

Focus Group Discussion on Gender-Based Violence

Women in Communities

29 July 2019

Preliminaries through an Audio Visual Presentation

Introduction of Participants

Lecture on CHR as a Commission by Ronaele Ventus

Lecture on VAWC by Daniel Paculanang

Orientation on the Objectives of the FGD by Atty. Judelyn Macapili

FGD Proper:

1. Gender equality situationer in the city / municipality

- **Are you aware of any local gender equality or GBV policies in your city/municipality? Do you know if you have a GAD Code or an Anti-Discrimination, Anti-Cat-calling ordinances or of their barangay counterpart?**
 - Unaware of any ordinance on GAD code being followed (8 brgys)
 - In the Barangay? Yes, there is an ordinance in Brgy. San Pedro.
 - Ordinance but just aware that there is GAD budget for seminars and trainings
 - Aware that there is BCPC budget
 - Brgy. Talisayan women representative knows that there is GAD budget of 5% but it is also utilized for women and ERPAT but focused on women.

Have you or your organization participated in the development/passage of these policies? Have you ever accessed GAD funds of the barangay/LGU? (for women focused activities etc)

- None (all 8 pax)

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

- They do but handled Barangay Councilor
- Brgy Cawa cawa – appointed, teacher before but non-teaching

Functional? Naay complaints? No awareness to all. Especially for new active women representatives/brgy official.

Are you aware that the barangay can issue Barangay Protection order? Brgy Kagawad from Talisayan said that they know they can issue from a seminar but not aware if BPOs were already released. 4/8 just learned that a PO can be issued by the Barangay.

2. Gender-based violence (GBV) in the city / municipality (in relation to gender-based violence)

- **What are the common forms of GBV in your municipality/city?**
 - Economic Abuse "ang bana dili muhatag ug sustento" only gives 200 per month for 3 children
 - Rape

- **Physical Abuse**
- But no one complains because "maulaw"...Students usual victim...
- **What are the challenges/ barriers women experienced in:**
 - a) **reporting and investigation of cases of GBV (PNP/VAW Desk)**
 - only in the level of brgy
 - Brgy. San Pedro; 1 case referred to DSWD to be able to support children of 3. Seek help from DSWD to support. Only brgy level. Minor ang wife.
 - Other related cases is referred to DSWD. **Why?** DSWD kay amo na ang amoang ma duulan kay mao man na ang naay programa nga puedeng mutabang namo.
 - Entertained? Yes.**
 - b) **Prosecution and legal assistance (Prosecutor's Office, PAO, VAW Desk)**
 - None but all referred to DSWD right away.
 - **Challenge?** "Pasayluon ra man pud."
 - "Agi sa anak"
 - "Support pud"
 - "Bahala na siya mabun.og siya, dili man sila magreklamo kay ang bana man gud ang main source sa ilahang kinabuhi ug para sa mga bata... kung mag reklamo, dili na masuportahan ang mga bata ana." -Bryg Kagawad
 - c) **Providing support services (MSWDO, CSWDO, WCPUs)**
- **From your experience, which group of women are most affected by the GBV forms identified (e.g. urban poor women, women farmers, women with disabilities, on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity)?**
 - Professional, Housewife, Students: "kasagaran kanang wala'y trabaho"
 - "kasagaran ana kanang mga naa sa bukid bukid"
 - **Ngano?** Palahubog.
- **What are the specific challenges/barriers experienced by women in seeking legal remedies in cases of GBV? What are the challenges specific for women in the marginalized sector (Deaf, rural woman, IP etc)?**
 - We only have Subanen through the Timoay but no representative yet from the brgy
 - Is also a battered wife (before): personal experience: went to the hospital for medico legal and filed blotter sa police but did not file further... because husband is from manila... he was having difficulty in accepting the culture in dapitan in close family ties.
 - None for PWD.
 - Naa pero "maulaw man gud sila magreklamo"
 - "Ang VAWC desk karon ra man na siya"

- "Naa man na maam pero sa DSWD na siya gina diretso..."
- "Kaulaw..."
- shared that she was able handle a case beforehand as brgy council member. Statutory Rape by lolo then complained in the brgy by the child/teenager... the grandfather was put into jail thereafter the cycle stopped. The statutory rape was practiced in the family ...
- For they have the "timoay" to settle issues.
- Haven't issued BPO and did not settle much all referred to DSWD
- DSWD offers shelter... Counselling...
- No NGOs other agencies except Assembly of God-Compassion part of the church only offers services to send children to school and feed them...

After sa DSWD asa sila gina refer? Unaware. Usually it is being settled from the Barangay there are cases also settled in the Mayor's Office.

Brgy. Talisayan: Rape case step father raped step daughter
Step Daughter is with DSWD
Step Father put into jail

Brgy San Pedro – referred to the brgy, brgy official assists them to go to the hospital for medical check up, sent to the police...

No filed cases; only upto filing blotter. Victims does not pursue in filling a case.

"Walay financial"

The brgy has a record book. There is a vawc log book but there's no case yet.

"Karon ra nag require sa DILG nga dapat naay VAWC desk...Karon ra tui.ga..."

"Naa mi table... pero wala may ni reklamo..."

5. Recommendations

- Are there information on gender-based violence and women's human rights which could be of use to, and you would like to be available to your organization?
None. Only fellow women but assisted through referral to DSWD.

Unsa inyo pasabot sa women's association? Unsa inyong nasabtan?

- To help the women in the barangay addressing the livelihood concern in particular... (brgy. Baluno)

Best practices?

- Lecture by City to BLGUs
- Room for VAWC cases
- GAD Budget: Women's Day celebration; seminars but conducted by the DSWD.
- Referred to Police dayun

- **Are there information on gender-based violence and women's human rights which you feel women vulnerable to GBV need to have more access to?**

None.

- **Are there information on gender-based violence and women's human rights which you feel the local population in general need to have more access to?**

None.

- **Other recommendations for the CHR as the gender ombud as mandated by the Magna Carta of Women.**

Approaches? Kulang?

- Legal support
- Kwarto
- Incentives for Women Association President to assist in addressing VAWC concerns
- Trainings for other officials and vawc officers not only through Brgy Captain
- More IEC materials
- Observers for Women and victims who are afraid of sharing their story or even file a case;
- "empower the community."

What can CHR do?

- Monitoring and evaluation of vawc desk functionality per brgy through the DILG
- Strict DILG monitoring and evaluation to conduct "surprise visit"
- Information drive,...

Recommendation to the PNP:

- They are active and supportive in responding...
- Information drive...for awareness

The FGD ended with a closing remark from Atty. Sabellano and Mr. Paculanang assuring the participants that the services of the Commission is extended even up to their City.

*** END OF DOCUMENTATION ***

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