# TABLE of CONTENTS

#### **About The Event**

Messages	
Hon. Teodoro 'Ted' J. Herbosa, MD, FPCS, FPCEP-PCEM, CESO III Secretary of Health	3
A/Sec Azucena M. Dayanghirang, MD, MCH, CESO III Executive Director, National Nutrition Council	4
<b>Dir. Jaime S. Bernadas, MD, MGM, CESO III</b> Regional Director, DOH CV CHD Chair, Regional Nutrition Committee	5
<b>Dir. Leocadio T. Trovela, CESO III</b> Regional Director, DILG VII Vice-Chair, Regional Nutrition Committee	6
<b>Dir. Angel C. Enriquez, CESO III</b> Regional Executive Director, DA VII Vice-Chair, Regional Nutrition Committee	7
<b>Dr. Parolita A. Mission, RN</b> RNPC, National Nutrition Council Region VII	8
<b>Ms. Cheryl M. Dela Victoria</b> Chair, RNC-TWG/RNET	9
PROGRAMME (2023 Grand Nutrition Awards)	10
The Awards	
Outstanding Local Government Units	12
Nutrition Honor Award	
Consistent Regional Outstanding Winner in Nutrition (CROWN) Award	
Green Banner Seal of Compliance	
Outstanding Local Nutrition Focal Points	13
Regional Outstanding Nutrition Action Officer	
Regional Outstanding Nutrition Program Coordinator	
Regional Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar	

# TABLE of CONTENTS

Local Nutrition Awards	14
Outstanding Barangays for Nutrition in the Region Award	
Good Nutrition Practice/Project Award	
Promising Province, City, Municipality for Nutrition in the Region Award	
Promising Barangays for Nutrition in the Region	
Social Media Awards	
The Awardees	
Regional Outstanding City Nutrition Action Officer	16
Regional Outstanding City Nutrition Program Coordinator	17
Provincial Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholars	18
City Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholars	19
Promising Barangays for Nutrition in the Region	20
Outstanding Barangays for Nutrition in the Region	29
Good Nutrition Project Awardee	30
Promising Cities and Municipalities for Nutrition	32
Green Banner Seal of Compliance	34
Exemplary Award for Nutrition	36
Pride through the Years	37
Regional Nutrition Committee	38
Regional Nutrition Committee – Technical Working Group	40



### SECRETARY OF HEALTH



Hon. Teodoro 'Ted' J. Herbosa, MD, FPCS, FPCEP-PCEM, CESO III Secretary of Health



### NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL

Message

Greetings from the National Nutrition Council!

The Grand Nutrition Awards is one of the important activities that I always look forward to, as it is the best avenue to celebrate and recognize the achievements and efforts of our outstanding local nutrition focal points (LNFP) and local government units (LGU). I will always be proud of the increasing roster of nutrition movers and nutrition champions in the region who tirelessly worked towards excellence in nutrition program management. Let me congratulate the Regional Local Nutrition Focal Point Awardees for CY 2022: the Regional Outstanding Nutrition Action Officer, Regional Outstanding City Nutrition Program Coordinator, and Regional Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar. My congratulations also to the nine (9) LGU recipients of the Green Banner Seal of Compliance Award.

The awards given represent simple yet meaningful tokens for all the hardwork and efforts that the LGU and LNFP awardees have exerted for the past years, as they continually address nutrition concerns in the region. We recognize that the LNFP's duty to influence dynamic actions and lead innovative strategies to improve access to nutrition services among the most vulnerable communities are big yet fulfilling responsibilities. Along with the nutrition movers, our local chief executives (LCE) and leaders from the local level who embody strong leadership and good governance in nutrition, also play a significant role in achieving nutrition goals.

The role of the LGUs in achieving the food and nutrition goals of the country cannot be overemphasized. Both the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) and the Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028 recognize this contribution. The PPAN identified food availability, accessibility and affordability of nutritious foods as major aspects to achieving health and adequate diets in the community. This is another set of challenges for us movers and champions of nutrition to take and develop strategies to deal with it.

While the awards and recognitions affirm all the hardwork for nutrition, the best reward will always be achieving: *Nutrisyong Sapat para sa Lahat*. May this awarding ceremony ignite a stronger fire of will and commitment in the hearts and minds of our nutrition champions to create another roster of high-performing LGUs and LNFPs and produce fruitful actions in nutrition.

Congratulations to the awardees and NNC Region 7. Daghang salamat at mabuhay po tayong lahat!

Azucena M. Dayanghirang, MD, MCH, CESO III Assistant Secretary and Executive Director National Nutrition Council



### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH VII



On the joyous occasion of the 18th Regional Congress of Nutrition Action Officers, we are gathered to celebrate a shared commitment to the vital cause of nutrition. Good nutrition is the fuel that drives healthy growth and development and can help prevent disease throughout the life course. Well-nourished community can lead to the elimination of a sizeable portion of overall burden of diseases. With great pleasure, we embrace this year's theme: **"NAO: Nutrition Atong Obligasyon, PPAN Ipatuman!"** 

As we come together from various corners of the region, we acknowledge the crucial role that nutrition plays in the lives of individuals and communities. It is a fundamental cornerstone that impacts our well-being, growth, and overall quality of life. We recognize that it is not just a personal responsibility but a collective obligation to ensure that nutrition is accessible, equitable, and sustainable for all.

This congress serves as a platform for us to exchange knowledge, experiences, and best practices in nutrition action. We have the opportunity to engage in fruitful discussions, share innovative ideas, and forge partnerships that will contribute to the effective implementation of nutrition plans in our respective regions. By collaboratively addressing the challenges and opportunities before us, we can pave the way for a healthier and brighter future.

Let us seize this moment to reaffirm our commitment to the cause of nutrition. Together, we can strengthen policies, promote evidence-based interventions, and empower individuals and communities to make informed choices. By fostering a holistic approach, we have the power to transform lives, reduce health disparities, and build resilient societies that thrive on the foundation of good nutrition.

May this congress inspire us to transcend boundaries, ignite conversations, and foster a sense of purpose. Let us harness the collective wisdom in this room to drive tangible action that will leave a lasting impact on the health and well-being of our region. Remember, the seeds we sow today will bear fruit for generations to come.

As we embark on this remarkable journey, let us embrace collaboration, innovation, and empathy. Let us celebrate the diversity of ideas and experiences that enrich our collective understanding. Together, we can create a powerful ripple effect that will shape the nutrition landscape and bring about positive change.

On behalf of the organizing committee, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the participants, speakers, and sponsors who have made this congress possible. Your presence and contributions are invaluable. May the 18th Regional Congress of Nutrition Action Officers be a beacon of inspiration, knowledge, and camaraderie. Let us rise above challenges and work together to achieve Universal Health Care. We are all in this Together.

Mabubiang Nutrition Action Officers! Mabuhi ang Central Visayas!

Dir. Jaime S. Bernadas, MD, MGM, CESO III Regional Director, DOH CV CHD Chair, Regional Nutrition Committee



#### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT VII

### Message

My heartfelt congratulations to the outstanding local government units and local nutrition officers that will be feted in the 2023 Grand Nutrition Awards for exemplary dedication and hard work in their respective fields of jurisdiction.

My greetings also to our local chief executives, the local nutrition focal person and the members of the Regional Nutrition Committee. It is with distinct pride that I congratulate the LGUs and local nutrition focal persons who will be recognized for their outstanding accomplishments in the year 2022.

To the awardees, your commitment to excellence and public service is worthy of emulation. The impact that you have brought will undoubtedly be felt for a long time in your community.

This year's awarding is special since we're going to recognize the dedicated service of our retiring nutrition workers who worked tirelessly and shared their lives for the implementation of the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition.

To the retiring workers, thank you for your service to the community and to the country. Your passion for improving lives through nutrition has made a lasting impact on the community and all those you have served.

Kumbati, Rehiyon Siete!

**Dir. Leocadio T. Trovela**, CESO III Regional Director, DILG VII Vice – Chair, Regional Nutrition Committee

# DEPARTMENT OF AGAIN TO F AGAIN TH

As the Vice-chairperson of the Regional Nutrition Committee of Central Visayas (RNC-7), my warmest congratulations to all the Nutrition Champions for this year's Grand Nutrition Awards. This awarding is a yearly tradition of the RNC-7 to give accolades to our exemplary local government units (LGUs) and local nutrition focal persons who made outstanding achievements and performances for the improvement of the nutrition situation in their respective area of concerns.

Having spiked abnormally the nutrition problem in the last two years due to COVID, Central Visayas has returned to its normal course, with the decrease in malnutrition prevalence, just like during the pre-pandemic. Underweight prevalence was now at 3.6% (2022) compared to the 3.97% in 2019 to 4.9% in 2021.

The decrease is a result of the concerted efforts and the strong partnership among nutrition players (national, local and private groups), which implemented various food production programs. The result is very promising since you got this award.

To recognize your hardwork and efforts as our nutrition advocates is a befitting way of giving the prestige and honor as you go the extra miles, the undying passion, commitment and selfless service in addressing malnutrition in the region.

May this recognition and awards will inspire you and the other nutrition advocates to do more in giving nutrition services to the people in your localities. Always let the torches shine brightly and spread more enthusiasms to others as we promote good nutrition.

We at the Department of Agriculture and the rest of the committee members will be here with you- supporting you in every way possible, ensuring that food will always be available and affordable for all.

Congratulations to all the awardees!

**Dir. Angel C. Enriquez**, CESO III Regional Executive Director, DA RFO VII Vice-Chair, Regional Nutrition Committee



#### NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL REGION VII



My warmest congratulations to this year's awardees of the Grand Nutrition Awards!

Today, we will honor our outstanding local government units and outstanding local nutrition focal points particularly the 2022 Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholars, Regional Outstanding City Nutrition Program Coordinator, and Regional Outstanding City Nutrition Action Officer. The National Nutrition Council Region VII and the Regional Nutrition Committee recognize your valuable contribution to making our constituents healthy through the efficient and effective management of the nutrition program in your respective local governments. This award ceremony is a fitting tribute to your exemplary performance in improving the nutrition landscape in the region.

The distinction given to you our dear winners during this regional awarding ceremony reflects your unwavering dedication and unselfish commitment in going above and beyond the call of duty to successfully fight stunting and other forms malnutrition in the region despite all the challenges. It was undoubtedly a difficult process to win these awards, but your perseverance and commitment made the experience rewarding. Your dedication and devotion have certainly paid off.



To the other aspiring local government units and local nutrition focal points, let us all take this opportunity to learn from and be inspired by our growing number of awardees as we celebrate the victories of our winners.

May these awards and titles motivate all of us to do more to offer the people of our community's quality nutrition services. May you keep doing what you are doing so that our people may enjoy better nutritional health not only for the glory of recognition but for genuine service. Afterall, the ultimate reward is knowing that no mother, child, or anyone in the entire community experiences starvation and/or malnutrition.

Parolita A. Mission, DPA, RN RNPC, National Nutrition Council Region VII



This day will be remembered by all of us, but notably by the Central Visayas region's nutrition committees and local nutrition focal persons who performed their duties and roles admirably and produced noteworthy accomplishments.

Given the effort they have all put out, it is only fair that we acknowledge and congratulate their accomplishments for going above and beyond in carrying out our projects and programs, all of which aim to encourage good nutrition in the area.

The Regional Nutrition Committee-Technical Working Group and Regional Nutrition Evaluation Team would also want to take this opportunity to thank our awardees for their enthusiasm and commitment to their work, which ultimately resulted in successful outcomes.

We really appreciate your active engagement in your Nutrition Committee's endeavors, which is one of the biggest—if not the biggest—factors in the accomplishment of our aims and objectives.

May our honorees serve as role models and positive examples to others as we continue to promote healthy eating this year and in the years to come, and may their burning desire for helping people around them never die out.

Ms. Cheryl M. Dela Victoria Information Officer III, DA RFO 7 Chair, RNC-TWG/RNET



12:00 PM	Media Presentation of Awardees/P	ress Conference		
02:00 PM	Entrance of Colors			
02:30 PM	Welcome Message	Dir. Angel C. Enriquez, CESO III		
		Regional Executive Director, DA RFO VII		
		Vice-Chair, Regional Nutrition Committee		
02:35 PM	Introduction of the Guest of Honor	Dr. Sophia M. Mancao, DPSP, RN – MAN		
		Assistant Regional Director		
		DOH CV CHD		
02:40 PM	Inspirational Message	A/Sec Azucena M. Dayanghirang, MD, MCH, CESO III		
		Executive Director		
		National Nutrition Council		
03:00 PM	Awarding Ceremony			
	Social Media Awards			
	Best Municipal Nutrition Facebook Page Award			
	Best City Nutrition Facebook Page Award Best Provincial Nutrition Facebook Page Award			
	Outstanding Local Government Units			
	Promising Barangay for Nutrition Awa Regional Outstanding Barangay Awa			
	Promising City/Municipality for Nutrit			
	Good Nutrition Project in the Region A			
	Green Banner Seal of Compliance			
	Exemplary Award for Nutrition			
	Outstanding Local Nutrition Focal Pe	rsons		
	Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar			
	Regional Outstanding City Nutrition P			
	Regional Outstanding City Nutrition A	-		
3:20 PM	Intermission Number			
3:30 PM				
3.30 FM	Brief Response of Awardees	Dr. Oswaran B. Oshlas		
	Regional Outstanding City Nutrition	Dr. Corazon R. Cablao		
	Action Officer	CNAO, Bais City		
	Regional Outstanding City Nutrition	Mr. Ramon Anton M. Valencia		
	Program Coordinator	CNPC, Bais City		
	Green Banner Seal of Compliance			
		Hon. Erico Aristotle C. Aumentado		
		Governor, Bohol Province		
		Hon. Jane C. Yap		
		Mayor, Tagbilaran City		
		Hon. Nale Vincent J. Masayon		
4.00 DM		Mayor, Enrique Villanueva		
4:00 PM	Recognition of Service Awardees	Dir Legendie T. Trevela, CECO III		
4:30 PM	Closing Remarks	Dir. Leocadio T. Trovela, CESO III		
		Regional Director		
		Department of the Interior and Local Government VII		
	I	Vice-Chair, Regional Nutrition Committee		

Masters of the Ceremony: DR. MELQUIADES B. IBARRA and MS. ANA T. PRIETO



Nutrition Honor Award

The Nutrition Honor Award (NHA) is the highest award to date. This is given to CROWN awardees that have consistently shown outstanding performance in efforts for nutrition improvement.

The design of the trophy is inspired by the symbolic flame pattern of the CROWN trophy. The three pieces of colored flames etched at the back of a clear piece of beveled glass represent the local government unit's unwavering devotion and burning desire to enhance nutrition.



The body, which contains the text and the flames and is presented in beveled cuts, represents the pruning and refinement that the LGU underwent and experienced to reach the pinnacle of excellence. The base symbolizes the strong foundation that the areas has developed over the last six (6) years of maintaining the Green Banner and CROWN Awards. To date, a total of five (5) local government units in Central Visayas have been conferred the NHA.

This year, the RNET have visited the five Nutrition Honor Awardees in Central Visayas and has given technical assistance for the maintenance of NHA status of these highly performing LGUs. The RNET gives recognition to exemplary NHA who has performed excellently for the past year. They will be awarded the **Exemplary Award for Nutrition**.



#### <u>Consistent Regional</u> <u>Outstanding Winner in</u> <u>Nutrition (CROWN) Award</u>

The trophy's design symbolizes the local nutrition committee's burning desire for excellence in its quest for nutrition improvement.

The flames represent the three consecutive years the municipality, city or province to become the regional outstanding winner in nutrition. The gradual increase in color and height of the flame indicates the continued and intensified efforts to improve the nutrition situation through effective management of local nutrition programs.



The CROWN award is given to a municipality, city or province that has been adjudged by the interagency regional nutrition evaluation team as outstanding in the region in the implementation of its nutrition plan for three consecutive years.

To date, a total of fourteen (14) LGUs including six cities, six municipalities and two provinces in the region have been conferred the CROWN award.

<u>Green Banner</u> <u>Seal of Compliance</u>



The Green Banner Seal of Compliance is bestowed to all local government units with an average rating not lower than 60% per dimension and an overall rating of at least 85% of the MELLPI Pro.

The Green Banner Seal of Compliance replaces the Green Banner where only the LGU with the highest score in each administrative level can qualify.

For this year, nine local government units in Central Visayas will be awarded with the Green Banner Seal of Compliance.

### <u>Regional Outstanding</u> <u>Nutrition Action</u> <u>Officer Award</u>



An award given to City Nutrition Action Officer of who excelled in all eight (8) management dimensions based on the results of the evaluation conducted by the Regional Nutrition Evaluation Team including coordination, advocacy, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, resource generation, documentation and record keeping and capacity building.

This year, the City Nutrition Action Officer of Bais City was able to qualify for the award.

<u>Regional Outstanding</u> <u>Nutrition Program</u> <u>Coordinator Award</u>



District/City/Municipal Nutrition Program Nutrition Coordinators assist P/C/MNAO in managing the nutrition program in the locality. As technical support provider of the local nutrition committees, they ensure the coordination of nutrition programs at different government levels and across agencies and departments. They supervise barangay nutrition scholars and are in-charge of documenting the LNC's accomplishments.

The adoption of the MELLPI Pro paved way in recognition of outstanding D/C/MNPCs by providing a set of criteria for their performance.

In 2023, Central Visayas awards the CNPC of Bais City as the Regional Outstanding City Nutrition Program Coordinator.

#### <u>Regional Outstanding</u> <u>Barangay Nutrition</u> <u>Scholar Award</u>

Every barangay in the country is mandated to deploy at least one BNS to be responsible for monitoring the nutritional status of the vulnerable sector in the community and for delivering nutrition services and other related activities.

NNC gives due recognition to the BNS with outstanding performance in the country by awarding him/her with a BNS trophy and a cash award.

This year, no BNS was able to qualify for the award. They will be conferred to as Provincial and City Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar.



#### <u><u>Good Nutrition</u> <u>Practice/Project Award</u></u>

The Good Nutrition Practice or Project Award is given to eligible LGU programs and activities which are implemented for at least two years having direct or indirect benefit to nutrition.

Selecting the Good Nutrition Practice or Project Award is done through the annual Monitoring and Evaluation of Local Level Plan Implementation (MELLPI) with criteria that includes program success, sustainability, participatory and replicability.



#### <u>Regional Outstanding</u> <u>Barangay Award</u>

The Regional Outstanding Barangay Award is conferred to barangays who have met 85% overall MELLPI score and no score below 80%..

The award recognizes the barangays who have excellently performed their role in nutrition program management and ensuring that nutrition is their utmost priority.



<u>Promising LGU Award</u>

A Promising LGU award is given to a Province, City or Municipal who can meet at least any of the following criteria: LGU who have reached 85% of their overall MELLPI score or no dimension score below 60%.

While the Promising Barangay award will also be given to barangays who have met at least any of the following criteria: BLGU who have reached 85% of their overall MELLPI score or no score below 80% per dimension.



Social Media Award

As social media peaks as the primary source of information to date, the Central Visayas Regional Nutrition Committee recognizes LGU efforts for nutrition information dissemination using said platform.

The Social Media Awards is an award category that gives recognition to locally managed nutrition social media pages that have performed outstandingly in the past year. Criteria include post relevance, reach and number of likes.





2022 Grand Visitation Stands Media PRESENTATION OF WARDEES



### Dr. Ma. Corazon R. Cablao BAIS CITY

On her 17th year as the Nutrition Action Officer (NAO) of Bais City, Dr. Ma. Corazon R. Cablao proves that earnest hard work really does pay off even in an environment that is deterring in a lot of aspects. From limited budget for the nutrition program, little to no support from barangay chief executives, far flung almost unreachable barangays, natural and man-made disaster, high poverty incidence and high malnutrition rate, you name it, Bais City has it.

But all these challenges have not dampened the City's Nutrition Committee because Dr. Cora has never given up and urged them to continue the nutrition service. She saw it imperative to uplift the community's nutrition situation to not only prevent further worsening of the condition but to address other health and economic issues brought about by generations of poor nutrition. Dr. Cablao's passion and perseverance plays a crucial part in the city's nutrition history and is the reason behind the massive and sustained improvement in the city's nutrition situation with the undernutrition prevalence of 9.62% in 2012 to 5.9% in 2022.

> Her dedication to the nutrition program has never wavered, even in the midst of the pandemic when she was assigned the Incident Command System commander which earned her the Nutrition Hero Award for a Nutrition Action Officer (City Level) during the 2020 Grand Nutrition Awards.

> Believing that one spark for change can make a profound difference for many, Dr. Cora has established and inspired a functional nutrition network within the city nutrition committee and the barangay nutrition committees and have played a crucial role in ensuring the implementation of nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions across sectors and at different levels.

> This legacy is evident in the high level of nutrition awareness of the local nutrition committee members, the increase in budget allocation for the nutrition program and the well-crafted nutrition policies that has made such big improvements to the Bais City nutrition landscape.



REGIONAL OUTSTANDING City Nutrition Program Coordinator

### Mr. Ramon Anton M. Valencia BAIS CITY

Having started as a City Nutrition Coordinator 13 years ago Mr. Ramon Anton M. Valencia had great expectations as any fresh graduate from public health nutrition, only to be stumped by reality on his first deployment as CNPC of Bais City.

From the non-functional nutrition committees, limited capacities of Barangay Nutrition Scholars (BNS), having limited idea about the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition and on top of that, handling an LGU who is on top of the list of the most nutritionally challenged LGUs in the region, Anton had almost given up hope in lifting Bais City's nutrition situation.

He was however able to turn-up the tide by focusing on what he and his Nutrition Action Officer had deemed the best way to improve the LGU's situation: strengthening local nutrition committees by re-organizing and reactivating them to produce nutrition outcomes. This tedious project lined with challenges that included unreceptive barangay LCEs, limited budget and far-flung barangays, would not have been successful if not for Mr. Valencia's persistence and resourcefulness.

Mobilizing members of the Bais CNC in conducting regular barangay visits of which included advocacy activities with the BNCs, nutrition and food security learning sessions and technical assistance to BNSs, Mr. Valencia has not only improved BNC functionality, he was also able to inculcate within the CNC their responsibilities as members.

thorough technical assistance database His in management has not only helped the city accurately identify nutrition concerns but his efficiency in documentation is also able to help the city find plausible ways to invest in the nutrition program. This has led to the improvement of local nutrition committee investment to nutrition which led to better nutrition program management. Enabling the translation of the PPAN into action and bringing nutrition services closer to the people is something that Anton considers a privilege and the challenges that he faces in its implementation a motivation to do better.



### PROVINCIAL OUTSTANDING Barangay Nutrition Scholar







#### Ms. Leonida L. Gamao

BRGY. BOYOG PROPER, BALILIHAN, BOHOL

Having spent a solid 25 years as Barangay Nutrition Scholar (BNS) of Boyog Proper, Balilihan, Bohol, Ms. Leonida L. Gamao has served her community with the same passion and dedication that she had when she first started her stint as a BNS. This along with her accumulated knowledge and years of experience has molded her into one of the best facilitators for nutrition in her barangay and her other BNS-colleagues in the municipality and the province.

Nida, as she is fondly known in her community has been continuously spearheading her Barangay Boyog Proper's nutrition program implementation, initiating sustainable livelihood programs for its constituents, and establishing income generating projects for nutrition in partnership with local community stakeholders. This ensures the Barangay Nutrition Committee's (BNC's) continued nutrition support and for nutrition services for the first 1000 days be funded.

When it comes to report making and data analysis, Nida is not only able to keep track of the nutritionally vulnerable in her barangay, but her records and reports are also impeccably prepared that there is no doubt that her other BNC members are able to identify nutrition root causes using evidence from the data Nida and her BHWs gathers. This information is fully utilized by being used as basis for nutrition action planning. Through her commitment and hard work, Barangay Boyog Proper has become a recipient of various commendations bringing honor and pride to the barangay as well as her town's people.

Ms. Donesa H. Patambag

BRGY. CAWITAN, STA. CATALINA, NEGROS ORIENTAL

A dedicated and one of municipality's most credible Barangay Nutrition Scholar (BNS), Ms. Donesa H. Patambag who hails from Barangay Cawitan, Sta. Catalina in the Province of Negros Oriental is relatively new to being a BNS with only four (4) years under her belt, but this does not deter her from ensuring that she perform her responsibilities with passion and a willingness to learn from her mentors. Meticulous and organized, Donesa maintains all her BNS reports in an impeccable manner and categorizes by purok for easy access and easy updating of documentation reports per coordination with her equally industrious BHWs. She seriously makes her Barangay Nutrition Scholar Action Plan (BNSAP) and records her daily accomplishments in her diary to pour unto her monthly accomplishment report.

Often, the work of the BNS call for a lot of patience as she tries to influence her Barangay Nutrition Committee and mothers and caregivers in her community to practice good health and proper nutrition, but Donesa has always persevered. She is particularly passionate when it comes to conducting nutrition counseling for parents of children 0-23 months and those who are malnourished ensuring that she at least give them key nutrition messages during their monthly nutrition assessment. In terms of coordination, BNS Patambag has been a regular attendee to the Barangay Sessions to advocate for better nutrition program support through policies and budget allocation.

### CITY OUTSTANDING Barangay Nutrition Scholar









Ms. Leila A. Pequit

BRGY. PAJAC, LAPU-LAPU CITY

Having been a Barangay Health Worker in the last 20 years in Barangay Pajac, Lapu-lapu City, Ms. Leila A. Pequit is no stranger to the nutrition program nor the roles of the Barangay Nutrition Scholar which she was designated to be in 2017.

A graduate of midwifery, she is technically equipped with knowledge to provide quality nutrition education to her constituents making her a forerunner for the barangay's nutrition education activities. However, efforts for behavior change for better nutrition outcomes can be particularly challenging when your barangay is as big and multi-cultural as Pajac. This highly urbanized, densely populated barangay with a large population of local migrants is so diverse in culture that it calls for specialized nutrition education at times such as the production of a Muslim version of the 10 Kumainments, conscious inclusion of cultural and religious considerations in feeding programs and other activities to name a few.

Resourceful and lively, Leila is still able to coordinate and facilitate the implementation of her Barangay Nutrition Committee's nutrition action plan. She is particularly enthusiastic in tending to the community garden and in her advocacy for a healthy lifestyle being one of the leaders in the barangay's regular Zumba sessions.

Ms. Mychelle V. Pullida BRGY, DAO, TAGBILARAN CITY

Knowing that she plays a crucial role in the lives of the children in her barangay is what keeps Brgy Dao, Tagbilaran City's Barangay Nutrition Scholar (BNS) Ms. Mychelle V. Pullida going despite all the challenges she encounters in the implementation of the barangay's nutrition programs. Having experienced the consequences of a lack of nutrition knowledge as a mother, she has vowed to make sure that all the mothers in her barangay are aware of the consequences of malnutrition to their children.

Diligently conducting "Operation Timbang," Mychelle ensures that malnourished children under 24 months are regularly monitored, allowing for timely interventions and support. Additionally, her "Idol ko si Nanay" activities focuses on providing essential care and guidance to high-risk pregnant and lactating women, prioritizing their nutrition and overall well-being. But Mychelle is not alone in her efforts to prevent malnutrition in Brgy. Dao, she ensures constant communication and feedback to the members of the Barangay Nutrition Committee (BNC) which is essential in effectively managing and implementing nutrition programs, ensuring a collaborative and holistic approach to address stunting and other forms of malnutrition.

Through her dedicated advocacy activities, BNS Mychelle not only instils nutrition knowledge for behavior change of her community, but she has also successfully mobilized her BNC for a holistic and sustainable approach to combat malnutrition.

### PROMISING BARANGAY FOR NUTRITION in the Region





#### Brgy. Motong DUMAGUETE CITY





Brgy. Pajac LAPU-LAPU CITY

Prioritizing food and nutrition security, the Barangay Nutrition Committee (BNC) of Motong in Dumaguete City ensures that healthy and affordable food is available and accessible to the populace. Consistent with their goal of eradicating food insecurity, the barangay ensures that mothers have the means to buy food for their families which has led Barangay Motong to have one of the longest sustainable livelihood programs in the city which is their chorizo making project.

Lead by their capable Punong Barangay Dionie D. Amores, the barangay has on top of the usual nutrition specific interventions have invested largely on several livelihood programs that cater to women in the community especially mothers of malnourished children. Active promotion of backyard gardening through education activities and seedling distribution are regularly conducted by the BNC. They have also initiated a communal garden to set an example to their constituents.

To complement the nutrition sensitive activities, Barangay Motong initiates a mobile feeding program that includes the utilization of the of produce from purok gardens as ingredients in their dietary supplementation program for malnourished children. This has led to the barangay being able to sustain a malnutrition rate that is below public health significance. Through hard work and enthusiasm, the Barangay Nutrition Committee (BNC) of Pajac, Lapu-lapu City can smoothly implement health and nutrition services despite the challenges of being densely populated and a highly urbanized barangay. Not daunted by the huge number of their constituents, the BNC implements sensible programs and activities that answer their barangays nutrition issues and concerns.

Identifying inappropriate nutrition behaviors as one of the many root causes of malnutrition in the area, the Brgy. Pajac has invested on mothercraft classes which is a form of nutrition education activity, widespread promotion of Pinggang Pinoy and urban and backyard gardening to not just influence food choices but to push for better food security in the community.

But all their unwavering efforts would not have been successful without the cooperation and participation of the community. Citing the 1987 Philippine Constitution, the BNC pledges to "protect and promote the right of the people and instill health consciousness among them."

### PROMISING BARANGAY FOR NUTRITION in the Region





#### Brgy. Soom TRINIDAD, BOHOL

Focused on food and nutrition security, the Barangay Nutrition Committee (BNC) of Soom in Trinidad, Bohol has displayed an outstanding strategy to reach their vision of addressing and preventing malnutrition in their community. The barangay has identified a critical nutrition situation because of the sudden increase in food prices and the limited capacity of the populace to secure enough healthy food for their household's consumption.

Thus, BNC Soom had implemented projects and activities to help families especially those that belong to the marginalized sectors. Planning for long term interventions for the prevention of food and nutrition insecurity, the barangay has initiated the "Fruit Trees – Vegetable Seed Distribution" Project to all the household under their jurisdiction to ensure the consumption not only of vegetables but also of fruits. Goat dispersal for families with malnourished children have also been conducted which not only provides a means for family income but also encourages sustainable livelihood amongst its beneficiaries with very little overhead cost.

While nutrition sensitive programs may take time, BNC Soom also ensures that these are complemented by nutrition specific programs that addresses malnutrition and health problems right as they manifest. This strong mix of interventions gives the people of Barangay Soom a food and nutrition secure future.





#### Brgy. Sta. Cruz Viejo TANJAY CITY

Finding strength in numbers, the Barangay Nutrition Committee (BNC) of Sta. Cruz Viejo ensures quality nutrition program implementation by mobilizing all members of their nutrition committee. Such collaborative efforts have enabled the barangay to successfully conduct all nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive programs, projects and activities included in their Barangay Nutrition Action Plan (BNAP).

A successful collaboration would not have been made possible without the dedication and participation of the BNC members in the tedious planning process. Numerous coordinative meetings of the BNC are regularly conducted to monitor and update BNC members of the status of the BNAP implementation. With pooled resources from different sectors, all causes of malnutrition are addressed properly thereby preventing the worsening of the barangay's malnutrition rate.

From house-to-house visits for nutrition advocacy; regular monitoring of malnourished children; and implementing and evaluating nutrition interventions per household, where each Sta Cruz Viejo's BNC member invest time and effort, it is no wonder that they can identify all malnourished children by name.

### OUTSTANDING BARANGAY FOR NUTRITION in the Region





#### Brgy. Boyog Proper BALILIHAN, BOHOL

A largely agricultural barangay, Boyog Proper in the town of Balilihan in the Province of Bohol has always been challenged to correct the community's behavior towards nutrition particularly when it comes to healthy food choices. Thus, the barangay through its dynamic Barangay Nutrition Committee (BNC) and its energetic Barangay Nutrition Scholar has crafted out strategies to influence household food consumption thereby preventing micronutrient deficiencies which has been identified as the community's main nutrition problem.

The BNC also works hard to mitigate malnutrition by addressing its root causes such as the limited capacities of households to procure food by mobilizing local women's organizations and farmers' association for livelihood projects that prioritize families of the nutritionally at-risk. Additionally, Boyog Proper also conducts nutrition education to families to help them be aware of proper food production, preparation, and utilization. Pregnant women in Boyog Proper are particularly well taken care of, they are given cash incentives for participating in health and nutrition services and are closely monitored to ensure that mothers and their babies are healthy.

For a well-coordinated and holistic approach in nutrition program management, each BNC member have specific tasks in the implementation of the Barangay Nutrition Action Plan thereby guaranteeing that every program, project, or activity are conducted with high standards.





Brgy. Lumapao CANLAON CITY

A consistently high performer for nutrition, Barangay Lumpao, through its dynamic Barangay Nutrition Committee (BNC) has always prioritized the program as they believe in its capacity for human capital development, ensuring that the community will have a better future.

Recognizing how important nutrition is, especially during the first 1000 days of life, the BNC lines up a fully packed three-year barangay nutrition action plan (BNAP) tailored for the barangay's nutrition situation and aligned with its mission and vision. The approved BNAP is updated annually with a consistent increase in budget which is complemented by the earnings from the BNC's income generating projects such as a tilapia raising and selling of plastic bottles for nutrition.

Such excellence in resource generation and program implementation also expands Barangay Lumpao's active mobilization of NGOs as partners in providing both nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions to its constituents. What propels the BNC Lumpao the most is its determination to ensure that nutrition services reach all corners of the community.

### OUTSTANDING BARANGAY FOR NUTRITION in the Region





#### Brgy. San Vicente TRINIDAD, BOHOL

Because of the persistent malnutrition problems that have plagued Brgy. San Vicente, Trinidad, Bohol, its Barangay Nutrition Committee (BNC) has come up with a plan to counter these problems while preventing new health and nutrition problems to occur.

Envisioning a healthy community by equipping the public with right attitude towards health and nutrition, having a strong collaboration of all stakeholders and providing good quality nutrition interventions, San Vicente's BNC goal is to eliminate stunting and underweight amongst preschool children.

To reach this goal, the BNC regularly convenes to plan, discuss, and monitor nutrition program implementation. Borne from these meetings is the BNC's holistic Barangay Nutrition Action Plan with budget allocation along with several local policies that ensure its implementation. This includes a resolution for income generating projects in support of the nutrition program after the BNC reflected on the need for more funding for the program.

San Vicente's aspirations for a better future for their community is what propels them to improve every year.





#### Brgy. Jamisu BAIS CITY

Having a unique and challenging geography with coastal, agricultural, and industrial areas, the Barangay Nutrition Committee (BNC) of Tamisu in Bais City has never let challenges deter their resolve to alleviate malnutrition. With a belief that investing in nutrition will help the community rise from poverty, members of the BNC have maintained close coordination to ensure that nutrition interventions that were painstakingly planned have reached every target family and individual.

This unwavering support is translated in the amount of investment the barangay has made for the program being the only barangay in Bais City who has consistently conducted Pabasa sa Nutrisyon in the past 13 years. The passion that the members of the BNC pour into planning, implementation and monitoring of each activity is evident in their constant participation in all the BNC activities, such as NM launching to house-to-house visits. In these activities, BNC members are given assignments for nutrition program implementation ensuring that services are not only conducted by the health sector but by the multisectoral BNC.

To give the program a better foothold and to provide sustainability in implementation, the BNC provides not only budgetary allocation that is transparently displayed in the Barangay Hall, the Tamisu Sangguniang has also passed policies to address gaps and challenges in nutrition program management.

### PROMISING CITY and MUNICIPALITY FOR NUTRITION in the Region







For the City of Bogo, it is important to ensure that nutrition issues are addressed not just quickly but efficiently. Through their City Nutrition Committee (CNC), Bogo City was able to put all their interventions in place by ensuring inclusion of nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive programs specifically prepared for the city's nutrition situation in their local nutrition action plan.

As a banner program for nutrition, the city focuses on the first 1000 days from the adoption of the RA 11148 to the passage of their own resolution mandating all barangays to have functional breastfeeding support groups, conduct of Idol ko si Nanay in all barangays, strengthen nutrition education in the first 1000 days and many more. This wide investment in the first 1000 days of life stems from the CNC's recognition of the need for a proactive approach to preventing malnutrition during said period. Bogo City believes that this investment will help break the malnutrition cycle. And so far, this strategy is proven to be effective as the city only had a 1.49% stunting prevalence in 2022 which was recognized to have the lowest prevalence in the entire Province of Cebu.





Cebu City has made great strides since the inception of its Cebu City Nutrition Office (CCNO) and staff support and the organization of its Cebu City Nutrition Network (CCNN) in recent years. This enabled the city to readily mobilize human resources for technical assistance to its eighty (80) barangay nutrition committees and supervise Barangay Nutrition Scholars in their implementation of nutrition interventions.

Despite the newly established office, several institutionalized programs in the city continue to be implemented according to the Cebu City Nutrition Committee's identified nutrition problems. These programs include the city's milk feeding program for nutritionally at-risk pregnant women and 3–5-year-old malnourished children for 90 and 120 days and the Family Approach program which targets families of undernourished children below five years for a rationalized distribution of food commodities. These programs are conducted to alleviate hunger and malnutrition issues for the nutritionally vulnerable.

Other than what has been mentioned, an array of enabling mechanisms such as capacity development and monitoring and evaluation have been conducted to equip nutrition workers and their nutrition committees with knowledge and skills as well as practical recommendations for better nutrition program management.



### PROMISING CITY and MUNICIPALITY FOR NUTRITION in the Region



#### Tanjay City



One of the strong LGUs in terms of nutrition governance and organizational structure is the City of Tanjay. Its City Nutrition Committee (CNC) boasts of its well-equipped nutrition office with staff complement, something that not all LGUs are able to achieve. The nutrition office is well complemented by an equally active City Nutrition Committee lead by Mayor Jose T. Orlino who has ensured that the city's nutrition action plan (CNAP) is well implemented and holistic to keep the city's malnutrition rate below public health significance cut off.

Envisioning a healthy and productive populace, the Tanjay CNC takes their time to analyze their eOPT data for CNAP formulation ensuring well thought of interventions that are perfect for the community's situation. A carefully curated mix of nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions are included in the city's CNAP which is mirrored and complemented by the barangay nutrition action plans ensuring efficiency of implementation.

With the collaborative will to win against malnutrition and its causes, the City of Tanjay is an up-and-coming force to reckon with as it slowly but surely improves the foundations for better nutrition program management through proper budget allocation, passage of policies, and human resource capacity development.





Being in the top 3 for high malnutrition prevalence in Siquijor Province does not daunt the Municipal Nutrition Committee (MNC) of Lazi as they see it as a chance to prove that they can improve. To achieve this goal, the LGU has integrated their MNC into the Local Health Board making it an Expanded Local Health Board to increase participation of other sectors, ensuring that nutrition issues are discussed monthly and that ideas to address them are solicited at a multisectoral level. The MNC ensures the adoption and implementation of well thought of plans for nutrition and that these plans are also cascaded at the barangay level. These were also prioritized in the LGU's annual investment program. For proper nutrition implementation, members of both the MNC and the Barangay Nutrition Committees are capacitated regularly.

Lazi MNC recognizes the need for a collaborative effort to address malnutrition issues in the municipality, thus all the members are aware of their responsibilities such as basic health and nutrition specific programs from the health sector, food security from the agriculture sector and child development and dietary supplementation from the social service sector. They value the importance of having a untied vision so that Lazihanons can be healthy and productive in the future.





A top performer for nutrition in the province of Bohol for many years, the Municipal Nutrition Committee (MNC) of Trinidad is no stranger to the ups and downs of nutrition program management. But their well-established cooperation, collaboration and teamwork with the barangay stakeholders have proven that they can reach accolades at the regional level.

As a 3rd class municipality, Trinidad can provide enough budget for its nutrition program to address malnutrition issues especially those that affect the vulnerable groups. The municipality continues to strive for excellence in planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of their nutrition program. They are particularly focus on identifying and mitigating causes of malnutrition in the locality and this makes their nutrition interventions effective.

Trinidad MNC aims to influence the community to have a healthy lifestyle via a sustained campaign for healthy food consumption and to continue its health and nutrition services in the First 1000 Days of life to maintain a low malnutrition rate in the municipality.



### GOOD NUTRITION PROJECT in the Region



### Bayawan City

#### LAKASS-GOAT DISPERSAL STANDS THE TEST OF TIME



Spanning two decades worth of triumph and challenges, Bayawan City's Lalakas ang Katawang Sapat sa Sustansiya (LAKASS) goat dispersal program continues to be a relevant program for the city. The program not only provides a means of livelihood for its beneficiaries, but it also offers nutrient-rich milk to nutritionally at-risk populations thus making it both a nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive intervention. Since its inception in 2002, the program has continued to grow covering more and more barangays each year with more beneficiaries catered to every year coming from the 40-50 heads of goat during its pilot year.

While an animal dispersal program is nothing new to many local nutrition committees' (LNC) nutrition action plans, Bayawan City was able to ensure their program's sustainability because of their commitment to focus on the nutrition aspect of the program. The LNC makes use of the annual Operation Timbang Plus results to identify beneficiaries, ensures that households enrolled to the program are willing recipients, provides technological transfer to the beneficiaries and then ensures regular animal health services. They also incorporated trainings on milk production for household consumption and to go further into milk trade.

To ensure the program's viability, the Bayawan LNC not only provided capital investment but has also passed a resolution for the program's continued implementation. With combined efforts of the members of the City Nutrition Committee especially the City Veterinary Office, the City Nutrition Office and the Barangay Nutrition Committees, the program was able to make a sizeable dent to the malnutrition problem in the years of its implementation successfully decreasing the stunting rate from 23% in 2002 to 6.0% in the present. The city takes pride in many success stories brought about by the program from improved standard of living to being able to support children's education, the program is a beaconing light to not only address malnutrition but also as poverty alleviation program.



### **Bohol Province**



#### BOHOL'S INVESTMENT WINS THEM THE GREEN BANNER

Good investments truly rake returns, even unexpected ones. Such as the case of Bohol Province's Php 9.7M nutrition investment in 2022 which not only funded province-initiated nutrition interventions but also aided in the province finally earning their first Green Banner Seal of Compliance in a decade and a half.

Under the stewardship of Gov. Erico Aristotle C. Aumentado, who has pledged to address the persistent malnutrition problem in the province, the Provincial Nutrition Committee (PNC) was able to conduct several key nutrition specific and enabling programs which complemented many of the programs already implemented by their local counterparts.

With the bulk of the investments allocated for human resource development, Bohol PNC was able to conduct up to 34 trainings and meetings last year focusing on capacitating Barangay Nutrition Scholars (BNS), Municipal Nutrition Program Coordinators (MNPC) and Municipal Nutrition Action Officers (MNAO) as they are the primary workforce for nutrition. The province also made efforts in training DRRM officers to ensure that the nutrition cluster concerns are incorporated in local disaster risk reduction plans.

In a bid to prevent stunting and to ensure that enough nutrients and calories are consumed in the first 1000 days, the Bohol PNC provided dietary supplementation to women in their first trimester and complementary food to children 6-23 months for 60 days as counterpart to the local nutrition committee's dietary supplementation program and NNC's Tutok Kainan Supplementation Program. Along with it, IEC materials were also produced and distributed to help BNSs and MNPCs in their nutrition education campaign. This enabled the province to have a drop in stunting from 9.1% in 2021 to 6.32% in 2022.

To ensure the implementation of nutrition programs in the municipalities and barangays down to the purok level, the PNC conducts the Provincial Nutrition Evaluation (MELLPI) Pro and subsequently the Provincial Grand Nutrition Awards which not only gives recognition to LGUs but also gives cash incentives to winners.

The nutrition program in the Province of Bohol may have a long way ahead, but with its present direction, all challenges will be weathered with the concerted effort of all nutrition stakeholders guided with the adage "alone we do so little; together we can do so much".



### Dumaguete City



#### GOOD NUTRITION GOVERNANCE PAVES WAY FOR DUMAGUETE'S PROGRESS

Spending decades honing their craft in nutrition program management, it is no wonder that Dumaguete City is no longer a stranger in its implementation. Through the never waning support and dedication of the members of the Dumaguete City Nutrition Committee (CNC) and the unparalleled support of the city's local chief executives, Dumaguete City is able to maintain an operational nutrition program.

Carefully strategizing schemes to reduce and prevent malnutrition at the different stages of the life cycle, Dumaguete have continued to prepare and update their City Nutrition Action Plan to consider recent developments in the local, regional, and national nutrition landscape. As one of the few LGUs in Central Visayas that has a functional nutrition office with complete staff complement, the city boasts of being able to provide quality technical and administrative assistance to their Barangay Nutrition Committees.

Also, the only city whose Barangay Nutrition Scholars are either casual plantilla or job order status, the city is able to ensure continued nutrition program implementation of a very capable nutrition workforce. The coordination and participation of the members of the City Nutrition Committee is also an accomplishment that the city was able to build through years of active advocacy activities and instilling each member's responsibilities within the organization.

Though institutionalization with continuous innovation as its foundation for good nutrition governance, Dumaguete City has finally reclaimed its spot for a Green Banner Seal of Compliance Award after two and a half decades of pursuit for excellence.



Lapu-Lapu City



#### LAPU-LAPU CITY COMMITS TO SUSTAINABLE NUTRITION IMPLEMENTATION

With a commitment to improve the delivery of quality nutrition and related innovative intervention, guided by the core values of excellence, integrity, and transparency, the City of Lapu-Lapu, through its City Nutrition Committee (CNC) and other stakeholders, continues to implement quality nutrition intervention specifically tailor-fitted to the city's nutrition situation.

This declaration has afforded the city to once again attain the coveted Green Banner Seal of Compliance which has evaded its grasps several times in the past decade. Determined to finally reach the goals and outcomes that they have set for themselves, the city has sustained its implementation of high standard nutrition program.

In 2022 alone, the LGU was able to accomplish targeted programs, projects and activities in the theme of building better foundations for nutrition program management such as the allocation of a 3.5 M budget, regular coordinative meetings of the CNC members, quality growth monitoring and management of malnourished children, seedling distribution, nutrition education, health and nutrition services of the First 1000 days most notably the strict implementation of exclusive breastfeeding campaign including setting up of lactation stations in workplaces and strategic locations. Plans include ensuring accessibility, affordability, availability and sustainability of goods and services, and educating the people of this resort city on proper nutrition for the programs to be more sustainable.

With the goal of improving the nutritional status and the overall health and well-being of all Oponganons, small steps towards its attainment are what keeps the CNC going.



### Mandaue City



#### MANDAUE CONQUERS MALNUTRITION, NURTURES HOPE

Demonstrating a strong commitment to the well-being of its constituents, the City Government of Mandaue gives priority to programs, projects and activities that address malnutrition, food insecurity and unhealthy dietary practices. A former nutrition champion in the early 2000s, the city which had its share of challenges in the implementation of the nutrition program and keeps its strong will to improve the quality of life of their residents. Spearheaded by the City Nutrition Office, in collaboration and active participation of the members of the City Nutrition Committee and other stakeholders, a range of effective health and nutrition interventions have been diligently implemented.

Included in these interventions are local initiatives to prevent malnutrition through services in the first 1000 days of life such as micronutrient supplementation and dietary supplementation for both pregnant women and children 6-23 months of age. Following the nutrition in the life cycle approach, children are also provided with nutrition interventions in Day Care Centers and in their primary schools. For the nutritionally at-risk, the city has proactive approach in the management of acute malnutrition by not only providing commodities to children, but also including nutrition promotion activities for behavior change. These nutrition specific programs are well complemented by food security programs of the agriculture sector and enabling activities such as capacity development and policy implementation by members of the local nutrition committees.

The City's Performance Governance System (PGS) strategy for the Barangayan Program has played a key role in extending nutrition services to the grassroots level, reaching more individuals in need. Moreover, the Barangay Integrated Awards (BIA), recognizing outstanding Nutrition Program Implementation at the barangay level, have encouraged communities to actively participate in improving nutrition outcomes. The city's dedication to these efforts is evident through the remarkable improvement in the nutritional status of 0-59 months old stunted children which decreased from 11% in 2020 to 5.45% in 2022. Good governance is key to the success of Mandaue City's nutrition program.



### Tagbilaran City



#### TAGBILARAN CNC FOCUSES ON THE F1K TO COMBAT MALNUTRITION

Investing in health and nutrition program in the first 1000 days is the banner program that led the Tagbilaran City Nutrition Committee (CNC) to its Green Banner Seal of Compliance for their 2022 performance, particularly the holistic approach that the city has employed to aid mothers and their babies.

Among the noteworthy initiatives is the "Buntis Alagaan, Bata Ampingan" (BABA) program, which provides milk feeding and prenatal care to high-risk pregnant women, aiming to ensure the delivery of well-nourished offspring. The program goes the extra mile by offering free ultrasound to pregnant women, allowing for timely interventions, if needed.

Additionally, the "Batang Abtik, Basta Alaga, Winning Against Stunting" (BABA WINS) provides milk feeding to malnourished children aged 2 to 4 years, promoting healthy growth and development. Furthermore, to address the issue of sustainable nutrition, the city distributes seedlings and chickens, supporting the "Food Always in the Home" or FAITH program. Moreover, public schools actively participate in the initiative by maintaining "Gulayan sa Paaralan," cultivating a culture of agricultural knowledge among students.

Not only relying on the nutrition services at the city level, the Tagbilaran CNC also ensure proper coordination with their 15 Barangay Nutrition Committees through quarterly consultative meetings to identify and discuss necessary nutrition issues and agree on possible interventions. By taking a proactive approach to healthcare and nutrition, the committee strives to safeguard the overall well-being of the Tagbilaranons. Through these well-rounded and multi-faceted efforts, the CNC aims to break the cycle of malnutrition and improve the quality of life for all residents, fostering a healthier and more prosperous Tagbilaran City.



### Zamboanguita, Negros Oriental



#### ZAMBOANGUITA FINDS VITALITY IN NUTRITION PROGRAM

With a history of good nutrition governance, the Municipality of Zamboanguita in the Province of Negros Oriental makes sure that everyone in their community strives for progress and recognizes that nutrition is a vital foundation for the community to thrive.

While malnutrition and its root causes can be particularly challenging for a 4th class municipality like Zamboanguita, its active Municipal Nutrition Committee (MNC) acknowledges the potential of the community and prioritizes nutrition interventions as investment for a better future. This determination to influence the municipality's future is evident in the plans and policies which lay out the foundation for good nutrition program implementation. Nutrition outcomes and interventions are reflected not only in the local nutrition plan but is very prominent in the local development plan and the annual investment program. To ensure effective nutrition implementation, LGU Zamboanguita has also put nutrition laws and policies in place not only by adoption of national ones but by crafting local legislators that befit the LGU's health and nutrition situation.

Equipped with this determination and a good foundation for nutrition program management, MNC Zamboanguita and its Barangay Nutrition Committees have infinite potential to reach great heights in conducting their nutrition interventions. Along with the maximized use of its NutriSkwela Community Radio Network Program which is lined up with many community-based radio programs to influence to townsfolk's behavior towards health and nutrition, it is no doubt that Zamboanguita is able to regain its nutrition glory by attaining the elusive Green Banner Seal of Compliance for its performance in 2022.



Balilihan, Bohol



#### BALILIHAN PROVES THAT MULTI-SECTORAL APPROACH WORKS BEST FOR NUTRITION

Balilihan sustains Green Banner Seal of Compliance for a second year with the continued effective implementation of CAP or the Countryside Action Program, a program that focuses on the improvement of the quality of life of Balilihanons. In charge of this is the ever dynamic and multi-sectoral Municipal Nutrition Committee (MNC).

In 2022, the Balilihan MNC was able to work together for the maintenance of their Monitoring and Evaluation of Local Level Plan Implementation (MELLPI) Pro score that affords the LGU a Green Banner Seal for the second year in a row. Through the MELLPI Pro, the Regional Nutrition Evaluation Team (RNET) was able to discern that the LGU particularly shines in the second dimension over the other dimensions with an almost impeccable score on their passage of nutrition polices and laws and its implementation and monitoring.

As the municipality continues their valiant battle against hunger and malnutrition and its different causes, the MNC proves that working in sync with all the members of the committee ensures optimal nutrition services. Their multi-sectoral efforts against the persistent forms of malnutrition, particularly stunting, were not in vain as the general malnutrition rate in the LGU continues to be below public health significance according to the World Health Organization's standards.

Such outstanding nutrition program implementation are backed by strong political support, a well capacitated workforce and innovative interventions that not only addresses malnutrition but helps in preventing it. Through its very capable MNC members, all Balilihanons are provided with quality nutrition education. Dietary supplementation program is provided to their at risk population. It is complemented by an aggressive food security and livelihood program which ensures that households not only know what to eat but have means to eat healthy food. To cap off food and nutrition security, LGU Balilihan also ensures environmental sanitation by working on increasing accessibility to potable water sources and providing toilet bowls to indigent members of the community. Indeed, Balilihan confirms that working together yields positive results.



### Enrique Villanueva, Siguijor



#### ENRIQUE VILLANUEVA STRIVES FOR CONTINUED NUTRITION EXCELLENCE

A staunch advocate for health and nutrition, the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Enrique Villanueva in Siquijor province established a sustained, innovative, and responsive approach for the effective implementation of health and nutrition programs in the locality.

Through its Municipal Nutrition Committee (MNC), Enrique Villanueva's proactive stance in nutrition interventions ensures that they are able to address emerging health and nutrition issues and stop these from worsening as evident by the LGU's sustained low malnutrition rate in the past decade. The primary goal of the Municipal Nutrition Program is continuity; hence, it has constantly strived to sustain and strengthen previously established initiatives such as capacity building, close monitoring, and stakeholders' involvement.

Continuity is also evident in the continued support of the local chief executives and members of the MNC through the multi-sectoral approaches for prevention of malnutrition in the LGUs and the strong policy support and the fund allocation. As forerunners of the nutrition program, barangay nutrition committees are also equipped to conduct their own strategies for food and nutrition security such as the "Gulayan sa Barangay" for accessible and cost-free food source for the communities.

Striving for continued health throughout the lifecycle, Enrique Villanueva makes use of its reliable health and nutrition database to recognize that the effort that they have done is effective amongst children but that there is a growing health and nutrition concern among adults and that is hypertension. Other than the proactive monitoring of registered cases along with free medication and consultation, healthy lifestyle promotion has been refurbished in the municipality which includes not just information dissemination campaigns but weekly fitness dance activities at the barangay level to prevent worsening of the situation. The above practices embody the LGUs dedication to realize its vision and accomplish its mission in the implementation of the Nutrition Program, to better the lives of all Talingtinganons and contribute to national progress and prosperity.



### Garcia Hernandez, Bohol



#### GARCIA HERNANDEZ HARNESSES CIVIL SOCIETY'S INVOLVEMENT TO RETAIN GB SEAL

Community nutrition may be a frustrating program to handle but while many other local nutrition committees let the frustration set them back, the Municipal Nutrition Committee (MNC) of Garcia Hernandez in the Province of Bohol draws inspiration from last year's triumph which took about a decade to reach.

Moved to further improve their nutrition services that caters to the community, Garcia Hernandez has widened and expanded the reach of their nutrition awareness campaign and food security programs to ensure that food is not only readily available to the community but that they are also equipped with enough knowledge and skills to ensure nutrition security.

Recognizing that local governments can only do so much for the nutrition program, Garcia Hernandez led by Mayor Filadelfo Jess III V. Baja strengthened the Municipal Civil Society Organizations' Office to harness civil society engagement in local governance. This not only reinforced previous civil society involvement in nutrition program implementation, but it also provided better coordinative schemes for other program implementation. This move has led existing CSOs in the community such as the East Lungsodaan Agri-Farmers Association (ELAFA) and East Lungsodaan Women's Association (ELWA) to regularly donate from their monthly proceeds to the MNC thereby providing more resources for the different nutrition programs to thrive.

Truly a model for local nutrition resource generation, the Municipality of Garcia Hernandez proves that limited government funds is not a hindrance to good nutrition governance. These strategy helped in improving town's nutrition situation ensuring that these stats continue to be of no public health significance.

### EXEMPLARY AWARD for Nutrition





Talibon, Bohol

A well-established nutrition program champion, the Municipality of Talibon in the Province of Bohol has consistently shown vigorous support to its local nutrition program. The municipality boasts of its strong political commitment throughout its long nutrition history, they are particularly proud of how every executive, no matter what party, has been equally supportive of the program thereby contributing to the LGU's excellent nutrition landscape.

Since its beginning of its nutrition journey in 1998 to its attainment of the Nutrition Honor Award in 2004, up until its establishment as the region's first LHEARN area in 2022, the municipality has shown never ending enthusiasm for the nutrition program and have even shown how resilient their commitment to the program is despite many external challenges.

This dedication and enthusiasm for quality nutrition implementation is evident as Talibon's Municipal Nutrition Committee continues to maintain their implementation of high-quality nutrition interventions leading to sustained low malnutrition rate in the community. The LGU is truly worthy of its role as mentor for other LGUs aspiring to be nutrition champions.





#### Tubigon, Bohol

The latest of all the Nutrition Honor Awardee in Central Visayas, the Municipality of Tubigon in the Province of Bohol may have received this most coveted award a decade ago, but time has not faded the LGU's passion for the nutrition program.

To keep up with the ever changing national, regional, and local landscape had also motivated the Municipal Nutrition Committee (MNC) to think of continued innovations for a more proactive nutrition intervention appropriate to these changes. An example of this is the MNC's active social media page that keeps its constituents updated with current and relevant nutrition news and knowledge.

As a way to sustain implementation of nutrition activities, the MNC has also incorporated new resource generation activities such as the Basura Mo, Kalusugan Ko, a solid waste management project that helps fund the 90–120day dietary supplementation program for malnourished preschool children. Together with a strong monitoring and evaluation and award system, the MNC is able to maintain functionality and enthusiasm of barangay nutrition committees in support of the nutrition program. This motivation has led to the increased number of barangays having 0 malnutrition rate from 1 in 2020 to 5 in 2022.

# **PRIDE** through the YEARS

#### (Year Awarded)

#### NATIONAL OUTSTANDING BNS NUTRITION HONOR AWARD 2016 $\Leftrightarrow$ Ms. Merlita B. Banua (Finalist) 2013 I Tubigon, Bohol Brgy. Bajumpandan, Dumaguete City 2007 🔶 Inabanga, Bohol 2002 Ms. Irenea B. Ordinario (Winner) 2004 🔶 Talibon, Bohol Brgy. Quinapon-an, Antequera, Bohol 2002 Danao City 2001 $\Leftrightarrow$ Ms. Fe A. Magdosa (2<sup>nd</sup> Runner Up) 2001 📥 Calape, Bohol Brgy. Abucayan Sur, Calape, Bohol

#### CONSISTENT REGIONAL OUTSTANDING WINNER IN NUTRITION

2019 Carmen, Bohol

2015 Implona, Negros Oriental

2013 Y Jagna, Bohol

2012 Toledo City

2009 I Bohol Province

Lapu-Lapu City

#### **GREEN BANNER SEAL OF** COMPLIANCE AWARD

2022 🔶 Balilihan, Bohol Enrique Villanueva, Siguijor Garcia Hernandez, Bohol

#### **GREEN BANNER AWARD**

2017 & 2018 🧄 Lapu-Lapu City

2015 & 2016 🔶 Canlaon City

2006 🔶 Garcia Hernandez, Bohol

2005 Trinidad, Bohol

2004 Implona, Negros Oriental

2000 PCebu City

2006 🔶 Mandaue City

2005 Image Negros Oriental Province

2003 🔶 Tagbilaran City

2001 I Bohol Province

1997 I Negros Oriental Province

1996 I Dumaguete City

#### **REGIONAL OBNS**

2019, 2022 "Ms. Juanita R. Hinay Brgy. Bool, Tagbilaran City

> Ms. Sarah C. Fuentes 2018 Brgy. Pajac, Lapu-lapu City

2017 🔶 Ms. Nemesia L. Lanit Brgy. Poblacion 1, Tagbilaran City

2016 🔶 Ms. Merlita B. Banua Brgy. Bajumpandan, Dumaguete City

2015 Ms. Mary Ann F. Reyes Brgy. Looc, Danao City

Ms. Josephine A. Caduyac 2014 Brgy. Matin-ao, Sierra Bullones, Bohol

2013 Ms. Consolacion G. Galon Brgy. Malaiba, Canlaon City

2012 < Ms. Christie L. Renoblas Brgy. Buenos Aires, Tubigon, Bohol

2011 Ms. Lidia I. Gabaisen Brgy. Celing, Antequera, Bohol

### THE EXPANDED Regional Nutrition Committee



DIR. JAIME S. BERNADAS Regional Director Chair, RNC DOH CV-CHD



DIR. LEOCADIO T. TROVELA Vice Chair, RNC Regional Director DILG 7



DIR. ANGEL C. ENRIQUEZ Vice Chair, RNC Regional Executive Director DA RFO 7



DIR. ALLAN L. POQUITA Regional Director BFAR 7



DR. LUNI N. VILLACASTIN President CAN



ATTY. BRUCE N. RAGAS Regional Director CPD 7



DIR. CARLOS A. EVANGELISTA Director CSC 7



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## The people behind the in Central

























# Nutrition Program Visayas























