



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

June 24, 2024

**REGIONAL MEMORANDUM**  
 CLMD-2024- 716

**GABAY PROJECT FINAL DEBRIEFING AND SYMPOSIUM**

To: Schools Division Superintendents } Division of Leyte  
 } Division of Maasin City  
 } Division of Southern Leyte  
 All Others Concerned

- Attached is a letter from Dr. Yolanda S. Quijano, Chief of Party, Gabay Project-Resources for the Blind, Inc. requesting the participation of identified key program implementers, focal persons, and project recipients in **Gabay's Final Debriefing: Year 1-5 and Symposium: Final Activity and Learning Consultation Workshop on Disability-Inclusive Education, Best Practices, and Recommendations** on June 24-25, 2024 via Zoom.
- Participants from Batangas City will participate onsite while those from other Regions will join online. Meeting link shall be shared thru email and Facebook Messenger.
- Identified participants from the Region are requested to attend to ensure that relevant experiences including questions, issues, lessons, and recommendations can be properly consolidated and documented.
- Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.

  
**EVELYN R. FETALVERO CESO IV**  
 Regional Director

Enclosures: As stated  
 References: As stated

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

GABAY INCLUSIVE EDUCATION



CLMD-DME



Address: Government Center, Candahug, Palo, Leyte  
 Telephone No.: (053) 832-5738  
 Email Address: region8@deped.gov.ph  
 Website: region8.deped.gov.ph



# RESOURCES FOR THE BLIND, INC. (RBI)

4/F COTI Bldg., 623 EDSA, Cubao, Quezon City, 1109 Metro Manila

Telephone Number: (63)2-87263021 to 24

Email: [info@blind.org.ph](mailto:info@blind.org.ph)

Website: [www.blind.org.ph](http://www.blind.org.ph)



<https://www.facebook.com/resourcesfortheblind/>



[resourcesfortheblindph](https://www.instagram.com/resourcesfortheblindph)



[RBI\\_PH](https://twitter.com/RBI_PH)

June 7, 2024

**DR. EVELYN R. FETALVERO**

Regional Director

Region VIII- Eastern Visayas

Department of Education

**Attention: DR. RONELO AL. K. FIRMO**

Assistant Regional Director

**DR. MARIZA S. MAGAN**

Schools Division Superintendent

Division of Leyte

**DR. GENIS S. MURALLOS**

Schools Division Superintendent

Division of Maasin City

**DR. JOSILYN S. SOLANA**

Schools Division Superintendent

Division of Southern Leyte

**Subject: Participation in 1) Gabay's Final Debriefing:** Years 1-5 on June 24, 2024, from 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM, and 2) **Gabay's Symposium:** Final Activity and Learning and Consultation Workshop on Disability-Inclusive Education, Best Practices, and Recommendations on June 24, 2024, from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM, and on June 25, 2024, from 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM (blended onsite and online)

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**Amelia M. Torrente**  
Executive Director

Dear **Dr. Fetalvero**,

Gabay of Resources for the Blind Inc. extends its appreciation for the hard work of all educators in the region, ensuring the smooth closing of the school year 2023-2024 last May. We wish you having relaxation time despite summer activities.

Gabay is preparing for two major events: Final Debriefing and Symposium as we approach our closeout conference before the year's end. Reflecting on nearly five years of implementing activities in the region, particularly in the Divisions of Maasin City, and Southern Leyte, and recently in the Division of Leyte, we are grateful for the tremendous support from you and the other regional, division, district and school officials including teachers and all stakeholders.

These two events will be held on June 24 and 25, 2024, in Batangas City for the onsite participants. While we would love our partners from other regions to attend in person, our limited funding necessitates **online** participation for partners from your Region and Region V. We will provide the Zoom link for the registration of the online participants.

Once again, we sincerely seek your support and warmly invite you, along with the targeted officials and individuals, to participate in these events, details are shown below.

| Date | Activity & Venue | Purpose | Invited Regional/Division Officials, and School and Participants |
|------|------------------|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
|------|------------------|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>June 24, 2024 (Monday) @ 8:30 – 11:30am</p>                         | <p>1. Gabay’s Debriefing: Years 1 to 5</p> <p><b>Note: The Zoom link will be provided upon registration.</b></p>                                         | <p>Consolidate, document &amp; share experiences, feedback, and lessons learned from the project, while engaging all relevant stakeholders in actionable recommendations and strategies for future engagements of children with disabilities</p> | <p><b>Regional Office VIII</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Evelyn Fetalvero, RD</li> <li>• Dr. Ronelo Al K. Firmo, ARD</li> <li>• Mr. Dean Ric Endriano, EPS SNEd In-Charge, R-VIII</li> </ul> <p><b>Division of Maasin City</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Genis Murallos, SDS</li> <li>• Ms. Bruna Epiz, EPS SNEd In-Charge</li> <li>• Dr. Hilario Genovia, School Head of Maasin City SPED Center</li> </ul> <p><b>Division of Southern Leyte</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Josilyn Solana, SDS</li> <li>• Dr. Charity Nogra, EPS SNEd In-charge</li> </ul> |
| <p>June 24, 2024 @ 1:00-5:00 pm &amp; June 25, 2024 @ 8:30-11:30am</p> | <p>2. Gabay’s Symposium: Final Activity and Learning and Consultation Workshop on Disability-Inclusive Education, Best Practices and Recommendations</p> | <p>Evaluate and enhance disability-inclusive education practices, facilitate discussions to identify gaps in current practices, and formulate recommendations and action steps for the sustainability of the initiatives</p>                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Angelito Paca, PSDS of San Juan Central Elem. School</li> <li>• Dr. Elisa Edilo, School Head of San Juan Central Elem. School</li> </ul> <p><b>Division of Leyte</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Mariza Magan, SDS of Leyte Division</li> <li>• Dr. Socorro B. Ausa, EPS of Leyte Division</li> <li>• Dr. Marisa Martillo, PSDS of Tanauan II District, Leyte</li> <li>• Dr. Jayson Gaduena, School Head of Tanauan II Central School</li> </ul>                                                                                                               |

Annex 1 provides the tentative program of activities.

We kindly request **Dr. Genis Murallos, Schools Division Superintendent of the Division of Maasin City**, to serve as an **Online Panelist** alongside the Onsite Panelists during the session titled "Panel Discussion: Challenges, Solutions, and Recommendations." This session will address the challenges encountered in the Gabay implementation, generate solutions, and provide recommendations for sustaining various project initiatives essential to inclusive education for children with disabilities. Dr. Murallos will participate via Zoom, addressing both general and specific questions directed to DepEd officials, and is also encouraged to contribute responses to other questions.

Additionally, we request **Dr. Charity Nogra, Education Program Supervisor, In-Charge of Special Needs Education (SNEd), Division of Southern Leyte**, to be one of the **Presenters** for **“Project S.I.L.L.B.I”** (Sustaining Individualized Learning Breakthrough Innovation): Gabay Increase in Enrolment. She will have 7 minutes to present on this topic. Her insights into the programs and services in Southern Leyte will provide valuable learning opportunities for other divisions joining both onsite and online.


We sincerely appeal to all invited participants from your Region and Divisions to confirm their attendance in both events through this link: <https://forms.gle/h9RUdfQ378fb4wY17> on or before June 19, 2024 (Wednesday).

For urgent concerns, your Secretary can contact Ms. Fatima Ria Publico, Field Coordinator of Region VIII via email at [ria.gabay@blind.org.ph](mailto:ria.gabay@blind.org.ph) and landline at (02) 8726 3021 to 24 or mobile

phone at 0960-415-7039. May she also be allowed to follow up on our requests with the three Schools Division Superintendents of Leyte, Maasin City, and Southern Leyte.

Your involvement in this final activity will significantly contribute to the event's success and help sustain and expand Gabay's initiatives on disability-inclusive education, as mandated in RA 11650. Thank you very much for championing the right to education among children with disabilities in your Region, as evidenced by Gabay's project results.

Very truly yours,

  
**DR. YOLANDA S. QUIJANO**  
 Chief of Party, Gabay  
 Resources for the Blind, Inc.

**Cc:** ARD DR. RONELO AL. K. FIRMO  
 SDS DR. MARIZA S. MAGAN  
 SDS DR. GENIS S. MURALLOS  
 SDS DR. JOSILYN S. SOLANA

**Annex 1**

**Gabay's Debriefing: Years 1 to 5, and Gabay's Symposium: Final Activity and Learning and Consultation Workshop on Disability-Inclusive Education, Best Practices and Recommendations  
 June 24-25, 2024 (Monday & Tuesday)  
 Onsite at Pontefino Hotel Batangas City & online via Zoom**

| Date / Time                                                                                                              | Activity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Day 1 @ AM- June 24, 2024 (Monday)</b>                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Master of Ceremonies: <i>Ms. Maui Gabriel</i> , Training Officer and <i>Ms. Marie Joyce Lopez</i> , Project Officer, RBI |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 7:00 – 8:30am                                                                                                            | Arrival of Participants                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 8:30 – 9:30am                                                                                                            | <b>Opening Program</b><br>Doxology<br>Deaf and Blind Children from the project sites<br>Pambansang Awit ng Pilipinas<br>Welcome Remarks<br><i>Mr. Gary Jamora</i><br>Chairperson, Resources for the Blind Inc.<br>Acknowledgment of Participants<br>Introduction and Overview<br>Project Recap- AVP Gabay Accomplishments (Years 1-5)<br>Special Message:<br><i>Ms. Michelle Chen</i> ,<br>Director, Office of Education,<br>USAID Philippines<br>Message<br><i>Atty. Alberto Escobarte</i> ,<br>Regional Director IV-A<br>Department of Education |
| 9:30 –10:30 am                                                                                                           | Special Number<br>Deaf and Blind Children from the project sites<br>Presentation of Consolidated Accomplishments, Lessons Learned, and Best Practices gathered from External Stakeholders: Years 1 to 5,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p>with sharing of experiences from Project Implementers<br/> <i>Ms. Giselle Bombay</i><br/> M &amp; E Specialist, Gabay</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>"No Buddy Left Behind"</i><br/> Gabay Community Advocacy<br/> Speaker: <i>Hon. Mark Dominguez (7mins)</i><br/> Councilor In-Charge of Education<br/> Municipality of Bulusan, Sorsogon Province</li> <li>2. <i>"A Determinant of Success"</i><br/> Gabay Inclusive Education Community Resource Center<br/><br/> Speaker: <i>Dr. Rosalina Panganiban (7mins)</i><br/> Education Program Supervisor, In-Charge of SNEd<br/> Division of Batangas City</li> <li>3. <i>"Ajonay Maasin!"</i><br/> Gabay Involvement of Persons With Disabilities<br/><br/> Speaker: <i>Mr. Michael John Orais (7mins)</i><br/> PDAO Coordinator, CSWDO<br/> City of Maasin, Southern Leyte</li> <li>4. <i>"Project S.I.L.B.I"</i> (Sustaining Individualized Learning Breakthrough Innovation)<br/> Gabay Increase in Enrolment<br/><br/> Speaker: <i>Dr. Charity Nogra (7mins)</i><br/> Education Program Supervisor, In-Charge of SNEd<br/> Division of Southern Leyte</li> </ol> |
| 10:30 –10:45 am                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Coffee/Tea Break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 10:45 –11:15 am                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Comments, Reactions, and Questions from online and onsite participants                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 11:15 – 11:30 am                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Message<br>Project Management Service,<br>Department of Education, Central Office                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 11:30 – 11:45 am                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Photo Opportunity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>LUNCH AT PONTEFINO HOTEL</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Gabay's Symposium: Final Activity and Learning and Consultation Workshop on Disability-Inclusive Education, Best Practices and Recommendations</b><br><b>Day 1 @ PM - June 24, 2024 (Monday)</b><br>Hosts: <i>Ms. Giselle Bombay &amp; Ms. Marie Joyce Lopez</i> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Time</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>Activity</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 1:00– 1:15 pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Welcome<br><i>Ms. Amelia Torrente</i><br>Executive Director, RBI                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 1:15– 1:45 pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Collaboration for Disability-Inclusive Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PFD Leading Collaborative Work in FSL<br/> <i>Ms. Mariah Agbay</i>, President<br/> Phil. Federation of the Deaf</li> <li>• Gabay Initiatives in Addressing Reading Problems and Dyslexia in Partnership with Phil. Dyslexia Foundation<br/> <i>Dr. Hazelle Preclaro</i>, Reading Specialist</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

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|                                        | <p>Phil. Dyslexia Foundation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LGU Los Banos and DepEd Teamwork for ILRC Establishment<br/><i>Dr. Roderica Camacho</i><br/>Education Program Supervisor, In-Charge of SNEd<br/>Division of Laguna</li> <li>• From Policy to Practice: Updates on Batangas Province Ordinance No. 261 Year 2022, otherwise known as "<i>Institutionalizing Inclusive education for the blind, deaf and deafblind providing funds thereof and for other purposes</i>"<br/><i>Mr. Ronnel Del Rio</i><br/>Housing and Homesite Regulatory Affairs Officer, Batangas Province and President, Phil. Chamber of Massage Industry for Visually Impaired</li> </ul>                             |
| 1:45 – 2:30 pm                         | <p>Panel Discussion: Challenges, Solutions, and Recommendations<br/>Facilitator: <i>Ms. Amy Mojica</i>, Deputy Chief of Party, Gabay-RBI</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <p><i>Dr. Loida Nidea</i>, Assistant Regional Director<br/>Region IV-A CALABARZON</p> <p><i>Dr. Genis Murallos</i>, City Schools Division Superintendent<br/>Division of Maasin City</p> <p><i>Dr. William Gando</i>, Schools Division Superintendent<br/>Division of Sorsogon</p> <p><i>Hon. Paul Cinco</i>, Councilor In-Charge of Education<br/>Municipality of Tanauan, Leyte</p> <p><i>Dr. Rosvilinda Ozaeta</i>, Provincial Health Office<br/>Batangas Province</p> <p><i>Dr. Yolanda Quijano</i><br/>Chief of Party, Gabay Project, RBI</p> |
| 2:30– 3:00 pm                          | <p>Question and Answer/ Clearing House Session<br/>Online and Onsite</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 3:00 – 5:00 pm                         | <p>Group Workshops: Gaps, Recommendations, and Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mechanics: <i>Dr. Yolanda Quijano</i></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Day 2 - June 25, 2024 (Tuesday)</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Time</b>                            | <b>Activity</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 8:30 – 9:00 am                         | <i>Preliminaries</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 9:00 – 11:00 am                        | Presentation of Group Workshop Outputs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 11:00– 11:30 am                        | <p>Closing Program<br/>Message:<br/>USAID Official</p> <p>Responses:<br/><i>Hon. Hermilando Mandanas</i><br/>Governor, Batangas Province</p> <p><i>Dr. Leila Areola</i>, Director IV<br/>Bureau of Learning Delivery, Department of Education Central Office, Pasig City<br/>Photo Opportunity</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |