

CHAPTER VI: PROJECT COMPONENTS

VI. PROJECT COMPONENTS

The three project components outlined below reflect these methods and strategy:



A. Enabling Environment

1. Participatory Policy Development

To ensure the local policies and strategies are responsive, orientation, discussion and participatory planning with the adolescent mothers and the local stakeholders shall be conducted. This shall be attended by the interdisciplinary units from social welfare, health, education, and SK members, among others. This will help service providers manage adolescent mothers in a way that is child-friendly, gender-responsive, and rights-based in order to stop additional prejudice and stigma. Additionally, it is anticipated that local policies and programs will be created in the area in collaboration with the organized adolescent mothers as part of these initiatives.

2. Advocacy Initiatives

Advocacy activities must also address discrimination and social stigma among adolescent mothers, their spouses/partners and their families, as well as empower them to seek reproductive health (RH) services and other interventions, such as continuing education (both formal and informal). Advocacy centered on enabling pregnant teenagers access to education will also be performed to ensure that adolescent mothers are given opportunities to complete their education despite their pregnancy. During the advocacy campaigns and in crafting important messaging for the Social Behavior Change Communication (SBCC) materials, teachers, health care professionals, and other direct service workers will also be targeted.

- a. Infographics/brochure/pamphlet, booklet, catalog, leaflet or flyer shall be produced as effective materials;
- b. Videos, local advertisement, teasers to be released to different/various media platforms;
- c.. Orientation activities for grades 6-12 regarding teenage pregnancies and all other matters that are important to this topic;
- d. Campaign Activities: The campaign activities shall consist of advocacy campaigns, social media advocates, and distribution/posting of localized SBCC materials. The implementation team shall ensure that the advocacy activities are conducted following the approved project design and communication plan. Face-to-face advocacy activities can also be utilized to ensure to reach areas with poor internet connectivity.

B. Supportive Home Environment

Various interventions will be carried out as part of this component with the goal of improving families' ability to support adolescent mothers and their children.

1. Family Healing Sessions

These sessions will also be held using the healing modules developed in order to empower families to support adolescent mothers, their spouses/partners, and their children.

2. Family Case Management

Adolescent mothers and their families will occasionally be the subject of case management under this component using the gender-responsive case management (GRCM). The case studies of the identified beneficiaries per set criteria shall be done by the LSWDO or case workers. Quarterly monitoring of the beneficiaries, assistance provided, and updating of the cases must be conducted by the case worker for easy reporting of project accomplishments. Case conferences shall also be conducted, together with the multidisciplinary team, at least every two months or as need arises, depending on the assessments of the social worker. Results of pre and post surveys shall be analyzed and be the basis of the provision of necessary interventions and updating of the individualized exit strategy plan.

3. Expanded Referral Network

Referral networks will be strengthened to guarantee service convergence and support immediate local services delivery, existing multi-disciplinary networks in the area, including the Local Council for the Protection of Children (LCPC), the Gender and Development (GAD) network, the Information and Service Delivery Network for Adolescent Health and Development (ISDN4AHD), and others.

Regular meetings shall be conducted based on the agreed frequency between the project implementation team and the existing local referral network to strengthen and ensure involvement in addressing adolescent pregnancy.

C. Empowerment of Adolescent Mothers

1. Assistance

- a. Employment Assistance

Employment assistance may be provided to qualified adolescent mothers, her adult spouse/partner and/or their parents, and/or guardians (in accordance with other existing legislation such as the Child Labor Law, etc) to help with expenses during their job-seeking period. The employment assistance may cover expenses for securing/renewal of NBI or police clearance, driver's license, medical certificate and other costs associated with facilitation of work employment. The assistance shall be based on the assessment of the case worker subject to existing rules of

relevant DSWD programs and services where such assistance shall be charged; i.e., Sustainable Livelihood Program. Similarly, the case worker may refer the qualified beneficiary to other agencies providing employment assistance on a case-to-case basis.

b.. Livelihood Assistance

For livelihood assistance, the target beneficiaries may also be directed to the DSWD Sustainable Livelihood Seeding Program - Negosyo Serbisyo sa Barangay (LSP - NSB), Youth Entrepreneurship Program and/or the Local Government Livelihood Program. The project management team must assess the beneficiary's readiness to begin a source of income and ensure that the business is market-driven. Beneficiaries will receive Basic Business Management Training (BBMT) to assist them in determining a source of income. Clients who are eligible will be asked to submit a project proposal to the funding agency for review and approval. Amount to be given shall be based on the case worker's assessment both for job-seeking expenses and livelihood assistance.

Parents and other family members/guardians of teenage mothers and or spouse/partner who have recently received DSWD SLP livelihood assistance within the last twelve (12) months are ineligible for financial assistance for livelihood/employment under this initiative. However, the case worker and other project management team members must continue to encourage referral to other organizations for additional support services.

c Educational Assistance

A maximum of ₱10,000 may be granted to the target adolescent mothers per School Year (SY) to cover their school supplies, transportation costs, and other school related expenses. This shall be distributed on a quarterly or semester basis. The client will be required to submit school registration and/or certificate of enrolment and valid school ID, if available. The provision of the assistance is based on the assessment and recommendation of the service provider, subject to availability of funds. The service provider can also follow the educational assistance guidelines per local implementers.

d. For other financial assistance, the guidelines on the implementation of Assistance to Individuals/Families in Crisis Situation (AICS) shall be followed.

e. Access to postnatal care for adolescent mothers, offer healthcare

services for both the mother and child, including vaccinations, regular health check-ups, and nutrition support and family planning methods.

- f. Offer flexible education programs/scholarships that cater to the needs of adolescent mothers and or fathers such as alternative schooling options, distance learning, or on-site childcare facilities.

Condition: The financial assistance and other interventions shall be provided once healing sessions are completed by the adolescent mothers, their spouses/partners and their families.

2. Capacity/Persons Building

- a. Provide vocational training to equip adolescent mothers, their spouses/partners and their families with marketable skills.
- b. Organize parenting sessions, workshops, and support groups to help adolescent mothers, their spouses/partners and their partners develop effective parenting skills, promote positive parent-child relationships, and foster a nurturing environment.
- c. Provision of vocational training to equip adolescent mothers and their families with marketable skills.
- d. Organize parenting sessions, workshops, and support groups to help adolescent mothers and their partners develop effective parenting skills, promote positive parent-child relationships, and foster a nurturing environment.
- e. Provision of Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS). The project shall utilize the existing WiSUPPORT platforms in the delivery of the MHPSS. The MHPSS service provider will also be included in the activities under capacity building. Further, precautions must be taken when sharing and publishing information of the client. The WiSUPPORT Project shall be implemented following the project's data impact assessment and data privacy manual; and in compliance with the implementing rules and regulations of RA 10173 or the Data Privacy Act (DPA) of 2012.
- f. Training and Workshop Activities
The training and workshops shall be done through lectures, group discussion based on participants' needs. The amount shall observe the approved cost parameter issued by the local

implementers for training and workshop.

g. Conduct of meetings/sessions/advocacy forum

The existing prevailing rate shall be observed for provision of meals and snacks per existing issues and guidelines during the conduct of meetings/sessions.

- h. Group work sessions on leadership, community engagement, maternal care and other issues based on the existing DSWD Modular Package for Women will be held in order to empower the adolescents and enable them to become advocates themselves.

i. Social media empowerment

Facebook groups where social media content and other SBCC resources will be uploaded. This Facebook page will also allow the teenagers to share useful information about ASRH, as well as tips on coping with developmental tasks and other social roles and to encourage easier communication with other peer advocates. A social media administrator from a trained LGU service provider will be assigned to manage the Facebook group and ensure that only useful content and information are uploaded and shared in the group.