



JUN 15 2009

DepED MEMORANDUM
 No. 266 , s. 2009

EPILEPSY AWARENESS WEEK

To: Bureau Directors
 Regional Directors
 Schools Division/City Superintendents

1. The National Epilepsy Awareness Week is observed during the first week of September of every year in accordance with Presidential Proclamation No. 230 dated August 12, 2002.
2. This year's celebration falls from August 30 to September 5 with the theme **"Masaya ang Buhay Kahit may Epilepsy"**.
3. The celebration aims to make various sectors aware of the condition of children with epilepsy, to include also those who care for them like their parents, teachers and caregivers. This extends to children who live with or care for adult family members with epilepsy.
4. Epilepsy is known to be the most chronic brain disorder in every country in the world. In the Philippines alone, an estimated 750,000 people are affected with this condition majority of whom are children or adults in the most productive years of their lives. But if diagnosed and treated early, majority of persons with epilepsy can live normal lives: they can study, work, engage in sports, go out with friends and raise a family.
5. To highlight this year's celebration, the Philippine League Against Epilepsy (PLAE) will be implementing its centerpiece project called "Epilepsy School Caravan" wherein reading materials consisting of two (2) modules, one for students from Grades 3 to 5 and another for teachers, will be presented throughout the year to public and private schools in the National Capital Region and selected provinces in the Visayas. The modules include basic facts about epilepsy as well as the do's and don't's in handling a seizure episode.
6. PLAE has also lined up the following activities in celebration of National Epilepsy Awareness Week:
 - a. Writing and publication of a children's story about Epi and Lepsy, two children with epilepsy and how they deal with the condition;
 - b. Jingle composition contest;

- c. Choreography of the winning jingle to be danced by Mascots Epi and Lepsy
 - d. The jingle and dance, which will help dispel the stigma surrounding epilepsy while capturing the theme **“Masaya ang Buhay Kahit may Epilepsy”**, will be taught to the school children during the Caravan; and
 - e. Briefing of neurologists belonging to the Provincial Awareness Volunteers for Epilepsy (PAVE) program of PLAE who will conduct the Caravan in their respective areas.
7. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


RAMON C. BACANI
Undersecretary

Reference:

None

Allotment: 1—(D.O. 50-97)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

BUREAUS & OFFICES
CELEBRATIONS & FESTIVALS
HEALTH EDUCATION

sally: epilepsy awareness week
June 9, 2009