



REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
ESSD – 2025 – 1149

To: Schools Division Superintendents) Division of Agusan del Norte
) Division of Butuan City
) Division of Cabadbaran City
All Others Concerned

NATIONAL ORIENTATION ON THE MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE AND
MANAGEMENT TOOLKIT- BATCH 2

1. In reference to the Office of the Undersecretary for Governance and Operations Memorandum No. 2025-08-04822 dated October 16, 2025, the Bureau of Learner Support Services – School Health Division (BLSS-SHD) will conduct a **National Orientation on the Mental Health Crisis Response and Management (MHCRM) Toolkit – Batch 2**, on **November 18-21, 2025**, at the **DepEd NEAP, General Santos City**.
2. This activity aims to ensure a systematic, timely, and quality service delivery to learners experiencing mental health crises.
3. In this regard, the following personnel are requested to attend this activity:

Division	Name of Personnel
Agusan del Norte	Maryline A. Basilio
Butuan City	Elynor Sayson
Cabadbaran City	Jocelyn S. Basnillo
4. Participants are requested to register through this link: <https://tinyurl.com/Reg-form-MHCRM-Toolkit-Batch-2> on or before October 31, 2025.
5. Travel expenses shall be charged to the downloaded fund. Any excess shall be charged to any available local funds subject to the existing government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.
6. Attached is a copy of the reference memorandum for your guidance and reference.
7. For information and dissemination.

MARIA INES C. ASUNCION
Director IV
Regional Director

ESSD/jcc
10/28/2025



Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

MEMORANDUM
DM-OUOPS-2025-08-04822

TO : REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND BARMM EDUCATION MINISTER

FROM :  **MALCOLM S. GARMAG**
Undersecretary for Governance and Operations

SUBJECT : **NATIONAL ORIENTATION ON THE MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS
RESPONSE AND MANAGEMENT TOOLKIT – BATCH 2**

DATE : October 16, 2025

DepEd is committed to promoting and protecting the mental health and well-being of learners by fulfilling its mandates under **R.A. 11036** or the *Mental Health Act* and **R.A. 12080** or the *Basic Education Mental Health and Wellbeing Promotion Act*. To ensure the relevance of DepEd's mental health initiatives pursuant to the said mandates, the Bureau of Learner Support Services – School Health Division (BLSS-SHD) established the **School Mental Health Program (SMHP)**.

One of the key components of the School Mental Health Program (SMHP) is the **Mental Health Crisis Response and Management (MHCRM)**. The MHCRM mechanism shall be activated during situations involving mental health crises, disasters, emergencies, or child protection concerns. It ensures that affected learners receive timely and appropriate mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) interventions.

To operationalize MHCRM, this Office has drafted the guidelines and protocols for the effective response, management, reporting, and monitoring of mental health crisis cases. As part of this effort, the Bureau of Learner Support Services – School Health Division (BLSS-SHD) will conduct a **National Orientation on the Mental Health Crisis Response and Management Toolkit – Batch 2 on November 18-21, 2025 at DepEd NEAP – General Santos City**. This activity is crucial in ensuring a systematic, timely, and quality service delivery to learners experiencing mental health crises. Attached are the following for your reference: Indicative program (Annex A), Travel Advisory (Annex B), Safeguarding guidelines (Annex C)

In this regard, BLSS-SHD invites **two-three (2-3) participants per region** to the said activity: This consists of the SDO SMHP Focal and a school-based registered guidance counselor. For confirmation of attendance, participants are requested to individually register through this link: <https://tinyurl.com/Reg-form-MHCRM-Toolkit-Batch-2> on or before **October 31, 2025, Friday**.

For questions and further clarifications, please contact **Belle Beatrice D. Hombrebueno**, Technical Assistant II, through Viber number **09153857653**. You may also reach out to the BLSS-School Health Division, through email at blss.shd@deped.gov.ph.



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CONDUCT OF NATIONAL ORIENTATION ON MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE AND MANAGEMENT TOOLKIT

CONCEPT NOTE

I. Background

As of 2022, the DepEd Mental Health-Related Statistics and Facts indicated that from S.Y. From 2017 to 2022, schools reported that 400–2000 students attempted suicide each year, and around 200–500 students lost their lives to suicide. In S.Y. 2022-2023, 941 cases of suicide attempts and 198 cases of suicide among learners were reported by schools and DepEd field offices. These data showed the severity of mental health concerns among learners. Suicide remains the fourth most common cause of death for individuals aged 15 to 29 years. Although reported suicides among students account for just 1% of all enrollments, it deems necessary to establish a mental health crisis response and management mechanism. It shall provide the structure for how the department can mobilize its human resources at all governance levels in response to the immediate mental health needs of the learners.

DepEd is committed to promoting and protecting the mental health and well-being of learners by fulfilling its mandates under **R.A 11036** or the *Mental Health Act* and **R.A. 12080** or the *Basic Education Mental Health and Wellbeing Promotion Act*. To ensure the relevance of DepEd's mental health initiatives pursuant to the said mandates, the **Bureau of Learner Support Services – School Health Division (BLSS-SHD)** established the **School Mental Health Program (SMHP)**.

One of the key components of SMHP is the **Mental Health Crisis Response and Management (MHCRM)**. The MHCRM mechanism shall be activated during situations involving mental health crises, disasters, emergencies, or child protection concerns. It ensures that affected learners receive timely and appropriate mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) interventions.

To operationalize MHCRM, this Office has drafted the guidelines and protocols for the effective response, management, reporting, and monitoring of mental health crisis cases, which are planned for release this August in preparation for Suicide Prevention Month. As part of this effort of BLSS-SHD, this Office will conduct a **National Orientation on the Mental Health Crisis Response and Management Toolkit – Batch 2 on November 18-21, 2025 at DepEd NEAP – General Santos City**. This activity is crucial in ensuring a systematic, timely, and quality service delivery to learners experiencing mental health crises.

II. Objectives

At the end of the orientation, the participants shall be able to:

- a. To orient relevant DepEd personnel in guidelines and protocols for managing mental health crises in school settings.
- b. To strengthen case management, which includes strategies to monitor, support, and follow up with learners experiencing mental health crisis.
- c. Establish clear and efficient referral systems to ensure learners experiencing mental health crises are quickly connected to appropriate mental health professionals, community resources, and support services, facilitating timely and specialized care.

III. Program Design

A. Availability of Funds

The activity will be charged to LSP FY 2025 Current Funds.

B. Target Participants

The target participants for this workshop are:

DepEd Central Office	(5) SHD Personnel (1) Highly Technical Consultant
External Participants	(2) Resource Persons
DepEd Regional Office (16 regions)	(2) Region 1
	(3) Region 2
	(2) Region 3
	(3) Region 4A
	(2) Region 4B
	(3) Region 5
	(3) Region 6
	(3) Region 7
	(2) Region 8
	(2) Region 9
	(3) Region 10
	(2) Region 11
	(2) Region 12
	(3) CARAGA
	(2) CAR
	(2) NIR
	(3) NCR
	(2) BARMM

A total of **95 participants** are expected to participate in this orientation.

C. Indicative Program of Activities

TIME	ACTIVITY	PERSON/OFFICE RESPONSIBLE
November 18 – Day 1		
9:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Arrival of Participants Registration	Program Management Team (PMT)
11:30AM – 1:00PM	Lunch	-
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	Opening Program • Preliminaries • Welcome Remarks • Introduction of the participants	PMT

TIME	ACTIVITY	PERSON/OFFICE RESPONSIBLE
	• Presentation of Indicative Program of Activities • Introduction of School Mental Health Program • Introduction of Mental Health Crisis Response and Management (MHCRM)	
2:30 PM – 3:30 PM	ORIENTATION Short Orientation on the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A 12080	PMT
3:30 PM – 4:00 PM	Health Break	PMT
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM	End-of-day Evaluation and Clearing House / Other Reminders	
November 19 – Day 2		
8:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Management of Learning • Leveling of Expectations • Program Objectives • Program Matrix • Session Norms	PMT
8:30 AM – 10:00 AM	SESSION 1 Introduction to Mental Health Crises	PMT
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM	Health Break	-
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	SESSION 2.5 Recognizing Early Warning Signs, De-Escalation Techniques and Communication Skills.	Resource Person
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch Break	-
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	SESSION 2.5 Recognizing Early Warning Signs, De-Escalation Techniques and Communication Skills.	Resource Person
2:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Health Break	-
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	SESSION 3 Practice drills.	Resource person
4:30 PM – 5:00 PM	End-of-day Evaluation and Clearing House / Other Reminders	PMT
November 20 – Day 3		
8:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Management of Learning • Leveling of Expectations • Program Objectives • Program Matrix • Session Norms	PMT
8:30 AM – 9:30 AM	SESSION 4 Presentation of the Mental Health Crisis Response Framework	Resource Person
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	Health Break	-
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	SESSION 5.5	Resource Person

TIME	ACTIVITY	PERSON/OFFICE RESPONSIBLE
	Introduction to the Mental Health Crisis Response Mechanism	
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch Break	-
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	SESSION 5.5 Continuation on the Mental Health Crisis Response Mechanism	Resource Person
2:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Health Break	-
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	SESSION 6 Guidelines on Responding, Post-Interventions, Referral, Reporting and Monitoring	Resource Person
4:30 PM – 5:00 PM	End-of-day Evaluation and Clearing House / Other Reminders	PMT
November 21 – Day 4		
8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	Management of Learning • Leveling of Expectations • Program Objectives • Program Matrix • Session Norms	PMT
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	SESSION 7 Legal and Ethical Considerations and Toolkit Appendices	Resource Person
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM	Health Break	-
10:30 AM – 12:00 AM	SESSION 8 Discussion on how-to-cascade and present the MHCRM Toolkit, and summative post-test.	Resource Person
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch Break	-
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Closing Program • Awarding of Certificates to Resource Persons • Awarding of Certificates to Participants	PMT
2:00 PM	Going Home	-