



Bob Marlin Grill
and Restaurant

Naga City

October 4, 2019

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION ON GBV REFERRAL MECHANISMS WITH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

1 GENDER EQUALITY SITUATIONER IN THE CITY

1.1 Are you aware of any gender equality or GBV practices in your city? Do you know if you have a GAD Code or Anti-Discrimination, Anti-Cat Calling Ordinances or their barangay counterpart?

- GAD Code in Brgy. Concepcion Grande, and GAD budget of P50,000.00 for HIV screening of LGBTIs
- A caring committee in the Universidad de Sta. Isabel addresses issues or complaints involving girlfriend/ boyfriend relationships in the school
- GAD policies in the PNP which remain unimplemented for lack of funds



1.2 Have you or your organization participated in the development/passage of these policies? Have you ever accessed GAD funds of the barangay/LGU or your agency?

- The Philippine Army is one of the government agencies responsible for the formulation of a National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security to address GBV in IDP camps
- Gender Sensitivity Training for all soldiers

1.3 Are the VAW Desks in your barangay functional? (Established, trained officials, able to record VAW cases, respond and issue a BPO?)

- Some barangay VAW Desks are functional, able to record VAW cases, respond and issue BPO

2 GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN YOUR CITY

2.1 What are the common forms of GBV in your city?

- GBV in girlfriend/boyfriend relationships
- Violation of R.A. 9262 (physical, sexual violence and economic abuse)
- Violation of R.A. 9262 and Rape of IP women
- Rape

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2.2 What are the challenges/barriers women experienced in:

- A. Reporting and investigation of cases of GBV (PNP/Barangay VAW Desk)
 - No VAW Desk in the barangay
 - Threats by the perpetrator
 - Economic dependence of the wife and not empowered to leave the relationship
 - Ignorance of the victim of the complaints process (where to seek help)
 - No separate interview room for VAW victims
- B. Prosecution and legal assistance (Prosecutor's, PAO)
 - Lack of knowledge of the procedure for reporting the complaint
 - Lack of human rights/VAW advocacy to the populace

2.3 What are the specific challenges/ barriers experienced by women seeking remedies in cases of GBV? What are the challenges specific for women in the marginalized sectors (Deaf, mute, rural women, IPs, etc.)

- Lack of money for travel expenses
- Victims usually live in areas far from the authorities (PNP, PAO and RHU/hospitals)
- Victims are under the supervision of abusers

2.4 What have been the observed trends in gender-based violence cases received in the past five years?

- Rape
- Violation of R.A. 9262



3 FLOW OF CASE MANAGEMENT

3.1 From your experience, what is often the entry point for women who seek to report cases to the government?

- Barangay VAW Desks
- Legal Office of the NCIP
- PNP VAWC Desk
- Ethical Standards and Public Accountability and/or Provost Martial or the PAMUs in the Philippine Army

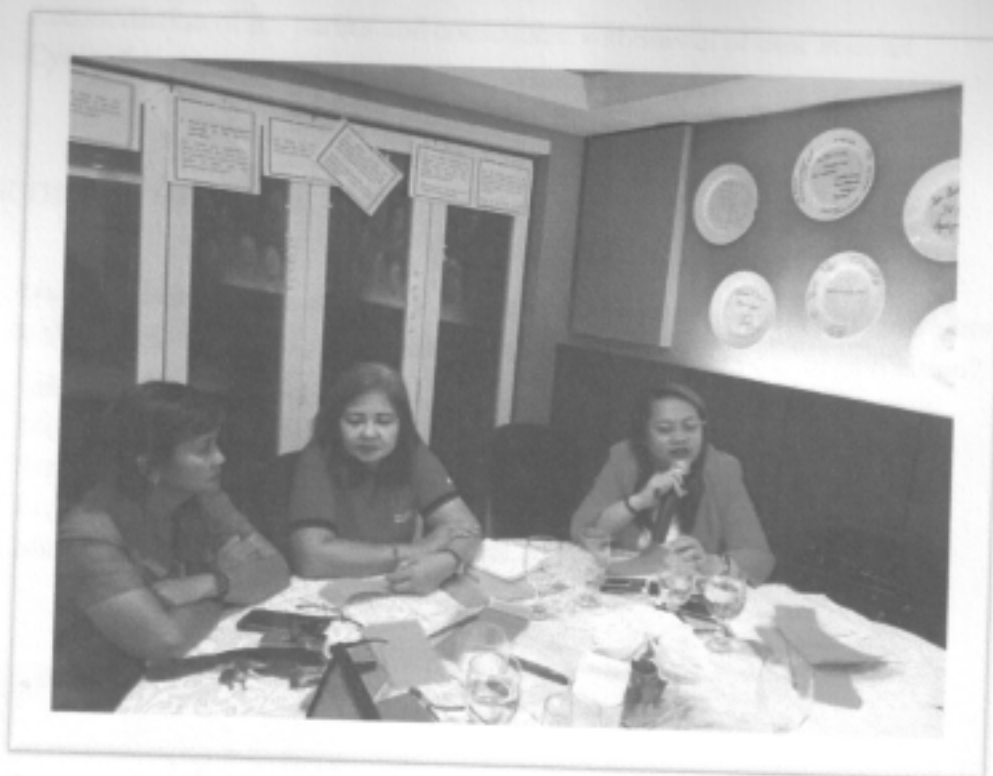


3.2 What are the available services for GBV survivors as women often aware of?

- Legal advice in the NCIP
- Livelihood
- Counselling/legal advice
- Referral to Bantay Familia
- Financial assistance
- Temporary shelter
- Rescue

3.3 Which among the available services offered by the service provider are most often accessed by women? What are the possible factors affecting their choice of what to access?

- Livelihood trainings
- Police assistance in the filing of complaints
- Issuance of BPO
- Financial assistance
- Case conference
- Counselling/Legal aid and assistance
- Referral for medical examination



3.4 Are there services that women victim survivors of GBV seek and are often unable to access from government offices? What services are they most frustrated/ disappointed?

- Referral to CSWDO
- Issuance of BPO
- Financial assistance
- Temporary shelter
- Legal assistance
- Provision of transportation allowance
- Investigation of complaint



3.5 At which point in the process of GBV interventions do women often exit the formal helping system of the service provider? What are the reasons for this?

- Lack of confidence in the justice system

- Lack of support system
- Reconciliation of the parties and consequent withdrawal of case in court
- Cycle of violence

4 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Are there information of gender-based violence and women's human rights which could be of use to and you would like to be available to your organization?

- Information dissemination/ Advocacy campaign
- Media Advocacy
- Seminars on GBV and human rights
- Livelihood assistance to the victims and their families
- Mainstreaming livelihood funds for GBV in the GAD budget



4.2 Are there information on GBV and women's human rights which you feel women vulnerable to GBV need to have more access to?

- A support group among GBV survivors
- Shelter
- Legal assistance/remedies
- Directory of government agencies giving assistance to GBV victims
- Procedure in the filing of complaints
- Data-banking in the barangays
- Hotline : "Someone To Talk To"

4.3 Are there information on GBV and women's human rights which you feel the local population in general need to have more access to?

- Advocacy/Awareness campaign about GBV in the barangays
- Speedy trial and disposition of the case
- Use "Girls and Women's Human Rights"

- Training of Barangay Officials on GBV/WHR
- A hub or center where GBV victims can access services/interventions



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4.5 Other recommendations for the CHR as Gender Ombud as mandated by the Magna Carta of Women?

- Regular monitoring of schools
- Technical support to LGU VAW Desks
- Training for teachers on human rights
- Advocacy/Awareness raising in schools
- Lobby for the hiring of sign language interpreters for PWD victims of GBV
- Lobby for the speedy trial of GBV cases
- Lobby with PNP to allow police non-commissioned officers to man Women and Child Protection Desks
- Lobby with PNP for the establishment of a "ONE STOP SHOP" for GBV victims
- Information dissemination/Awareness raising in the barangays on Women's Rights
- BHRAOs to assist in the monitoring of Barangay VAW Desk
- Establish a referral mechanism for GBV cases in schools
- Create a 24/7 Hotline on GBV
- Capacity building on GBV for service providers

POINTS GROUP DISCUSSION
WITH WOMEN AND