

# Republic of the Philippines Bepartment of Education



FEB 102005

DepED MEMORANDUM No. 35, s. 2005

10<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL AWARENESS WEEK FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION

To: Bureau Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents
Heads, Public and Private Elementary and Secondary Schools

- 1. The Council for the Welfare of Children, Office of the President announces the observance of the 10<sup>th</sup> National Awareness Week for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation with the theme "Magkaisa! Labanan ang Pang-aabusong Sekswal sa mga Bata" on February 6-12, 2005.
- 2. The observance aims to increase awareness of the general public on the issue of sexual abuse and exploitation. Schools are encouraged to conduct relevant activities, as follows:
  - a. Hanging of streamer, one week before the activity;
  - Offering of Prayer for Children to be read during the Flag Ceremony on Monday, February 7, 2005;
  - c. Discussion on the topic during school assemblies; and
  - d. Conduct of other related activities.
- 3. The Core Messages of the National Awareness Week for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation are the following:
  - Educate every child on sex and sexuality as well as what to do when he/she is in danger of being sexually abused;
  - Capacitate every family through information about sexual abuse and what to do when a child - particularly in their family – is in danger of being sexually abuse;
  - c. Challenge every community to be a "watchdog" for each child within their neighborhood or their street and be vigilant to the potential situations that may pose as a threat and a danger to a child within the community; and
  - d. Organize groups within every local government that will act on cases of abuse and exploitation, educate communities and parents on preventing child sexual abuse and allocate funds for preventive programs such as these. Challenge each Local Government Unit (LGU) to be child-friendly where resources are concretely allocated to ensure that all barangays under the LGU are capacitated to raise awareness and effectively respond to potential situations that may pose as a threat and a danger to the children within the barangay.

- 4. All activities to be undertaken must not disrupt regular classes.
- 5. The Special Events (regional and division) coordinators shall monitor the activities done by the schools within their jurisdiction and shall report the same to the DepED-OSEC-Special Events Unit. The said report must be addressed to:

Hon. Florencio B. Abad Secretary Department of Education

Thru: Hon. Teodoro R. Catindig

Assistant Secretary for Programs and Projects -

Attention: Ms. Luzviminda F. Dela Rosa Head, Special Events Unit

- 6. Expenses to be incurred relative to the conduct of the activities shall be charged against PTCA/Sponsorship funds subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.
- 7. Enclosed are the Prayer for the Children and draft streamer for the observance of said celebration.
- 8. Immediate dissemination and wide dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

FLORENCIO B. ABAD Secretary

Encls.:

As stated

Reference:

None

Allotment: 1—(D.O. 50-97)

To be indicated in the <u>Perpetual Index</u> under the following subjects:

CELEBRATIONS & FESTIVALS PUPILS STUDENTS

Madel:c:sexual abuse 2-01-05

# A. Prayer for the Children

As we observe the National Awareness Week , we offer this "Prayer For The Children". We ask our Heavenly Father: send Your Spirit, that we do be done in Charity, to protect and better serve the children You have entrusted to our care for Your greater glory.

> Spirit of God, you are the stirring in our hearts, You urge us to get going, You prompt us to follow, You encourage us not to give up, You call us to open our minds and our hearts, To receive your energizing, transforming radiance. Make us receptive so that we will follow Your loving Movement within our lives We trust in Your powerful presence within us. Amen.

# B. Draft Streamer for the Observance of the 10<sup>th</sup> National Awareness Week

Agency Seal

# AGENCY NAME

joins the nation in the observance of the 10<sup>th</sup> National Awareness Week on the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation

February 6 - 12, 2005

# MAGKAISA!

Labanan ang pang-aabusong sekswal sa mga bata.