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### RESEARCH ARTICLE

#### “REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR CHILDREN IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW IN BAGUIO CITY”

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#### Abstract

The primary purpose of the study was to determine the services of the Bahay Pag-Asa (BPA) in Barangay Irisan, Baguio City, in terms of the available programs and activities, the challenges encountered during implementation, and the strategies that were employed to counter these challenges. The study made use of a qualitative descriptive design. An interview guide was utilized to collect the data. As part of the Juvenile Justice System, the selected participants were the members of the Barangay Council for the Protection of Children (BCPC), the social workers working as house parents in the Bahay Pag-Asa, and the law enforcers in the Women and Children Protection Desk (WCPD) in Baguio City Police Station 9. The members of the BCPC and the WCPD police officers were selected because they are the primary stakeholders in the handling of the cases of Children in Conflict with the Law (CICL) at the barangay level and the law enforcement level. In addition, the house parents working inside the BPA are the best source of information as they are immersed in implementing the intervention and rehabilitation programs. The challenges faced by the three duty bearers share three common themes regarding CICL: broken homes, uncooperative parents, and implementers experiencing work-related stress with the respondent coming from the WCPD experiencing mental stress. At the same time, the respondents from the BCPC experienced problems in the monitoring of repeat offenders. Lastly, the respondents from BPA experienced challenges, including handling tantrums and violations of the residents. As to the strategies used by the three duty bearers in handling the challenges and combating stress, they have commonalities. Specifically, the law enforcer from the WCPD identified support of the family as a helping factor in law enforcement involving CICL while the members of the BCPC identified maximum tolerance and continuous monitoring of the CICL as their strategy. On the other hand, the house parent from the BPA takes care of the residents like his or her own children as well as being flexible in the implementing consequences.

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**Introduction:-**

The rising concern concerning juvenile delinquents is experienced by justice systems worldwide. In the Philippines, these groups are called CICL. They are adolescents who have been charged, accused, or found guilty of a crime under Philippine laws (R.A. 9344, 2006). To address these underrepresented groups, the government has set up a juvenile justice system to deal with the CICL and CAR.

In 2006, the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act, lawfully known as Republic Act (R.A.) 9344 was ratified. It established a comprehensive juvenile justice and welfare system, formed the juvenile justice and welfare council under the Department of Justice, and appropriated funds for the same purpose. The system institutionalized the promotion of the well-being of the child and their families, the involvement of parents and guardians, the promotion of diversion, avoiding deprivation of liberty, and the protection of the privacy rights of children. This law was an offshoot of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child when the Philippines became a signatory in 1990.

The law was modified in 2013 with R.A. 10630, which introduced more revisions and further emphasized child-sensitive justice policies focused on the child's best interest. This principle of the child's best interest has been laid down in the Doha Declaration (Sanchez, 2017). To improve juvenile justice and child welfare across the country, the revisions of the law have developed a comprehensive restorative juvenile justice and welfare system that provides child-appropriate proceedings, including programs and services for prevention, diversion, rehabilitation, reintegration, and aftercare to ensure their average growth and development.

Young people in the criminal justice system usually had a tough upbringing, mental health issues, issues controlling their emotions, and a low quality of life. (Simpson et al., 2018). These factors are the common underlying causes of why children commit offenses or felonies. Republic Act 10630 (2013) states that offenses that only apply to a child and not to adults are called "Status offenses." Instead of being considered offenses, these are not punished if committed by a child. These status offenses include curfew violations, truancy, parental disobedience, and anti-smoking and anti-drinking laws. Misdemeanors against public order or safety, such as disorderly behavior, public scandal, harassment, drunkenness, public intoxication, criminal annoyance, vandalism, gambling, mendicancy, littering, public urination, and trespassing, are also included in the list of status violations.

R.A. 9344 also sets the minimum age of criminal responsibility (MACR) at 15 years old. Children 15 years of age and younger are exempt from criminal responsibility but can be held civilly liable. These children are placed in intervention programs while living with their families. Children under 15 who are repeat offenders, have committed serious crimes, and do not have families who wish to take them in are placed in child-care institutions called "Bahay Pag-Asa," or House of Hope. The law aims at applying restorative justice rather than retributive justice to the situation of child law offenders (Genilo, 2019).

Sanchez (2017) mentions that "restorative justice," as opposed to retributive justice, aims to resolve conflicts by involving the victim, offender, and community to the fullest extent possible. Restitution for the victim, peace between the offender, the offended, and the community, as well as increased public safety, are its main goals. Additionally, it guarantees that when the youngster confesses to the crime, his or her rights won't be violated.

The juvenile justice system is overwhelmed by the increasing number of youths arrested each year (Underwood et al., 2006). Data from the DSWD (2022) shows the number of CICLs from DSWD-run centers and facilities from 2017 to 2022. The statistics were collected from the National Training School for Boys, all regional rehabilitation centers for youth, and Region IV-B, or MIMAROPA Youth Center. In 2017, the number of CICLs from the said facilities and centers totaled 1,807 and gradually increased to 1,968 the following year. However, in 2019, it topped 2,133 and progressively dropped to 1,738 in 2020 and 1,496 in 2021. In the present year, from January to May, the statistics amounted to 950.

Rehabilitation is a vital goal of the correctional system. It is based on the idea that people can be helped to change their ways and stop committing crimes (Huebner & Inzana, 2020). Rehabilitation assists individuals of all ages in achieving maximum independence in their daily activities. and enables participation in education, work, recreation, and meaningful life roles. It accomplishes this by treating the underlying issues and enhancing how a person interacts with the world, assisting them in overcoming challenges with thinking, seeing, hearing, communicating, eating, or moving about (World Health Organization, 2021).

Prevention of offending and re-offending is the idea behind intervention programs. Intervention is typically used to describe systematic social protection programs for children intended to improve their physical and emotional health, deter them from becoming juvenile offenders, or stop them from committing the same crimes again.

Intervention strategies are implemented in different settings, including the community, the youth care facility, or the child's school. During the intervention programs, the CAR or CICL will undergo a series of activities to address issues that caused them to commit an offense. These activities basically include counseling, skills training, and education.

The intervention has precisely three levels: primary, secondary, and tertiary. To prevent crime, primary intervention involves implementing measures that promote social justice and equal opportunities. These measures aim to address the underlying reasons that lead people to commit crimes. These include programs on advocacy, socio-economics, health and nutrition, training, and education services. Secondary intervention, on the other hand, includes measures to assist children at risk, like protective services for children. Lastly, Tertiary Intervention refers to actions taken to prevent unnecessary involvement with the legal system and reduce the likelihood of repeat offenses. Examples of this level include diversion programs, rehabilitation, reintegration, and aftercare services (Revised Rules and Regulations Implementing R.A. 9344, as amended by R.A. 10630, 2014).

"Diversion" refers to a method of intervening with young individuals who have committed offenses that redirects them away from formal processing in the juvenile justice system. The goal of diversion is to hold them accountable for their actions while removing them from the juvenile justice process as early as possible to avoid negative outcomes associated with formal processing, such as increased chances of repeating offenses, labeling, and higher criminal justice costs (Diversion Programs, n.d.).

When dealing with young offenders, decisions about their care and rehabilitation are made based on factors such as their social, cultural, economic, psychological, and educational backgrounds. This is done without going through formal court proceedings. If the CICL is found to be responsible for an offense, he or she will be required to undergo diversion programs without resorting to formal court proceedings (Sanchez, 2017). The diversion or intervention programs vary on a case-by-case basis.

Reintegration, as explained by Arafat (2022), refers to the support and assistance provided to prisoners upon their release from jail. Reintegration often starts when the offender is arrested or has initial contact with the CICL, preparing them to deal with life and society following imprisonment. In order to achieve reintegration, programs and processes aim to keep prisoners away from the criminal justice system following their release.

The child's rehabilitation process does not end after reintegration. The juvenile justice system completes it with an aftercare service that lasts for six (6) months. The purpose of aftercare services is to aid in social reintegration, avoid recidivism, and help the kids become contributing members of society. They include counseling and other community-based services. Examples are seminars or workshops, life skills development, sports clinic activities, skill and livelihood programs for future employment, membership in existing youth organizations that enhance and teach life skills and a positive lifestyle, and other preventive programs (Revised Rules and Regulations Implementing R.A. 9344, as amended by R.A. 10630, 2014).

Since the R.A. 10630 was enacted, local government organizations are mandated to establish BPA Centers that will serve CICL as opposed to the alternative, which is to confine them in jails apart from adult inmates. These are child-caring institutions operating 24 hours a day that provide short-term residential care for children in conflict with the law who are above fifteen (15) but below eighteen (18) years of age and who are awaiting court disposition of their cases or transfer to other agencies or jurisdictions. A major feature of a BPA is an Intensive Juvenile Intervention and Support Center (IJISC).

Genilo (2019) states that only 58 are actually in operation among the 114 BPA centers mandated by the law. Of these 58 centers, only a few are fully compliant with the standards prescribed by the law. Some of these centers are inadequately supervised, underfunded, and lack comprehensive rehabilitation programs, leading to suffering and neglect for their residents.

In the Philippines, published articles were conducted on the realization of rehabilitation services for CICL. One of these studies was conducted by Elizabeth Manuel, who tried to find out the long-term effects of a rehabilitation program for CICL. The study included 21 rehabilitated teenagers admitted between June and October 2018. They are all long-term residents of Cabanatuan City in the Philippine province of Central Luzon. Results showed that diversion programs, vocational training, livelihood skills training, enjoyable activities, and sports development were thought to be more beneficial than other strategies; cleaning drives, conversely, are successful because they are perceived as punitive rather than restorative. The successful program offered both official and informal education, improved emotional management skills, an opportunity to identify one's strengths and limitations, and economic empowerment. According to program implementers, casework and the program's meager financial support were problems (Manuel, 2019).

Another study by Abot (2018) was conducted to determine the effectiveness of the services in two identified rehabilitation centers for the CICL. Several tools were used in the study, including a structured interview with all the CICL respondents admitted from 2015 to 2016 using a survey questionnaire, a non-structured interview with key implementers, and a documentary review. The CICL respondents agreed that all six (6) programs, namely: (a) home life, (b) health care, (c) education, (d) values formation, (e) recreation and sports, and (f) skills development, that were evaluated were effective in meeting their needs while in the center.

### **Theoretical and Conceptual Framework**

The study of juvenile rehabilitation services can be founded on many psychological and sociological theories. One of the founding theories for rehabilitating youth offenders is the rehabilitation theory. The rehabilitation theory focuses on personal change in the offender so that they will stop committing their criminal activities once and for all upon returning to society and enable them to have a more constructive role. In this theory, the individual undergoes psychiatric therapy, counseling, vocational training, better education, drug rehabilitation programs, and other techniques based on scientific methods to reduce recidivism (Sherman, Cragg, Elrod, & Ryder, as cited in Samurai et al., 2013).

Positive youth development is one of the reform principles used in social work practice to empower young offenders. The approach focuses more on building resilience, healing, and wellness; solution-focused treatment and asset-based community development were similar to the strengths perspective before it was employed. This viewpoint places emphasis on the early evaluation of each client's strengths rather than their issues or weaknesses. The personal strengths or abilities of the identified customers are further developed to help them overcome their issues. This means that this perspective sees that every person has the power and ability to grow a part of their life that still needs to be utilized. Identified clients' personal strengths or abilities are strengthened further to overcome their difficulties. As a result, any intervention or therapy that utilizes this strengths-based approach empowers clients' strengths, which social workers assess, rather than attempting to solve clients' issues (Saleebey, as cited in Pauzi, 2019).

Another model of rehabilitation commonly used by the correctional system is the Risk-Needs-Responsivity (RNR) model. The name comes from the three principles the model designs in as the basis of offender rehabilitation.

The first is the assessment of the risk. Risk refers to whom to target when considering a person's potential to repeat a crime. This is crucial because interventions should be given according to the likelihood of re-offending; rehabilitative measures should be given to patients with a moderate to high risk of re-offending, whereas low-risk cases should only receive the minimum assistance. (The Risk-Need-Responsivity Model, 2020)

Second is identifying the 'criminogenic needs,' which is finding the risk factors associated with past offending and making them the focus of 'treatment.' Moreover, need is about what should be done that directs targeted interventions to address identified criminogenic needs rather than needs unrelated to criminal behavior (The Risk-Need-Responsivity model, 2020).

Third, the treatment of the need in a manner that is responsive to the individual's characteristics Responsivity, which includes both general and specific responsivity, is about how the task should be delivered. Specific responsivity stipulates that the interventions should be adapted to, among other things, the individual's abilities, whereas general responsivity encourages the use of cognitive social learning strategies to impact behavior. Furthermore, responsivity also includes the ability to supervise (The Risk-Need-Responsivity model, 2020).

**Objectives of the Study:-**

The study aimed to determine the rehabilitation services for CICL in the Bahay Pag-Asa situated in Balenben, Barangay Irisan, Baguio City. Specifically, it sought to:

1. Identify the implemented activities and rehabilitation services for CICL and CAR;
2. Identify the challenges in the implementation of the intervention and diversion programs as experienced by the key implementers, and
3. Identify the best practices in implementing the rehabilitation programs as practiced by the key implementers.

**Methodology:-****Study Design**

The research used descriptive qualitative analysis because it describes life experiences and gives them meaning. It is suitable for this study because it helps analyze the data gathered through the interview guide that the researchers made. A phenomenological approach was used to understand better the informant's experiences and how they may impact their assessment of the current implementation of rehabilitation services.

To understand how people interpret their experiences, phenomenological research examines lived experiences. Researchers who employ phenomenological study design assume that individuals use a common framework or essence to interpret their experiences. They analyze the participants' emotions, perceptions, and beliefs to determine the core of their study topic (Dumlao, 2022).

**The population of the study**

This study was conducted at the BPA, situated in Balenben, Barangay Irisan, Baguio City, because the said BPA caters to all cases of CICL and CAR in Baguio City. Police records reflect only five cases in Barangay Irisan for the years 2018 and 2019 combined. Though the juvenile crime rate is a product of many internal and external factors, functional rehabilitation activities and their implementation can be considered a strong consideration in preventing a juvenile from committing the same or other crimes.

The informants of this study were the key implementers of the rehabilitative services, such as the Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) from the PNP, specifically the Women and Children Protection Desk (WCPD). It also included the LSWDO (Local Social Welfare and Development Officer), social workers, and Representatives of the BCPC (Barangay Council for the Protection of Children). They were chosen to be the informants of the study, given that they are the implementers and recipients of the intervention programs.

LEOs who were appointed to Police Station 9 were chosen because the station is in Barangay Irisan. The law enforcement officers who were working in the WCPD were chosen to ensure that, as informants, they would provide accurate and comprehensive data based on their experiences as law enforcers handling cases involving children.

The LEO from the barangay was comprised of representatives of BCPC. It is the committee in charge of planning, implementing activities, and addressing issues with children. The committee comprises the barangay tanod, the human rights officer, and the coordinator. They are local government officers who were elected in 2021 and were chosen as informants because they will provide accurate and comprehensive data based on their experiences as LEOs in the barangay.

The LSWDO was also selected as a participant because he or she could provide key support in the implementation of the advocacy plans of the juvenile justice system. He or she tasked in leading and coordinating advocacy and social marketing activities at the national and regional levels. Specifically, the House parents (HP) working at the BPA were also chosen because they could provide accurate and comprehensive data based on their experiences as social workers. They spent time with the children for a continuous period until the children were discharged. This gives them experience and knowledge regarding the program's implementation.

**Data Gathering Tool**

An interview guide was used to gather the needed data for the study. The open-ended questions gave respondents the freedom to express their ideas and thoughts and encouraged critical thinking and creativity. Additional detail qualifies and clears up their responses, yielding more exact data and noteworthy understanding.

It had undergone tool validation by the University of Baguio Research and Development Center (UB RDC). The tool was presented, evaluated, and approved by the UB RDC before administration. Voice recorders were also utilized during the interview to capture the statements made by the respondents, provided they agreed to have their statements recorded.

### **Data Gathering Procedures**

The researcher forwarded a written request to the Dean of the University of Baguio Graduate School for approval. Then, a letter asking permission to conduct the study and copies of the interview guide were sent to the Chief of Police of Baguio City Police Station 9, the Barangay Chairman from Barangay Irisan, and the City Social Welfare Officer. The interview guide was used as a basis for conducting interviews with representatives from the three key implementers.

Before the interview, the researcher established rapport with the respondents. The respondents were briefed regarding the interview's primary purpose, its implications or effects on them, and their rights as informants as stipulated in the consent form. The respondents were assured that any information obtained would never be divulged to anyone not involved in the study. Pseudonyms were used to conceal the informant's identity. Respondent "A" is the police respondent. Respondents "B1," "B2," and "B3" are the representatives of the BCPC, and respondent "C" is from the LSWDO. The assignment of letters depended on the number of respondents available during the interview.

All informants were given ample time to answer the questions in the interview guide without fear or favor, malice, or ill-will, because the researcher will clarify all gray areas regarding the interview content.

### **Treatment of Data**

The researcher analyzed the responses using Thematic Analysis (T.A.). She used themes and codes to identify the source of discussion that would reveal the study's significant findings. Thematic analysis involves recording or identifying passages of text or images linked by a common theme or idea, allowing a recorder to index the text into categories and establish a "framework of thematic ideas about it" (Gibbs, 2007). It is an appropriate method of analysis for seeking to understand experiences, thoughts, or behaviors across a data set (Kiger and Varpio, 2020).

### **Ethical Consideration**

Before administering the questionnaire and conducting the interview, the informants were given an informed consent form to read and sign. The informed consent form advised the informants of their rights to participate in social research.

The informants were asked to check a checklist confirming their study group profile. It was also ensured that the informants understood the research project, that all data gathered was kept confidential, that they had the right to ask questions, and that they had the right to withdraw at any time during the study. In presenting the data, pseudonyms were used to maintain the anonymity of the informants unless they expressly agreed in writing to have their names indicated in the research paper. After the completion of the study, a copy of the research paper was forwarded to the participating police station, concerned barangay officials, and the Office of the City Social Welfare and Development Office for any further use.

## **Results And Discussion:-**

### **Implemented activities and rehabilitation services for CICL and CAR**

The Police Officer in the WCPD, the members of the BCPC, and the house parent in the BPA are referred to as the duty bearers in the Integrated Care and Management Protocol (ICMP). The ICMP guides the duty bearers and serves as a common reference when handling cases of CICL and CAR from initial contact until the intervention program.

The counterpart of the duty bearers in the juvenile justice system is discussed separately. The transcription and translation of the conversation between the respondent and the researcher are also included.

### **Women and Children's Protection Desk**

At the law enforcement level, the CAR that is encountered by the WCPD is referred to the social workers in the CSWDO for psychosocial intervention. CICLs, on the other hand, are those children who committed a crime, and complainants have filed cases against them.

For CICLs that undergo an inquest procedure, the prosecutor will give an inquest resolution specifying that the CICL will be placed in the BPA. In other cases of CICL, they have a court order coming from the court that the CICL will be placed inside the BPA. The WCPD will assist them in terms of transporting the CICL to the BPA based on either a court order or an inquest resolution.

Another part that requires the assistance of the WCPD is filing a case against the CICL. This happens when there is no settlement or reconciliation between the complainant and the respondent at the barangay level.

*Respondent A: No haanmasolveijay barangay or diyay social worker, han da mapag settle isuda. Maisang-at diyaykenyami for filing. Ada diyaytinakawannadiyay BFP ket nag undergo da iti assessment from the social worker tapnomaamwan no inusar da ti discernment idiinaramid da. Isunga di naamwannga guilty diyayubing, agtennagtikaso. Sunga naiturn over Jay Kaso. Adult Jay Maysa, Jay Maysa Ke CICL. Jay CICL timaiyapanijay BPA isuti undergo an intervention program.*

*Lately, ada met ti in inmayngemkayat da met isettleijay barangay or eggenanti social workers. Isungamasettleenijaynga part. Haanenmaisang at kenyami. Unless desididoen jay complainant nga ag file ti case.*

(If the case is unsettled in the barangay or with the social worker, the case will be referred to us, and we will help in the filing of the case. There was a case before wherein the CICL allegedly stole from the BFP office. The CICL was assessed with the social worker to determine if the child had discernment in committing the crime. When the social worker learned about the child's guilt, the case was turned over to us, and we filed the case. In this case, one suspect was already an adult, and the other was a CICL. The CICL was then sent to the BPA and had to undergo an intervention program.

Lately, there have been cases settled at the barangay level or handled by social workers. (It will only be turned over to us if the complainant has decided to file a case.)

The ICMP insures that the LEO has to follow the procedures for having initial contact with the CICL. As defined by RA 9344 (2006), initial contact with the child means "the apprehension or taking into custody of a CICL by law enforcement officers or private citizens."

Upon initial contact, the LEO will introduce herself to the CICL and explain in simple and understandable language why the child was taken into custody, the child's constitutional rights, and what offense the child allegedly committed. The rights of the CICL include the right to remain silent, the right to have independent and competent counsel of choice, the right to have a lawyer provided by the government if he or she cannot afford the services of a lawyer, and the right to know that whatever the CICL says, it may be used against him or her in any future proceedings before the court.

The LEO will then proceed to ask for the CICL's name, as well as the address and name of his or her parents, for purposes of immediately getting in touch with the relatives. This is part of the registration in the CICL logbook. The CICL Logbook is different from the logbook for CAR. As much as possible, the parents must be immediately contacted after the initial contact or apprehension of the CICL and must not exceed eight hours after the LEO has taken the child into custody.

The procedure involves the participation of the child's parents. The law requires the LEO to immediately inform the parents for three purposes. First, to ensure that the CICL is appropriately assisted during the initial interview. Second, to ensure that physical custody may be immediately given to the parents in case the LEO finds during the interview that there are no conditions requiring custody to be temporarily given to the LSWDO. Third, to allow the parents to contact a legal counselor who may represent the CICL.

*Respondent A: First of all, main form dagijay parents nga jay using ketada toy station. No awanti parents ket guardian. No awanti guardian ket social workers. No social worker ti ag assist kenadaketkailanganmainformmanen jay social workers da ngaadati CICL ditoy station.*

(Parents will be informed that the CICL is in the station. In their absence, the guardian may take their place. Moreover, in the absence of a guardian, the social worker will be asked to come and assist the CICL. Then again, the social worker will inform that a CICL in such a situation is in the station.)

The JJWA also provides that if the CICL is found to have no parents or guardians, then the CICL will be deemed neglected or abandoned. In this situation, the LEO must note in the intake form that the child may be "neglected" or "abandoned" and immediately inform the LSWDO of the fact that the CICL does not have any parent or guardian taking care of him or her (ICMP, 2020).

After the child is taken into custody, the law requires that the child be immediately brought to the proper medical or health officer for a thorough physical and mental evaluation. Whenever medical treatment is required, steps shall be immediately taken to provide the same (ICMP, 2020). The law requires that the CICL be taken to a medical or health officer for physical and mental examination for three purposes:

1. Having an initial assessment of the alleged commission of the offense or if the fact of taking custody had any impact on the child's physical and mental condition
2. Ensuring that the child gets adequate medical assistance or attention after allegedly committing an offense and being apprehended by the LEO.
3. Protecting the LEO who took custody of the child from any future accusations of abuse or violence used against the child.

*Respondent A: Tapos no kailanganti medical, ipamedikal da. Tapostawagan jay social worker for assessment for discernment of the CICL. Tapos no willing jay victim, agaramidti sworn statement. Isu jay maiyapan ken piskal. No ada witness jay victim, maala an manenti sworn statement. Basta ami amin ngaaramidenijayubingketada jay guardian ngamang assist kenya. victim or respondent. Tapos no maiyapan ken prosecutor ket with probable cause jay complaint, ketagpursu jay kaso. Ag itedsunati go signal ngadiyay CICL ketmaiyanijaySilungan Center. Maifileen Jay case, Ijay Court.*

*Tapossabali jay maited lang keni prosecutor. Sabali met Jay ni prosecutor ti ag file ijay court. Isungatiikasta mi lang ket ag file kami ti complaint keni prosecutor. Ni prosecutor ti ag file ti information ijay court. No diyayketa da ti probable cause nga ag push through tikaso, ag file sunati information ijay court.*

(If there is a need for a medical examination, the child will undergo a medical examination. Then the social worker will be called to come and conduct a dialogue with the CICL to assess whether there is discernment of the CICL. If the victim is willing to file a case, a sworn statement will be taken and given to the prosecutor. If there is a witness for the victim, the victim will be assisted in taking his sworn statement. In general, there has to be a guardian to assist the child at every step of the procedure. Whether the child is a victim or a witness. If the sworn statements are forwarded to the prosecutor and the prosecutor determines a probable cause, then the information will be filed by him in court.)

As to the programs that the LEO provides as part of promoting the rehabilitative programs of CICL, the respondent stated that they conduct seminars as well as participate in them. Sometimes as a participant and, on other occasions, as a speaker.

*Respondent A: Seminar. Agconconduct kami metlangti seminar taposagjoin kami tipaseminar da. Paseminarti barangay ken social workers no ag invite da kenya. Mamingsanmetlangket ag organize ti social workers ti seminar taposdakamitiyaban da ngaagspeaker.*

*Ken adametlangti seminars ngaiconconductti PNP. At the national level. Isuro da no kasanoti ag counseling ti CICL and parents. Required kami metlangnga ag join no ag ayab da. Ada ti specialized course para iti women and children cases. specialized course on investigating cases involving women and children.*

(We conduct seminars or join seminars. There are seminars organized by the barangay and invitations to speakers from the social workers. The PNP also conducts seminars at the national level. They teach how to conduct counseling for CICL and parents. We are required to accept the invitations. There is also a specialized course for cases involving women and children. The course is called Specialized Course on Investigating Cases Involving Women and Children.)



In other words, the LEO from the WCPD is well provided with opportunities to hone the skills used in performing their duties. According to McHenry (2019), law enforcement professionals must ensure that they are up-to-date on formal education and training and become educated about criminal element techniques. Training and education go beyond merely spending time in an instructional setting and receiving a certificate of completion. It also involves putting this new information to use and maintaining proficiency.

## 2. Barangay Council for the Protection of Children

At the barangay level, the interviewed respondents were the BCPC council member, the human rights officer, and the BCPC coordinator. They also identified that there are activities and programs for CAR and CICL in Barangay Irisan.

When a CICL is apprehended by the Barangay tangod, Barangay Official, or BCPC member, they have to bring the CICL to the barangay station for initial intake. However, if, at the point of initial contact, the LEO from the barangay determines that the offense allegedly committed by the CICL is severe or that circumstances require urgent assistance of the police (e.g., extreme violence), the LEO can bring the child directly to the police station (ICMP, 2020).

In Barangay Irisan, the CSWDO was institutionalized through BCPC, a children's organization, to implement programs like Got Talent and the "Batalympics." The implementers have capability building for the handling of cases involving children. As for the parents of the children, they are provided with Parent Effective Services (PES), which are seminars for parents from the barangay. The parents of the CICL are also included as participants in the PES because they are the ones who need guidance and reminders to be effective parents of their children.

*Respondent B1: Ada organizers ti children's organization to implement child-friendly programs. Dati nagsardingidi pandemic ngemnagrugimanen last year. Ada ti activities mi nga Got Talent and BataLympics. Institutionalized daytoyitiCSWDO. Diay actual ngaararamiden mi ket no panggepti implementers ketadati capability building mi for CAR and CICL. Tiagjoinditoykettanod ken parents. Titanodketmasuruwan no kasanoti ag apprehend tiubing. No curfew, ketadatimatiliw, bawalkenyadatimaposas. Though amo da met kitdidayta, we keep reminding them.*

(We organized a children's organization to implement child-friendly programs. It stopped operations during the pandemic but started again last year. We have activities like Got Talent and Paralympics. The CSWDO institutionalizes this. In actuality, we provide capacity building that are joined by tanods and parents. The Tanods are taught procedures for apprehending children. When the children are apprehended during curfew hours, they are not allowed to be handcuffed. Although they know this already, they are constantly reminded.)

*Respondent B2: Annual Dayta. Mamingsanketmamingduwati seminar or patraining para dita capability building. Ada tipatrainingti Human Rights, patrainingti Peace and Order, patrainingti BCPC mismo.*

*Iti actual nga apprehension ket no kaspangarigan physical injury, iyapantitanodijaypulis. Tapos jay pulisketi assess da no kasano. Umay met Jay PulisDitoy for case conferencing. Pati social worker ken parents. Kitan mi no kasanokadagsendiyaykaso. No kaya mi, pag settle en mi tiparentstibiktim ken CICL.*

(These activities are done annually. Sometimes, seminars and training are done twice for capacity building. Training is organized by for human rights, peace and order, and BCPC. In actual apprehension, for example, a case of a physical injury, the tanod will bring the child to the police station. The police officer will then assess what the next step will be. The police officer, social worker and the child's parents will come here (BPA) for case conferencing. We will also evaluate how heavy the penalty is for the case. To the best of our abilities, we will try to settle the civil liability between the parents of the victim and CICL)

*Respondent B3: Tigapongaagsabat da ditoykettapnomasettlediyaysibil liability diyayubingngaadainaramidna. Ket diyay tip ag usapan mi ta timanagotijayketti parents diyayubing. Santo maieksplikarkenyadangaadati implement ti program para ti parents ken children.*

(The reason why they have to come here is for the settlement of the civil liability of the crime that the child committed. This is the subject of our discussion because the ones who are going to pay for that will be the parents of

the child. Thereafter, it will be explained to them that there will be an implemented program for the parents and the children.)

### 3. House Parents in the BPA

At the social workers' level, they are tasked with implementing programs for the CICLs whose cases have been filed in court. Some social workers are assigned as house parents inside the BPA and take charge of the house and clients 24 hours a day on a three-day shift schedule.

The clients inside the Bahay Pag-Asa can be grouped into CICL, whose cases have been filed in court, and CICL, whose cases are still pending. They undergo structured diversion programs for a minimum of six months. Those CICLs who have pending cases are temporarily sheltered inside the BPA until a verdict has been decided. Once a guilty verdict has been reached, the CICL may be transferred to the Regional Rehabilitation Youth Center.

The CICL inside the BPA is also considered a CAR since they have common backgrounds. Both share common backgrounds of having a broken family, living with a single parent, or living with grandparents. CARs undergo community intervention programs, whereas CICLs either undergo intervention programs or, in other cases, intensive intervention programs.

Generally, the services extended for the CICLS include the Residential Care Program, Education-Oriented Program, Livelihood Training, Basic Life Skills Development, Psychosocial Recovery, and Special Social Services. Under the Residential Care Program, the house parents teach the clients about Home Life Services as well as Nutritional and Health Services. Under the education-oriented program, clients can enroll in courses and attend classes regularly. In this program, the clients are monitored and given educational and financial Assistance.

Livelihood training for clients is also provided, and choices include urban gardening, silk screening, landscaping, pastry making, baking, paper rolling, handicraft making, rabbit raising, copper or thread bracelet and bead making, T-shirt tie dying, and fabric conditioner making. Training is scheduled depending on the available budget, materials, and trainers.

Basic Life Skills Development is a service done through activities like life skills sessions, spiritual enhancement, and sports and recreational development. Spiritual enhancements are usually scheduled every third Sunday of the month in coordination with local missionary churches. Sports and recreational development take the form of playing basketball, ping pong, boxing, playing musical instruments like guitar, and board games like chess, are among other recreational activities that are scheduled at 4 p.m. during the weekdays. Psychosocial recovery is another service provided by the BPA that is done through activities like individual counseling and referral for psychological services for CICL who are in need of such services.

Programs for each CICL are individualized, but there is a similarity in the activities. The programs for each client are similar in the sense that the services mentioned above are incorporated into the programs.

*Respondent C: In general, ket, maisursuro met amin ta inter-related gem adati part nga ma emphasize dependediyay case ti tubing. Ada dagijay short talks ngamabagbagaan da as part of counseling. Kasla no ti topic ket about assertiveness, decision-making, and stress management, naka generalize para kenya amin. Iti programs ket pare-parehasngen individually ngamaiprocessna. Kasla no tika soitiubing ket panggepi RA 9165, sabaliti specific interventions na ta panggep drugs. Mas ad ado ti series of counseling, ag undergo da ti drug test and drug counseling every week. No theft met t kaso jay ubing, mas ad ado ti activities napanggep wise decision making under diyay basic life skills and honesty under values formation. Kaslametlangdiyayadakasonaiti rape ket mas matutukanti counseling nangati emphasized topics ket panggep respecting women and women's rights.*

(Generally, all services are extended to the residents; however, specific activities are given to the resident on a case-by-case basis. They are given generalized small talks as part of counseling with topics like assertiveness, decision-making, and stress management.

For example, drug tests and drug counseling are explicitly scheduled for a resident with a case of drug use under RA 9165. For a resident with a case of theft, more activities about basic life skills and value formation, like being

oriented toward wise decision-making and honesty are provided. Also, emphasis on respect for women and women's rights is further explained to the residents with cases of rape).

For the home life service, the clients follow a strict schedule. They are taught to do housework, basic life skills, and value formation simultaneously. There is a program that clients must comply with from Monday to Saturday. Gardening and weeding of the surrounding flower and vegetable gardens are scheduled on Mondays and Tuesdays; basic life skills on Wednesdays and Thursdays by house parents, social workers, and other partners like volunteers; general cleaning in and outside the vicinity on Saturdays; evangelism on Sunday afternoon by local church volunteers and family days on Sunday morning.

Social Workers gather every first Sunday of the month at the BPA to meet the parents and residents and give updates on the cases of the CICL. House parents, on the other hand, are on duty round the clock on a three-day shift schedule to serve residents and parents in the BPA.

The house parent records the progress of the CICL in a daily report. Anecdotal reports, on the other hand, are reports of the house parent regarding the time compliance for residents in attending school and other regular activities scheduled for the day. For example, the residents are to be awake from 5:00 to 5:15. The houseparent will then give a score from one (1) to five (5), with 1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest, depending on the resident's performance. If the resident wakes up earlier than the schedule the houseparent may give 5 points, but if the resident wakes up within the time period, the score could be 3 or 4, and if it is later than the time set, then the score is 1.

This process of the anecdotal report plays a big role since the progress of the resident will be added by the social worker in the progress report that will be submitted to the court.

*Respondent C: Ada dagijay residents ngamangpalpasti intervention program da iti 6 months ngemgapo ta top performer da ketirekomendaiti social worker daisudaijaykorte. Daytoytimaysarasonngabawasantikortediayinnemngabulan. Ada diyaymaysa case mi idingauppatngabulanlaengentipinalpasnagapoti top performance na.*

(The residents are given 6 months to finish the intervention program; however, those who are top performers are given recommendations from the social workers to the judge in court. Sometimes, this becomes a reason for a shortened period of the intervention program. We had handled a case wherein the program was finished in four months because the resident was a consistent top performer.)

The extension of the six-month period will depend on the violation committed by the resident. Major violations will likely result in longer extensions, while minor violations can result in shorter extensions.

After 6 months, the BPA has to release the CICL to the community. However, the child has to undergo a community intervention program for a period of six (6) months as part of the reintegration process. The case will be totally terminated after 2 years. However, suppose the child does not comply with the community intervention program. In that case, the child is brought back to the community and will undergo six monthly intervention programs the second time around. When successful with the program, the child will be released back to the community and undergo a six-month community-based program.

In other words, the services of the BPA are flexible and subject to structured changes depending on the best interests of the child.

### **Challenges in the implementation of the intervention and diversion programs as experienced by the key implementers**

The challenges facing the three duty bearers are many, but they share two common themes when it comes to CICL: broken homes, uncooperative parents, and implementers experiencing work-related stress. Specifically, the respondent coming from the WCPD experienced mental stress. In comparison, the respondents from the BCPC experienced problems in the monitoring of repeat offenders. Lastly, the respondent from BPA experienced challenges, including handling tantrums and violations by residents.

### 1. CICL from Broken Homes

According to Yusuf (2004), adolescents who grow up in a peaceful atmosphere where their parents show them care, support, and guidance in family life tend to develop an upbeat personality. A broken family, on the other hand, is one where parents occasionally fail to perform their duties, as well as parents in general who can meet all of their children's requirements in a caring, emotional, and material way.

*Respondent A: Usually, ketadaproblema da ti parents da. Ada tiisturyati family background da. Jay dadumanga families ketadaijay abroad ti parents da. Mabati jay ubingditoPilipinas. Maysa ngarasonngaibagatiubing "awan met gamin ditoyni mother ko", or "awan gamin ni father ko". Awan jay parents, ijayinaldawngabiayagdiyayubing.*

(Usually, they have problems with their parents. They have a story with the background of their family. Some have families whose parents are abroad, while the child is left here in the Philippines. One reason that the children say is that "My mother is not here" or "My father is not here. (Absence of parents in the daily life of the child.)

Children who come from broken homes are a challenge to the implementers of rehabilitation services. Typically, a family is where a child learns the basics of what is good and bad and what behavior is acceptable. In broken-home families, children's rights to a comfortable family environment are not fulfilled because parents often involve children in family conflicts. This affects the development of children and can affect the process of character and personality formation, especially for future life (Astuti et al., 2016).

*Respondent A: Ada met lang dagijay unsuccessful nga CICL ijay programs da. Kasladagijay repeat offender. Maysa ngagapo no haanngaagsuccessfulti programs diyayubingketgapoti family. Awan ti support ti parents, ijayannak da. Isungajay ubingket rebellious. Awan ti support ngamariknanaiti family. Isunga jay ubingketagaramidtapnomapansin.*

*Ada enti several nga cases ngapasublisublidiyayubing kasi haannga successful. Tiikasta mi ketsuruten mi ladtadiyay legal process. Uraymamingano da ngaagsubliketi turn over mi ladtaijay social worker nga akin handle.*

(Some children are unsuccessful in their programs like the repeat offenders. One reason that they will become unsuccessful is because of their family. There is no support from their parents. That's why the children are rebellious. They don't feel the support from their family. That is why the children will do something to be recognized.)

*Respondent B1: Isungaadadiyay Effective Parenting Services. Parajay parents. Gamin no apay ngaagkaskasjaytiubing. Makitam Ijay's parents Gamin. Makitammelang no ma call parent da e. makitam no kasanoagsasaadiyay parent. No jay relationship tiubing ken parent ket okey wennoahan.*

*Haan ma meet diyayneed ti tubing ijaybalay. Isuti cause na no apay ngakastadagitangaubbing. Special case en a diyaymakakomit da ti crime gapoti influencediti peers ken environment. Ngemkitamti most repeat offenders ketisuti issue. Jay Foundation for the Family*

*Haanmo met maibagangaagrason lang jay ubing e. kasi makitammismo e. Ma assess mo no adaendagijay parents da. Karkaro no separate ti parents, solo parent. Haanngamameet jay need tiubing inside the home. Product for broken homes. Ijay group ti repeat offenders mi ket jay maysaketada stepfather na. Jay Maysa met Ke Solo Parent. Jay maysaket nag abroad ti mother na.*

(That's why there is an effective parenting service for the parents. You will see in the parents why the children are like that. You will observe how the parents talk and whether their relationship is okay.

That is the usual reason why the child's needs are not met at home. That is what causes these children to be like that. It is just a special case when children commit crimes because they are influenced by their peers and environment. The most common reason for repeat offenders is the foundation of their families.

You cannot really blame the child because you can see it yourself upon assessing the parents of the children especially when the parents are separated or solo parents. The needs of the child still need to be met at home. They

are products of broken homes. We have a group of repeat offenders in which one of them has a stepfather, the other child has a solo parent, and the parent of the third one is working abroad.)

*Respondent C: Nagapu da itisabasabalinga background. Ada ti single parent, separated parents ken lakisalola. Ada jay dadumangaubbingngamangkunangasabahayngahindi kami inuutusan e. Taposdito (BPA) ketmauutusan da gapo ta adagarodti house rules.*

(The children come from different backgrounds. Some have single parents, some have separated parents, and some were raised by their grandmothers. Some children will also say, "We are not ordered at home." Then they are shocked that they must follow orders in the BPA because of the house rules.)

This confirms the results of the study of Reeta (2020) which identified broken families as the primary cause of juvenile delinquency. Broken families are directly linked to advanced levels of delinquency.

## 2. Uncooperative Parents and Bad Parenting

The parents hold the most significant position in the family, as they serve as role models for their children. However, more cooperative parents are needed for crucial implementers. The most critical causes of juvenile delinquency can include comparable broken households, single-parent families, divided families, regular parent fights, a lack of trust and confidence among the parents, and even immoral parents.

*Respondent B2: Parents ti Ayana.Mamingsan, ti parents ketagsugusalweno ag in-inomket bay bay an da diyayubingngaagbuybuya. Ada diyay parents ngamangibagangaawanbasol jay ubing ko. Tipanunutendiyayubingket okay lang ta idependendar dak met ni parents ko. Urayanyatiararamidendiyayubing.*

*Napansin ko metlangti parents ket no panagbabayadenti civil liability da. Kasla jay maysangataga La Trinidad. Ta ti civil liability nak et bayadana jay 30,000 PHP. Nagpigs a jay ibaga da nga wen wen, bayadan mi. Taposnipisoketawan. Imbaggarodkoma no umay ta ibaganangaawantiited da tapno aware kami.*

*Timaysa met nga parent ket non-appearance. Pulos.*

(The parents are the reason. Sometimes the parents gamble or drink liquor in the presence of the child. The parents also say that their children are not at fault. In this case, the child will think that what he did was okay since their parents will defend them whatever the child does. I also noticed the parents when they had to pay the civil liability, like the one from La Trinidad. The parent was supposed to pay the civil liability amounting to 30,000 PHP. They were very sure when they said that they would pay but up to now they have not paid a peso. It is highly suggested that they come and tell us so that we will be aware of their situation.)

(There is also a parent who has never appeared even once.)

Other studies (World Youth Report, 2003) have also emphasized the harmful aspects of families. According to the survey, there is a higher likelihood that a juvenile may engage in delinquent behavior if there is less home supervision, they live in a dysfunctional family environment, or their families are financially struggling.

*Respondent B3: Isungaadadiyay program mi nga Effective Parenting Services. Ada ti modules da ngamaitedkenya da during the seminar. Ma educate da panggeptiepektibnga parenting. Gamin, isungaiem emphasize mi diyaykenyadagamin ketadati practices ngaagtennagnga child abuse or child neglect. Ta haan da ngamaitedtiustongasapoltiannak da.*

(The effective parenting Services is a program to address these issues. Parents will be given modules during the seminar. They will be educated about effective parenting. This will be emphasized to them because their current practices fall under child abuse or child neglect. They are unable to give what their child needs.)

*Respondent B1: Ti challenge dita ketdagijaynasisingpetngaparentestiumay. Ta diyaymismoparentesngaagsapoltikastoyngapaseminar, ibaga da ket "apay no agtutugawak dita ketadatiitutok no malem?" anyangaytimaisungbat ko ijayketawan a. Isunga unless ag allot ti barangay ti budget ti parenting services ket ag ikiloti saga lima nga kilo tibagasngaiyawid da.*

(The challenge here is that the parents who come are kind. Because the parents who need this would say, "Will I be able to cook something in the afternoon when I attend and sit the whole day?" If the barangay budgets at least 5 kilos of rice, then they have something to bring home).

In other words, supportive and cooperative parents play a role in molding children's behavior. Adolescents who lack love and attention due to the complete absence of parents tend to experience psychological problems. The results of previous studies found that adolescents with broken home conditions tend to experience unhappiness, low self-control, and low life satisfaction, so they often experience mental stress, such as depression, and have bad social behavior.

### 3. Implementers experiencing work-related stress

The World Health Organization (2020) defines work-related stress as the reaction people may have to pressure and demands at work that are out of proportion to their skills and expertise and that test their capacity for coping. The demands of the modern work environment make pressure at the office unavoidable. Depending on the available resources and personal traits, pressure that an individual perceives as acceptable may even keep employees awake, engaged, able to work, and capable of learning.

House Parents coming from the BPA usually experience stress because of sleepless nights.

*Respondent C: Ada jay time nga no agawidakketnapuyatakijay straight duty nga three days santo danunakdiyay boys ko jay balaynganakukulit, mamingsanketmakontrolngem no mamingsan irritable ka piman. Ada metlang jay times nganastressaktitrabahoketmaibuntong ko kenyada. Ngemsiyempre, madamdama to metlangketmaamiris ko nga apay diyayngaagpayso. Masapolnga before ka agawidketiprocessmoenti stress tapnohanmo aw awitenngadumanon ka ijaybalayyo. Diyayti challenge kenyak a. Habang on the way home, batiyekendagijay stress dito. Ngemada jay times ngahanmomaiwasan e.*

*Tipagmayatana no night shift ketapagawidkonketawanendagijayannak ko ijaybalay ta napan dan ijaykwelaan. Isungadiretsotipanagturugkon. No mabangon a ken timalemketnakainanatipanunut ken bagisungamayatenti mood.*

*Once ngapuyat ka gamin ketsabalititaraytipanunut ken mood. Ta uraygarud routine tayo daytoyititrahoketsabaliladtatiepektionatipuyat. Tao tayo lang met. Kaspangarigan no straight three nights of duty, sabalientalaga on the third night. Tiremejo no kastoyket either ag day off ka tapos night duty manen or ag day shift na lang.*

(There are times when I get home, and I'm sleepless because of the straight three days and night duty. Sometimes I am moody towards my two children, who are annoying me. Sometimes I can control it, but sometimes, I am irritable. After getting angry, I realized I was not supposed to be like that.

Processing stress before getting home is necessary, so you won't bring it home. That is my challenge. I leave my stress here before I get home. But there are times that I really can't help this from happening.

There is a positive side to night shifts. When I get home, my kids are already at home, and I can sleep peacefully. When I wake up in the afternoon, I'm already able to deal with them positively because I was able to rest.

The effect of sleeplessness on one's mind and mood is really different. Because even if this is my routine at work, the effect of sleeplessness is different. We're just humans. For example, in straight three-night duty, it will be different already on the third night. (The remedy is to either take a day off and then opt for night duty or day shift only.)

*Respondent A: Kami dito basta may kaso, hindimaiwasanna mag overtime. Kahit nakaduty ka ng 12 hours kung may kaso, need mo mag-stay for more than 12 hours, kahit mag twenty-four hours ka. Hanggang mataposyung process ng kaso. Uray pay nakaawid ka ketada jay agtawagtawagketmasapolsungbatam. Daytatimaysa pay nganakakastress. Ngemiman manage ko met kitdi.*

(For us here, every time there is a case, we cannot avoid working overtime. Even if our duty is only 12 hours, if there is a case, we must stay more than 12 hours, even 24 hours, until the case is fully processed. Even if you go

home and they (other law enforcers) are calling, you have to answer them. This is also stressful. But I can manage somehow.)

#### 4. Handling Violations of Residents

As mentioned earlier, one of the tasks of a houseparent inside the BPA is managing the chores that are supposed to be completed by the residents. However, there are instances when the residents need help to properly finish their daily tasks, or in other cases, they violate some of the house rules.

*Respondent C: Timaysa pay nga big challenge ketaghandleiti violation. Tiamomnga houseparent ketpatpatiyendakangem no nakatalikod ka gayam keta da da met ijaylikodngaagduldulin ta agsigsigarilyoda. Or adatinmaray. Or adagayamti ag ap apaijayuneg. Or ada ag mom moma. Dagijayti violations nga usually ketmasapolmakontrol. Ada metlangdagijay ag tantrum.*

*Ken no kasanomngaimanageti amin nga household chores da. Ada jay nagagetngaagaramidtaposada met jay mangibaganga okey na.ingka in check ketinselsel an gayamdagijayrugitijaykanal.*

(Another big challenge for us, house parents, is handling the violations. There are times when we think that they (residents) are complying, but when we turn our backs, they are actually hiding or smoking behind the building. Some run away; some fight inside the room; some chew beetle nuts while some throw tantrums. Those are the usual violations that have to be controlled.

Then another challenge is how to manage the children so that they can finish their tasks on time. Some are diligent, but there are some who would say that it's already done, but when check their tasks (cleaning the area), they just throw the dirt or trash in the canal)

#### 5. Stress experienced by the implementers

For the LEO at the WCPD, the challenge involves mental stress. Craft (2021) mentions that law enforcement is at the top of the list of stressful occupations, and police officers have been met with internal and external stressors that have caused serious health concerns. As a result, law enforcement officers suffer from mental health problems at a rate greater than the general population, even before dealing with added pandemic challenges, stress, and uncertainty (Hartley et al., 2011).

*Respondent A: It is challenging as a WCPD investigator. Challenging daytoyngatrabaho. Han ngakasla general investigator ta daytyket more on women, children, and their families. Sa general inves e pagnangyarina e nangyarina. Pagnataposna ang mgapapel, okey na. peroitong cases ng mga CICL ketnakakaapektosa mental. Sa utak.*

(It is challenging to be a WCDP investigator. This is a challenging work. It is unlike the general investigation because this work involves women, children, and their families. In a general investigation, if the papers are done and submitted, then that's it, but in cases involving CICL, it affects me mentally.)

#### Best practices in the implementation of the rehabilitation programs as practiced by the key implementers

As to the strategies used by the three duty bearers in handling the challenges, they have a common ground in the themes of Involving the Families of the CICL and Self-Management to combat stress. Specifically, the law enforcer from the WCPD identified support of the Family as a helping factor in law enforcement involving CICL. The members of the BCPC identified Maximum Tolerance and Continuous Monitoring of the CICL. While the House Parent from the BPA identified House Parents Caring for the resident like his or her own child as well as Flexibility of the Consequences of the Child as factors that help handle the challenges when it comes to implementing the Rehabilitation program,

##### 1. Involving the Families and Parents of the CICL

Involving the families and parents of the CICL confirms the results of the study by Micalizzi et al (2019) It was found in this study that only in supportive relationships did parental control prevent children from initiating substance use. Only in supportive partnerships were all parental information sources linked to lower levels of delinquency. The efficiency of parental information sources in preventing children from externalizing behavior may be improved by interventions to improve children's feelings of parental social support (Micalizzi et al., 2019).

*Respondent A: Support for family and community is a big factor. Ada ti good effect nadiyay family support ijay CICAL. Kasi awan met tisabalingaagsuportaijayubing no haanngadiyay family na. No bay-bay an da lang jay ubingketmaging CICAL. Kasi ngayunghindinilanafe feel sa family nila keta pan da birukeniti friends, gangs, and fraternities. Isunga no parent kan. Dapatketi priority tianak mo. Okay lang met ngaada work mongem mas priority tianak mo. Ta haanmoamo e. ada ka ditoy. Pulis ka ngaagpayso. Han mogayamngaamonga CICAL jay anakmo kasi hanmomamonitor.*

(One significant factor is the support of the family and the community. Family support has a good effect on the CICAL because there is no one else who will support the child aside from his family. If they (the family) neglect the child, the child may become a CICAL because they will look for the feelings of assurance and acceptance that they lack from their family in their friends. That is why your priority should be your child, if you are a parent. It is okay to have work, but you have to give more priority to your child. You will never know. You are here. You are a police officer, but you don't know that your child is already a CICAL because you can't monitor your child.)

*Respondent C: Ada diyay every Sunday Family Day nganaka schedule ngaumayti parents. Ada diyay regular ken adadiyay irregular ngaumay. Isunga no makita mi nga irregular, iremind mi daisuda (parents) ngaumay kayo, pasyarenyo met a dagitoyaannakyo. Makijoin kayo ti meeting tapnoi update mi ti progress tianakyo ken panggepti progress ti case da. Actually, nomahome sick da (residents) uray in the middle of the week ketmakita mi nga stressed out da. No makita mi ngamakatulongdiyay parental visit da keti invite mi isuda (parents). Ket makatulong. Gamin no mamingsankethaan effective dagijay advice mi kenyardaurayi encourage mi suda. No ag visit ti parents da ketlumag-antirikna da (residents). Isungapatidagijay parents da keti encourage mi isudatapno regular tipanagbisita da kadagijayannak da.*

## 2. Exercise and self-management to combat work-related stress

The study by Craft (2021) studied male and female police officers to determine whether physical exercise impacts stress reduction among police officers in two counties in South Carolina. The results of their study show that police officers in Orangeburg and Richland Counties who are involved in some type of physical exercise have a lasting impact on the reduction of stress.

*Resident A: Kaya minsan e naiuuwinasabahayyungmanganangyariditosaoapisina. Which is hindidapat. Kaya bagoumuwi e magpalamig. Exercise. Walking walking. Wala naming ibanggagawin kung hindiganon. Meron din naman pumupuntaditona churches nanagkokonduct ng spiritual enrichment through praise and worship. May tatlo. Lahat kami nag aattend doon. Pero sa akin e personally, walking alone and exercising. Palagingganon. Hawak ko yungaso ko na Golden Retriever. Meron din naman akongmgaaspin, perohindi ko masyadonadadala.*

(That is why sometimes I bring home what has happened here in the office, which shouldn't be. That is why cooling down and exercising before going home is good. There is nothing else to do except that. Some churches come here and conduct spiritual enrichment through praise and worship. There are three. We always attend. But personally, walking alone and exercising are enough. It is always like that. I bring with me my golden retriever. I also have an "aspin" (along with pinoy), but I don't usually bring them).

According to the WCPD police officer, dogs are good companions when walking around the road. The presence of her animal companion diverts her attention from stress to positive thoughts. This way, she can manage her stress.

## 3. Houseparents' care for the CICAL like their own children.

Psychologist Lev Vygotsky believed that parents, caregivers, peers, and culture are responsible for developing children's thinking processes. According to the sociocultural approach, children's psychological development is partly influenced by people in their lives who serve as mentors, such as teachers and parents. Other times, these shape our values and views through children's interactions in social groups or through participation in cultural events. (Cherry, 2022)

*Resident C: No panggep met ti handling iti tantrums ken it violations to residents, maysanga strategy ket be a parent ken treatmodaisuda as your own. Diba no sika ketmaysanga parent ketmaawatam jay feelings diyayubing. Personally, I think isutalagatiusareknga effective nga technique. If you treat them as your child, automatic, amomtiikastamnga da best para kenyarda. Medyonalaklaka para kenyakngama-karelatekenyarda ta adaenpamilyak ken annak ko. I treat them as my children. Ngemurray no single jay house parent, mabalinaladtanga effective ti*



*management ti residents no ituringnaisuda as younger siblings. Ada metlangkadwa mi ditoynga single pimankethaanmakarelatekenyadaisungakaslaisunaentimanang. Ngemsiyempre no ituringmoisudanga adding mo, panunutemmetlang jay the best para kenya. Han met nga necessary jay adatianakmo, or married ka tapnomakarelate ka kenya. Ngemtipinaka-guide mi talagatapno ma-i-manage mi daisudaket jay House Rules. Haan kami mabalinnagalumihisijay. Ta no han mi usarendiyayketawanen a, dakaminga house parents enti nag violation.*

(When it comes to handling tantrums and violations of the residents, one strategy to handle this is to be a parent and treat them as your own. Isn't it that if you are a parent, you will try to know the feelings of your child? Personally, I find this an effective strategy. If you treat them as your child, you will know what is best for them. It is easier for me to relate to them because I already have a family with my own kids. That is why I treat them like my children. But even if the house parent is single, the residents' management can still be effective if they are treated as younger siblings. We have a co-house parent here who is single and sometimes she cannot relate to the residents. That's why she is like the elder sister. But if you cannot treat them like younger siblings, consider what is best for them. You do not need to have a child or be married to relate to them. But the main guide to managing them is the House Rules. We can't act outside the house rules. Because if we do not use that, we, the house parents, are already the ones who are violating.)

*Respondent C: Ti residents are sensitive at their age. Isungati houseparent ketmasapolngamaala da tikiliti da (residents)gamin no striktongastriktoladtan, haannga effective. As a house parent, treat them as your own child: ketdiba no anakmo, isurumkenyadadiyay dos and don'ts, maging firm ka mtlng no dapatngamaging firm ka. Ti house rules, ket house rules, ngem no mejomabalinngaibend. Konsintem no kasapulan, ngem no masapolngatakderam, takderamngahaan. Kasalaijay sports da urayhaanpaylangngaorasketagpakadadagijayubbingngakayatda ag ay ayamtanimaboringkamin, mabagtitkamin ta awanaramiden mi. But there will be an agreement: ipaakaawatkenyadanga o sige, tadtat lang daytuy. Han mabalinnaga everyday ta adadiyay schedule ti 4 o'clock. Dependejay discernment ni house parent. Haanmabalinnaga very loose ka. Karo no haanmabantayanketadati negative consequences na.agkaroon kayo amin ti violation, pati sika nga houseparent. Ngemno too much tight ka met ketagrebeldedagijayubingsungamasapolnga balance amin. There is a rule at the bottom. Isunganakadependeijay houseparent ngamang usar ti house rules tapno effective ti program.*

*Isutipagsasabaliyan mi nga house parents. Diyay Parenting skills are based on our individual personalities. ta urayadati house rules ketagsisinabali kami panggepti implementation strategies.*

*Ta adadagijaykonsintidor. Jay authoritative met ketaramidem ta isutiinbagak. Han ngadiyayaramidem ta isutipagsayaatam. Sunga personally ketnarigat para kenyak. Karo ididamo ta tikuna da ketsobrangananusak kano ketmasapolagstriktok. Kasla no inted ko tadtadiyaygitarakethaan pay nga alas kwatro. Tapos no bigatishumanentiikasta da. Kaykayatdakangaagpaysungemmaabusongay. No strikto ka met ngapirmiketkagurgura ka met. Naging trial and error ingganama-i-balance.*

(The residents are sensitive at their age. That is why the houseparent has to be flexible because if he or she is constantly strict, then it is not practical. As a houseparent, treat the children as your own. In that way, you can teach them the dos and don'ts and be firm if necessary. House rules are meant to be strictly implemented, but bend the rules to have a better outcome. Agree with them if need be, but if you need to stand your ground on the rules, then do so.

Sometimes, the children would like to play sports even if it is not yet time. They plead that they will play because it is already dull, and it drives them crazy that they have nothing to do. But there will be an agreement. I explain to them that I'll let it slide this time only. It is not going to be every day because the sports schedule is at 4 o'clock. It depends on my discernment as a house parent.

You cannot be very loose. Because if things cannot be controlled, there will be negative consequences and violations for everyone, including the house parent. But if you are too strict, then the children will rebel. That is why balance is important. There is a rule at the bottom. And the implementation will depend on the Houseparent for the program to be effective.

This is where we differ as house parents. Our parenting skills depend on our individual personalities. Because even if there are house rules, we have different ways of implementing them.

There are those house parents who let the children decide what they want. Then there are authoritative people who will say, do this because this is what I said. Do not do this because this is what is best for you. That is why, personally, it is hard for me especially at first, because they said I was too kind and needed to be strict. Just like when I let them play the guitar today, even if it is not yet 4 p.m. Then the same thing will happen tomorrow. It's true that they like you, but they are already abusive. But they hate you when you are too strict. (It became a trial and error process until we got the balance.)

#### 4. The flexibility of the Consequences

Setting behavioral expectations for youth and staff in a BPA is critical, beginning with a clear grasp of what is meant when discussing behavior management, discipline, and punishment. The continual endeavor by facility staff to apply tactics that elicit positive conduct from resident adolescents is referred to as behavior management (Deitch, 2014).

*Respondent C: Isungaimportante jay orientation. Mabagbagaan da panggepti house rules. Ta no first da paylang gamin ketmejoagbago da. Ibagangaadati structured program nga part naket house chores ngaararamiden da. Ada metlangtikontratangapirmaan da. Basaen da pay. I explain, mo pay kenyadatapnomaawatan da. Pag dito, bawal ang ganito a. Pag siniramoyan, babayaran mo. Pag di ka nagising ng maaga, mababayung score mo.*

*Idi pay a ket ag duck walk da no han da mari-ingnganasapa. Ngemnakita mi ketmarigatan da. Sunga inikkat mi diyay. Sunga maging flexible ti consequences. Ken angkop. Kasladiyay leaving without permission, weno Jay tinmakas. Ti consequences nadayidiketi brush da daytakalsada ken jay wall. Kuna mi ket related badiyaynga sanction ijay violation? Sunga binaliwan mi. Isungati sanction ti violation ngadiyaytadtaketi-warrant min.*

(That is why orientation is essential. They have to be oriented about the house rules. Because, at first, the children will change. They will be oriented about the structured program where there are house chores to be done. There is also a contract that they will sign. They need to read it first. You must explain it to them so they will understand. Here, some things are not allowed. If you destroy it, you will pay for it. If you do not wake up early, your score will be low. There was a time when they would duck and walk outside the hall if they did not wake up early. But we saw that it was hard for them. So we decided to remove it. That is why penalties are flexible and proper, for example, for leaving without permission or for those who escaped. The consequence of that was to brush the pavement and the walls. Then we asked if the sanction was related to the violation. So we changed it. So the sanction was changed to warranting).

*Ket tiikaskasta mi idiketadati first offense, second offense, ken jay third offense. Diyaydalosdalostiararamiden da ken awantidalaw no first ken second offense. Ijay third offense ngai warrant mi. Ti naging consequence nadiyayket okey lang tumakasako kasi first offense pa lang naman, second offense pa lang naman. Dibalesa third offense di namangyayari. Di akoma-jail. Di nakita mi ngamadidiyaynga effect na, binaliwan min. Adadiyay no first offense paylangketiwarrant min, majail dan. Effective ta awanentitinmartaray. Tadtanga batch. Sunga trial and error talagabagomaala jay pinaka effective nga strategy. Maysa met lang day nga topic nga ma-discuss during the monthly meeting. No adatihaan effective nga penalty, ikkatensukatan. No mayat met ti effect na jay penalty keti maintain.*

(So what we did in the past was that there is a first, second, and third offense. Cleaning and canceling of visitation were the penalties for the first and second offenses. It is only on the third offense that they will be warranted. The effect was that the CICL thought it was okay to escape because it was still the first or second offense. This will not happen on the third offense. They won't go to jail. When we saw that this was the effect, we changed the penalties. On the first offense (of escaping or leaving without permission), they will be warranted, and when caught, they will go to jail. This is effective because this is the first time anyone has tried to run away from this recent batch. That is why trial and error are necessary before we find the most effective strategy. This is one of the topics that is being discussed during the monthly meeting. If there is an ineffective penalty, we remove it. If the penalty is effective, then we maintain it).

### Proposed Action Plan to Address the Challenges

The concept of rehabilitation programs is to rehabilitate and deter someone from committing a crime. However, in the process of rehabilitating a CICL, the mental and physical aspect of the life of an implementer is at stake since he has to deal with the problems of other persons aside from his. The challenges that implementers have to deal with affect their performance as law enforcers and can also affect their personal lives.

To address these challenges, the researcher proposes this action plan hoping to help the respondents cope with the challenges associated with their job as an implementer of the rehabilitation program. Table 1 shows the action plan to address the challenges experienced by implementers of the rehabilitation program.

Key Result Area	Issues And Challenges	Objectives	Strategies	Agencies Involved	Budget	Feedback Mechanism
Improve the psychological well-being of the law enforcers/ implementer of the rehabilitation programs	1. Managing CICL from Broken Homes 2. Dealing with Uncooperative Parents 3. Experiencing Work-Related Stress 4. Handling Violations of Residents 5. Experiencing Mental Stress	To improve the psychological wellbeing of implementers to conquer the challenges in implementing the rehabilitation programs	The HRD of the PNP and the DSWD as well as the barangay Irisan must have a psychological wellness program for the implementers who are in-charge of implementing the rehabilitation program. The program may include seminars that feature the challenges that implementers may encounter. There should be a psychologist in the Bahay Pag-Asa who will be in-charge of evaluating the psychological well-being of the person in-charge	DSWD, PNP and Barangay Irisan	PHP 100,000.00	Performance Evaluation of the implementer by their clients from their respective offices

**Table 1:-** The proposed action plan to address the challenges experienced by implementers of the rehabilitation program.

### Conclusion:-

Through an interview, it was found that the respondents experienced diverse challenges as implementers. These challenges are related to their job as a police officer, house parents, and a member of the BCPC. The challenges included difficulty in handling CICL who are from broken homes, uncooperative parents, and implementers experiencing work-related stress. Specifically, the respondent coming from the WCPD experienced mental stress. In comparison, the respondents from the BCPC experienced problems in the monitoring of repeat offenders. Lastly, the respondent from BPA experienced challenges, including handling tantrums and violations of residents.

The identified challenges have affected the psychological and mental well-being of the respondents. However, they have adapted strategies they find helpful in dealing with these challenges, such as involving the families of the CICL and exercising to combat stress. Specifically, the law enforcer from the WCPD identified support of the family as a helping factor in law enforcement involving CICL; the members of the BCPC identified maximum tolerance and continuous monitoring of the CICL and the house parent from the BPA identified house parents caring for the resident like his or her own child as well as being flexible of the consequences.

### Recommendations:-

Based on the findings of this study, the researcher recommends the following:

1. To address the problem of managing CICL inside the BPA, the House Parent must continuously encourage the participation of the parents of the CICL in activities during Family Days, which are usually done every Sunday.
2. To address the ineffective consequences of violations inside the BPA, it is also recommended that the consequences of the penalties be flexible so that the effective and related consequences will be useful in rehabilitating the CICL.
3. To address the stress-related challenges inside the workplace, the PNP and DSWD, as well as Barangay Irisan must establish a psychological wellness program that the key implementers will be undergoing. The purpose of which is to make the key implementers knowledgeable about the mental challenges and methods for dealing with the challenges they will face as implementers.
4. It is also recommended that the implementers maintain a physical exercise activity every morning after flag ceremonies in their offices to release physical stress. It is also recommended that they make a personal commitment to exercise during their days off.

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