



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VI – WESTERN VISAYAS
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF AKLAN

Division Advisory No. 124, S. 2025
September 8, 2025

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) No. 8, s. 2013
this advisory is issued not for endorsement per DO 28, s. 2001,
but only for the information of DepEd SDO Aklan officials, personnel/staff.
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**OBSERVANCE OF THE WORLD SUICIDE
PREVENTION DAY 2025**

Attached is the Department Circular No. 2025-0356 dated August 14,
2025 of the Department of Health regarding the Observance of the World
Suicide Prevention Day 2025 to enjoin the prevention of suicide and the
promotion of mental health and well-being for all. This year's observance is
anchored on the global triennial theme: **“Changing the Narrative on Suicide.”**

This theme underscores the importance of transforming societal attitudes
surrounding suicide by moving away from silence, stigma, and discrimination,
and instead fostering empathy, openness, and support.

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Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Office of the Secretary



August 14, 2025

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR

No. 2025 - 0356

FOR: ALL UNDERSECRETARIES AND ASSISTANT SECRETARIES; DIRECTORS OF BUREAUS, SERVICES, AND CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT; MINISTER OF HEALTH - BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO; EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF SPECIALTY HOSPITALS AND NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL; DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PHILIPPINE INSTITUTE OF TRADITIONAL MEDICINE AND ALTERNATIVE HEALTH CARE; CHIEFS OF MEDICAL CENTERS, HOSPITALS, SANITARIA, AND INSTITUTES; PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION; DIRECTORS OF PHILIPPINE NATIONAL AIDS COUNCIL SECRETARIAT AND TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION CENTERS AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT: Observance of the World Suicide Prevention Day 2025

Pursuant to Republic Act No. 11036 or the Mental Health Act, the Department of Health is mandated to lead in promoting mental health, reducing stigma, and ensuring access to mental health services. In light of the observance of World Suicide Prevention Day, which is commemorated annually on September 10th, the Department of Health (DOH) joins the global health community in raising awareness and promoting unified action toward the prevention of suicide and the promotion of mental health and well-being for all. This year's observance is anchored on the global triennial theme: "**Changing the Narrative on Suicide.**" This theme underscores the importance of transforming societal attitudes surrounding suicide by moving away from silence, stigma, and discrimination, and instead fostering empathy, openness, and support.

Globally, suicide remains a significant public health concern, claiming over 700,000 lives annually, according to the World Health Organization. It ranks as the third leading cause of death among young people aged 15–29, with 73% of cases occurring in low- and middle-income countries. In the Philippines, findings from the 2021 Young Adult Fertility and Sexuality Study reveal that 17% of youth aged 15–24 have considered suicide, and half of those individuals have attempted it. Therefore, this year's theme aims to inspire individuals, families, communities, and institutions to engage in open conversations about mental health and suicidal behavior, thus helping build environments where people feel heard, understood, and supported.

With this, all offices and units are urged to support and participate in the observance of World Suicide Prevention Day through the conduct of various promotional activities (e.g.,

community advocacy events, seminars, lectures, and development and dissemination of information, education, and communication materials, among others). Likewise, the DOH calls on all sectors to continue efforts in changing the narrative on suicide—by challenging stigma, educating communities, and creating spaces where people feel safe to seek help and support. The latest communication package for the World Suicide Prevention Day can be accessed via this link: <https://bit.ly/WSPD2025>

Thank you.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:



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