

The Official CWC Newsmagazine

MakKaBata

Makabuluhang Balita at Talakayan Para sa mga Bata

CWC gains momentum in amplifying awareness for child's rights through media engagement

JULIE-ANN G. DELEN, INFORMATION OFFICER I, PAIO



The year 2024 has brought the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC) to its peak of media engagement, encouraging wider coverage of its child-friendly programs, activities, and interventions to manage issues faced by children across the Philippines

CWC through its Public Affairs and Information Office (PAIO) has taken an extra mile to maximize its engagement with media partners, including ABS-CBN, GMA, PIA, TV 5, SMNI, Net 25, IBC 13, DZBB, Daily Tribune, and Radyo Pilipinas among others, enabling the agency to facilitate broader recognition as the attached agency of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), dedicated to safeguarding the rights and well-being of Filipino children.

Since the beginning of the year 2024, CWC has achieved media visibility, with 16 notable appearances and 15 published articles across various media platforms.

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DILG Regional Office V steers 2023 CFLGA Orientation

ROMMEL H. BRUCE, PLANNING OFFICER I, RSCWC REGION V



IN PHOTO: MEMBERS FROM RSCWC BICOL FACILITATE THE 2023 CFLGA ORIENTATION

LEGAZPI CITY - In a collective effort to ensure the successful implementation of the 2023 Child-Friendly Local Governance Audit (CFLGA), the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Regional Office V, leading the Regional Inter-Agency Monitoring Task Force (RIMTF), collaborated with the Regional Sub-Committee for the Welfare of Children (RSCWC) Bicol Secretariat in conducting the 2023 CFLGA Orientation for the Provincial Inter-Agency Monitoring Task Force (PITF) via Zoom platform on 16 January 2024.

Ms. Ana Marie B. Binamira-Telimban, RSCWC Bicol's Regional Coordinator, discussed the amended indicators for the 2023 audit, focusing specifically on the four (4) categories of child's rights and governance. Additionally, Mr. Kevin Louise C. Pua, CFLGA - Knowledge Management System (KMS) Focal Person from the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC), provided a comprehensive overview of the Seal of the Child-Friendly Local Governance Knowledge Management System (SCFLG-KMS) to equip attendees with the necessary skills in navigating the system effectively during the audit process.

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Cordillera Regional Plan of Action for Children (RPAC) 2024-2028 approved at the RSDC Level

JOYCE L. PAYSA, PLANNING OFFICER I AND MS. MARICEL M. AQUISION, PLANNING OFFICER III, RSCWC CAR



IN PHOTO: USEC. ANGELO M. TAPALES' MEDIA ENGAGEMENT WITH TV PATROL OF ABS-CBN, DISCUSSING THE CASE OF A CHILD WHO FELL FROM A CONDOMINIUM IN CEBU AND CHILDREN'S SAFETY

BAGUIO CITY - The Cordillera Regional Plan of Action for Children (RPAC) 2024-2028 of the Regional Sub-Committee for the Welfare of Children (RSCWC) was approved by the Regional Social Development Committee (RSDC) during its 1st quarter meeting at NEDA-RDC Hall, Botanical Garden, Leonard Wood Road, Baguio City on 13 February 2024.

Ms. Amelyn P. Cabrera, Division Chief of the Promotive Services Division, representing the OIC-Regional Director and RSCWC-CAR Chairperson Enrique H. Gascon Jr. Ms. Cabrera cited the process behind RPAC's formulation, which involved extensive consultations, workshops, and meetings among members. This was followed by an overview and the comprehensive plan's content, elaborated by Ms. Maricel M. Aquision, Regional Coordinator of RSCWC-CAR.

See page 12 for continuation

MAKABATA
(Makabuluhang Balita at Talakayan para sa mga Bata).
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of Children.

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CWC gains momentum in amplifying awareness for child's rights through media engagement

Written by:
JULIE-ANN G. DELEN,
INFORMATION OFFICER I, PAIO



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Since the beginning of the year 2024, CWC has achieved media visibility, with 16 notable appearances and 15 published articles across various media platforms.

The media engagements have served as an avenue for the discussion of pressing issues affecting children, including online and offline sexual abuse and exploitation, corporal punishment, physical abuse, and mental health concerns. Issues related to OSAEC have remained particularly prominent, dominating interviews and news coverage. This also manifests the need to provide additional focus on addressing OSAEC-related cases.

The CWC plans to continue its commitment to fostering closer ties with media partners, leveraging the power of media engagement for the benefit of children, and targeting a wider audience in disseminating crucial information and communication related to children's welfare.

With more than 40 active media partners, the CWC will sustain and expand its collaborative endeavors, ensuring that the voices and needs of Filipino children are heard and prioritized at all levels.



IN PHOTO: CHIEF ELINO BARDILLON PROVIDES DATA AND STATISTICS TO SMNI ON OSAEC-RELATED CASES IN THE PHILIPPINES AS WELL AS THE ONGOING EFFORT OF CWC AND STAKEHOLDERS TO ADDRESS IT DURING THE 2024 CSAW WEEK

CWC bridge gaps on empowerment in 2024 Girl Child Week ARTreach

Written by:
CELAINE CABRERA,
INFORMATION OFFICER II, PAIO



IN PHOTO: CHILD PARTICIPANTS FROM PUSO SA PUSO EDUKASYON (PAROLA CENTER) ON MAY 18 PRESENTING THEIR PAINTED TOTE BAGS WITH THE CWC FACILITATORS

Two sessions of WE March for Girls ARTreach Workshop were held by the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC) on March 18 and March 24 respectively at the Puso sa Puso Edukasyon (Parola Center, Tondo) and the Philippine Orthopedic Center (POC) Quezon City in celebration of the 2024 Girl Child Week.

WE stands for women empowerment while ARTreach combines "art" and "outreach," which aims to educate children on gender-related concerns, explore prevalent issues surrounding girls, and use visual arts to express their ideas on girl empowerment.

The 2024 Girl Child Week focused on gender discrimination and gender-based violence, with the theme "Abante, Batang Babae: Labanan ang Karahasan!," as determined through CWC's Children's Online Survey, Gender and Development Focal Point System, and GAD Technical Working Group. Particularly, child respondents to the Survey specified sexism and sexual harassment across all settings as their key issues for this year's observance.

Children beneficiaries from Puso sa Puso Edukasyon, an organization providing an alternative form of learning, and Kythe Foundation, an organization providing child life services in healthcare facilities such as the POC, were identified as participants for the ARTreach Sessions.

To bridge the participants' understanding on empowerment, they were oriented by the CWC facilitators on children's rights, sexual orientation and gender identity, prevailing issues on girls (e.g. child marriage, grooming, online sexual abuse and exploitation), and available services or helpline mechanisms to immediately respond to their reports.

Shortly after the discussion, children were guided in

making their respective Tote Bag Paintings to illustrate their aspirations for a child-friendly and gender-fair Philippines. During the presentation of artworks, 9-year old Hayleigh from Puso sa Puso Edukasyon shared that "Ang rainbow na ito ay nagbibigay ng kulay sa ating mundo" (This rainbow gives color to our world.), – a distinct symbolism of gender empowerment for her.

The CWC spearheads the Protection and Gender-Fair Treatment of the Girl Child Week or also known as the "Girl Child Week" every 4th week of March by virtue of Proclamation No. 759 of 1996. For 2024, Girl Child Week was observed from March 16 to 22, 2024 (3rd week of March) in consideration of the Holy Week observance on the 4th week.

Children express woes on PH safety for kids over 2024 NCM Brainstorming

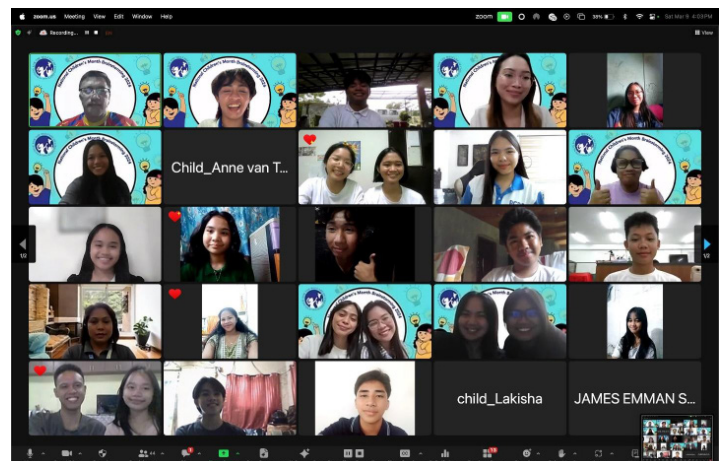
Written by:
CELAINE CABRERA,
INFORMATION OFFICER II, PAIO

Twenty-four children from various sectors and regions nationwide examined the prevailing concerns on their rights in the National Children's Month-Children's Brainstorming Session (NCM-CBS) on March 09, 2024 via Zoom.

The NCM-CBS is an annual preparatory activity for the month-long NCM celebration which fosters child participation and recommends activities at the national and sub-national levels. For this year, 7 young facilitators from Consuelo Zobel Alger Foundation helped plan and implement this whole-day activity for children.

Child participants discussed the Children's Online Survey results last February 2024, which gathered insights for the CWC-led national observances on children including the NCM.

The Survey revealed that the majority of children or 33.3% of them prefers to focus on the issue of violence against children (VAC). This led the 2024 NCM-CBS child participants to deliberate how VAC affects them or their fellow children at home, school, and the community.



IN PHOTO: SELECT CHILD PARTICIPANTS, YOUNG FACILITATORS, AND CWC SUPPORT STAFF DURING THE 2024 NCM-CBS CONDUCTED VIA ZOOM.

To contextualize the magnitude of violence against children in the Philippines, the CWC presented the findings of its National Baseline Study on Violence Against Children (NBC-VAC) where children experience any forms of violence or had witnessed violence themselves, and how social norms and gender influences VAC amid armed conflict, natural disasters, displacement, and in the cyberspace.

Out of the 7 theme recommendations on VAC from children, they identified "Break the Prevalence, End the Violence: Protecting Children, Creating a Safe Philippines" as the official NCM theme for 2024.

Breakout sessions were conducted with children to further validate the results of the Children's Online Survey and consult them on their activity recommendations which will be circulated by CWC across all stakeholders.

A group of children during the workshop even cited how bullying in-person or online gravely affects not only their mental health and protection rights, but how they also access their right to survival, development, and participation.

Recommended activities call mostly for promotion of a safer environment, non-violent norms and behaviors, and interventions for children, parents, carers for children, and other duty-bearers to deter or end VAC.

Per process, the agreed NCM focus and theme shall be endorsed by CWC Technical Management Group to the CWC Board within its 1st Quarter Regular Meeting within March 2024.



IN PHOTO: DIFFERENT NGAS AND NGOS PRESENT IN THE FORUM GATHER TOGETHER FOR A PHOTO OPPORTUNITY, UNDERSCORING THE COLLECTIVE EFFORTS AND CALL TO ACTION TO COMBAT OSAEC-CSAEM.

CWC, NGAs, NGOs flood Valentine's Day with child online protection info

Written by:
JULIE-ANN G. DELEN
INFORMATION OFFICER I, PAIO



IN PHOTO: DIFFERENT NGAS AND NGOS PRESENT IN THE FORUM GATHER TOGETHER FOR A PHOTO OPPORTUNITY, UNDERSCORING THE COLLECTIVE EFFORTS AND CALL TO ACTION TO COMBAT OSAEC-CSAEM.

Quezon City – The Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC) initiated the Child Sexual Abuse Awareness Week (CSAAW) celebration through a dialogue forum, "Creating a Community of HOPE (Help and Opportunity to Protect and Emancipate)", with a resounding call to action against child online and offline sexual exploitation at Ardenhills Suites, 1 Scr. Albano, Diliman, Quezon City on 14 February 2024.

The forum brought together stakeholders from various sectors to discuss pressing issues affecting children, particularly Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) in the Philippines. Mr. Ramil Anton M. Villafranca, Child Protection Officer of UNICEF started the discussion by delving into the alarming data and statistics surrounding OSAEC and underscoring the importance of employing accurate and sensitive terminologies when addressing issues on children.

Key speakers, including Ms. Cherly P. Mainar from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and PMAJ Michelle A. Morada from the Women and Children Protection Center (WCPC), shed light on strategies to protect children from online predators and combat child trafficking, respectively.

As a call to action, Atty. Jocelle Batapa-Sigue, Undersecretary of the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) encouraged all the sectors in the event to adopt a whole of a nation approach towards child online protection.

This call to action resonated with representatives from the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) through Mr. Lymuel R. Magsino, LGOO IV, and Dir. Blake Barrios of The Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP), featuring the importance of community participation and local governance structure for children in addressing OSAEC and CSAEM.

Partnered NGOs, including Save the Children and World Vision Foundation, provided invaluable insights and responses, further enriching the dialogue on safeguarding children from online threats.

The forum garnered 300 Zoom participants and an estimated 1.1K Facebook Live viewers across the Philippines, indicating widespread support for the cause and the collective efforts to build safer online and offline environments for Filipino children.

Regional Committee for the Welfare of Children: Inaugural Meeting Sets Course for Child-Centric Initiatives in Region 1

Written by: MARK ALLISON N. FOLLOSCO, REGIONAL COORDINATOR, RCWC REGION 1



IN PHOTO: DSWD FO I REGIONAL DIRECTOR MARIE ANGELA S. GOPALAN CHAIRS THE INAUGURAL QUARTERLY MEETING OF RCWC REGION 1

The Department of Social Welfare and Development Field Office (FO) I Regional Director Marie Angela S. Gopalan chaired the inaugural quarterly meeting of the Regional Committee for the Welfare of Children (RCWC) Region 1, in collaboration with the Provincial Government of La Union at Balay Namnama, Sta. Rita East, Bacnotan, La Union with 26 committee members along with its secretariat.

The meeting's agenda

included presenting and adopting the CWC 2024 Thrust and Priorities, approving the RCWC 2024 Work and Financial and Technical Assistance Plan, endorsing the 2024 Regional Plan of Action - Work and Financial Plan (WFP), and presenting the Profile and Resolution of the Regional Child Representatives accordingly.

The session also served as a platform to underscore the role of the committee in aligning with the aforementioned thrusts and priorities of the CWC. Director Gopalan emphasized the importance of evaluating the committee's adherence to these priorities and their integration into its mandate execution.

A significant focus of the meeting was the Regional Plan of Action for Children (RPAC), which identified the requirements of children in the region, including gaps in policies and the implementation of various programs, projects, and



IN PHOTO: 26 COMMITTEE MEMBERS ALONG WITH ITS SECRETARIAT GATHER TOGETHER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INAUGURAL QUARTERLY MEETING OF RCWC REGION 1

activities (PPAs) for children. Director Gopalan expressed gratitude to the committee members for their steadfast support, which contributed to finalizing the Regional Plan of Action for Children. The meeting concluded with the approval of five Committee resolutions:

RCWC Resolution 1 Series 2024 - Thrust and Priorities

RCWC Resolution 2 Series 2024 – RCWC WFP

RCWC Resolution 3 Series 2024 – Technical Assistance Plan

RCWC Resolution 4 Series 2024 – Regional Plan of Action for Children WFP

RCWC Resolution 5 Series 2024 – Installation of the New RCWC Child Representatives.

With the endorsed resolutions, the committee is prepared to embark on impactful initiatives prioritizing the well-being and development of children in Region 1. Looking ahead, they emphasize the importance of continued collaboration towards the shared objective of creating a safer, brighter future for every child within the community.

DSWD Field Office II Kicks off SID and CSAAW

Written by:
MARY JOY T. MAMAUAG
REGIONAL COORDINATOR
RSCWC II



IN PHOTO: RSCWC II REGIONAL COORDINATOR DISCUSSES THE MAKABATA HELPLINE 1383

TUGUEGARAO CITY - The DSWD Field Office (FO) II through the Regional Inter-Agency and Regional-Sub-Committee for the Welfare of Children (RSCWC) conducted Safer Internet Day and CSAAW Kick-off Celebration with the theme, "OSAEC at CSAEM ating sugpuin, implementasyon ng R.A 11930 sama-samang patatagin!" on 12 February

2024 at DSWD FO II, to initiate a cohesive effort in safeguarding children. The activity aims to amplify and strengthen advocacies against child abuse, bullying, and exploitation, while simultaneously forwarding safe internet spaces for children, carried out annually by the agency pursuant to Proclamation No. 417, series of 2018 and Proclamation No. 731, series of 1996. Atty. Karl Erik Ligan, Legal Officer of DSWD FO II discussed the Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) and Child Sexual Abuse or Exploitation Materials (CSAEM), promoting responsible digital parenting and citizenship. He stated, "We need to guide our children in the right use of social media especially in interacting with people they see on Facebook and other social media applications because it is hard for us to stop and watch over them in this aspect".

Mr. Jaymar Recolizado, one of the Resource Speakers from the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) said that they are working closely with other government agencies in strengthening their system to curb access to potentially harmful sites and contents. He also highlighted that people need to be vigilant in divulging their personal information, especially online as this is one of the primary sources of identity theft. As part of the Advocacy and Prevention of the Council, Ms. Mary Joy Mamauag, RSCWC Regional Coordinator, urged everyone to report all forms of violence against children to Makabata Helpline 1383. A resounding call to action that encouraged everyone to champion safer digital landscapes and responsible use of technology for a better internet community for every child concluded the event.

Empowering MIMAROPA: Strengthening child protection through 4LC

Written by: ERICKA V. BAUTISTA, PLANNING OFFICER III, RSCWC MIMAROPA

The Council of the Welfare of Children (CWC) – Localization and Institutionalization Division (LID) with the Regional Subcommittee for the Welfare of Children (RSCWC), recently concluded the Technical Assistance to LCPC: Four (4) Legacies for Children, aimed at enhancing the capabilities of Provincial and Local Councils for the Protection of Children (P/LCPC), in the MIMAROPA Region, Citystate Asturias Hotel, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan on 19-23 February 2024.

Representatives

from



IN PHOTO: LID TEAM SPEARHEADS THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO LCPC: FOUR LEGACIES FOR CHILDREN

Romblon, Oriental Mindoro, Occidental Mindoro, and Palawan, along with members from Aborlan and Narra, converged into discussions and workshops focusing on child rights, local governance, and strategies formulation to ensure the welfare and protection of children.

The program commenced with a series of informative sessions on the global and national contexts of child rights, emphasizing the importance of meaningful engagement of children and recent legislative

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The program commenced with a series of informative sessions on the global and national contexts of child rights, emphasizing the importance of meaningful engagement of children and recent legislative advancements. Resource Persons from the CWC shed light on the regional situation of children, providing valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities within MIMAROPA.



IN PHOTO: PARTICIPANTS GATHER COLLECTIVELY FOR A PHOTO OPPORTUNITY AFTER THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO LCPC: FOUR LEGACIES FOR CHILDREN

A highlight of the event was Session 3, which delved into the Four Legacies for Children (4LC) and their significance in local governance. Participants actively engaged in workshops reviewing and formulating strategies to implement the 4LC effectively in their respective provinces/municipalities.

Day two saw discussions on local situational analysis and the formulation of the Four Legacies, focusing on local codes for children and the Local State of Children Report's preparation. Through collaborative efforts, attendees charted roadmaps to intensify actions on the Four Legacies, ensuring tangible outcomes for children's welfare.

On 23 February, attendees took time to review the lessons and commitments discussed throughout the sessions. Certificates were presented to recognize the dedication and involvement of individuals and councils in this crucial initiative.

The Technical Assistance to LCPC: Four (4) Legacies for Children marks a significant step towards strengthening child protection mechanisms in the MIMAROPA Region. It aims to pave the way for a brighter and safer future for the region's younger population, equipping local councils with the knowledge and tools necessary to safeguard children's rights.

RIACAT – VAWC, RSCWC holds Joint First Quarter Meeting

Written by:
ERICKA V. BAUTISTA
PLANNING OFFICER III
RSCWC MIMAROPA

The Regional Inter-Agency Committee on Anti-Trafficking and Violence Against Women (RIACAT-VAWC) and the Regional Sub-Committee for the Welfare of Children (RSCWC) convened their Joint First Quarter Meeting via Zoom on 29 February 2024 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, to discuss concerns and plans relating women and children.

The meeting convened key stakeholders from various government agencies across the MIMAROPA region, including representatives from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Justice (DOJ), Philippine National Police (PNP), Department of Tourism (DOT), National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), and more.

The agenda for the joint meeting covered a variety of critical topics about pressing issues of trafficking, violence against women, and the welfare of children in the region, allowing each representative to engage in the discussion and planning.

Updates from previous meetings were discussed for updating purposes. Under the new business segment, RIACAT-VAWC addressed the Local Committee on Anti-Trafficking and Violence Against Women and Children (LCAT-VAWC) Functionality Assessment for FY 2023, National Women's Month Celebration 2024 activities, and Maternal, Perinatal Death Surveillance & Response for Palawan & Puerto Princesa City. On the other hand, RSCWC delved into discussions on CWC Thrusts and Priorities, including Legislative Measures on Children, Regional Plan of Action (RPAC) for Children, and the unified comprehensive database on children among others.

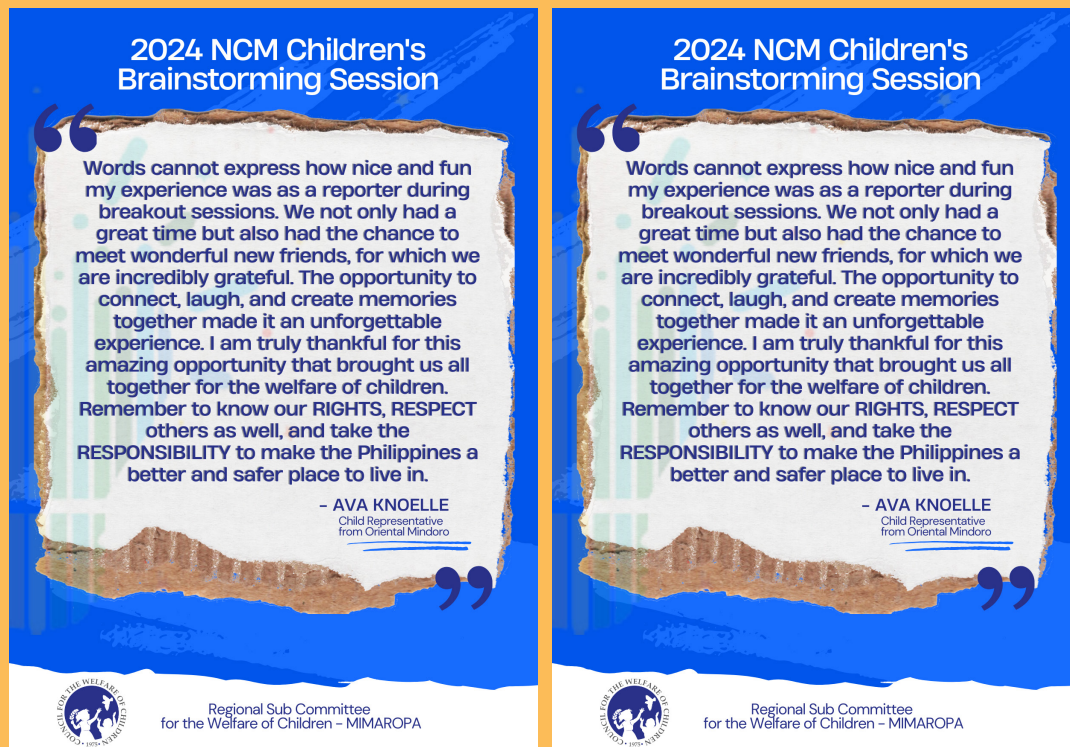
Towards the end, action items were identified, and plans were set in motion to advance the goals and objectives outlined during the session. The commitment and dedication of all stakeholders



IN PHOTO: PARTICIPANTS FROM DIFFERENT SECTORS AND AGENCIES ATTEND THE JOINT FIRST QUARTER MEETING VIA ZOOM PLATFORM

MIMAROPA secures child participation in the NCM-CBS

Written by: ERICKA V. BAUTISTA, PLANNING OFFICER III, RSCWC MIMAROPA



IN PHOTO: MESSAGE FROM AVA AND LI SAMUEL FROM THEIR NCM-CBS EXPERIENCES

Ava Knoelle F. Fedelin of Oriental Mindoro and Li Samuel M. Fedalvero of Romblon, representing the Regional Sub-Committee for the Welfare of Children (RSCWC) MIMAROPA, participated in the virtual National Children's Month- Children's Brainstorming Session (NCM-CBS) of the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC), serving as a preparatory activity for the upcoming NCM on 09 March 2024.

Throughout the day, children from various regions of the Philippines actively participated in a brainstorming session focused on promoting child welfare and empowerment. They engaged in discussions and activities covering topics such as child safeguarding protocols and the identification of the 2024 NCM theme.

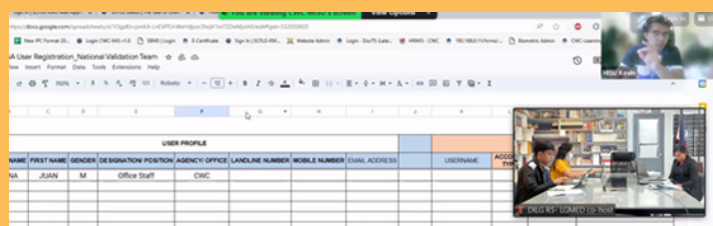
Specifically, the event was divided into plenary sessions, breakout discussions, reporting

sessions, identification of the 2024 NCM theme, and insights sharing and recommendations from the child representatives. Despite the virtual setting, attendees expressed their enthusiasm and dedication to making a positive impact on the lives of their fellow children in their communities. Reflecting on their experiences, Ava and Sam shared their insights and gratitude for the opportunity to participate as child representatives. Ava expressed her appreciation for the chance to connect with new friends and emphasized the importance of knowing their rights, respecting others, and taking responsibility for creating a better society. Meanwhile, Sam highlighted the supportive environment provided by facilitators and expressed his desire to continue advocating for the prevention of abuse in households.

As the nation prepares to celebrate National Children's Month, the voices of Ava, Samuel, and other young advocates serve as a reminder of the importance of listening to and amplifying children's perspectives in decision-making processes.

DILG Regional Office V steers 2023 CFLGA Orientation

Written by: ROMMEL H. BRUCE, PLANNING OFFICER I, RSCWC REGION V

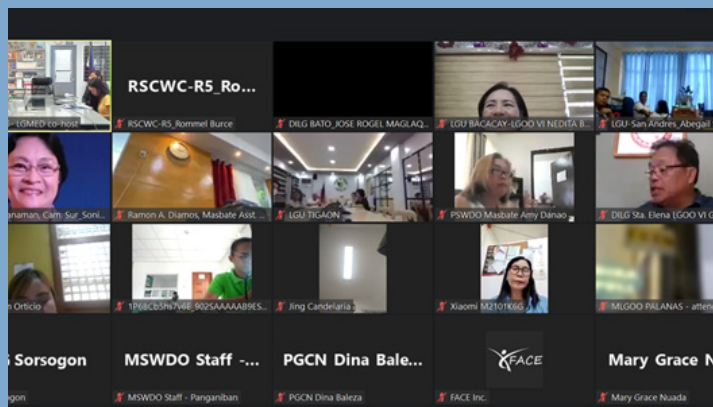


IN PHOTO: MR. KEVIN LOUISE PUA PROVIDES THE OVERVIEW FOR THE SEAL OF THE CHILD-FRIENDLY LOCAL GOVERNANCE KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (SCFLG-KMS)

conducting the 2023 CFLGA Orientation for the Provincial Inter-Agency Monitoring Task Force (PITF) via Zoom platform on 16 January 2024.

Ms. Ana Marie B. Binamira-Telimban, RSCWC Bicol's Regional Coordinator, discussed the amended indicators for the 2023

LEGAZPI CITY- In a collective effort to ensure the successful implementation of the 2023 Child-Friendly Local Governance Audit (CFLGA), the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Regional Office V, leading the Regional Inter-Agency Monitoring Task Force (RIMTF), collaborated with the Regional Sub-Committee for the Welfare of Children (RSCWC) Bicol Secretariat in



IN PHOTO: MEMBERS FROM RDILG REGION V FACILITATE THE 2023 CFLGA ORIENTATION

audit, focusing specifically on the four (4) categories of child's rights and governance. Additionally, Mr. Kevin Louise C. Pua, CFLGA - Knowledge Management System (KMS) Focal Person from the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC), provided a comprehensive overview of the Seal of the Child-Friendly Local Governance Knowledge Management System (SCFLG-KMS) to equip attendees with the necessary skills in navigating the system effectively during the audit process. The CFLGA serves as a pivotal results-based assessment tool, designed as an annual mandatory audit to evaluate the performance of Local Government Units (LGUs), concerning the implementation of programs and measures geared

towards uplifting children's welfare within their respective jurisdictions. It also seeks to identify priority areas to improve the situation of children, utilize CFLGA results as a basis for planning and programming, determine areas for technical and financial assistance, and recognize good LGU performers.

This orientation stands as a testament to the collaborative efforts of various agencies and stakeholders in promoting and ensuring the rights and well-being of children within local governance frameworks and a commitment to continually support the Child-Friendly Philippines advocacy and programming framework, which the national government has adopted.



IN PHOTO: MEMBERS FROM BSCWC BICOL FACILITATE THE 2023 CELGA ORIENTATION

RSCWC VI, RCAT-VAWC VI drive School Information Caravan

Written by: MAUREEN JOY DELFIN, AA II, RSCWC REGION VI

The Regional Sub-Committee for the Welfare of Children (RSCWC) VI and Regional Committee Against Trafficking and Violence Against Women and their Children (RCAT-VAWC) VI held the School Information Caravan on Online Sexual Abuse & Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) at Roxas Farm School and Tapaz National High School to raise public

awareness due to the high cases of violation of RA 11930 in the Province of Capiz last 21 March 2024.

The caravan ensured that OSAEC-related discussions were age-appropriate for students. According to the ASEAN Social Work Journal, OSAEC, and its many forms, continue to victimize children due to several factors that fuel their vulnerability, including limited awareness about the issue, peer pressure, distorted perspectives on filial obligations, and minimal proactive action from duty-bearers.

Resource speakers engaged the audience with an insightful discussion on the “Four C’s Online Risks” framework—content, contact, conduct, and commerce/contract. These risks underscore the various ways in which children may encounter harm online, ranging from exposure to inappropriate content to being lured into exploitative relationships or transactions. Moreover, the speakers shed light on the provisions of R.A. 11313, commonly known as the Safe Space Act, which addresses gender-based sexual harassment in both physical and digital spheres.

Throughout the caravan, students actively participated, demonstrating their eagerness to learn and contribute to the discourse. A quiz session provided an interactive platform for students to test their understanding, with prizes such as Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials distributed to those who actively engaged.

Facilitators reminded participants of the enduring nature of online content and the importance of exercising caution and respect in their digital interactions before the caravan ended. The main takeaway emphasized the need to “think before posting” and to uphold mutual respect and responsible behaviors in online spaces.



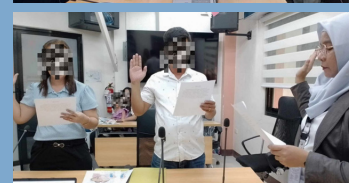
IN PHOTO: TAPAZ NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS LISTEN ATTENTIVELY DURING THE SCHOOL INFORMATION CARAVAN

Proud AMPON: Matagumpay na Mandatory Appearance, naisagawa sa Rehiyon IX

Written by: RAQUEL JUMIG, REGIONAL COORDINATOR, RSCWC IX



IN PHOTO: REGIONAL ALTERNATIVE CHILD CARE OFFICE 9 SECRETARIAT NA NANGUNA SA MANDATORY APPEARANCE NG PETITIONERS AT ADOPTEE UPANG MASUNOD ANG TAMA AT LEGAL NA PAG-AAMPON



IN PHOTO: ANG MGA PETITIONERS KASAMA ANG MGA ADOPTEE AY NAGPAKITA AT NAKIPAG-UGNAYAN KAY OIC-RACC OFFICER MS. JAYLIN DC SAHIPA, KASAMA SI MR. JIMBOY UNDAC, SWO III, UPANG BIGYANG LINAW ANG KANILANG MGA SITWASYON

Matagumpay na nakapagsagawa ang Regional Alternative Child Care Office (RACCO) 9 ng mga 'Mandatory Appearance' alinsunod sa Republic Act 11222, kung saan ang mga petitioners at adoptees, sa gabay ni Mr. Jimboy Undac, Social Welfare Officer (SWO) III, ay nagpakita at nakipag-ugnayan kay Ms. Jaylin DC Sahipa, Officer in Charge (OIC)-RACC, upang bigyang linaw ang mga kaso.

Ang RA 11222 o tinatawag na "Simulated Birth Rectification Act" ay naglalarawan ng mga sitwasyon kung saan nagpapaliwanag ang mga adoptive parents ng mga bata tungkol sa kanilang pekeng birth records. Sa kasong ito, si Jessa (hindi tunay na pangalan), ay gumamit ng pekeng birth record ng kanyang pamangkin upang ituring ang sarili bilang legal na ina ng bata kahit hindi ito totoo. Dahil dito, nawalan ng tunay na pagkakakilanlan ang bata matapos ipinagkatiwala sa kanya ng kanyang tunay na ina. Kinumpirma ni Jessa na ginawa niya ito dahil sa kanyang pag-aalala para sa kinabukasan ng bata at nais niyang magkaroon ito ng mapagmahal na magulang sa kanyang buhay.

Sa pamamagitan ng paggamit ng mga probisyon na nakasaad sa RA 11222 at pagsumite ng Petition for Administrative Adoption with Application for Rectification of Simulated Birth Record, layunin ni Jessa na ituwid ang pagkakamaling ito at legal na ampunin ang bata na inalagaan niya mula pa noong ang bata'y sanggol. Nagpapasalamat si Jessa sa pagkakaroon ng batas gaya nito hatid ng National Authority for Child Care (NACC), na nagbigay ng pagkakataon sa kanya na ituwid ang kanyang mga dating aksyon at magbigay ng isang matatag na kinabukasan para sa bata sa legal na pamamaraan.

RCWC 10 steers orientation and workshops for 4LC

Written by:
BEETHOVEN S. ALLENA, PLANNING OFFICER III, RCWC 10

As part of the commitment of the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC) to promote and prioritize the Four (4) core child rights, Survival, Development, Protection, and Participation, the Regional Committee for the Welfare of the Children (RCWC) Region 10 conducted simultaneous orientation and workshops on different Local Council for the Protection of Children (LCPC) to craft the Four (4) Legacies for Children (4LC) in the region.

This serves as the first commitment of their local government



IN PHOTO: MUNICIPALITIES OF LANTAPAN, BUKIDNON AND TUBOD, LANAO DEL NORTE GATHER COLLECTIVELY FOR THE FORMULATION OF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR CHILDREN (LDPC) AND LOCAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN (LIPC)

to upholding the rights of the children and crafting programs and activities in line with the needs of the children while ensuring a more child-friendly and child-led community. Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO) Lanao del Norte spearheaded the call for the orientation and formulation of 4LC last 21-23 February 2024, as a roadmap for child-friendly local governance.



IN PHOTO: PSWDO LANAO DEL NORTE LEADS THE CALL FOR ORIENTATION AND FORMULATION OF 4LC

Notably, the municipalities of Lantapan, Bukidnon, and Tubod, Lanao del Norte, responded to the call for the formulation of the Local Development Plan for Children (LDPC) and Local Investment Program for Children (LIPC), ensuring that all plans, programs, and activities are aligned with the needs of every child locally and regionally.

Cordillera Regional Plan of Action for Children (RPAC) 2024 – 2028 approved at the RSDC Level

Written by:

MS. JOYCE L. PAYSA MS. MARICEL M. AQUISION
PLANNING OFFICER I PLANNING OFFICER III
RSCWC CAR RSCWC CAR

BAGUIO CITY - The Cordillera Regional Plan of Action for Children (RPAC) 2024-2028 of the Regional Sub-Committee for the Welfare of Children (RSCWC) was approved by the Regional Social Development Committee (RSDC) during its 1st quarter meeting at NEDA-RDC Hall, Botanical Garden, Leonard Wood Road, Baguio City on 13 February 2024.



IN PHOTO: MS. KLARISA NATAVIO, FOCAL PERSON OF CHILDREN SECTOR OF DSWD CAR, SHARES INFORMATION ABOUT CHILD ABUSE, ITS FORMS, AND THE SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR ABUSED CHILDREN.

Ms. Amelyn P. Cabrera, Division Chief of the Promotive Services Division, representing the OIC-Regional Director and RSCWC-CAR Chairperson Enrique H. Gascon Jr. Ms. Cabrera cited the process behind RPAC's formulation, which involved extensive consultations, workshops, and meetings among members. This was followed by an overview and the comprehensive plan's content, elaborated by Ms. Maricel M. Aquision, Regional Coordinator of RSCWC-CAR.



IN PHOTO: RSCWC CAR AND DSWD FIELD OFFICE CAR WITH ALING ROSA DISCUSS THE SAFER INTERNET DAY (SID) AND CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AWARENESS WEEK (CSAAW) DURING THE RADIO PROGRAM

The RPAC 2024-2028 earned commendations from attendees for its integral approach to addressing children's rights issues with the collaborative support of all agencies; as quoted from the Department of Education (DepEd) Regional Director Estela Cariño, "All agencies must care for the children, not only the DSWD and DepEd."

Also present in the meeting were committee members and representatives from the regional line agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and private sector representatives.

The support and recognition of the RSDC for the 2024 – 2028 RPAC will strengthen the implementation of the plan at the regional level and its localization at the Local Government Unit (LGU) level to ensure an effective response to all issues and concerns affecting children's rights. The RPAC will also be endorsed to the Regional Development Council (RDC) for its adoption.

RSCWC Cordillera broadcasts online and offline child abuse prevention

Written by:

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RSCWC CAR RSCWC CAR

BAGUIO CITY - The Regional Sub-Committee for the Welfare of Children (RSCWC) in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) with the Sectors Unit and Social Marketing Unit of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Field Office CAR intensified its advocacies relative to Safer Internet Day (SID) and Child Sexual Abuse Awareness Week (CSAAW) through DZWT Radyo Tootoo's "Kumpletos Rekados" by Aling Rosa in Baguio City on 15 February 2024.

During the airing, Ms. Maricel Aquision, Planning Officer III, delivered a brief introduction, explaining the significance of annually observing SID and CSAAW in February. She discussed this year's theme for SID, "OSAEC at CSAEM ating Sugpuin; Implementasyon ng RA 11930, Sama-samang Patatagin," and CSAAW's theme, "Stop Online and Offline Abuse and Exploitation of Children," emphasizing the collective effort needed to address online sexual abuse and exploitation of children and the dual nature of threats they face in today's digital age.



IN PHOTO: MR. ARNEL M. CABANISAS, RSDC-CAR'S CO-CHAIRPERSON, PRESIDES OVER THE MEETING ATTENDED BY VARIOUS REGIONAL LINE AGENCIES, NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS, AND PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. Klarisa Natavio, Social Welfare Officer I, shed light on the grave issue of child sexual abuse, defining it comprehensively as "any form of communication through any platform or format, or any physical interaction between a child and any person when the child is being used for any act or activity inducing sexual stimulation or for the purpose of sexual gratification or in pursuit of the desire to have carnal knowledge of the child, regardless of the gender of the perpetrator or the victim, or the consent of the victim (RA 11930)."



IN PHOTO: MS. AQUISION PRESENTS THE OVERVIEW OF THE RPAC 2024-2028 TO THE MEMBERS OF THE RSDC

Ms. Joyce Paysa, Planning Officer I, shared invaluable tips for parents to protect their children both online and offline, by educating children about child abuse and its prevention, setting parental guidance and ground rules for gadget usage, fostering open communication, and leading by example. This radio advocacy received a warm response from listeners, particularly parents who expressed their insights, recognizing the importance of guidance in nurturing and protecting children. The RSCWC Cordillera has reaffirmed its commitment to advocating for the welfare of children and creating more dynamic discussions to raise awareness.

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