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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION XI
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF PANABO CITY

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
SGOD-2025-0647

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief of the Schools Governance and Operations Division
Chief of the Curriculum Implementation Division
Manuel Esperanza, Principal III, Panabo City National High School

Subject: **PARTICIPATION TO THE RESEARCH STUDY ON UNDERSTANDING ADOLESCENT EXPERIENCES AND PERCEPTIONS IN TEEN CENTER UTILIZATION**

Date: November 5, 2025

Attached are Regional Memorandum No. ESSD-2025-329, re: **“Participation to the Research Study on Understanding Adolescent Experiences and Perceptions in Teen Center Utilization”** and the letter from the Regional Director of Commission on Population and Development XI, Dir. Jeff Y. Fuentes, MHSS dated October 28, 2025, contents of which are self-explanatory.

With this, the **Panabo City National High School Teen Center** is identified as participant to this activity. A virtual data gathering will be conducted by the Ateneo de Davao University Migration Center (AMC) on **November 15, 2025, 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm via Zoom**. The link shall be coordinated before or on the day of the activity.

Further, the following must be adhered upon the conduct of the activity:

- a. Select two adolescent clients to participate in the online data gathering activity that meets the criteria mentioned in the letter from the CPD XI;
- b. No class disruption during the conduct of the study in compliance with DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2005;
- c. Data collection time shall not conflict with the Department's activities (e.g. examination week, etc.);
- d. Informed consent and assent must be acquired from all participants and their parents/guardians (*please see attached forms*);
- e. Any information gathered must be treated as confidential; and
- f. Participation in the study shall be voluntary, allowing participants to withdraw at any moment without consequences.

For your guidance and compliance.


JINKY B. FIRMAN PhD, CESO VI
Schools Division Superintendent

RELEASED

NOV 10 2025

RECORDS SECTION SDO PANABO CITY
BY

Enclosed as stated
SGOD/aba/dllb



Address: City Hall Compound, Km 31, JP Laurel,
Panabo City, Davao del Norte
Telephone No: (084) 823-1469, (084) 628-4066
Email: panabocity.division@deped.gov.ph
Website: www.depedpanabocity.com

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
DAVAO REGION

November 3, 2025

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
ESSD-2025-329

**PARTICIPATION TO THE RESEARCH STUDY ON UNDERSTANDING ADOLESCENT
 EXPERIENCES AND PERCEPTIONS IN TEEN CENTER UTILIZATION**

To: Schools Division Superintendents
 Davao Oriental, Mati City, Davao de Oro, Tagum City,
 IGACOS, Panabo City, and Davao City

1. Attached is a letter from the Commission on Population and Development XI dated October 28, 2025, contents of which are self-explanatory.
2. Anent to this, a virtual data gathering activity will be conducted in the seven Schools Division Offices, specifically with the identified school-based teen centers or Learner Support Centers with Ateneo de Davao University Migration Center (AMC) on **November 15, 2025 at 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm via Zoom**:

SDOs	Name of Teen Center	No. of Adolescent Clients to Participate in the FGD
Davao Oriental	Luzon NHS Teen Center	2
Mati City	Davao Oriental Regional Science HS	2
	Mati National Comprehensive HS	2
Davao de Oro	Mati School of Arts and Trades	2
	Lorenzo Sarmiento Sr. NHS	2
Tagum City	Manat NHS	2
	Pantukan NHS	2
IGACOS	Magnaga NHS	2
	Canocutan NHS Teen Tambayan	2
Panabo City	La Filipina NHS Teen Tambayan	2
	Nieves Villarica NHS Teen Tambayan	2
Davao City	Panabo City NHS Teen Hub	2
	Davao City NHS	2
	F. Bustamante NHS	2
	Sta. Ana NHS	2
	Mintal Comprehensive HS	2

3. Further, the following must be adhered:
 - a. Select two adolescent clients to participate in the online data gathering activity that meets the criteria mentioned in the letter;
 - b. No class disruption during the conduct of study in compliance with DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2005;
 - c. Data collection time shall not conflict with the Department's activities, e.g., examination week, etc.;



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
DAVAO REGION

- d. Informed consent and assent must be acquired from all participants and their parents/guardians;
- e. Any information gathered must be treated as confidential; and
- f. Participation in the study shall be voluntary, allowing participants to withdraw at any moment without consequences.

Enclosed: As stated.

ALLAN G. FARNAZO
Director IV

ROE/smtc

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION REQUEST
REGISTRATION
NOT RELEASED
BY: Nov. 05, 2028
Date: 11/05/2019





REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

October 28, 2025

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ROXI

RECORDS SECTION

RECEIVED

29 OCT 2025

By:

Date:

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ALLAN G. FARNAZO
 Regional Director
 Department of Education XI
 F. Torres Street, Davao City

ATTN: STEPHEN MARK CASTRES
 Nurse II/ Regional ARH Coordinator

Dear Director Farnazo:

Masayang Pamilya!

We would like to express our sincerest appreciation and gratitude to the Department of Education (DepEd) Region XI for its invaluable assistance in the recently concluded quantitative data gathering facilitated by the Ateneo de Davao University Migration Center (AMC). Your unwavering support greatly contributed to the success of this essential phase of the regional research study entitled "Beyond the Space: Understanding Adolescent Experiences and Perceptions in Teen Center Utilization in Region XI."

This collaborative research endeavor seeks to generate evidence-based insights that will inform adolescent-driven policy recommendations, strengthen the implementation of adolescent-focused programs, and enhance the overall impact and responsiveness of Teen Centers. The findings are envisioned to guide continuous improvement in service delivery and reinforce meaningful engagement between adolescents and their partner-stakeholders.

As the study progresses, the Ateneo Migration Center Research Team will now proceed with the qualitative data gathering phase through a virtual Focus Group Discussion (FGD) scheduled for November 2025. In this connection, we respectfully and humbly seek once again the kind assistance of DepEd Region XI in identifying adolescent participants who can meaningfully contribute to this qualitative discussion from the following schools:

SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE	NAME OF TEEN CENTER	NO. OF ADOLESCENT CLIENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FGD
Davao Oriental	Luzon NHS Teen Center	2
Mati City	Davao Oriental Regional Science HS Mati National Comprehensive High School Mati School of Arts and Trade	2 2 2
Davao de Oro	Lorenzo Sarmiento NHS Manat NHS Pantukan NHS Magnaga NHS	2 2 2 2
Tagum City	Canocutan NHS Teen Tambayan La Filipina NHS Teen Tambayan	2 2
IGACOS	Nieves Villarica NHS Teen Tambayan	2
Panabo City	Panabo City NHS Teen Hub	2
Davao City	Davao City NHS F. Bustamante NHS Sta. Ana NHS Mintal Comprehensive HS	2 2 2 2

SPMC Compound, Dumanlas-Friendship Road, J.P. Laurel Avenue,
 Davao City, Philippines, 8000
 Tel.: (082) 225-3093 / 392-3990 Fax Number: (082) 227-1027:
 Website: region11.cpd.gov.ph

@CPDPHilis

COMMISSION ON POPULATION
AND DEVELOPMENT (CPD) XICOMMISSION ON POPULATION
AND DEVELOPMENT (CPD) XI

RECEIVED

BY: _____

DATE: OCT 26 2025

CONTROLLED / ORIGINAL

BY: _____

DATE: OCT 26 2025



CERTIFIED



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT



We further request the support of the Adolescent Reproductive Health (ARH) Coordinators in the identified Teen Centers to assist in the following:

1. Select or identify one (2) Adolescent Clients per Teen Center who meets the following criteria:
 - **Age Group:** Adolescents aged 10 to 19 years old residing in the Davao Region.
 - **Current Engagement with Teen Centers:** Must have accessed or utilized services from a teen center (community-based, school-based, or hospital facility-based) within the last 6 months.
 - **Diverse Representation:** Participants must be selected from various cities/municipalities within the Davao region. Ensure diversity in terms of gender, socio-economic background, and educational attainment.
 - **Willingness to Participate:** Must voluntarily agree to participate in the FGD and provide informed consent (and parental consent for minors aged below 18).
 - **Communication Skills:** Must be willing and able to articulate and share experiences, opinions, and feedback related to teen center services.
 - **Availability:** Must be available for the scheduled online FGD session (approximately 1 to 1.5 hours).

The virtual FGD will be conducted on November 14, 2025 (Friday) at 3:00PM – 5:00 PM. The Zoom Link will be provided by the Ateneo Research Team to the ARH Coordinators once available.

A copy of the **FGD General Instructions**, **FGD Guide**, and the **Consent and Assent Form** are attached for your reference.

For any questions or clarifications, you may contact Ms. Sheryll Jane Fernandez or Ms. April Angelie Piquero of the Information Management and Communications Unit (IMCU) at (082) 225-3093 or through email at region11@cpd.gov.ph.

Your continued support in this endeavor is deeply valued. The participation of our learners will not only enrich the study but also ensure that their voices are heard and represented in the ongoing efforts to make Teen Centers more responsive and truly adolescent-centered.

We remain profoundly grateful for the steadfast partnership of DepEd Region XI in advancing the adolescent health and development strategy across Davao Region.

Very truly yours,

JEFF Y. FUENTES, MHSST
Regional Director

SPMC Compound, Dumanas-Friendship Road, J.P. Laurel Avenue,
Davao City, Philippines, 8000
Tel.: (082) 225-3093 / 392-3990 Fax Number: (082) 227-1027:
Website: region11.cpd.gov.ph
@CPDPhils @OfficialCPDRegionXI



FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION (FGD)

(Youth Stakeholders)

Identified Provinces for Qualitative Data Gathering
With 6 to 8 participants per group / province

Davao Oriental
Davao de Oro
Davao del Norte
Davao City

Criteria for Inclusion

1. **Age Group:** Adolescents aged 10 to 19 years old residing in the Davao region.
2. **Current Engagement with Teen Centers:** Must have accessed or utilized services from a teen center (community-based, school-based, or hospital facility-based) within the last 6 months.
3. **Diverse Representation:** Participants must be selected from various cities/municipalities within the Davao region. Ensure diversity in terms of gender, socio-economic background, and educational attainment.
4. **Willingness to Participate:** Must voluntarily agree to participate in the FGD and provide informed consent (and parental consent for minors aged below 18).
5. **Communication Skills:** Must be willing and able to articulate and share experiences, opinions, and feedback related to teen center services.
6. **Availability:** Must be available for the scheduled online FGD session (approximately 1 to 1.5 hours).

General Instructions

1. Introduction

- Greet all participants warmly and introduce yourself and the research team.
- Explain the purpose of the FGD: "*We are conducting this discussion to understand the experiences, challenges, and perspectives of young people regarding teen centers in the Davao region.*"
- Assure participants that their responses will remain confidential and used solely for research purposes.

2. Consent

- Distribute and collect signed informed consent forms.
- For participants below 18, ensure that parental/guardian consent has been secured beforehand.

3. Ground Rules

- *Respect each other's opinions.*
- *One person speaks at a time.*
- *No right or wrong answers – we value all viewpoints.*
- *What is shared here stays here (confidentiality).*
- *Feel free to speak in the language you are most comfortable with (Cebuano, Tagalog, English).*

4. Duration and Format

- Inform participants that the discussion will take approximately **1.5 to 2 hours** with short breaks if needed.
- Let them know that the session will be recorded (audio/video) for transcription purposes, with their consent.

5. Participation Guidelines

- Encourage everyone to participate actively but respect their choice if they prefer to pass on certain questions.
- Use a round-robin method at times, but allow open discussion as well.
- Clarify that they can leave the discussion at any time if they feel uncomfortable.

6. Confidentiality

- Reiterate that no names will be included in the final report, and their identities will be protected.

7. FGD Flow

- Begin with ice-breaker questions to make participants comfortable.
- Proceed through the pre-prepared questions under each research variable.
- Allow time for follow-up questions and deeper discussions where necessary.

FGD Guide

A. Teenage Life Obstacles and Challenges

1. What are the most common challenges you face as a teenager living in the Davao region?
2. Can you share any specific experiences where you felt overwhelmed or stressed as a teenager?
3. How do you think social media and technology impact your mental health and well-being?
4. What are some risks or dangers (e.g., substance abuse, early pregnancy, peer pressure) that you or your peers have encountered?
5. How does financial instability or poverty affect your life and choices as a teenager?
6. What challenges do you face when it comes to relationships, whether with family, friends, or romantic partners?
7. If you could change one thing about being a teenager in your community, what would it be and why?

B. Coping Mechanisms and Strategies

1. When faced with stress or problems, what are some things you do to cope or manage your emotions?
2. Who do you usually turn to for support when you are facing difficulties? Why?
3. Can you share any personal strategies that help you deal with academic pressure or family expectations?
4. Have you ever participated in programs, workshops, or counseling offered by teen centers or other organizations to help cope with challenges?
If so, how was your experience?
5. Do you find talking to friends or peers helpful when you are going through tough times?
Why or why not?
6. What are some unhealthy coping mechanisms you have seen among your peers, and how do you avoid them?
7. How do you balance school, personal life, and other responsibilities when things get overwhelming?
8. What advice would you give to other teenagers struggling with similar challenges?

C. Perceptions and Attitudes Towards Teen Centers

1. When you hear the term 'teen center,' what comes to your mind?
How would you describe a teen center in your own words?
2. Have you ever used the services of a teen center?
If yes, what motivated you to seek their help or services?
3. What do you think are the most valuable services that teen centers can provide to young people like you?
4. Do you believe teen centers are accessible and welcoming to all youth? Why or why not?
5. What are some concerns or hesitations you or your peers might have about going to a teen center?
6. How do you feel about the staff and personnel at teen centers? Are they approachable and helpful?
7. Do you think teen centers adequately address the needs of youth in your community? Why or why not?
8. In your opinion, how do teen centers contribute to your mental health, well-being, and overall development?
9. What changes would you like to see in the services or operations of teen centers to make them more effective?
10. If you were to recommend a teen center to a friend, what reasons would you give for them to go?

D. Recommendations

1. What additional services or programs would you like teen centers to offer for youth like you?
2. How can teen centers improve their outreach and communication to make more teenagers aware of their services?
3. What kind of environment do you think a teen center should provide to make youth feel safe, comfortable, and supported?
4. How can teen centers better support teenagers facing mental health challenges or personal crises?
5. What specific suggestions do you have for making teen centers more youth-friendly and inclusive?
6. How can teen centers involve youth more in the planning and implementation of their programs?
7. What role do you think technology and social media should play in teen center services?
8. How can teen centers collaborate with schools, parents, and communities to provide better support for teenagers?
9. What improvements in facilities or resources would you like to see in your local teen center?
10. If you could give one message to policymakers and local leaders about teen centers, what would it be?

Closing

- Thank participants for their time and valuable insights.
- Provide a summary of key points discussed.
- Inform them about the next steps in the research and how their input will contribute to improving teen centers.



Beyond the Space: Understanding Adolescent Experiences and Perceptions in Teen Center Utilization in Region XI Parental Consent

Dear Respondent,

Dear Respondent,

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this survey. Your insights and experiences are valuable in assessing the awareness, utilization, and effectiveness of teen centers in the Davao region. Please read the instructions carefully before answering the questions.

This survey aims to gather information from youth stakeholders like you to understand how teen centers are accessed, used, and perceived in the Davao region. Your participation will help improve teen center services and ensure they meet the needs of young people in the community.

Parent's Consent (skip if Participant is 18 years old and above)

Parent's Signature

Respondent's Assent (or consent if 18 years old and above)

Dear Participant,

Dear Participant,

We would like you to participate in a survey on *Understanding Adolescent Experiences and Perceptions in Teen Center Utilization in Region XI*. The survey will take about 15 to 20 minutes to complete. You do not have to take the survey if you do not want to. If you decide to stop answering the questions at any time, it is okay too. If you decide to join this survey, please proceed to completing the form after your parents or guardian has Ticked the consent box. The collected responses will be kept confidential and the identity of respondents held anonymous. Thank you.

Signature of Participant