



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
 Region VI - Western Visayas  
**SCHOOLS DIVISION OF SAGAY CITY**

OCT 31 2024

**DIVISION MEMORANDUM**

No. 710, s. 2024

**PARTICIPATION IN THE FILIPINO CHILD: AN ONLINE DIALOGUE ON STRENGTHENING THE MENTAL HEALTH SAFETY PLANS IN SCHOOLS**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent  
 Chief Education Supervisors – CID & SGOD  
 Public Schools District Supervisors  
 Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads  
 All Others Concerned

1. The **ABS-CBN Foundation Bantay Bata 163** has committed to creating a safe environment for children in schools and communities through **PROJECT MIND**. This initiative aims to raise awareness about mental health and address gaps in mental health and psychosocial support services.
2. In this regard, an online dialogue will be held with community partners and stakeholders, called *The Filipino Child (TFC)*, on **November 8, 2024 (Friday), from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon via Zoom**. This initiative aims to facilitate discussions on suicide prevention and service provision for learners, ultimately helping schools develop a school-based suicide prevention and response plan.
3. Division and School Mental Health Focal Persons, School Heads, and interested participants are encouraged to participate in this activity and must confirm their attendance through this link: [https://bit.ly/RegistrationForm\\_TheFilipinoChild](https://bit.ly/RegistrationForm_TheFilipinoChild) **on or before November 4, 2024**.
4. Attached is a copy of the letter from ABS CBN Foundation for your reference.
5. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

*MARSETTE D. SABBALUCA*  
**MARSETTE D. SABBALUCA, CESO VI**  
 Schools Division Superintendent



Enclosure :  
 Reference : Regional Memorandum No. 1127, s. 2024  
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(Enclosure No. 1 to Division Memorandum No. \_\_\_\_\_, s. 2024)



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Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
 REGION VI – WESTERN VISAYAS

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
 DIVISION OF SAGAY CITY  
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Regional Advisory No. 220, s. 2024  
 October 22, 2024

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) No. 8, s. 2013  
 this advisory is issued not for endorsement per DO 28, s. 2001,  
 but only for the information of Region VI DepEd  
 officials and personnel/staff.  
 (Visit [region6.deped.gov.ph](http://region6.deped.gov.ph))

**THE FILIPINO CHILD**

Attached is a letter from the ABS-CBN Foundation, **Levi Ambon-Rota, RSW**, Program Head, ABS-CBN Foundation Inc. – Bantay Bata 163, dated October 14, 2024, regarding the conduct of **The Filipino Child**. The details are attached for references.

For more information, contact:

**Ms. Rhiza Mateo**  
 Program Officer  
 Contact No.: 09077777225  
 Email Address: [REMateo@abs-cbnfoundation.com](mailto:REMateo@abs-cbnfoundation.com)

*Lucena R. Sabajas*  
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JAM/ESSD-RA/The Filipino Child/ef/  
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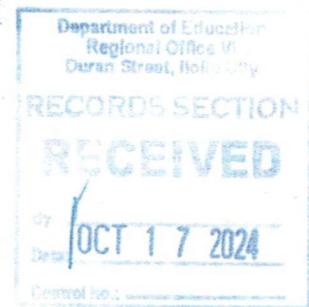
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October 14, 2024

**DR. RAMIR B. UYTICO, CESO III**  
Regional Director  
Department of Education - Region VI

DEAR **DR. UYTICO,**

Greetings!



For the past 27 years, Bantay Bata 163 has continued its commitment to helping schools and communities build an environment that is safe for children - where their rights are protected, and where their mental health is valued. These initiatives are carried out in collaboration with government and non-government agencies, as well as academic institutions, to ensure the success and effective service delivery to the community.

Currently, we have concentrated our efforts on providing support through our four core projects: (1) the **Bantay Bata Helpline 163**, a helpline that is dedicated to responding to and providing support to any child-related concerns; (2) the **Child Safe Philippines Project**, which aims to guide and capacitate schools and communities in creating a localized Child Protection Policy, Programs and reporting Protocols; (3) the **Children and Youth Advocacy Council**, a project that highlights the importance of child participation in the development of programs for and by the children; and (4) **Project MIND** which seeks to promote and raise awareness on mental health and tries to address the gaps in mental health provision through capacity building of volunteer mental health and psychosocial support service providers.

In implementing one of our projects, particularly Project MIND, we have seen the importance of raising awareness about mental health among students and their families to break the stigma associated with it, as well as **strengthening the mental health safety plans in schools** for students experiencing mental health and other psychosocial difficulties. Schools, particularly junior and senior high schools, have expressed the need for mental health services for learners who have expressed suicidal ideations and in preventing and responding to cases of suicide in schools. In line with this, we are organizing the third year of implementation of **THE FILIPINO CHILD** on **November 8, 2024 (Friday), 9:00 AM - 12:00 NN** via **Zoom**.



Started in 2022, **The Filipino Child (TFC)**, is an online dialogue with community partners and stakeholders that provides a platform for open and inclusive discussions to raise awareness and address the pressing issues affecting children and youth. This year's National Dialogue seeks to foster discussions to provide information on suicide prevention and service provision to learners, and ultimately guide the schools in creating a school-based suicide prevention and response plan.

In line with this, we are delighted to invite schools from your Division to participate in this year's The Filipino Child. Interested school participants may **confirm their attendance** through this link [https://bit.ly/RegistrationForm\\_TheFilipinoChild](https://bit.ly/RegistrationForm_TheFilipinoChild) on or before **November 4, 2024.**

For any concerns or inquiries, please feel free to contact our Program Officer, Ms. Rhiza Mateo, through her email: [REMateo@abs-cbnfoundation.com](mailto:REMateo@abs-cbnfoundation.com) or SMS/Viber at 0907-777-7225.

Your involvement in this dialogue is a vital step toward promoting a more supportive environment that prioritizes children's mental health.

Thank you very much

**In the Service of the Filipino children,**



**LEVI AMBON-ROTA, RSW**

Program Head

ABS-CBN Foundation Inc. - Bantay Bata 163