

BatStateU Pablo Borbon Campus and Rotary Club Batangas Chapter join forces to empower Sama-Bajau mothers through nutrition education



In a concerted effort to address the pressing nutrition concerns of Sama-Bajau mothers in Batangas City, Batangas State University Pablo Borbon Campus has forged a valuable partnership with the Rotary Club (RC) Batangas Chapter. This groundbreaking collaboration was initiated during the last quarter of 2022 and carries significant implications for the well-being of this indigenous community.

The primary goal of this partnership is to implement the *Pamilyang Planado Panalo* Program (3Ps) with a special focus on family planning education for the Sama-Bajau population in Batangas City. The 3Ps program is designed to empower this community with comprehensive knowledge about family planning, maternal health, and nutrition.

The overarching objectives of this initiative are ambitious yet crucial. The partners aim to educate at least 75% of the Sama-Bajau community on various aspects of family planning, including its benefits, methods, and associated risk factors. Moreover, the program strives to reduce the prevalence of unwanted births within the Sama-Bajau community by at least 15%. These targets signify a significant step toward enhancing the reproductive health of this indigenous group in Batangas City.

Beyond the core training component, the project will encompass a comprehensive assessment of health needs specific to the Sama-Bajau mothers. This assessment will serve as the foundation for the provision of technical assistance and other health services support, ensuring that the community's needs are adequately addressed. The collaborative efforts of BatStateU PB and RC Batangas Chapter aim to create a sustainable framework that will guide their future initiatives.

In their role as partners, RC Batangas Chapter will offer vital logistical support, essential materials, and equipment necessary for the successful implementation of the project. Additionally, they will play a pivotal role in monitoring and evaluating the progress of the initiative, ensuring that it remains on track to meet its goals.

The project is scheduled to continue until the second quarter of 2023, during which time the partners will work diligently to achieve their objectives. This partnership exemplifies the power of collaboration in addressing pressing health and nutrition challenges within marginalized communities, and it is anticipated to have a lasting positive impact on the Sama-Bajau mothers in Batangas City.