation of the 'Nutrition Code' in the Municipality of Sumilao, Province of Bukidnon" on 11 February 2020.

The first Nutrition Code ordinance in Bukidnon, the policy prioritizes health and nutrition interventions for vulnerable groups such as infants and young children, pregnant and lactating women, adolescents and the elderly in Sumilao. The First 1000 Days program is highlighted in Section 10 of the Code which indicates that there shall be a comprehensive and sustainable strategy to address the health and nutrition problems affecting the vulnerable population.

- **Hatod Serbisyo**

Hatod Serbisyo is a flagship program of Mayor Villo, which brings holistic services to its 10 barangays by deploying the different municipal government offices. Particularly under the Municipal Nutrition Office, children receive dietary supplementation commodities prepared by Barangay Nutrition Scholars, other barangay volunteers, and even mothers of children beneficiaries. Other services include medical consultation, dental services, physical therapy, haircut, processing of civil registry documents, assistance on agriculture, among others.

- **Dietary Supplementation Programs**

On top of existing dietary supplementation programs from the DepEd and DSWD, Sumilaonon pregnant women receive commodities for regular feeding programs. The LGU also has "*Kalusugang WOW Para sa Batang Sumilao*" targeting undernourished pre-school children. Further, LGU Sumilao is an active partner of NNC X in implementing the *Tutok Kainan* Dietary Supplementation Program. All these programs include intensive monitoring of the beneficiaries' nutritional status to ensure program effectiveness.

- **Youth-centered Initiatives**

Sumilao is a known site for benchmarking due to its comprehensive programs targeting the youth. The "*Dangpanan sa Kabataan*" or Youth Hub houses the teen clinic for medical check-ups, consultations, and other health-related services, study area with free Wi-Fi-access, computer room, music room, conference room, dance studio/fitness area, and genderized restroom. To add, its Rural Health Unit is accredited as an Adolescent Friendly Health Center.

- **Nutrition integration in sectoral programs**

The Municipal Nutrition Committee of Sumilao ensures that the nutrition programs and updates are visible even in other sectoral programs. Nutrition is a vital component for various advocacy organizations and programs, such as the Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation Program, Sweetheart Club, and even in agricultural sectors.

LGU Sumilao made improvements with regards to the nutritional status of preschool children. From 2020 to 2022, decrease is seen in all forms of malnutrition as captured by Operation *Timbang Plus*: from 3.23% to 1.71% for underweight, 9.83% to 5.61% for stunting, 1.29% to 0.40% for wasting, and 1.84% to 0.34% for overnutrition. Moreover, impressive increase in OPT Plus coverage is noted, from 76.97% to 101.80% for the same period.

The LGU's initiatives and the barangays' cooperation have improved the nutritional status of children, which is now tangible proof of the MNC's unwavering commitment to improving the nutritional well-being of every Sumilaonon.

2022 Region X Outstanding City Nutrition Action Officer
Contender, 2022 National Outstanding City Nutrition Action Officer
HAZEL PONCARDAS DONDONAYOS, RND, MGA

Valencia City



The City of Valencia, as a Nutrition Honor Awardee, is a staple name in and outside of the region when it comes to the roster of LGUs with sustained outstanding performance on nutrition. Many machineries attribute to its consistent glory, and the dedication and diligence of CNAO Hazel P. Dondonayos is one of them.

CNAO Hazel is a two-time Regional Outstanding CNAO in Northern Mindanao who not only serves her city, but as well as the entire region. Below are her key accomplishments which earned her the title:

- **Established and Maintained Functional Linkages.** CNAO Hazel, accompanied by her City Nutrition Program Coordinators (CNPCs) organized and mobilized several inter-agency bodies which serve as their networks in addressing various nutrition concerns. Aside from the City Nutrition Committee, its Technical Working Group and the City Nutrition Cluster, Valencia City coordinates with the Infant and Young Child Feeding Coordinating Committee, IYCF-Peer Counselors, City Bantay Asin Task Force, Nutripan TWG, Nutrition Information and Education Team, and Resource Generation TWG. All 31 barangays of Valencia City are also under constant supervision by CNAO Hazel and staff. She further initiated an advocacy meeting with the 9th Sangguniang Panlungsod to intensify their support for the nutrition program.
- **Provided inputs to Valencia City Ordinance No. 96-2022.** The ordinance introduced a new staffing pattern for all LGU offices, which includes 55 *plantilla* items for CNAO and technical and administrative sections under the City Nutrition and Human Physical Development Division. CNHPDD, of which CNAO Hazel is head, is primarily responsible for formulating food and nutrition policies and strategies, management of nutrition programs, and research.
- **Sustained operations of Nutriland.** The growing potential of the famous Nutriland includes housing the production site of Nutripan. The 2.5 ha land also hosts organic food production facilities, NutriPak production for complementary feeding of 6-23 months old children, and livelihood trainings for Association of Families for Nutrition Improvement (AFNI). Among the trainings received by AFNI are Food Processing, *Selopin Ko*, *Panginabuhì Ko* and making of Nutri-wow Pillows.
- **Nutripan Project.** Through CNAO Hazel's active engagement with Mahintana Foundation, Mt. Kitanglad Agri Development Corp. (MKADC), and the Nutripan TWG, the Nutripan Bakeshop helps improve nutrition among target beneficiaries, helps in resource mobilization and revenue generation, develops productivity of farmer households as suppliers of ingredients and raw materials, and provides livelihood to target families through cash for work. At present, 17 public elementary schools benefit from the Nutripan breads.

- **Monitoring and Awarding Schemes.** The City Nutrition Committee gives due awards to those who advocate the nutrition program. Coupled with the intensive compliance and monitoring efforts of the city is the annual City Nutrition Awarding Ceremony, where the following Valenciano nutrition champions are recognized: Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Committee, Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar, Best Barangay Nutrition Committee Office, Outstanding City Nutrition Program Coordinator, Outstanding IYCF Peer Counselor, Best *Pabasa sa Nutrisyon* Implementer, Best Lactation Station (Business Establishment and Barangay categories), and outstanding gardening efforts (Backyard, Best School, and Community categories).
- **Hands-on mentor fellow LGUs.** CNAO Hazel is known as one of the outstanding nutrition mentors in the region. She serves as Chairperson of the Northern Mindanao Mentoring Initiative for Nutrition (NorMIN) Regional Shepherd Team and is the lead convener of the Learning Hub for Enhanced and Revitalized Nutrition (LHEARN) Project, with Valencia City being the region's pilot site. Sustaining their gains, the city has been a go-to area for benchmarking LGUs. Further, CNAO Hazel leads the Nutrition Action Officers Association of the Philippines-Northern Mindanao, Inc. as its President.
- **Creation of the Information Management System.** Under the leadership of CNAO Hazel, Valencia City is also working on the development of a functional system to manage databases on nutrition and harmonize data coming from the barangays.

While CNAO Hazel's nine-year track record and aspirations have fueled her to further heights, she remains humble as she acknowledges that her accomplishments are nothing without the support of City Mayor Azucena P. Huervas, their networks, and her CNHPDD personnel. This high regard and support, she returns by performing well beyond her functions, that earned her the title Regional Outstanding CNAO, now for the second time.



2022 Region X Outstanding City Nutrition Program Coordinator
Contender, 2022 National Outstanding City Nutrition Program Coordinator
SHERILL FAITH PINEDA ESPAÑOLA, RND, MMPM

Cagayan de Oro City



CNPC Sherill Faith P. Española has been in service in the Cagayan de Oro City Health Office-Nutrition Division since 2015. In her eight-year stint, CNPC Sherill's commitment to produce high-quality outputs has resonated to the city-level accomplishments, and to the nine (9) urban and heavily populated barangays and 60 Barangay Nutrition Scholars under her supervision.

Critical plans, budgets, policies, and several other documents of the City Nutrition Committee are under her care, on top of overseeing her barangays. Additionally, being a staunch advocate of First 1000 Days came naturally to CNPC Sherill as she applied proper nutrition during pregnancy, as well as infant and young child feeding to her two children.

CNPC Sherill proved that she is worthy to be the 2022 Region X Outstanding City Nutrition Program Coordinator by her clever and ingenious approach to helping manage nutrition programs and mobilizing her barangays:

- **Creativity in nutrition promotion efforts.** Among CNPC Sherill's brainchildren are Health and Nutrition Forum for Golden Years and the #CDONutriClass. Health and Nutrition Forum for Golden Years targeted senior citizens in Barangays Carmen and Kauswagan to promote *Pinggang Pinoy*, 10 *Kumainments*, lectures on bone health, dental health, DASH diet, diabetic diet, and non-communicable diseases. On the other hand, #CDONutriClass is a series of weekly online nutrition education sessions that started during the pandemic. A total of 756 individuals attended as participants for all the live virtual classes in 2022. CNPC Sherill is also the administrator of the award-winning City Nutrition Committee - Cagayan de Oro Facebook Page.
- **City Breastfeeding and IYCF Hotline focal person.** Maintains and acts as the expert for the IYCF Hotline, catering mothers from Cagayan de Oro City and other municipalities or cities with queries on breastfeeding, complementary feeding, and First 1000 Days. The hotline was also adopted and launched in one of her areas, Barangay Carmen.
- **Starting the Scaling Up Nutrition Movement.** CNPC Sherill proposed for the assembly of non-government organizations in Cagayan de Oro City, parallel to the Scaling Up Nutrition movement. Seven (7) NGOs committed to collaborate with the LGU to expand the reach and quality of nutrition services to the barangay level. In their alliance with external partners, CNPC Sherill made sure that a Memorandum of Agreement is executed to formally document the augmentation of nutrition resources.
- **Fundraising for the severely malnourished.** The Food for SAM Project raised funds by selling tickets via e-raffle draw. The project generated ₱25,000.00, to which 20 children with severe acute malnutrition were given with food packs, hygiene kits, multivitamins and nutrition counseling. Barangay leaders also provided their counterpart to augment the resources pooled by CNPC Sherill.
- **Support of nine urban and heavily populated barangays.** Able to mobilize all nine (9) barangays through supportive Punong Barangays, Barangay Nutrition Committees, and Barangay Nutrition Scholars. Upon starting as CNPC, she also originated the practice of designating Barangay Nutrition Action Officers in large barangays with multiple nutrition volunteers to act as supervisors to their fellow BNSs. CNPC Sherill is likewise skillful in advocating to her barangays, be it adoption of national and city-level policies or advocating for increase in budget in nutrition.



All barangays under her supervision have policies adopting the City Nutrition Committee Resolution which institutionalizes the guidelines for recruitment and accreditation of BNSs. Dramatic increase in budget in the nine barangays have been documented through the years; if limitations prevent the barangays from increasing their budget, she advocates to the barangay leaders for no decrease in budget. CNPC Sherill introduced several nutrition initiatives adopted and launched by the BNCs, namely, Nutrition Wall, *Piso Mo Para sa Nutrisyon Ko*, and Adopt a SAM Child.

- **Empowering BNSs.** CNPC Sherill designed monitoring tools to assess performance and track submission of reports of her 60 BNSs. She keeps track of their qualifications and incentives as well. As a result of her evaluation to the BNSs, she mentored two (2) City Outstanding BNSs from 2019-2022, one of which was a National Outstanding BNS finalist. Four (4) of her BNSs have been granted with CSC Eligibility, thanks to her assistance.
- **Serving the region.** CNPC Sherill is involved in region-led activities as she is one of the members of the Regional Shepherd Team, and serves as the Vice President of District City Nutrition Program Coordinators Association of the Philippines (DCNPCAP), Region X Inc. The documents produced by the City Nutrition Committee and her Barangay Nutrition Committees are references to several LGUs in the region.

CNPC Sherill never settles for less, or even for the standards. She aspires to do more, always go the extra mile, and have an impact on the lives of those she touches. CNPC Sherill has now earned the Region X Outstanding City Nutrition Program Coordinator title twice. But for CNPC Sherill, there is no room for complacency. With continued support from the city and barangay leaders, her supervisor CNAO Nenita F. Rabe, colleagues and her BNSs, her passion and commitment as CNPC deepens. Her enriching experiences, encounters, and desire to deliver quality service has echoed to the success of the City Nutrition Committee, her BNCs, and to her BNSs.



LOIDALIZA CEDRO VIZCAYNO

Brgy. Balulang, Cagayan de Oro City



BNS Loida, 50 years old, married and a mother of three, serves as a gleam of encouragement not only to their constituents in Balulang, but as well as to her fellow nutrition workers. Because of her perseverance and performance, she was designated as a Barangay Nutrition Action Officer since 2018, trusted to be the lead focal person for nutrition in a barangay with approximately 38,600 population. As BNAO, she also heads 14 other BNSs in the barangay.

In 2014, BNS Loida attempted to apply as staff in Barangay Balulang, but ended up as a BNS. Little did she know that this redirection has paved the way to which she was able to arrive at the pedestal she is standing on today.

The trust and confidence of Punong Barangay Edwin Micabani, the Barangay Nutrition Committee, and the cooperation of her co-BNSs, enabled BNS Loida to work to the best of her abilities:

- **Organization of Muslim Breastfeeding Peer Counselors.** The barangay's counseling efforts go beyond the usual routine as BNS Loida responded to the need of the Muslim mothers residing in Balulang. She organized and mobilized additional breastfeeding advocates from the Muslim communities who caters the breastfeeding and related concerns of Muslim mothers.
- **Intensified F1K promotion efforts.** There is no business as usual in Balulang as the BNC upped its efforts to make nutrition known to their people, especially the advocacy on the First 1000 Days. Pregnant women and lactating women queueing during consultations at the health center get to enjoy the *Kaalaman* TV Film Viewing where health and nutrition video materials are being played. Moreover, newlywed couples are included as target groups for First 1000 Days counseling.
- **Resource generation initiatives.** On top of the ₱500,000.00 budget for nutrition in 2022, BNC Loida seeks more ways to augment their barangay funds. She started the Nutri-Save campaign where anyone, barangay employee or residents alike, can donate their money via drop boxes. Produce from the BNC and BNS gardens were sold at the *Kadiwa* on Wheels display. Aside from that, harvests from the garden are used as ingredients for feeding activities. She also mobilized donors to provide cash assistance to help persons with disabilities.
- **Open doors for partnerships.** Despite the staggering nutrition budget and resource generation activities, Balulang has welcomed businesspeople and non-government organizations to provide more services to their nutritionally vulnerable groups, be it in the form of lectures, distribution of commodities, or cash assistance.

To name a few, BNS Loida was able to effectively coordinate and gather support from *Brigada News FM*, Xavier University Development Communication Department, NHA Women's Association, and businessmen in 2022.

- **Health and Nutrition Vehicle.** A barangay of Balulang's level of commitment is able to procure their own vehicle to assist the BNSs and health workers in delivering their services to the zones and households. Thanks to BNS Loida's proposal, and the barangay leadership's support, the mobility of service providers has greatly improved.
- **Inter-agency involvement.** BNS Loida made sure that nutrition is integrated in the programs related to mental health, solid waste management, senior citizens, and anti-drug abuse efforts, acting as a resource person herself during sectoral assemblies.

BNS Loida has been in service since 2014. Not only did she deliver what is expected of her as a BNS, but she also inspired and motivated her fellow BNSs. She has maintained and nurtured relationships with leaders, policymakers, and program managers. Although the demands of her calling as a BNS posed personal challenges, she was able to overcome these as she is driven by a profound sense of purpose.

Under her guidance, the nutrition programs have seen significant advancements. Nutritional interventions are not only effective but also more sustainable, because of her forward-thinking strategies and consistent coordination with the BNC and their partners.

BNS Loida is aware that besting 2,000 other nutrition volunteers in her field is not the endgame, and that recognitions are bonuses that acknowledge her hard work. Her humility, leadership and creative approach to managing the nutrition programs is greatly appreciated by the public that she serves and the people that she is working with. Her influence extends far beyond her immediate role, leaving a lasting impact on the well-being of the entire Balulang community.



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2023 NUTRITION MONTH CAMPAIGN



Nutrition Month is an annual campaign held every July to create greater awareness on the importance of nutrition among Filipinos. Presidential Decree 491 (1974) mandates the National Nutrition Council (NNC) to lead and coordinate the nationwide campaign.

For 2023, the Nutrition Month theme is: ***"Healthy diet gawing affordable for all!"*** which calls for shared actions from various stakeholders in the public and private sectors to empower Filipinos to have greater access to affordable, safe, and nutritious food.

PHILIPPINE PLAN OF ACTION FOR NUTRITION (PPAN) 2023-2028

The Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) serves as a pivotal strategic blueprint in the nation's fight against malnutrition and food insecurity. Developed as a comprehensive, multisectoral, and multi-level approach, PPAN stands as a guiding framework for the government's unwavering commitment to tackle the spectrum of malnutrition. By encompassing various forms of undernutrition and the rising challenge of overnutrition, PPAN paves the way for concerted efforts across sectors to ensure food and nutrition security throughout the country.

The NNC has been leading in the formulation of this 6-year plan since 1978, which has been integrated as a companion plan of the 6-year Philippine Development Plan.

The PPAN's desired vision of change is to reduce all forms of malnutrition across all age groups by 2028." To achieve this desired vision of change, four (4) outcome result areas need to be realized: 1) Food and diet, 2) Practices and behavior, 3) Multisectoral nutrition and 4) Enabling environment.

Stakeholders or "spoons" are all invited to rally actions to support and implement PPAN 2023-2028:

Prioritize

Prioritize the implementation of the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition.

Partner

Forge strong partnerships among government agencies, NGOs, CSOs, private sector entities, academia, international partners, and communities.

Accelerate

Accelerate the implementation of evidence-based interventions outlined in the PPAN.

Nourish

Promote sustainable agriculture and food systems, support local food production, and ensure access to diverse and nutritious foods for all communities.





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