



30 March 2020

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



COVID 19 ADVISORY NO. 2 S. 2020
“A CALL FOR ACTIVATION OF LOCAL NUTRITION CLUSTERS”

Following Presidential Proclamation No. 922 which declared the Philippines under a state of public health emergency and No. 929 “State of Calamity” and various declaration thereafter, and with the provinces of Bohol, Cebu and Negros Oriental declaring enhanced community quarantine, the Central Visayas Regional Nutrition Cluster is calling for the activation of all local nutrition clusters to act upon this nutrition emergency.

As preventive mechanism for both the effects of COVID 19 and malnutrition in the community, the regional nutrition cluster hereby requests all local nutrition clusters to prevent further worsening of the nutritional status of vulnerable groups making them even more vulnerable to the virus. With the following recommendations for action:

1. Ensure that vulnerable groups are accounted for via a masterlist of pregnant and lactating women, children below five years old and the elderly.
2. Assign barangay health and nutrition workers to religiously follow-up all cases of acute malnourished children and prioritizing them and their families for food pack distribution.
3. Aside from rice and canned foods, include in food packs locally produced fruits, vegetables, dairy and protein sources. The LGU may opt to buy these from local farmers for distribution or you could establish mobile markets for fresh produce. This will not only ensure that the community is eating healthy it also provides income to farmers.
4. Reiterate the “No breastmilk substitute donation” in food packs.
5. Host online nutrition education activities such as posting of healthy eating reminders in your facebook page or community chat groups.
6. Provide and encourage the use of Micronutrient Powder when preparing food for the vulnerable groups to boost their immune system.
7. Coordinate with other clusters in the community such as the WASH cluster and the Food Security Cluster to ensure hygiene and food availability is enough in your locality.

For more information about the nutrition cluster you may reach us through our email address region7@nnc.gov.ph or message our Facebook page: [facebook.com/nncrvii](https://www.facebook.com/nncrvii).

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“ Batang Pinoy SANA TALL... Iwas stunting, SAMA ALL!”

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<http://www.nnc.gov.ph/regional-offices/region-vii>