



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VIII - EASTERN VISAYAS

July 18, 2023

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

CLMD-2023- **442**

COURTESY VISIT AND ORIENTATION ON GABAY'S EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

To: Dr. Harvie D. Villamor, Chief, CLMD
Dr. Rosemarie Guino, Chief, ESSD
Mr. Dean Ric M. Endriano, Regional SPED Coordinator
Dr. Dandy G. Acuin, EPS, CLMD
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is a letter from Dr. Yolanda S. Quijano, Chief of Party, Gabay Project-Resources for the Blind, Inc. (RBI), requesting to conduct an orientation on the project's extension activities at the DepEd Regional Office VIII on July 24, 2023, 9:00 am at the Convergence Zone.
2. The activity aims to realize the following objectives:
 - a. Present the Gabay Project extension in detail;
 - b. Explore collaborative ways to strengthen the inclusion of children with disabilities through the Inclusive Learning Resource center (ILRC); and
 - c. Seek approval on the establishment of a modular ILRC.
3. Attendance of the identified participants is expected since they will serve as key focal persons in the implementation of the project.
4. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.

fjm
EVELYN R. FETALVERO, CESO IV
Regional Director

Enclosures: As stated
References: As stated

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

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RECORDS SECTION, REGIONAL OFFICE NO. VIII

RELEASED

442

By: *[Signature]* Date: 7/19/23

PROJECT GABAY

CLMD-DME





RESOURCES FOR THE BLIND, INC. (RBI)

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<https://www.facebook.com/resourcesfortheblind/> [resourcesfortheblindph](https://www.instagram.com/resourcesfortheblindph) [RBI_PH](https://www.tiktok.com/@RBI_PH)

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**Amelia M. Torrente**  
Executive Director

July 7, 2023

**DR. EVELYN R. FETALVERO**

Regional Director  
Region VIII- Eastern Visayas  
Department of Education

ATTENTION: **DR. MARIZA S. MAGAN**  
Schools Division Superintendent  
Division of Leyte

**Subject: COURTESY VISITS AND ORIENTATIONS FOR GABAY'S 18 MONTHS EXTENSION ACTIVITIES**

Dear Director Fetalvero,

Warmest greetings from Gabay Project, Resources for the Blind, Inc. (RBI)!

We are delighted to inform you that the extension of the Gabay Project for 18 months (July 2023 - December 2024) has been approved by the DepEd Central Office and USAID. We express our heartfelt gratitude to you and all the other DepEd officials who have supported the extension. These extension activities are aligned with DepEd's MATATAG Agenda, particularly in enhancing the curriculum by focusing on foundational skills and strengthening inclusive education programs.

We are pleased to share that the **Division of Leyte** has been selected as one of the recipients of the project extension, in addition to the Divisions of Maasin City and Southern Leyte, where we have been working for the past four years. Our current focus is to build upon the foundation of these four years and create a Modular Inclusive Learning Resource Center (ILRC) catering to learners with disabilities, as provided for in RA11650 "An Act Instituting A Policy Of Inclusion And Services For Learners With Disabilities In Support Of Inclusive Education Establishing Inclusive Learning Resource Centers Of Learners with Disabilities In All Schools Districts, Municipalities And Cities, Providing For Standards, Appropriating Funds Therefor, And For Other Purposes," signed by President Roa Duterte on March 11, 2022.

Recently, we had the privilege of conducting a courtesy visit and providing a brief orientation about the project to DepEd USEC Gina Gonong and other officials at the Central Office on June 29, 2023. The meeting was highly productive, and we are thrilled to share that USEC Gonong has approved all our planned activities for the upcoming months.

Therefore, we kindly request a visit to your office on **Monday, July 24, 2023, from 9:00-10:30 AM** to provide an orientation about the project extension. We kindly ask that you and the Assistant Regional Director, **Dr. Ronelo Al K. Firmo**, be joined by the following officials:

- **Dr. Harvie D. Villamor**, Chief Education Program Supervisor, Curriculum and Learning Management Division;



- **Dr. Rosemarie M. Guino**, Chief Education Program Supervisor, Education Support Services Division;
- **Mr. Dean Ric Endriano**, Education Program Supervisor In-Charge of SPED; and
- Other officials whom you deem important in the project's implementation

The objectives of this activity are to i) present the Gabay Project extension in comprehensive detail, ii) explore collaborative ways to strengthen the inclusion of children with disabilities in your region through the ILRC, and iii) seek your approval as well as the Division Supt. of Leyte that Tanauan 1 Central School be the ILRC in that district. This school has been selected by Gabay based on the following criteria: 1) the school has enrolled children who are blind, deaf, and other learners with disabilities; and 2) there are SPED or GenEd teachers handling these children, based on the data we obtained from your Office.

Additionally, we would like to request a similar meeting in the Division of Leyte on the same day at 2 PM with the Schools Division Superintendent, **Dr. Mariza Magan**, Chief of CID, **Dr. Felicidad Espinosa**, Division SPED Supervisor, **Dr. Socorro Ausa**, the Public Schools District Supervisor of Tanauan District, and the School Head of Tanauan 1 Central School. As their office is within the area, we understand that it may be convenient for them to attend the Orientation at the Regional Office instead. But we will gladly follow your decision on this matter.


Furthermore, we kindly request a visit and orientation to the prospective school for the ILRC, Tanauan 1 Central School, on July 25, 2023, at 9 AM together with the SPED Regional and Division Supervisors. We will do the same orientation to the Hon. Mayor of Tanauan in the afternoon and we have prepared a letter for him. Please find attached the details of the visits and orientations.

The USAID Agreement Officer Representative, Mr. Henry Grageda will be joining the Gabay team composed of RBI Executive Director, Ms. Amelia Torrente, Deputy Chief of Party, Ms. Amy Mojica, and other staff members together with me.

Ms. Fatima Ria Publico, Project Field Coordinator will contact your Secretary on this matter. But if you have urgent concerns, your Secretary can contact her thru email, [publicofatima@gmail.com](mailto:publicofatima@gmail.com), landline (02) 8726 3021 to 24, or mobile phone at 0960-415-7039.

We genuinely appreciate your consideration of this request and extend our blessings to all of you.

Very truly yours,

  
**YOLANDA S. QUIJANO, Ed.D.**  
 Chief of Party, GABAY

**ANNEX 1  
SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES  
July 24-25, 2023**

**A. Courtesy Visits and Orientations at the Regional Office (Proposed date:  
July 24, 2023)**

| Est. Nos. of<br>Hours | PROPOSED ACTIVITY                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10 minutes            | Meet and Greet with the Regional Director & other officials<br>Introduction of the Gabay Team and DepEd Officials |
| 10 mins.              | Four Years Accomplishments of Gabay (AVP)                                                                         |
| 30 mins.              | Overview of the Gabay Extension<br>Presentation of the Work Plan                                                  |
| 30 mins.              | Regional Director's & Other Officials'<br>Questions/Comments/Recommendations<br>Agreements                        |

**B. Courtesy Visits and Orientations at the Division Office (Proposed date:  
July 24, 2023)**

| Est. Nos. of<br>Hours | PROPOSED ACTIVITY                                                                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10 minutes            | Meet and Greet with the SDS<br>Introduction of the Gabay Team and DepEd Officials |
| 5 mins                | Overview of the Gabay Project                                                     |
| 10 mins               | Four Years Accomplishments of Gabay (AVP)                                         |
| 30 mins               | Overview of the Gabay Extension<br>Presentation of the Work Plan                  |

**C. Courtesy Visit and Orientation at the Proposed ILRC, Tanauan 1 CS  
with the School Head and Other Invited Officials**

|            |                                                                      |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10 minutes | Meet and Greet<br>Introduction of the Gabay Team and DepEd Officials |
| 5 mins     | Overview of the Gabay Project                                        |
| 10 mins    | Four Years Accomplishments of Gabay (AVP)                            |
| 30 mins    | Overview of the Gabay Extension<br>Presentation of the Work Plan     |
|            | Terms of Reference for the School & Gabay<br>Needs Analysis          |