

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL REGION VII

RNC Resolution No. 018-01 (s 2018)

Excerpts from the Minutes of the Regional Nutrition Committee Meeting held on 11 July 2018 at the Club Ultima, Osmeña Blvd., Cebu City

“REGIONWIDE ADOPTION OF THE ECCD F1K PROGRAM”

WHEREAS, RA 10410 otherwise known as the Early Years Act of 2013 Section 4 refers to the Early Childhood Care and development (ECCD) System as a full range of health, nutrition, early education and social service development programs that provide for the basic holistic needs of children age 0-4 years to promote their optimum growth and development;

WHEREAS, the first one thousand days of life, or the period of pregnancy (270 days) followed by the first two years of life (730 days), is recognized globally as the most critical period of physical growth and brain development and that when problems are not properly addressed in this period, children may succumb to and develop illness and diseases, lose their full and inherent capacity to grow, finish school, become a productive members of his or her community, and in extreme cases die at an early age;

WHEREAS, the UNICEF together with the NNC recognizes this period as a golden window of opportunity in which key health, nutrition, early learning and social development services should be available for optimum growth and development of children and wherein poor nutrition can cause irreversible impact and consequences on the physical and mental development;

WHEREAS, the ECCD F1K program which focus on providing nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions in the first 1000 days of life by giving special attention to pregnant and lactating women and their children less than two years of age. The usual nutrition interventions provided by local nutrition committees have been tweaked and tailor-fitted specifically to said age group ensuring food security, health and nutrition service availability and close monitoring;

WHEREAS, the 2015 National Nutrition Survey results show that in Central Visayas, 37.7% or around two (2) out of five (5) children less than 5 years of age is stunted 27% or around three out of every ten pregnant women are nutritionally-at-risk. The same survey also states that only 1 of 2 children (55%) are exclusively breastfed and that only 1 out of five (18.6%) of children 6-23 months meet minimum acceptable diet;

WHEREAS, the ECCD F1K program, implemented in the priority province of Cebu starting 2016 with three pilot municipalities namely; Dalaguete, Santa Fe and Tuburan, have shown a promising improvement in the functionality of their local nutrition committees and improving delivery of services for children in said areas;

WHEREAS, to resolve the never-ending cycle of malnutrition, the Central Visayas Regional Nutrition Committee recognizes the need to adopt the ECCD F1K program to ensure the full development of children

in the region through integrated delivery of services on health, nutrition, psychosocial stimulation, early education and social services;

WHEREAS, ECCD F1K program nationwide adoption aims to decrease considerably malnutrition rate in Central Visayas specifically stunting amongst children and answer to the perennial problem of limited care for mothers and children;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to encourage local nutrition committees and regional government agencies to adopt the ECCD F1K program by including first 1000 days of life focused programs, projects and activities in their local nutrition action plans;

RESOLVED FURTHER, to request Department of the Interior and Local Government to assist in the dissemination of this resolution to Local Nutrition Committees and help monitor its implementation and for the RNC secretariat for the RNC members.

RESOLVED FURTHER, to request RNC member agencies to provide technical support and deliberately include first 1000 days of life focused projects and activities in their work and financial plans, as applicable.

RESOLVED FINALLY, to request members of the Regional ECCD F1K Technical Working Group to provide the RNC with updates of the implementation of said resolution within a year of the passage of this resolution during the 1st RNC Full Committee Meeting and the 1st Q Regional Management Conference.

APPROVED, this 11th day of July 2018 during its 2nd RNC Full Committee Meeting Series 2018 held at Club Ultima Board Room, Osmeña Blvd., Cebu City.

Certified Correct:

Attested by:

Parolita A. Mission, DPA, RN
RNC 7 Secretary

Jaime S. Bernadas, MD, MGM, CESO III
Chairperson, RNC