



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
REGION VII – CENTRAL VISAYAS  
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF NEGROS ORIENTAL

**Office of the Schools Division  
Superintendent**

MEMORANDUM

MLA-2022- 268

TO : **ASST. SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS**  
**MS. KARLA P. ANTONIO**, EPS II  
**DR. KARL T. CREDO**, Planning Officer III  
**MS. KATHLEEN JOY U. JUNTILLA**, Nurse II

FROM : For the Schools Division Superintendents:

*atm*  
**RACHEL B. PICARDAL EdD**  
Chief Education Supervisor *6/3/22*  
School Governance and Operations Division

SUBJECT : **COURTESY MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM  
FRED HOLLOWES FOUNDATION (FHF)**

DATE : June 2, 2022

1. Attached is a communication from Helen S. Paina of Fred Hollows Foundation (FHF) requesting for a Courtesy Meeting on June 6, 2022 at 10:00 AM at the SDO Conference Room.
2. The said activity is in support of the implementation of the National Vision Screening Program (NSVP) among our Kindergarten children.
3. Under the Child Blindness Program, the project will run for 16 months which started on November 2021 until March 2023.
4. Data on the following will be discussed and must be prepared before the meeting:
  - a. identified 100 Kindergarten Teachers who will participate in the Face-to-Face Orientation on Primary Eye Care (with gender segregated data);
  - b. identified of 25 selected School Health Personnel who will participate in the Face-to-Face Orientation on Primary Eye Care (with gender segregated data);
  - c. identified of additional 200 Teachers (priority from Kindergarten, soe could be parents) to be oriented via online or face-to-face skills transfer on Primary Eye Care (with gender segregated data); and
  - d. identified of at least 2 focal persons for the project acting as coordinators and 1 team leader to be working closely with CEHP Coordinator of the Provincial Health Office and Provincial Eye Health Team Focal
5. For information and compliance

SPP/JMA-MKP-NLR/SGOD/RBP/kpanton

JUN 03 2022

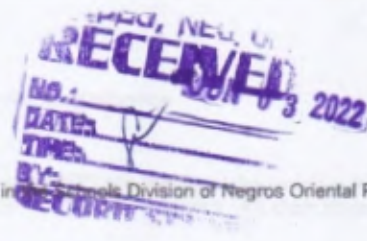


Address: Kagawasan Avenue, Capitol Area, Daro, Dumaguete City  
Telephone Nos.: (035)225-2838 / 225-0667 / 422-7644  
Email Address: negros.oriental@deped.gov.ph

**Request for a Courtesy Meeting Re: USAID's National Vision Screening for the Kindergarten Children in the Schools Division of Negros Oriental Province**

Kathleen Joy Uy <kathleenjoy.uy@deped.gov.ph>  
kecylien.omale@gmail.com

Fri, Jun 3, 2022 at 2:44 PM



----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Helen Piana** <hpiana@hollows.org>  
Date: Wed, Jun 1, 2022 at 4:49 PM  
Subject: FW: Request for a Courtesy Meeting Re: USAID's National Vision Screening for the Kindergarten Children in the Schools Division of Negros Oriental Province  
To: kathleenjoy.uy@deped.gov.ph <kathleenjoy.uy@deped.gov.ph>

From: Helen Piana  
Sent: Wednesday, 1 June 2022 4:04 pm  
To: senen.paulin@deped.gov.ph; jnnfr\_remo@ yahoo.com.com.au; maputisarah48@gmail.com  
Cc: ilandestacion.iph@gmail.com; maputisarah48@gmail.com; Maria Victoria Rondaris <mrondaris@hollows.org>; lilibeth.gonzales006@deped.gov.ph; GIRLIE AZURIN <girlie.azurin@deped.gov.ph>; Ma. Lee Alpuerto <malee.alpuerto001@deped.gov.ph>; Christy Janice Roxas <croxas@hollows.org>  
Subject: Request for a Courtesy Meeting Re: USAID's National Vision Screening for the Kindergarten Children in the Schools Division of Negros Oriental Province

**SENEN PRISCILLO P. PAULIN, CESO V**  
Schools Division Superintendent  
Schools Division of Negros Oriental Province

Dear SDS PAULIN,

Greetings from the Fred Hollows Foundation!

The Fred Hollows Foundation (FHF) is an International Development Organization which has been working with the Department of Health (DOH) since 2014 under its Eye Health Program.

In support to RA 11358, also known as the National Vision Screening Act, FHF was contracted by USAID last November 2021 to implement the National Vision Screening Program (NVSP) among the kindergarten children in the Schools Division of Negros Oriental, Antique, Quezon, and Oriental Mindoro in partnership with the Department of Education and the Local Government Units of the above-mentioned provinces.

Under the Child Blindness Program, the project engagement will run for 16 months which started last November 2021 and will end on March 14, 2023.

Our partnership with the Department of Education officially started last May 03, 2022, with the issuance of a Letter of Agreement as a substitute to the MOA. As agreed, the LOA partnership will last for 5 years starting from the official date of signing. A Memorandum Order No. 00-0522-0058 from the Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA) was issued entitled "Implementation of the Child Blindness Program for Kindergarten Learners". This was signed last May 12, 2022, by Undersecretary Alain Del B. Pascua and was released to the covered 4 Schools Division Offices last May 13, 2022.

In our desire for partners at the division level to fully appreciate and understand the whole project, we will be very grateful if we will be given the opportunity to sit down with you on June 02, 2022, at 10:00 in the morning. We will also appreciate it very much if your Assistant Schools Division Superintendent together with representatives from the Education Support Services Division (ESSD), School Governance and Operation Division (SGOD), Planning Office, ESchool Health Personnel In-charge, and some of his/her team can also join the meeting.

The presence of the above-mentioned personnel will help the smooth implementation of the project with your strong support and full support to the project.

On our side, I will be joined by Ms. Suzette Gellangcanao, our Program Officer, and Ms. Sarah Mapuli of the Integrated Provincial Health Office who is the Coordinator for Community Eye Health Program in the Province.

In line with the OUA Memorandum, we would like to request that the following data be identified and gathered prior to our scheduled courtesy meeting as this information will serve as basis for the take-off of the NSVP project.





of 100 Kindergarten Teachers who will participate in the Face-to-Face Orientation on Primary Eye Care (with gender segregated Data).  
on of 25 selected School Health Personnel who will participate in the Face-to-Face Orientation on Primary Eye Care (with gender segregated data).  
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segregated data).  
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vincial Eye Health Team Focal in the implementation of the National Vision Screening Project for Kindergarten Learners in the Schools Division of Negros Oriental.

will be very happy if the needed date will be made available during our courtesy visit.

Attached is a Project Brief, Project Implementation Schedule, Travel Plan and a copy of the OUA Memorandum for your easy reference.

Lastly, would it be possible to already identify focals from Health and Nutrition Section, representatives from ESSD and SGOD who will attend the Inception Planning? This activity will happen on the following day which is June 03, 2022 from 8:30am to 4:00pm to be held at Queen Margaret Hotel for the purpose of discussing next steps forward as well as the collaboration mechanism that we hope to establish with IPHO.

Should you have any clarification, please feel free to contact me at mobile no. 09176752367 or email me at [hpiana@hollows.org](mailto:hpiana@hollows.org).




Looking forward to finally meet you and your team.

Very truly yours,

HELEN S. PIANA,

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**3 attachments**

-  **OUAMemo\_05220058\_Implementation of NVSP with Fred Hollows Foundation\_20220512.pdf**  
481K
-  **CBP046-FHF-Philippines-Implementation Schedule (GANTT Chart) March 5.22.xlsx**  
35K
-  **National Vision Screening Program for Kindergarten Students in the Philippines - Project Brief - FINAL.pdf**  
315K



Request for a Courtesy Meeting Re: USAID's National Vision Screening for the Kindergarten Children in the Schools Division of Negros Oriental Province

sen Joy Uy <kathleenjoy.uy@deped.gov.ph>  
kecylien.omale@gmail.com

Fri, Jun 3, 2022 at 2:47 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Helen Piana <hpiana@hollows.org>

Date: Wed, Jun 1, 2022 at 4:42 PM

Subject: RE: Request for a Courtesy Meeting Re: USAID's National Vision Screening for the Kindergarten Children in the Schools Division of Negros Oriental Province

To: senen.paulin@deped.gov.ph <senen.paulin@deped.gov.ph>, jnnfr\_remollo@yahoo.com.au <jnnfr\_remollo@yahoo.com.com.au>, kathleenjoy.uy@deped.gov.ph <kathleenjoy.uy@deped.gov.ph>

CC: lilandestacion.ipho@gmail.com <lilandestacion.ipho@gmail.com>, maputisarah48@gmail.com <maputisarah48@gmail.com>, lilibeth.gonzales006@deped.gov.ph <lilibeth.gonzales006@deped.gov.ph>, GIRLIE AZURIN <girlie.azurin@deped.gov.ph>, Ma. Lee Alpuerto <malee.alpuerto001@deped.gov.ph>

12 May 2022

Dear SDS Paulin,

My sincere apologies for the confusion, the date is WRONG, it's NOT June 02, the CORRECT date will be on June 06, Monday (next week) once again, my sincere apologies for overlooking the date of our meeting.

Sincerely,

HELEN

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

Regional Directors  
Regions IV-A, IV-B, VI and VII  
Schools Division Offices of Quezon, Oriental Mindoro,  
Antique and Negros Oriental  
Subject: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHILD BLINDNESS PROGRAM  
(CBP) FOR KINDERGARTEN LEARNERS

The Department of Education, in cooperation with the Department of Health and the Fred Hollows Foundation, will implement the National Vision Screening Program (NVSP) as mandated in the National Vision Screening Act 11358 of 2019.

The Child Blindness Program (CBP) of the NVSP aims to screen all kindergarten learners in public schools from ages 3 to 6 to detect early childhood vision problems.

It will provide primary eye care training for teachers and school health personnel, perform vision screening with the use of a photo screener and collect related data.

The activities will specifically target the detection of refractive error and other childhood blindness issues among learners in Quezon, Oriental Mindoro, Antique and Negros Oriental.

As pilot sites, each of the four Schools Division Offices (SDOs) in the provinces mentioned above will identify 8,750 kindergarten learners for screening.

Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OSA)

Administrative Services, Training and Communications Technology Center (ATCC)  
Director's Office and Management Services (DOMS), Office of General Support Services (OGSS), Special Services Group (SSG), Central Library & Study (CLSSG)

Department of Education, Central Office, Marikina Avenue, Pasig City  
Rm 719, Marikina Bldg., Marikina 1600  
Email: [osa@deped.gov.ph](mailto:osa@deped.gov.ph), [osa@deped.gov.ph](mailto:osa@deped.gov.ph), [osa@deped.gov.ph](mailto:osa@deped.gov.ph)  
Social Media: [www.facebook.com/osa.deped](https://www.facebook.com/osa.deped), [twitter.com/osa\\_deped](https://twitter.com/osa_deped)







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Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim



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**OUA MEMO 00-0522-0058**

**MEMORANDUM**

12 May 2022

For: **Regional Directors  
Regions IV-A, IV-B, VI and VII  
Schools Division Superintendents  
Schools Division Offices of Quezon, Oriental Mindoro,  
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**Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA)**

*[Administrative Service (AS), Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS), Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS), Bureau of Learner Support Services (BLSS), Baguio Teachers Camp (BTC), Central Security & Safety Office (CSSO)]*

Department of Education, Central Office, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City  
Rm 519, Mabini Bldg.; Mobile: +639260320762; Tel: (+632) 86337203, (+632) 86376207  
Email: usec.admin@deped.gov.ph; Facebook/Twitter @depedayo



Email Address: negros.oriental@deped.gov.ph

**Prior to the this, 100 kindergarten teachers and 25 school health personnel will be trained face to face on primary eye care.**

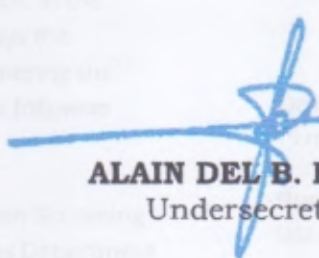
Meanwhile, 200 teachers per SDO will be oriented by the trained teachers and school health personnel online for skills transfer on basic eye health.

In this regard, Regional Directors, Education Support Service Division (ESSD) Chiefs, Schools Division Superintendents and School Governance and Operations Division (SGOD) Chiefs are urged to support the program.

The school health personnel are also directed to monitor and validate the activities.

For questions and concerns, please contact **Ms. Girlie A. Azurin**, Senior Education Program Specialist, and **Ma. Lee L. Alpuerto**, Nurse II, National Vision Screening Program Coordinator and Bureau of Learner Support Services-School Health Division (LSS-SHD) lead for Medical and Nursing Services, through cellphone number (02) 8632-9935 or email at [blss.shd@deped.gov.ph](mailto:blss.shd@deped.gov.ph).

For your proper guidance.

  
**ALAIN DEL B. PASCUA**  
Undersecretary



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# National Vision Screening Program for Kindergarten Students in the Philippines

## The Issue

Vision impairment is a major public health concern in the Philippines with more than 2 million people impacted. On top of this 4 million people are living with undiagnosed eye problems. Children make up about 31% of the country's population. Four students out of an average class of 40 will have vision impairment. If left untreated, this could have life-long consequences. The vast majority of what a child learns is processed through vision and visual aids, making good vision critical to a child's ability to participate in education. Untreated eye health issues need to be identified early, otherwise children are at a disadvantage and may fall behind in school enrollment, educational performance, and completion.

## Our Project

The cost of school eye health programs is relatively low, making them an affordable solution for governments to ensure an inclusive education system. However, few countries implement a national approach. In the Philippines, however, the new National Vision Screening Act lays the foundation for that, with the aim of ensuring every student entering the school system receives an eye test and is supported to receive followup treatment and long-term care.

The Fred Hollows Foundation will implement the National Vision Screening Program in four provinces, working closely with the Philippines Department of Education and Department of Health, to ensure kindergarten students have access to vision screening early in life. This will also support the long-term success of the program and expansion to other provinces in the country.

The project will:

- Identify and treat kindergarten pupils for refractive error and other childhood blindness conditions.
- Provide immediate attention to visually-impaired kindergarten pupils and create a referral system so that they may be checked and treated by eye care practitioners.
- Draw on best practice examples to inform government programming and policy and improve roll-out of the national vision screening program in other provinces.

Teachers will be given the tools and training to conduct in-class eye screening, as well as referral pathways where necessary, and compliance monitoring to ensure a strong continuum of care for students with vision impairment.



## Duration

16 months

## Funded by

USAID Child Blindness Program

## Location

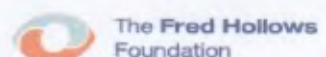
Philippines

## Partners

Philippines Department of Education and Ministry of Health, Provincial Governments of Antique, Negros Oriental, Oriental Mindoro, and Quezon

## Contact

**Casey McCowan**  
Global ODA Program Manager  
The Fred Hollows Foundation  
cmccowan@hollows.org



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