

Republic of the Philippines Department of Education

FEB 0 3 2025

DepEd MEMORANDUM No. 013 , s. 2025

To:

21st NATIONAL ORAL HEALTH MONTH CELEBRATION

Undersecretaries Assistant Secretaries Bureau and Service Directors Minister, Basic, Higher, and Technical Education, BARMM Regional Directors Schools Division Superintendents Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Heads All Others Concerned

1. The Department of Education (DepEd), through the Bureau of Learner Support Services-School Health Division (BLSS-SHD), will celebrate the 21st National Oral Health Month in February 2025 with the theme **Pamilya Una Kong Dentista**. This celebration highlights the crucial role of families and caregivers in promoting oral health, particularly among learners with disabilities. This initiative aligns with the Department's commitment to learner well-being as outlined in

- a. DepEd Order (DO) No. 028, s. 2018, titled Policy and Guidelines on *Oplan Kalusugan sa* Department of Education), which promotes comprehensive health programs for learners; and
- b. DO 33, s. 2019, titled Implementing Guidelines on the Comprehensive Oral Health Program of the Department of Education, which emphasizes the promotion and maintenance of good oral health among learners by integrating oral health education and services into school health programs, preventing oral diseases, and fostering collaboration with stakeholders to support learners' overall well-being and productivity.
- 2. The celebration aims to
 - a. promote oral health awareness and education nationwide; and
 - b. emphasize the inclusivity and protection of the rights of children with disabilities to access quality oral health care.

3. To promote public awareness, all DepEd offices, including the Central Office, regional offices (ROs), and schools division offices (SDOs), as well as schools, are encouraged to support the 2025 National Oral Health Month by undertaking related activities, such as but not limited to

- a. utilizing online and other media platforms through active posting and sharing of campaign and advocacy materials from DepEd and the Philippine Dental Association (PDA); and
- b. conceptualizing relevant activities for learners and their families, such as seminars, webinars, lectures, and exhibits.

Activities should be scheduled outside core learning hours or integrated into relevant subject areas where applicable.

The following are the suggested activities:

First Week	Oral Health Awareness Campaigns:
	 Initiate a school-wide campaign to raise awareness about oral health Dental awareness campaigns tailored to learners with disabilities.
Second Week	Oral Health Workshops and Seminars:
	 Classroom activities (lectures/Oral health education) Parent and caregiver orientation sessions on basic oral health practices
Third Week	Delivery of Dental services
	 Collaborate with local dental clinics or practitioners to organize on-site dental check-ups for learners. Free dental check-ups and consultations at school clinics.
Fourth Week	Interactive Workshops:
	 Set up interactive workshops that include hands-on activities. Have demonstrations on proper brushing techniques and provide learners with toothbrushes and toothpaste

4. DepEd school dentists are advised to coordinate with the Philippine Dental Association (PDA) local chapters and other stakeholders on the activities scheduled during the month – long celebration.

5. Dentists and other school health personnel in the regions and schools division offices shall take the lead in the celebration.

6. For more information, please contact the BLSS-SHD, 3rd Floor, Mabini Building, Department of Education Central Office, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City through email at <u>blss.shd@deped.gov.ph</u> or at telephone number (02) 8632-9935.

7. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.



References: DepEd Order (Nos. 028, s. 2018; 033, s. 2019; and 9, s. 2005)

To be indicated in the <u>Perpetual Index</u> under the following subjects:

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CAMPAIGN HEALTH EDUCATION LEARNERS PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAMS PROJECTS

MSCM APA MPC, <u>DM 21st National Oral Health Month Celebration</u> 0019 – January 22, 2025