



Republic of the Philippines
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education
Cotabato City



Office of the Minister

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 753
Series of 2023

TO : **SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS**
(Maguindanao del Norte, Lanao Sur 1 and Lamitan City)

DIVISION MENTAL HEALTH FOCAL PERSONS
SECONDARY SCHOOL HEADS
ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

FROM : **MOHAGHER M. IQBAL**
Minister

SUBJECT : **SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH 2023 AND BEYOND**

DATE : September 20, 2023

1. This has reference to the communication letter from the Ministry of Health (MOH) dated September 18, 2023, in line with conduct of the **World Suicide Prevention Month** with the theme "Together we can be the light and through action we can build a world where suicides are not as prevalent" which is also in line with the World Health Organization triennial theme of "Creating Hope through Action" from 2021-2023.
2. In an advisory issued for the conduct of the "**Suicide Prevention Advocacy Campaign**", there will be a series of school activities in three (3) selected schools organized by the MOH Mental Health Unit:

Secondary Schools	Activity Date	Participants
Bugabungan National High School, Maguindanao del Norte Division	September 26, 2023	115 Students (Grade 10)
Kili-Kili National High School, Lanao Sur 1 Division	September 28, 2023	80 Students (Grades 9 & 10)
Look National High School, Lamitan City Division	October 26, 2023	86 Students (Grade 10)

3. This campaign, promoting messages of HOPE (**Help Orchestrate Positive Experience**) which will go beyond a month of annual observance, intends to encourage teaching and non-teaching personnel, learners, guardians, and other stakeholders to actively take part in intentionally creating a positive social school environment through their respective roles and the available platforms in the school and at home. The campaign's key message is that there is hope because help is available and care is shown among individuals and the community.



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4. According to the Depression Project, isolation and feeling like a burden are among the leading factors that contribute to suicide. The campaign aims to provide regular pushes to the MBHTE offices and schools to encourage them to actively and consciously cultivate a positive school environment where learners and personnel are constantly reminded that they are not alone, they are not a burden, and that situations are never hopeless; encouraging HOPE initiatives.
5. In this regard, the MBHTE offices and schools are encouraged to align planned activities related to suicide prevention with the HOPE in Schools campaign brand and messaging as applicable considering the theme for this year's observance of World Suicide Prevention Month.
6. Furthermore, the field offices, through their respective Division/School Mental Health Program Coordinators (from the School Health and Nutrition Sections/Units), are requested to provide necessary assistance to schools regarding their participation in this campaign and to assist activities in support for mental health problems especially those who are in crisis and at risk of suicide.
7. Kindly see the attachments for further details and reference.
8. Should you have concerns or other inquiries, kindly contact Ms. Mary Ann Charcholle Beda, RN, Regional Mental Health Coordinator, at mobile no. 0976-231-3164 or email armm.hnu@deped.gov.ph.
9. For information, guidance, and compliance.

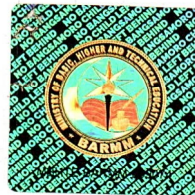
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
 Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER

RELEASED

BY: Hypit
 DATE: 25 SEP 2023
 TIME: 11:05 AM
 CTRL NO: 2023-07-159

By Authority of the Minister
MOHAGHER M. IQBAL:


HARON S. MELINS
 Deputy Minister



Republic of the Philippines
 Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
 Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION
 Office of the Minister
RELEASED

By: Melins
 Date: SEP 25 2023
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