



Drug Rehabilitation Program from the Lens of Surrenderees

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Abstract

The study was conducted to determine the factors influencing the use of illegal drugs among surrenderees to provide recommendations on what program(s) to implement for rehabilitation. Using a questionnaire, 101 surrenderees of Barangay Cabinuangan, New Bataan, Davao de Oro were surveyed and interviewed. Focus Group Discussion and Key Informant Interview were also employed. The method used was descriptive-exploratory. Frequencies and percentages were used to describe the socio-demographic profile of the respondents. Moreover, the mean was used to measure the level of perceptions of the surrenderees regarding the factors that influence them to use illegal drugs, such as family-related factors, psychological factors, and environmental factor. Thematic analysis was used for the FGD and KII. Results showed that most surrenderees were between the ages 19 to 25 years old, male, single, college level, and unemployed. Those employed surrenderees had an average monthly income of less than Php8,000. The majority started using illegal drugs between 19 to 25 years old and used it for more than a year. Methamphetamine hydrochloride or shabu were commonly used. The surrenderees' relationship with their parents and peers, curiosity, and defense mechanism to escape from their negative feelings like personal problems contributed to why they used illegal drugs. The "Pakikibahagi ng Pamilya (Family Involvement) Program" and "Kilos Pagbabago para sa Surrenderers (Bringing Change for the Surrenderers)" were the proposed program interventions for the surrenderees. A center-based programs that will be facilitated by experienced Social Workers, Nurses, and Pastors from the Municipal Spiritual Development and Values Restoration (MSDVR).

Keywords: rehabilitation; surrenderees; illegal drugs; center-based program; defense mechanism.

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1. Introduction

The use of illegal drugs is the most common problem in the country nowadays. People who indulge in illegal drugs are susceptible to addiction and have a greater tendency to commit crimes due to mental illness [1]. Likewise, the immense civic health problem with consequences not only for individuals using illegal drugs but as well as for families, communities, and society. Besides, research evidence and clinical experience agree that illegal drug abuse is one of the most challenging problems to treat [2].

Various types of dangerous and illegal drugs such as methamphetamine hydrochloride, also known as shabu, cannabis sativa or marijuana, heroin, cocaine, opioids, opium, ecstasy, and new psychoactive substances (NPS) are commonly used in countries like the United States, Thailand, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and Malaysia. Moreover, shabu, marijuana, and ecstasy are usually used in the Philippines [3].

Globally, around 29.5 million of the adult population, or 0.6 percent of people in the world, were engaged in illegal drugs [4]. The most harmful drug type was Opioids. Drug use disorders worldwide account for 70 percent of the negative health impact associated with illegal drug consumption.

In East Asia, the Philippines is considered to have the highest rate of shabu use, comprising 2.1 percent of Filipinos aged 16 to 64 in 2012 [5]. Shabu, a powerfully addictive meth stimulant, is easily accessible and affordable and is the drug of choice among Filipino users. Out of 42,036 barangays in the country, 49.65 percent are considered drug-affected [6]. In Metro Manila, most barangays are affected by illegal drugs, with 92 percent of its barangays having drug-related cases. In which, 89 percent of drug seizures involved shabu, while 8.9 percent involved marijuana. Moreover, the highest rate of barangay drug-affectation with 96.48 percent was the National Capital Region (NCR), followed by Region XIII at 86.58 percent and Region IX at 86.29 percent. The region least affected by the drug menace is the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR), at 3.49 percent [6]. Meanwhile, 9,850 anti-illegal drug operations have been conducted, resulting in the arrest of 8,491 suspects and 9,995 cases being filed for 2015 alone [7].

In 2016, the criminalities related to illegal drugs gripped around five percent of the total crimes in New Bataan, Davao de Oro Province. However, in 2017, it increased by two percent, according to the Crime Statistics for 2016 and 2017 report from New Bataan Municipal Police Station (2018). According to the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (2018) of New Bataan, the drug problem is considered a poor security and health issue. It encompasses social, economic, psychological, and economic interests.

Hence, due to this alarming situation, this paper further explores why individuals indulge in the use of illegal drugs, specifically in Barangay Cabinuangan, New Bataan, Davao de Oro Province. Out of the 16 barangays in the Municipality of New Bataan, this barangay has the highest number of drug surrenderees as of 2018. Withal, cognizance of these factors may help them stop the use of illegal drugs and help the stakeholders such as the Local Government Unit and other participating agencies to create program interventions for the rehabilitation of the surrenderees. However, the research gap for this study is the population gap as it only includes one barangay for the survey.

2. Objectives of the Study

The study's objective was to determine the factor(s) influencing the use of illegal drugs among surrenderees to provide recommendations to what program(s) to implement for rehabilitation. Specifically, this study sought answers to the following:

1. What is the socio-demographic profile of the respondents in terms of the following: Age, Sex, Civil Status, Educational Attainment, Employment Status, Income, Number of Dependents, and Family Size?
2. What are the perceptions of the respondents about the factors that push them to use illegal drugs in terms of:
 - a) Family Related Factors;
 - b) Psychological Factors; and
 - c) Environmental Factor?
3. What are the proposed program interventions for the rehabilitation of the drug surrenderees?

3. Conceptual Framework

The proposed program intervention to supplement the rehabilitation of the surrenderees is determined by the factors influencing the use of illegal drugs, namely family-related factors, psychological factors, and environmental factors, as well as the socio-demographic profile of the surrenderees (See Figure 1).

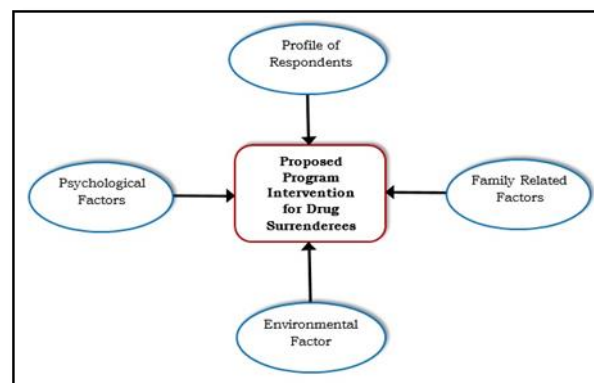


Figure 1: Conceptual Framework Showing the Variables of the Study.

4. Methodology

Method Used The research design used in the study was the Descriptive-Exploratory method. This method incorporates any scientific procedure that begins with a description, built on observation of an event or events, from which theories may later be established to explain observations [8]. This method describes the goodness of an existing program of the barangay Cabinuangan concerning the reformation of drug surrenderees whether or

not the program has attained its objectives. Hence, the descriptive method is concerned with the procedures used to consolidate, describe and summarize data, while the exploratory method of research is an attempt to connect ideas to understand the different reasons, causes, and their effects [9]. Furthermore, this is an appropriate method that explores possible program interventions needed to rehabilitate the drug surrenderees.

Sources of Data Primary data were gathered in the study through survey, key informant interview, and focus group discussion.

Research Instrument The instrument used was a researcher-made questionnaire, which went through the process of validation by experts, revision, and improvement to meet the basic requirements of being comprehensive and understandable to the respondents. It contained three (3) parts. Part I had eight (8) items for the socio-demographic profile of the respondents. Part II had twenty-two (22) items (6 items for the family-related factors, 13 items for psychological and 3 for environmental) according to the respondents' perception of the factors that influence the use of illegal drugs as the basis for formulating a rehabilitation program. While Part III had seven (7) items for the evaluation survey. Furthermore, the research instrument was pilot tested to ensure its reliability (See Table 1).

Table 1: Reliability Coefficient of the Research Instrument in Each Factor.

| Factors | Cronbach's Alpha | N of Items | Criteria | Internal Consistency |
|----------------------|------------------|------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Family</i> | .856 | 6 | $\alpha \geq 0.8$ | Good |
| <i>Psychological</i> | | | | |
| Enjoyment | .949 | 2 | $\alpha \geq 0.9$ | Excellent |
| Curiosity | .928 | 2 | $\alpha \geq 0.9$ | Excellent |
| Defense Mechanism | .791 | 5 | $\alpha \geq 0.7$ | Acceptable |
| Peer Pressure | .753 | 4 | $\alpha \geq 0.7$ | Acceptable |
| <i>Environmental</i> | .713 | 3 | $\alpha \geq 0.7$ | Acceptable |

The respondents' perceptions on the family-related factors influencing the use of illegal drugs had an alpha higher than 0.80, which indicates a good internal consistency among its items. While for the psychological factors, the perceptions of the respondents on enjoyment, curiosity, defense mechanism, and peer pressure factor had an alpha higher than 0.90, 0.90, 0.70 and 0.70, respectively. This similarly indicates an excellent (enjoyment and curiosity) and an acceptable (defense mechanism and peer pressure) internal consistency among its items. On the other hand, the respondents' perceptions of the environmental factor had an alpha higher than 0.70, indicating an acceptable internal consistency among its items. Overall, the reliability coefficient of the research instrument was not tested because it is expected that its reliability coefficient is not consistent since the respondents' perceptions for every factor are different. Therefore, based on the result, the researcher-made questionnaire is dependable and reliable and can be subject to data gathering without further revision. Moreover, the Likert scale was also used for the perception of the surrenderees (See Table 2).

Table 2: Scale on the Perception of the Surrenderees on the Factors Influencing the Use of Illegal Drugs.

| Response Options | Arbitrary Scale/ Range | Verbal Description |
|------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 4 | 3.26 – 4.00 | Agree |
| 3 | 2.51 – 3.25 | Moderately Agree |
| 2 | 1.76 – 2.50 | Minimally Agree |
| 1 | 1.00 – 1.75 | Disagree |

Further, a discussion guide for the focus group discussion and key informant interview were also used.

Sampling Technique

Survey. The number of respondents considered was based on the desired sample size used in the systematic sampling method. Among the 308 illegal drugs surrenderees in Barangay Cabinuangan (Data from the Municipal Planning Development Office-New Bataan, 2018), a sample size of one hundred one (101) respondents or thirty-three (33) percent were considered in the survey with a random starting point and a fixed periodic interval called the sampling interval. Using the formula below.

Where k is the number of samples' interval. The solution is shown below.

$$k = 308/101$$

$$k = 3.05 \text{ or } 3$$

Thus, after the potential participants were placed in a list, a starting point was then selected. Every 3rd person on the list was chosen as the participant in the study. Likewise, 101 respondents were considered in the study since, according to the Practical Tools for International Development [10], 100 is the minimum sample size to get any kind of significant result.

Key Informant Interview With the use of purposive sampling method, the researcher had interviewed two (2) personnel from the Philippine National Police (PNP- New Bataan), one (1) Barangay Captain of Barangay Cabinuangan, one (1) from Municipal Social Welfare and Development (MSWD-New Bataan), one (1) from Human Resource Management Office (HRMO-New Bataan) and the Pastor/Chairman of the Municipal Spiritual Development and Values Restoration (MSDVR).

Focused Group Discussion Similarly, the purposive sampling method was also used for the FGD. This was participated by five (5) participants. It consists of two (2) surrenderees, one (1) Nurse from Municipal Health Office, one (1) Psychometrician and one (1) Instructor from Davao de Oro State College- New Bataan Branch.

Statistical Treatment The statistical tool used in the study were the following:

Frequency and Percentage Frequency distribution and percentages were used in the study to describe the socio-demographic profile of the respondents.

Mean. Mean was used in the study to measure the level of perceptions of the surrenderees in terms of the factors that influence them to use illegal drugs, such as family-related factors, psychological factors, and environmental factor.

5. Discussion of Results

Based on the result, most of the respondents were between 19 to 25 years old; the highest age among the

respondents was 65 years old, while the youngest was only 17 years old. The majority were male and, generally, single. Most of the respondents were only at their college level (college drop-outs), and most were unemployed. Most of the employed respondents had an average monthly income of less than Php8,000. Mostly, they had two dependents and had 4 to 6 family members. Additionally, the majority of the respondents have parents who still live together. Further, most of them started using illegal drugs when they were between 19 to 25 years old, and the majority had been using illegal drugs for more than a year. Most of them were using shabu which is also known as Methamphetamine hydrochloride.

Family-Related Factors

Indicators of family-related factors include parents’ relationship, siblings’ relationship, and spouse relationship. The respondents revealed that they minimally agree that they have a harmonious relationship with their parents. Hence, they moderately agree that their parents did not force them to do things they did not want. They disagree with following their parents’ advice because they thought their family, especially their parents, was not pleased. They felt that they were not important and they were worthless. And this was an indicator of why they use illegal drugs instead. However, they moderately agreed that they had a harmonious relationship with their siblings and spouses.

Table 3: Perceptions on Family-Related Factors.

| Items | Mean | Verbal Description |
|--|-------------|------------------------|
| I have a good relationship with my parents. | 2.25 | Minimally Agree |
| My parents do not force me into doing things that I do not want. | 3.12 | Moderately Agree |
| I always obey my parents. | 2.04 | Minimally Agree |
| My parents' advice really means a lot. | 1.08 | Disagree |
| I have a pleasant relationship with my husband/wife. | 2.92 | Moderately Agree |
| My siblings and I have a harmonious relationship. | 2.84 | Moderately Agree |
| Overall Mean | 2.37 | Minimally Agree |

Psychological Factors

Indicators of Psychological Factors include enjoyment, curiosity, defense mechanism, and peer pressure. It was disclosed that most of the respondents moderately agree that enjoyment for them is an influencing factor in their drug use. Since whenever they take drugs, this provides them with relaxation, pleasure, and contentment. Further, it was moderately agreeable for them that they tried illegal drugs mainly to know its aftereffect. It was also moderately agreeable for them that it was because of their interest and curiosity.

Table 4: Perceptions on Enjoyment Factor.

| Items | Mean | Verbal Description |
|--|-------------|-------------------------|
| I feel relaxed whenever I take illegal drugs. | 3.07 | Moderately Agree |
| I enjoyed doing it since it always provides me pleasure and contentment. | 2.83 | Moderately Agree |
| Overall Mean | 2.95 | Moderately Agree |

Table 5: Perceptions on Curiosity Factor.

| Items | Mean | Verbal Description |
|--|-------------|-------------------------|
| I became interested to try illegal drugs. | 2.85 | Moderately Agree |
| I tried illegal drugs to know how it tastes and what its aftereffect is. | 3.13 | Moderately Agree |
| Overall Mean | 2.99 | Moderately Agree |

Furthermore, respondents strongly agree that taking illegal drugs allows them to work longer and gives them more endurance. Moreover, it was moderately agreeable for them that they can escape from their negative feelings from their personal problems whenever they take drugs.

Table 6: Perceptions on Defense Mechanism Factor.

| Items | Mean | Verbal Description |
|---|-------------|-------------------------|
| I forget my personal problems when I take illegal drugs. | 2.54 | Moderately Agree |
| I used to overcome my school problems when I used illegal drugs. | 2.23 | Minimally Agree |
| I forget my financial problems when I used illegal drugs. | 2.47 | Minimally Agree |
| When I take illegal drugs, I can temporarily forget my family problems. | 2.18 | Minimally Agree |
| Taking drugs allow me to work longer hours. It gave me more endurance. | 3.45 | Agree |
| Overall Mean | 2.58 | Moderately Agree |

Besides, results revealed that it was moderately agreeable for them that their friends introduced and taught them how to use drugs.

Table 7: Perceptions on Peer Pressure Factor.

| Items | Mean | Verbal Description |
|---|-------------|------------------------|
| My friends taught me how to start taking illegal drugs. | 2.87 | Moderately Agree |
| I get teased by my friends for not trying one so I decided to take illegal drugs. | 2.28 | Minimally Agree |
| I became pressured since I felt I was left behind by my friends who are using substance like Shabu and Marijuana. | 2.14 | Minimally Agree |
| My co-workers pushed me to take illegal drugs. | 1.82 | Minimally Agree |
| Overall Mean | 2.28 | Minimally Agree |

Environmental Factor

Because of the availability of illegal drugs, the respondents also disclosed that they moderately agree that they can easily use drugs because they could directly have it from their friends (See Table 8).

Table 8: Perceptions on Environmental Factor.

| Items | Mean | Verbal Description |
|---|-------------|------------------------|
| I can easily use illegal drugs because I could directly obtain it from my friends in the community. | 2.80 | Moderately Agree |
| The illegal drug is affordable. | 2.24 | Minimally Agree |
| Back then, enforcement of anti-drug laws was not that strict. | 2.28 | Minimally Agree |
| Overall Mean | 2.44 | Minimally Agree |

6. Findings of the Study

Based on the study findings, in terms of family-related factors, since the respondents revealed that they had a minimal agreeable relationship with their family, specifically with their parents, it gave them the feeling of unimportant and worthless. This result affirms [11] that these problems occur because of a lack of socialization, which is a long process starting in childhood and lasting into adulthood, and failure to communicate [12]. Families have the most profound impact on the lives of the people who use illegal drugs, especially adolescents. The family is viewed as the fundamental source of strength, nurturing, or providing support to members [12]. Further, Hirschi added that close relations with parents and siblings were essential to controlling an individual's behavior. In addition, the principal reason people use illegal drugs was the poor bonding with parents [11] because family is more complex, it may be a source of problems and tension, persuading weaker members in harmful ways such as destructive drug use [12].

Meanwhile, in terms of the psychological factors, the respondents felt relaxed whenever they took drugs while they enjoyed doing it because of the pleasure and contentment that it provides. Illegal drugs such as shabu and marijuana give the users with beneficial effects like mood elevation, increased attentiveness, and improved physical and mental performance, it also improves the pleasure of social interaction, and decreasing undesirable inhibitions [13]. Further, others take illegal drugs because they assume it seems fun [14] and because of self-esteem and pleasure-seeking [15]. Thus, this brings enjoyment to the users. According to the surrenderees, whenever they use drugs, they can feel joy and felt the pleasure and satisfaction. They enjoyed the moment in which they felt high and confident. Also, they tried illegal drugs because of curiosity, mainly to know its aftereffect and taste, as well as they also became interested in trying the said drugs. The initial use of drugs was because of the predominant influence of curiosity and boredom to occupy their idle time [16]. People are prone to imagine what is in common, especially with their friends, because of the socio-cultural aspect. They tend to use illegal drugs because of curiosity and become thrill-seekers, and they are fond of pursuing adventures to kill boredom. Also, with the beliefs such as that drugs are cool or harmless [4]. Further, this is also because of aggressive behavior, especially in elementary school, may influence individuals to seek dangerous adventures [17]. According to the surrenderees, they became interested in

trying illegal drugs to know their feelings after using them. While others use illegal drugs because it allows them to work longer hours, which gives them more endurance. They can forget their personal problems, financial problems, school problems, and they can temporarily forget their family problems when they use drugs. The General Strain Theory of Agnew supported this that unequal opportunity can produce negative feelings to everyone [18]. Hence, surrenderees use illegal drugs to escape their negative feelings from personal problems, financial problems, family problems, and even school-related problems. One reason for using illegal drugs is to ease the pain of one sort or another, in which drugs bring aid to people suffering not only from physical pain but also as relief from psychological, psychic, and emotional pain [19]. In addition, illegal drugs have rewarding properties, including relief of pain and the ability to escape undesirable outlooks, sentiments, and difficulties due to financial, personal, or even family matters or school-related problems [20]. Further, users take drugs for relaxation to temporarily relieve the pressure of difficulties in their lives [14].

Meanwhile, in terms of environmental factor, it is with their friends that they learned how to use illegal drugs, which made them satisfied and happy because this became an outlet for them to forget their problems somehow. People learned how to use illegal drugs by associating with others who used them [21]. Colleagues are most directly linked as the proximal cause of why people use illegal drugs [22]. Solid bonding with peers can be the primary cause of drug use [23]. Also, because the influence of peer groups is very strong, particularly during the developmental years of youth, some cases may be more robust than that of parents [24]. Further, the association with drug-using peers explains why people use illegal drugs [25]. For some, because of the concept that “everyone is doing it”, it is a kind of peer pressure, and frequently, a person who felt that way does it to fit in with everybody [14]. With peers, most people learned to engage in vices like illegal drug use since they can feel a sense of belongingness [26]. Hence, among all the factors associated with psychological factors, curiosity had the highest weighted mean followed by enjoyment, defense mechanism, and peer pressure. On the other hand, in terms of the environmental factor, the respondents can easily use drugs because they could directly obtain it from their friends in the community. The availability of drugs, especially within the neighborhood, is one factor that influences the person to take illegal drugs [4]. Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency’s (PDEA) annual report also affirms that the availability of various types of dangerous and prohibited drugs encourages drug users to indulge in illegal drug activities. Among the three identified factors that are perceived to be why a person uses illegal drugs, the psychological factors had the highest weighted mean with 2.70, which affirms that psychological factors influence the use of illegal drugs by the surrenderees. The result also shows that because of the environmental factor such as the availability of the said drugs (weighted mean of 2.44) and the poor relationship between the surrenderees and their families with a lowest weighted mean of 2.37, these are also perceived as other factors why they use illegal drugs (See Table 9).

Table 9: Summary Table of the Three Factors.

| Factors | Weighted Mean | Verbal Interpretation |
|------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Family Related Factors | 2.37 | Minimally Agree |
| Psychological Factors | 2.70 | Moderately Agree |
| Environmental Factors | 2.44 | Minimally Agree |
| Grand Mean | 2.50 | Minimally Agree |

Proposed Rehabilitation Program Intervention

With these findings, the best way to help someone influenced by a substance use problem is to intervene as early as possible before the situation worsens. Hence, to address the three factors influencing the use of illegal drugs and help the government to strengthen its existing program and resolve the rampant proliferation of illegal drug activities, the creation of the Pakikibahagi ng Pamilya (Family Involvement) Program and Kilos Pagbabago para sa Surrenderees (Bringing Change for the Surrenderers), an intervention program for the surrenderees for reform were proposed as a concrete plan to neutralize the problem. Further, this program intervention was created through the Focus Group Discussion and Key Informant Interview.

Phase 1

Title of the Program: Pakikibahagi ng Pamilya Program

Nature

This program was designed to involve the families, especially the parents of the surrenderees in their rehabilitation. Because family participation and support will help to the fast recovery of the surrenderees. This program is also known as Family Involvement Program, is live-out counseling good for one week. It will be facilitated by the experienced Social Workers/Interventionists, Nurses from Municipal Health Office (MHO), and Pastors from the Municipal Spiritual Development and Values Restoration (MS-DVR).

Objectives

The primary objective of Pakikibahagi ng Pamilya Program is to introduce the family to recovery and health-giving. Moreover, this program aims to address poor parent-child relationships, family conflict, and even poor parental guidance.

Activities

Table 10: Activities for the 1st Phase of the Intervention Program.

| Duration | Activity(ies) | Facilitator(s) | Participants |
|----------|--------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Day | Family Orientation | - Social Workers/ Interventionist - Nurses from MHO | Parents/ Spouse/ Family Members |
| 6 Days | Family Counseling | - Social Workers/ Interventionist - Nurses from MHO - Pastors from MSDVR | of the 30 Surrenderees |

Expected Outcome(s)

The following are the expected outcomes of the program: (1) Accurate information on the effects of drugs and addiction is presented; (2) Discussed the issues about family matters and its solutions; (3) Parents or other family members will support the recovery of their family member(s) who is/are influenced by illegal drugs; and (4) Achieved harmonious relationship between the surrenderees and their families.

Discussion

Family orientation during the first day will be conducted to disseminate information about the adverse effects of drugs on the health of their loved ones and the community to be facilitated by the experienced Social Workers/Interventionists and Nurses Municipal Health Office (MHO). After which, on the next day, the parents/spouse or at least 1 or 2 members of the family will undergo counseling on how they will interact with their family member who is influenced by illegal drugs. For the reason that the family's outlooks towards drug use and family relationships might influence illegal drug use [20]. Based on the findings, this program will surely help the surrenderees since most respondents have a minimal agreeable relationship with their families.

Phase 2

Title of the Program

Kilos Pagbabago para sa Surrenderees

Nature

This program was designed to come across to the province’s desire of “Walang iwanan” in which no Dabaweño (term used refers to the residents of Davao de Oro Province) is left behind, especially those who had become vulnerable because of their addiction to illegal drugs. This is a 15-day live-in center-based program after the one-week Pakikibahagi ng Pamilya Program. In which surrenderees will be staying in a treatment center to monitor and assess their progress. This will be facilitated by the Nurses from Municipal Health Office (MHO), Social Workers/Interventionists, and Pastors from the Municipal Spiritual Development and Values Restoration (MSDVR). Further, livelihood training will be facilitated by the Community Training and Employment Coordinator (CTEC) in partnership with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA). It will be done per batch composed of thirty (30) participants for every batch. This is to give full attention to the rehabilitation of the participants.

Objectives

The primary objective of Kilos Pagbabago para sa Surrenderees Program is to help the surrenderees reform and refrain from using illegal drugs and increase their quality of life.

Activities

Table 11: Activities for the 2nd Phase of the Intervention Program.

| Duration | Activity(ies) | Facilitator(s) | Participants |
|----------|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1 Day | Family Orientation | - Social Workers/ Interventionists - Nurses from MHO | 30 Surrenderees |
| 5 Days | Spiritual Retreat | - Social Workers/ Interventionists - Pastors from MSDVR | |
| 2 Days | Social Activities (e.g. Sports Fest) | - Social Workers/ Interventionists - Nurses from MHO - Pastors from MSDVR | |
| 3 Days | Spiritual Retreat | - Social Workers/ Interventionists - Pastors from MSDVR | |
| 2 Days | Livelihood Training | - CTEC in partnership with TESDA | |
| 1 Day | Social Activities (e.g. Sports Fest) | - Social Workers/ Interventionists - Nurses from MHO - Pastors from MSDVR | |
| 1 Day | Culmination | - Social Workers/ Interventionists - Nurses from MHO - Pastors from MSDVR | |

Expected Outcome(s)

The following are the expected outcomes of the program: (1) Surrenderees will be oriented on the negative or adverse effects of illegal drugs and stop using them; (2) Conducted one on one counseling during Spiritual Retreat; (3) Conducted social activities like sports fest, etc.; (4) Conducted livelihood training for the surrenderees; (5) After the program, surrenderees were transformed and increased their well-being; and (6) Become employed or self-employed with the help of the Local Government Unit (LGU) and Non-Government

Organizations (NGOs).

Discussion

By the time the Surrendered surrendered, they will be assessed through a laboratory test by the MHO to know their level of dependency to primarily evaluate the level of intervention needed. Initially, they will be oriented on the negative or adverse effects of using illegal drugs to be facilitated by the nurses from the Municipal Health Office (MHO). After which, for two weeks, a Spiritual Retreat will be conducted and facilitated by the Social Workers/Interventionists and Pastors from the Municipal Spiritual Development and Values Restoration (MSDVR). In which the Social Workers/Interventionists and Pastors will be having a one-on-one conversation with the surrendered. Social activities like sports fest will accompany this to divert surrendereds' attention and refrain from using illegal drugs. Since, based on the findings, most of the surrendereds were struggling with their personal problems, a spiritual retreat is helpful for them to reflect and be reminded how valuable they are and feel a sense of community. This will also develop their self-confidence and can boost their morale. At the same time, they will also undergo livelihood training to be facilitated by the Community Training and Employment Coordinator (CTEC) of the Municipality in partnership with TESDA. Then, culmination will follow. There should be an office to lead the implementation and will support the administrative work. Figure 2 shows the Program Management Structure for the said proposed program intervention. Furthermore, a budgetary requirement of Php 1,500,000 may be allocated for a total of 10 batches of surrendereds (30 participants for every batch) and 1-week of family counseling per batch.

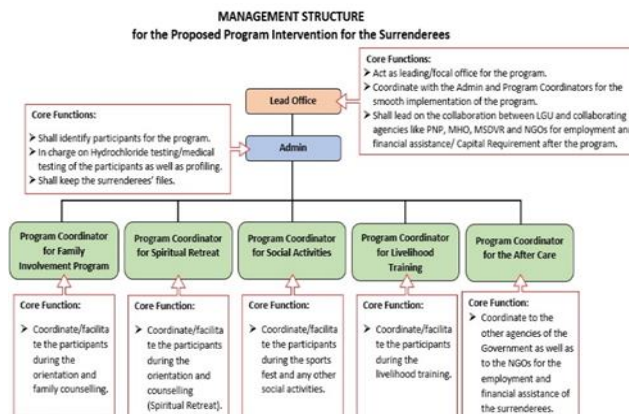


Figure 2: Program Management Structure for the Surrendered.

On the one hand, aftercare should be given emphasis. The surrendereds will be employed after the said program. The LGU shall coordinate with the other agencies or NGOs to find employment or even support them in starting their own business. Through this, they will not revert to the use of illegal drugs.

7. Conclusion

The respondents' relationship with their parents has a contributing factor to why they use illegal drugs. Thus, parental nurturing and communication are substantial. Moreover, a solid relationship with peers also influenced the respondents' drug intake because spending more time with friends enables them to acquire vices. Their curiosity also became a contributing factor to why they tried to use drugs. Hence, they became relaxed, enjoyed, and able to obtain pleasure and contentment which they had not felt inside their home. Drugs also gave them more endurance to continue working even longer hours. Further, aside from the availability of illegal drugs where they can directly obtain it from their friends in the community, another influencing factor in using illegal drugs was escaping from their negative feelings like personal problems, financial problems, school problems, or even family problems. This will allow them to forget somehow whatever complications they encounter in life.

The province's initiative to develop an intervention program such as Oplan Liwanag was considered a support for the rehabilitation of the surrenderees. But the program is just a community-based program, not a center-based. In which a center-based program is more needed to ensure intensive assessment and follow-up. Therefore, "Pakikibahagi ng Pamilya (Family Involvement) Program" and a center-based "Kilos Pagbabago para sa Surrenderees (Bringing Change for the Surrenderers)" were the proposed program intervention for the surrenderees. A one-week live-out "Pakikibahagi ng Pamilya (Family Involvement) Program," which focuses on introducing the family to recovery and health-giving, is needed because the parents of the surrenderees or the members of the family need to undergo counseling first before they can effectively interact and provide advice to their family member(s) who is/are influenced by illegal drugs. This program is also helpful to address poor parent-child relationships, family conflict, and poor parental guidance, which considers why surrenderees use illegal drugs. Of course, this program will be successful with the help of the experienced Social Workers/Interventionists, Nurses from the Municipal Health Office (MHO), and Pastors from the Municipal Spiritual Development and Values Restoration (MSDVR).

Furthermore, a center-based program, "Kilos Pagbabago para sa Surrenderees" (Bringing Change for the Surrenderers) is deemed a successful program that will help rehabilitate the surrenderees. Staying in a treatment center will allow them to reflect and prevent themselves from returning from the use of illegal drugs. Hence, the facilitators can effectually monitor them and assess their progress. This one-day orientation, two-week spiritual retreat, social activities, and livelihood training will enormously help them recover and stimulate their inner being to be reminded of their value and build self-esteem. Besides, after two weeks, with the collaboration of the LGU and NGOs, surrenderees will acquire jobs that will help divert their attention, increase their quality of life and refrain from using illegal drugs.

Acknowledgements

The Author would like to thank the respondents of the study particularly the surrenderees of Poblacion, New Bataan, Davao de Oro, as well as the Philippine National Police - New Bataan, the Barangay Captain of Barangay Cabinuangan, the Municipal Social Welfare and Development (New Bataan), the Human Resource Management Office (New Bataan), Municipal Health Office, the Pastor/Chairman of the Municipal Spiritual

Development and Values Restoration (MSDVR), and the Davao de Oro State College-New Bataan Branch.

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