

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
CENTER FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT - BICOL

September 21, 2020

REGIONAL CIRCULAR

No. 2020-0050

TO: PROVINCIAL DOH OFFICERS, DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT OFFICERS, PROVINCIAL/ MUNICIPAL/ CITY HEALTH OFFICERS OF ALBAY, CAMARINES NORTE AND CAMARINES SUR NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL REGION V, AND OTHERS CONCERNED

FROM: ERNIE V. VERA, MD, MPH, CHA, CESO III
[Signature]
Director IV

SUBJECT: ENDORSEMENT OF MERAKI CONSULTING, INC. FOR THE CONDUCT OF FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS AND KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEWS IN THE PROVINCES OF ALBAY, CAMARINES NORTE AND CAMARINES SUR FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE INTEGRATED MNCHN-ECCD FIRST 1000 DAYS MANUAL OF OPERATIONS

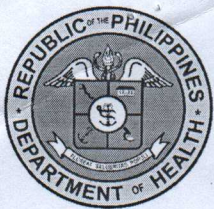
The Department of Health (DOH), in partnership with UNICEF Philippines, is developing the integrated MNCHN-ECCD First 1,000 Days (F1kD) Manual of Procedures (MOP) for RA 11148 or the "Kalusugan at Nutrisyon ng Mag-Nanay Act". With this, UNICEF Philippines has commissioned Meraki Consulting, Inc. to develop the MOP and its corresponding job aids.

The first phase of the Project involves a research/ study on the current implementation of maternal and child health and nutrition, and ECCD interventions, covering children under the F1kD. Results of the study shall serve as inputs to the Project's second phase, which is the actual writing of the MOP. The research/ study will be conducted in 20 pre-identified provinces nationwide, including the provinces of Albay, Camarines Norte and Camarines Sur.

In light of implementing the said research study, please provide the necessary assistance and utmost support to this activity. Meraki Consulting, Inc.'s research team will be conducting key informant interviews (KIIs) with the Provincial Health Officers (PHOs) of said provinces and shall further coordinate to target one (1) municipality per province and one (1) barangay per municipality for succeeding data gathering activities. This is to ensure that the process of implementing MNCHN and ECCD interventions are thoroughly examined up to the barangay level.

The areas of inquiry that will be discussed during the KIIs and FGDs will generally include, but are not limited to, the following:

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1. Plans relevant to health, nutrition, early learning, social welfare, and protection of children in the F1kD;
2. Coordination, collaboration & support to the program, which were received from your office in terms of planning, budgeting, implementation and evaluation;
3. Capacity-building support, if any; and
4. Lessons and good practices in implementing maternal and child health and nutrition and ECCD programs and services.

The research team from Meraki Consulting is headed by Mr. Marvin Echalas (Cluster Head), together with field researcher, Mr. Noel Lozada. For any clarifications/ updates, your office may reach their team through Mr. Marvin Echalas at his mobile number, +63977 056 8169 and/or email, marveletsechalas@gmail.com.

Thank you very much for your cooperation.