



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Social Welfare and Development
Batasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills
Quezon City
Telephone No. 931-8101 to 07

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DEPT. OF SOCIAL WELFARE & DEVT.
IBP ROAD, CONSTITUTION HILLS, Q.C.

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Administrative Order No. 31
Series of 2004

SUBJECT: Amendment to AO 231 Otherwise Known as Guidelines on the Implementation of the Supervised Neighborhood Play

II. RATIONALE

With the passing of Republic Act 8980 or the Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) Act, the Department deemed it necessary to institutionalize the implementation of Supervised Neighborhood Play (SNP) to enable to provide a home-based approach in rendering early childhood education program of 0-6 year old children. This is to enhance the role of parents and other caregivers as the primary caregivers and educators of their children from birth onwards (Section 3-C-RA 8980) as well as enhance and sustain the efforts of communities to promote ECCD programs and ensure that special support is provided for poor and disadvantaged communities. *Hence, these amendments on Administrative Order No. 231, Series of 2002.*

III. DESCRIPTION OF SUPERVISED NEIGHBORHOOD PLAY

Supervised Neighborhood Play is a *neighborhood community-based early childhood care program for children 6 years old and below*. It utilizes play as an approach in providing early *stimulation* activities that are developmentally appropriate for each target ages of children in the community. The children are provided early childhood enrichment activities through a variety of play activities, games, guided exercises and other learning opportunities by a child development worker and/or parent volunteer under the supervision of a social worker.

This intervention provides a play-learning environment wherein the emphasis is on the development of spiritual and social values, development of creative and analytical ability, personal and physical ability and human relations of children for their optimum growth and development.

The primary target for SNP are *children below six years old* under the care of child development worker, children whose parents served as participants of Parent Effectiveness Service and *those that are not accommodated by the center-based programs due to space limitations and eligibility requirements*. *The target areas for SNP implementation shall be those areas where there are no established day care and child minding centers.*

III. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION TO SNP

Children six years old below who belong to any of the following categories:

- a) *are not recipients of services of Child Minding Center or Day Care Center and other ECCD center-based services*
- b) have parent(s) attending Parent Effectiveness Service (PES) or Empowerment and Reaffirmation of Paternal Abilities (ERPAT) and do not have playmates at home
- c) have parents who are working and unable to attend to their children
- d) are deprived of a safe and wholesome recreation around the home and in the neighborhood
- e) *children who dropped out or have lost interest in center-based ECCD services*

IV. PROCEDURE

Aside from the different steps already identified under preparatory stage of AO 231, the following steps are the additional activities and processes that the social worker and the child development worker shall undertake in implementing the SNP.

Item A. Preparatory Stage

No. 6. *The social worker with the Child Development Worker (CDW) shall meet with identified family with children 6 years old below and provide them orientation on the importance and mechanics of SNP.*

No. 7. The social worker shall encourage the organization of SNP parents group and shall identify a specific venue or play area for the indoor activities particularly for infants and toddlers.

No. 8. The social worker shall train the child development worker or the parent volunteers for three (3) days on SNP and another two (2) days for the use and administration of ECCD checklist as one of the assessment tools in developing play activities and session for young children. The ECCD Tool shall also serve as the monitoring tool in assessing children's development.

Item B. Selection of Training of CDW/PES Volunteers

The training of CDW/PES volunteers shall have the following additional contents

- Review of the developmental characteristics of 0-5 years old children
- Organizing a Supervised Neighborhood Play Group
- Developing curriculum for children in SNP setting
- Safety and care for infants and toddlers during play session
- Assessing children's development using ECCD checklist
- *Roles and Responsibilities of Parents in the SNP Group*

Item C. Management and Sustenance of SNP

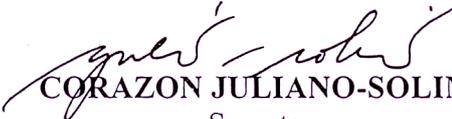
3. Select/licit a space or venue for the indoor activities particularly of the infants and toddlers and to provide a safe and open space which allows children independence of movement within the area serving as venue for the outdoor sessions.

To add the following as no. 4

4. Assess children's development using ECCD checklist and other assessment tools as basis in developing activity plan or play sessions for children.

VII EFFECTIVITY

This order shall take effect immediately and amends AO 231.


CORAZON JULIANO-SOLIMAN
Secretary

A CERTIFIED COPY:


CARMELITA F. ZAFRA
Chief, General Services Division
and OIC, Records Unit