



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

A. Francisco Gold Condominium II Building,
EDSA corner Mapagmahal St., Diliman, Quezon City

October 13, 2003

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

NO. : 2003-204

TO : **ALL PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY MAYORS,
MUNICIPAL MAYORS AND DILG REGIONAL DIRECTORS**

SUBJECT : **INTEGRATION OF THE STANDARD DAYS METHOD (SDM) IN
THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM**

Consistent with the call of Her Excellency, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, to pursue family planning program that abides by the pillars of informed choice, respect for life, responsible parenthood and birth spacing, the Department of Health, as the lead agency of the Philippine Family Planning Program, advocates for the mainstreaming of natural family planning methods into the overall family planning program of local government units.

The Standard Days Method, or SDM, also known as the necklace method, is a new and simple scientific method of natural family planning that has been proven to be 95.25% effective, and culturally acceptable to Filipinos.

In this connection, all Local Chief Executives are hereby enjoined to initiate measures to effectively guide their constituents who wish to use this method by way of:

1. Training health and population workers, as well as community volunteers on the SDM;
2. Integrating the SDM in existing natural methods of family planning;
3. Incorporating the SDM in promotional and IEC activities on family planning;
4. Ensuring the quality of SDM through regular monitoring activities;


Sa Diyos, Sa Tao... Serbisyonang Totoo

The DILG is the primary catalyst for excellence in local governance that nurtures self-reliant, progressive, orderly, safe and globally-competitive communities sustained by GOD-centered and empowered citizenry

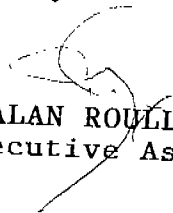
5. Allocating resources on the installation of services and availability of trainings, IEC and client materials; and
6. Networking with NGOs, POs and other partner community organizations engaged in development work.

Technical assistance on the SDM may be availed through the Institute for Reproductive Health at 16 Starline Road, Blue Ridge, Quezon City, with Telephone Number 63 (2) 647 - 1084 or 63 (2) 438 - 2292, or the nearest Regional Health Office.

All DILG Regional Directors are hereby directed to cause the immediate and widest dissemination of this Memorandum Circular to all concerned.


JOSE D. LINA JR.
Secretary

Attested by:


ATTY. ALAN ROULLO YAP
Head Executive Assistant