



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL CARAGA
2nd Floor, DOH Warehouse Bldg., Doongan, Butuan City 8600

18 June 2021

DIRECTOR EVELYN R. FETALVERO, CESO IV
Regional Director, Department of Education Caraga
Member, Regional Nutrition Committee
Butuan City

Dear Director Fetalvero:

Healthy greetings!

By virtue of Presidential Decree 491, every July shall be the month to create greater awareness on nutrition. This year's Nutrition Month theme, ***"Malnutrisyon Patuloy na Labanan, First 1000 Days Tutukan"***, aims to encourage various stakeholders to participate and engage in activities to improve nutrition. Guided by the theme, the campaign aims to increase understanding on the importance of the First 1000 Days of life and the Philippine Plan of Action as the framework for action to address malnutrition. The second objective is to foster collaboration among stakeholders to scale up nutrition interventions to solve malnutrition. And thirdly, one way of knowing that the campaigns make a difference is that we generate interactions from the stakeholders that we target or the corresponding commitments and actions as a result of the first and second objectives.

The First 1000 Days is globally recognized as the "golden window of opportunity" for nutrition and related interventions to have a positive impact on the child's physical and mental development. Good nutrition of both the mother and the child is an important driver for a child to achieve maximum growth and development potential that has lasting, profound effect in the life course.

It is during the First 1000 Days of life when growth faltering happens. Studies have shown a link between undernutrition, especially stunting, in the early years of life and overnutrition in the child's later years and consequent development of non-communicable diseases.

Stunting is an irreversible outcome of poor nutrition and repeated bouts of infection during the First 1000 Days. The Nutrition Month 2021 celebration focuses on the implementation of RA 11148 *Kalusugan at Nutrisyon ng Mag-Nanay Act* which requires mobilization for scaling up of interventions in the First 1000 Days.

The NM 2021 focusing on the First 1000 Days shall continue efforts to address malnutrition using the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition as framework and will concentrate on the First 1000 Days of life to prevent undernutrition and obesity.

In this regard, as part of our campaign objectives to educate the public on First 1000 Days, encourage collaboration among various stakeholders, and to generate interactions about nutrition, we would like to enjoin the Department of Education Caraga to support the celebration of the 47th Nutrition Month Celebration this year through the nationwide dissemination of the nutrition month theme, by hanging of streamers in your regional and division offices and by conducting nutrition information and education activities.

" MALNUTRISYON PATULOY NA LABANAN FIRST 1000 DAYS TUTUKAN! "



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Furthermore, we would like to share with you the nutrition month collaterals and other materials that you may use for the nutrition month campaign. Please use the link to access and download the files: bit.ly/NNC_2021NM_Materials

We are positive that through your support and by working **together**, we can end all forms of malnutrition. Let us scale up critical actions in the first 1000 days of life!"

For queries, please contact NNC Caraga through the contact details below.

Thank you!

Very truly yours,


RETSEBETH M. LAQUIHON, RND, MPD, MDM
OIC – Regional Nutrition Program Coordinator
National Nutrition Council Caraga

“ MALNUTRISYON PATULOY NA LABANAN **FIRST 1000 DAYS TUTUKAN! ”**

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