



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

Office of the Schools Division
Superintendent


DIVISION MEMORANDUM
NO. 514, s. 2022

DEC 14 2022

**ACTIVITIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEPED ORDER ON THE
SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM UNDER OPLAN KALUSUGAN SA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (OK SA DEPED)**

To: OIC-Asst. Schools Division Superintendent
Chiefs, CID and SGOD
Public Schools District Supervisors
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads

1. Attached are Regional Memorandum No. 956, s. 2022 dated December 12, 2022 and OUGFO No. 2022-03-3320 dated December 7, 2022, titled Activities for the Development of the DepEd Order on the School Mental Health Program under the Oplan sa Kalusugan sa Department of Education (OK sa DepED), which are self-explanatory.
2. Widest dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


ARNOLD S. MAGDAET
Administrative Officer V
In-charge of the Division



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

DEC 12 2022

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 956, s. 2022

**ACTIVITIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEPED ORDER ON THE
SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM UNDER OPLAN KALUSUGAN SA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (OK SA DEPED)**

To: **Schools Division Superintendents
All Others Concerned**

1. Attached is a Memorandum from the Office of Undersecretary for Governance and Field Operations **Atty. Revsee A. Escobedo** dated November 29, 2022, regarding the **Activities for the development of the DepEd Order on the School Mental Health Program under Oplan Kalusugan sa Department of Education (Ok Sa DepEd)**.
2. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

Ramir B. Uytico
RAMIR B. UYTICO EdD, CESO III
Regional Director

Reference: MEMORANDUM OUGFO NO. 2022-03-3320
Dated November 29, 2022
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

HEALTH EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

DepEdRO6-ESSD-RM-2022-180



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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
GOVERNANCE AND FIELD OPERATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RECEIVED
RECORDS SECTION OF OFFICE NO. VI


DEC 07 2022

BY:  TIME:

OUGFO No. 2022-03- 33²⁰

MEMORANDUM

TO : **Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors and BARMM Minister of Education
Schools Division Superintendents
All Others Concerned**

FROM : 
Atty. REVSEE A. ESCOBEDO
Undersecretary
Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Assistant Secretary
for Governance and Field Operations

SUBJECT : **Activities for the Development of the DepEd Order on the
School Mental Health Program under Oplan Kalusugan sa
Department of Education (OK sa DepEd)**

DATE : November 29, 2022

This Office, through the Bureau of Learner Support Services-School Health Division (BLSS-SHD), informs all offices concerned of the scheduled activities for the development of the DepEd Order (DO) for the **School Mental Health Program**, under the *Oplan Kalusugan sa Department of Education (OK sa DepEd)* (**DO 28, s. 2018**).

I. Background

The School Mental Health Program was first announced as the **sixth flagship program** under *OK sa DepEd* during the 2018 School Health Congress. At that time, DepEd, through BLSS-SHD, was participating in the drafting and finalization of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) for **Republic Act 11036** or the Mental Health Act. The first School Mental Health Forum organized by BLSS-SHD in October 2018 served as the venue to consult DepEd stakeholders on their inputs to the IRR.

While program coordinators have been designated across all governance levels since then, their coordination of school mental health activities have been generically guided by the requirements of the law, without necessarily the guidance of a comprehensive DO.

The School Mental Health Program is one of the flagship programs under *OK sa DepEd* that do not yet have a DO.

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There have been initial efforts on the part of BLSS-SHD in 2019 to draft the DO for the School Mental Health Program, aligning it with the IRR and the directions from Philippine Council for Mental Health (PCMH) created by the law, and drawing from the pre-testing of the School-Based Mental Health Model of SEAMEO TROPMED (co-coordinated with the International Cooperation Office), but these have been temporarily put to halt during the pandemic.

RA 11036 and its IRR mandate DepEd to provide guidance to educational institutions (i.e., schools) in the development and implementation of mental health policy and programs to (a) promote mental health (e.g., raise awareness on mental health issues); (b) identify and provide basic support services for individuals at risk or already have a mental health condition; and (c) establish efficient linkages with other agencies and organizations that provide and make arrangements to provide support, treatment and continuing care. The IRR further provides that all educational institutions shall be required to have a complement of mental health professionals.

While various offices have led their respective mental health initiatives (e.g., issuances, activities), and various provisions related to mental health have been included in various DepEd issuances, there has not been a comprehensive DO that holistically captures and harmonizes all of them together.

The need of the field coordinators and implementers for comprehensive guidance through a DO on school mental health, as well as DepEd's mandate under the law to issue guidelines on mental health promotion in schools, prompts BLSS-SHD to resume its efforts in the drafting of the DO for the School Mental Health Program as part of *OK sa DepEd*.

While the DO for the School Mental Health Program will focus mainly on promoting learners' mental health (as part of BLSS's mandate), BLSS-SHD shall ensure that the DO will be drafted considering the efforts of other offices (e.g., BHROD for employee welfare; DRRMS for MHPSS as part of comprehensive disaster response; BCD for homeroom guidance) and will recognize the scope of their respective mandates, and their roles and responsibilities.

The following activities for the drafting of the DO are also guided by **DO 13, s. 2015** or the *Establishment of a Policy Development Process at the Department of Education*:

Schedule	Activity
Continuing	Literature review, and mapping of office functions and field initiatives
December 2022- January 2023	In-person regional consultative workshops
First quarter, 2023	Virtual regional consultative workshops
	Writeshop on the consolidation of the results of consultative workshops and preparation of the first draft of the DO
	School Mental Health Forum for SY 2022-2023, with stakeholders' consultation on the draft DO (validation)
Second quarter, 2023	Revision of the draft DO
	Public consultation
	Writeshop on the finalization of the DO

A brief overview is provided below for each of the aforementioned activities, but separate issuances, particularly addressed to offices concerned, shall be released to provide more details about the activities.

II. Literature review and mapping of office functions and activities and field initiatives

BLSS-SHD welcomes researches and other related literature on school mental health both from internal and external stakeholders. These may be emailed to schoolmentalhealth@deped.gov.ph.

BLSS-SHD shall also coordinate with offices concerned for their functions and activities related to school mental health. This will ensure that the DO on the School Mental Health, although focusing on learners' mental health, will be aligned with the initiatives of these offices on mental health.

In one of its meetings with its field program coordinators, BLSS-SHD has also launched a platform to map field initiatives on school mental health. This is to ensure that existing mechanisms that work in the field are captured, and that gaps are effectively identified to be properly addressed by the DO to be drafted. The mapping shall continue until the DO is drafted, and may be further continued as a monitoring mechanism, as may be necessary, once the DO is signed.

III. Regional consultative workshops, consolidation of workshop results, and validation during the School Mental Health Forum for SY 2022-2023

In line with D.O. 13, s. 2015, BLSS-SHD shall conduct regional consultative workshops with program coordinators and selected implementers to explore and discuss ideas, insights, initiatives, and issues and concerns on school mental health.

BLSS-SHD, in coordination with the Regional School Mental Health Program Coordinators, has identified regions which have Schools Division Offices (SDOs) and/or schools that have a working model or good/best practices on school mental health, particularly a functional referral system, and may be visited to gather information on their initiatives and generate possible inputs for the policy.

BLSS-SHD intend to visit these regions for in-person consultative workshops, as scheduled below:

Date (Inclusive of Travel)	Region to be Visited
December 10-13, 2022	Region XI (IGACOS)
January 9-12, 2023	Caraga (Agusan Del Norte)
January 15-18, 2023	CAR (Baguio City)

All other regions will be scheduled for online consultative workshops within the first quarter of 2023. The consultative workshops also intend to validate the mapped field initiatives and gather feedback to the draft DO.

Representatives from all regions as well as from the bureaus and services concerned at the Central Office and partners will also be invited to participate in the **School Mental Health Forum for 2022-2023** within the first quarter of 2023, in Legazpi City.

Results from the consultative workshops shall be consolidated for the preparation of the first draft of the DO which will also be presented during the School Mental Health Forum, where there will be a stakeholders' consultation (validation).

IV. Public consultation and finalization

The draft shall be revised according to the results of the validation and will be subject to further refinement and finalization.

V. Interim guidance and technical assistance for program coordinators

Ahead of the finalization of the DO on the School Mental Health Program, this Office, through BLSS-SHD, shall facilitate the issuance of necessary interim guidance for field program coordinators (school health personnel) on the implementation of activities related to the program. The provision of technical assistance by BLSS-SHD to the program coordinators shall also continue.

For questions and concerns about this memorandum, please contact **Gian Erik M. Adao**, Education Program Specialist II, or **Luke C. Sismaet**, Technical Assistant II, BLSS-SHD through (02) 8-632-9935 or email at blss.shd@deped.gov.ph.