



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION III
Schools Division Office of Bulacan

February 20, 2025

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 101 s. 2025


**DESIGNATION OF ADOLESCENT REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH (ARH)
PROGRAM ADVOCATES**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendents
Division Chiefs
Education Program Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors
Secondary and Elementary School Heads
School Health Section Personnel
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is the OUA Memorandum 00-0821-0185 entitled "Designation of Adolescent Reproductive Health (ARH) Program Focal Persons" dated August 23, 2021
2. In line with this, all school heads are requested to appoint a School Adolescent Reproductive Health (ARH) Program Advocate. Further details including qualifications and duties and responsibilities of the assigned focal person can be found in the attached memorandum.
3. School heads are enjoined to submit the names and contact details of the designated ARH focal persons/advocates on or before February 24, 2025 on the link below for proper consolidation of data.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/15hUbopWX5ANGy8Djp6Wr85m1jZWm3UyuFhIGsldKa8I/edit?usp=sharing>

4. Immediate dissemination of this memorandum is desired.


NORMA P. ESTEBAN, Ed.D.CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent



OUA.DOC 0821-0185
TO: REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND BARRM EDUCATION MINISTER
FROM: SECRETARY OF EDUCATION



Republika ng Pilipinas

Kagawaran ng Edukasyon

Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim

OUA MEMO 00-0821-0185

MEMORANDUM

23 August 2021

**For: Regional Directors and BARMM Education Minister
Schools Division Superintendents
All PSDS, Principals, and School Heads
All Others Concerned**

**Subject: DESIGNATION OF ADOLESCENT REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH
(ARH) PROGRAM FOCAL PERSONS**

The Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA), through the Bureau of Learner Support Services – School Health Division (BLSS-SHD), implements the Oplan Kalusugan sa DepEd through DepEd Order (DO) No. 28, s. 2018.

One of its flagship programs is the Adolescent Reproductive Health (ARH) which aims to support DepEd's delivery of its mandate under the Republic Act (RA) No. 10354 titled *Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health (RPRH) Act of 2012* calling for age- and development-appropriate reproductive health education and having a supportive school environment. RA No. 11166 titled *The Philippine HIV and AIDS Policy Act* also mandates that the Department ensures the development and provision of psychosocial support and counseling in learning institutions for the development of positive health, and the promotion of values and behavior pertaining to reproductive health.

In view of the existing policies and to further strengthen the ARH Program, all Regional Directors (RDs), Schools Division Superintendents (SDSs), and school heads (SHs) are required to **designate a focal person for the Adolescent Reproductive Health (ARH) Program.**

The designated ARH Focal Person shall have the following qualifications:

- preferably health personnel, guidance counselor, or a clinic teacher; and
- has undergone trainings related to ARH, or willing to undergo series of trainings.



Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA)

[Administrative Service (AS). Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS).

The designated focal person shall lead the implementation of the program for their respective areas of assignment, specifically:

- a. attend and roll-out **capacity building activities** related to the ARH Program;
- b. **establish public and private partnerships** to implement activities for the ARH Program;
- c. ensure participation and **consultation of learners** in policy making and program management in every governance level;
- d. develop and **maintain local systems** for program management and delivery of services related to ARH;
- e. **spearhead advocacy campaigns**, in coordination with learners, other DepEd offices, external partners, and CSE implementers;
- f. **deliver basic health services** upon training (e.g., psychosocial assessment, health counseling, psychological first aid, referral);
- g. conduct **monitoring, evaluation, and learning** activities including program implementation reviews for ARH and related acts and policies;
- h. submit consolidated and validated **reports**, including data and analysis regarding adolescent health in the assigned area and documentation of ARH practices, as necessary; and
- i. participate in the national and local **policy development and review** through appropriate mechanisms to be placed.

The RDs, SDSs, and SHs shall ensure support and resource allocation for the designated personnel in capacity building activities and implementation of program and activities in schools.

All Regional Offices (ROs) shall submit a list of ARH Focal Persons from the ROs and Schools Division Offices using the attached template **on or before 30 August 2021** to the Bureau of Learner Support Services - School Health Division through email at arh@deped.gov.ph with subject line: **ARH Focal Persons**.

ARH Division Focal Persons shall consolidate and keep records of school level designations from both elementary and secondary schools. The list shall be updated every school year. In addition, all designated ARH Focal Persons shall answer the Training Needs Assessment through bit.ly/ARHTrainingNeeds.

For more information, queries, and concerns on the abovementioned subject, please contact Dr. Maria Corazon C. Dumlao, Chief Health Program Officer, or Ms. Lien Ivy C. Callado, Health Education and Promotion Officer II, BLSS – SHD, through (02) 8632 9935 and email at arh@deped.gov.ph.

For immediate and appropriate action.


ALAIN DEL B. PASCUA
Undersecretary

