

## Improving the Living Conditions of Street Children and Families in Manila

### 3rd Quarterly Project Report (Phase 2)

Name of Local Partner : CHILDHOPE PHILIPPINES FOUNDATION, INC.  
Reporting period covered : AUGUST 2020- OCTOBER 2020  
Date of Submission : NOVEMBER 2020

#### I. PROGRESS REPORT AND PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

##### A. Significant changes to the overall context of the project

Childhope Philippines was in the first months of the activity implementation for the Phase 2 family and youth participants when the Community Quarantine has been imposed nationwide last March 2020. Undeniably, nobody expected and has prepared for it --COVID-19 pandemic had immensely affected the over-all implementations of the project. Since the pandemic began, most of the organization's programs and services have also been suspended temporarily –this is because we need to follow the nationwide quarantine regulations and health protocols. Thus, Childhope had to plan and change the strategies on how to continue the provision of the services and implementation of the activities without sacrificing the health of everyone (service provider and beneficiaries).

It was May 2020 when the project team began to plan the transition of activity implementation. We have prepared some forms to serve as our tool in gathering necessary information from the participants. The project team spent two months in preparation and planning (including the data collection and capacity assessment) prior to the final transition from physical set up to virtual sessions, which has been completed in August 2020. Realignment of the budget and revision of the timetable for the different activities have been made as well.

In general, the project team have resumed the sessions (virtually) last September 2020 with (10) parents per area bringing the total number of 40 parent participants and continued the sessions under Collective Youth Activities.

##### B. Activity Report

**Specific Objective 1:** To improve the quality of the protection and care of street children and families access to existing services

**Expected result #2:** Families living on the streets benefit from better quality services that are adapted to their needs

**Activity # 2.1.1** *Conduct Responsible Parenthood/Parent Effectiveness session for 18 parents participants per area within 21 month*

### a. Activities Carried Out

Date/ Time	Area	Participants		Title of the Session	Facilitator/ Resource Person
Sept. 18,2020 (AM)	Luneta/Pier	Male: 0	Female: 9	Child Rights and related laws	RP: Ofelio Lararochea
Sept. 18,2020 (PM)	Divisoria/Binondo	Male: 0	Female: 6	Child Rights and related laws	RP: Ofelio Lararochea
Sept. 25,2020 (AM)	Ermita	Male: 3	Female: 5	Child Rights and related laws	RP: Ofelio Lararochea
Sept. 25,2020 (PM)	Lawton/Morayta	Male: 0	Female: 6	Child Rights and related laws	RP: Ofelio Lararochea
Oct. 10,2020 (AM)	Luneta/Pier	Male: 0	Female: 10	Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children	RP: Orly Gallano
Oct. 10, 2020 (PM)	Divisoria/Binondo	Male: 0	Female: 8	Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children	RP: Orly Gallano
Oct. 24,2020 (AM)	Ermita	Male: 1	Female: 4	Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children	RP: Orly Gallano
Oct. 24, 2020 (PM)	Lawton/Morayta	Male: 0	Female: 8	Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children	RP: Orly Gallano
<b>Total</b>		Male: 4	Female: 56	2 topics/ Session 4 and Session 5 completed	

### b. Changes in the Plan

The schedule of session 4 and session 5 of Family Development were supposedly last March and April consecutively through physical set up. However, due to the pandemic there was a delay in implementation and these were moved and conducted last September and October successfully via online using google meet as the platform.

### c. Challenges encountered and action taken

Challenges Encountered	Action Taken
Unstable internet connection -due to the increasing number of internet users the internet is becoming unstable for some of the participants. Likewise, the location of the participants affects the signal of those who are data users.	The project team decided to have the session early in the morning and during nap/ siesta time in the afternoon so as not to keep up with the number of the internet users during the in between time. Also, some participants go outside to find a place where the data has a strong signal.
Inclement weather that causes interruption of the signal.	The project team planned to record the video and give a copy to the participants especially those who did not able to follow the discussion. Also, the project team have to prepare a hand out that contains summary of the topic to be given to the participants (if the kalyEskwela is being implemented in the area) or to be sent online via messenger.
Lack of participation during online session -some participants were hesitant to participate online than in face to face session. They were conscious of themselves and they were afraid to make mistakes.	The team decided to have a pre and post-test for assessment purposes and at the end of the session each PSI will ask the realizations of the participants.
There were some participants received the load, but they experienced technical problem (lack of phone storage that causes their phone hanged).	Advised them to delete some application for the mean time so that they can join the session.
Transition of the parents from face to face to online session	Before the discussion of the topic, the FDW orient them about the application that they are using.
Some participants do not have their own gadgets while others do not know how to use gadgets and various applications.	The project team revised the budget proposal and allocated a budget for the purchase of the tablets (to be used by the participants especially those who are not familiar on how to navigate gadgets and various apps). On the other note, during session, those who do not have their own cellphones are borrowing from their children or other family members, while some are sharing with other participants and put the cellphone on loudspeaker while in use.

d. **Factors that contributed to the successful implementation of the project**

**A) Facilitator**

- ✓ Commitment of the Resource Speaker to finished the session despite her busy schedule
- Resource Speaker
- ✓ Skills of the RP to relate with participants
- ✓ Availability of the resource speaker and willingness to teach even though in was an online session

**b) Participants**

- ✓ Willingness to learn and adapt to a new normal.
- ✓ Patience of each participants when there are technical problems.

**c) Project Team**

- ✓ Patience and cooperation
- ✓ Good planning, preparation and commitment
- ✓ Willingness to help the participants to adapt in the new normal

e. **Lesson Learned**

**Participants**

- Realized the importance of guiding their children in using online application and gadgets
- They gain knowledge about the different kinds of child abuse and the agencies that will help them when they encountered this kind of problem.
- The participants shared their feeling while the facilitator discussed about OSEC that they are worried because some of them were always not able to guide their child because they are working and busy earning a living for daily consumption.

**Project Team**

- Full support of per area project team and clear delineation of functions/tasks
- Open communication between and among project team
- It is important to teach the parents to adapt in the new normal so that they can guide their children.

**Activity # 2.1.2 Provide intensive psychosocial intervention/family therapy/counseling to 20 identified street families in 4 combined areas in Manila (Luneta /Ermita and Lawton/Binondo/Divisoria)**

**A. Activities Carried out**

- **Family Counseling**

Area	Number of participants	Responsible Person/ SW
Divisoria	1 family consist of 6 members	Pearl Barasan and Raffy Magat

## B. Changes in the Plan

The implementation of family counseling and family therapy have been changed to online modality but later on the project team agreed to return its implementation to face to face set up because they realized that online family counseling might be hard to conduct not only for the workers/facilitators but also to the family per se. Doing it online may lessen its effectiveness as one of the intervention to help the families with their concerns.

## C. Challenges encountered and action taken

Challenges Encountered	Action taken
The area where the family lives is crowded, making it risky for the worker to conduct a face to face family counseling due to the threat of COVID-19.	The worker continues to facilitate the scheduled family counseling session while carefully following the standard health protocols and properly using PPEs (facemask and face shield) and alcohol.
The place where the family counseling has been conducted was not conducive for the activity. The session has been interrupted because of the unnecessary noises and other business of the family with their neighbors.	The facilitator told the family members to finish the things they had to finish with their neighbors before the session started. The facilitator emphasized the value of why they need to focus on the session and avoid any interruption once it starts. After session, the project team planned to conduct the following sessions at Childhope Headquarter.
The key implementer of the activity has been quarantined for almost a month because she has been considered as a close contact of the person who has been tested positive of Covid-19.	The social worker per area made an initial follow up to the families that are subject for referral in family counseling session, so that when the key implementer can physically report again, they will just proceed to the discussion of the family issues and different concerns through mini case conference, before resuming the family counseling session.

## D. Lesson Learned

It has been a tough time for both the families and activity implementers to resume the implementation of this activity, admittedly because the project team was not prepared for this to happen. During the pre-lockdown phase, there were family issues that have been raised to the social workers and street educators. However, because of the sudden community quarantine, those were not properly addressed and this brings regret for the project team.

The project team is still trying to cope with the current situation and is still learning things to properly help the family without sacrificing the health of everyone.

Although this pandemic has been a big blow for all of us, it still helped us to realize that we have a greater desire to help those who are in dire need and this COVID-19 cannot stop us.

### A.1 Activities Carried out

- **Mental Health Awareness Webinar (October 1-3, 2020)**

## B.1 Changes in the Plan

Last October 1-3, 2020, team Childhope had attended the Mental Health Awareness Webinar facilitated by Ms. Zena Bernardo. Supposedly, the budget to be used for this webinar was from ASMAE project. Apparently, the budget is limited and will only accommodate the workers working under the project.

Since the issue on Mental Health Awareness has been alarming lately, the Executive Director of Childhope Philippines likewise thought that it is high time to engage the team Childhope (field workers and office-based) in this kind of webinar; Not only to help everyone analyze more the situation of the beneficiaries, but also to help their selves in coping with their personal struggles. With this, Childhope did not able to use the budget under ASMAE project allotted for this webinar and instead look for another donor who can fund this event while accommodating all the staff.

## C.1 Lesson Learned

The Mental Health Awareness webinar has been very helpful to all of us. It helps us realize how to deal with people who are suffering from silent battles. Also, we have recognized our actions towards each other –it teaches us to be sensitive with our co-worker's feelings and emotions.

We may have diverse situations and outlook on how we percept things in life, but we can able to help each other out through listening without judgment. Likewise, we learned that depression (may it be in a form of jokes) should be dealt seriously.

### **Activity # 2.1.3 Conduct Family Day for 48 family members (parents and children) within 21 months for the 4 combined areas of operation**

(NOTE: This activity was scheduled last May 2020 but due to pandemic the budget for this activity was realigned)

### **Activity # 2.1.4 Conduct Collective Youth Sessions on substance abuse, Reproductive health/Teenage pregnancy and skills for life among 60 youth once a month for 21 months**

#### **A. Activities Carried out**

The Alternative Street educators/teachers implemented their Skills for Life sessions via online to adapt to the new normal system. The platform that they are using to communicate and educate the children are google meet and messenger. In addition, YouTube and google survey are also used for the evaluation and assessment of the participants for each session.

The table below showed the area, number of participants, Skills for Life conducted and the responsible person of the activity.

Area	Session conducted/ number of participants	Session	Facilitator/Resource Person
Ermita	<b>Session 1</b> Male- 3 Female- 2 <b>Session 2</b> Male- 1 Female- 4 <b>Session 3</b>	Skills for Life 4/12	Elton Adan

	Male- 1 Female- 4 <b>Session 4</b> Male- 1 Female- 4		
Lawton	<b>Session 1</b> Male- 2 Female- 3 <b>Session 2</b> Male- 2 Female- 3 <b>Session 3</b> Male- 1 Female- 3	Skills for Life 3/12	Fe Gabon
Divisoria	<b>Session 1</b> Male- 3 Female- 2 <b>Session 2</b> Male- 1 Female- 4	Skills for Life 2/12	Jessa T. Narciso
Luneta	<b>Session 1</b> Male- 2 Female- 3 <b>Session 2</b> Male- 2 Female- 3 <b>Session 3</b> Male- 2 Female- 3 <b>Session 4</b> Male- 2 Female- 3	Skills for Life 4/12	Edilberto Baybayan
TOTAL		1 Module 12 Session	

## B. Changes in the Plan

The plan to conduct the second topic (Teenage Pregnancy /Reproductive Health) for phase 2 youth participants was supposedly conducted during the reporting period but due to the busy schedule of the in-house Resource Person it was moved to March and April but unfortunately Enhanced Community Quarantine has been implemented, thus another adjustment to the schedule has been made.

## C. Challenges encountered and action taken

Challenges Encountered	Action Taken
Unstable internet/ data signal of the participants	Continue the session even when some participants have an unstable network. The Alt Education teachers recorded their sessions so that those who cannot fully attend to the session because of data/

	internet interruption could go back and re-watch the video to keep up to the particular session. Some AE teachers have the screenshots of their PowerPoint and they send it to their group chat in messenger app.
Some of the Alt. ed Teachers uses Group Video in Messenger and they cannot mute each participant like zoom and google meet.	The Alt Ed teachers and the participants formed a house rule. (Ex: Mute all the microphone when the facilitator is discussing)
Availability of the participants	During September 2020 the Alt Ed formed a schedule for their session but since October 2020 was the start of their online class the schedule of the teachers was changed. They planned to conduct the session on weekends while some remain on weekdays but adjusted the time on 6:00pm-7:00pm.
Changing sim cards/ numbers frequently -there are other participants who often change their sim cards/ numbers. According to some this is because they've lost their sim cards thus, they needed to buy another sim. On the other note, some participants are changing their numbers frequently because they do not have their own cellphones/ gadgets and they only borrow just to attend to the session, hence the numbers that they are using during the session may vary depending to who is the owner of the smartphone.	The AE teachers oriented the participants regarding the rules that the sim cards/ number will only be allowed to change twice. But because some participants have valid reasons, the AE teachers is allowing to them to attend the session for as long as they are present during the particular session and they can share they realizations and learning.
Some Alt Ed teachers are not familiar in using some applications and are still adjusting to the new normal classes.	They are trying their best to learn and explore the application. Likewise, they spend longer time in preparation to execute their scheduled-sessions better.

#### **D. Lesson Learned**

##### **Participants**

The main focus of the Unit 1 of SFL is all about self-awareness. Participants are expected to know their selves better after attending the series of sessions under Skills for Life, Unit 1. Needless to say, not everyone knows who they really are, what are their strengths and weaknesses as an individual. Thus, Childhope Philippines, would like to help these youths to know their selves better as early as now.

We are living in a world full of deceiving things, wherein when you do not know yourself truly, you will end up being fooled by the things that surrounds you. Given the increasing number of the younger people who suffer from depression nowadays, SFL sessions tend to let the participants live their own lives while learning to love themselves more.

During each session, participants are slowly learning to recognize their true selves with the help of the AE teachers. The sessions are not yet over, hence the learning and realization cannot be depicted yet.



## **Project Team**

We know by the heart that we wanted to guide these youngsters to the right path, but as human as we are, we also know that things will not be easy for us. As we are trying to face personal struggles due to this pandemic, we have realized that beyond our struggles is the desire to help and continue the process regardless how helpless the situation is.

As much as it was hard to the participants to cope with the current situation, we, the implementers, are having a difficult time as well dealing the same struggle in this new normal. But to our surprised, these hard times turned out to be our strengths to do more. This may sound cliché, but our present situation is teaching us more now that our beneficiaries are really looking up to us; that we are one of those they hold on to become a better individual; that we are one of their role models. This is why we cannot break our desire to guide and lead them to become the persons they are destined to be, because apart from our own families, there are other families outside our home who are waiting for light and hope.

We realized that we can be each other's hero, in spite and despite of.

### **Activity # 2.1.5 Conduct Sessions on Financial Literacy (Family Budget and Savings) among 50 parents within 21 months**

(Note: As per activity plan, this will be implemented in January 2021)

#### **Livelihood Skills Training for Phase 1 and 2 parents (60 parents)**

##### **A. Activities Carried out**

- **Livelihood Skills Training** - The 1<sup>st</sup> batch of the training was implemented last October 2020, since the organization needed to follow the quarantine and health protocols the team decided to have two groups per day, limited to ten (10) participants per batch. The 1<sup>st</sup> group is in the morning and the 2<sup>nd</sup> group is in the afternoon.

##### **B. Changes in the Plan**

- There were no significant changes in the plan.

##### **C. Challenges encountered and action taken**

Challenges Encountered	Action Taken
Some of the parents asked the facilitator where they can buy the ingredients because they are planning to try it for their business, but there is no available store near them; the ingredients are too pricy.	The facilitator recommend Yusing store in Blumentritt since this store is the nearest store that they can buy the ingredients and according to the facilitator even though the ingredients is pricy their products will last for about 1 year unlike to other home-made they only last for 2 months.
Schedule of the activity and a place where the activity can be conducted- we have encountered conflict on the schedule because of the simultaneous activity to be conducted on the same day. Unfortunately, there's a limited space at Childhope Philippines headquarter to conduct a simultaneous event for different projects. Due to the limited number of people allowed to enter	Coordination with other project officers were made. The project implementer plotted the schedule and we made an internal adjustments of the timetable per activity.

at Childhope (to properly observe social distancing), it became hard for the team to plan the schedule of the activity since another project of CHAP has been scheduled ahead.

#### **D. Lesson Learned**

##### **Participants:**

They have learned new skills that can help them to build their own business during this time of the pandemic; they can sell it via online or to the neighborhood. Most of the parent participants are business minded, but because they have no enough resources to enhance their skills, they tend to hide their interest in putting up a business.

This kind of opportunity is a hope for them, to freely access this kind of training is a huge step for them to actually move closer towards their goals.

##### **Project Team:**

The team learned also the importance of this activity. This enhances skills in performing different tasks, which can be of good help especially if people have entrepreneurial mindset.

#### **II. Plan for next quarter:**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Plan</b>
<b>Family Development Session (Session 6/6)</b>	The session 6 (last session) on FDS will be conducted on November 2020.
<b>Collective Youth Session (Skills for Life sessions)</b>	Skills for Life session is on going to the 4 areas under the project. The project team is trying to finish all the 12 sessions per area within the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter.
<b>Family Counseling/ Family Therapy</b>	For the next quarter, the project team will target 2 families for Family Therapy and 4 families for family counseling session.
<b>Support for In-School Children</b>	Launching of KalyEskwela; The project team will complete and submit the Master list in this activity; Pilot testing of the KalyEskwela within the four areas and will conduct an initial assessment to improve and ensure the effectiveness of this activity.
<b>Livelihood Skills Training</b>	The remaining sessions will be held on November 5 and November 10, 2020 respectively. The project team will try to link the participants to other organizations that offer capital assistance program.
<b>Financial Literacy</b>	This will be conducted on January 2021 tentatively.

**\*\*Other challenges that Childhope encountered and actions taken during the period\*\***

<b>Challenges</b>	<b>Action taken</b>
Transition from face to face to online session	Joined a learning session about Alternative Learning Modalities
Capacity of the workers to adapt to a new normal.	They explore the different online applications to be possibly used as platform for online classes/ sessions.

**\*\*Factors that contributed to the success implementation of the project\*\***

**a. Resource Person**

- Having a knowledgeable resource speaker and has an expertise on a particular topic is one of the factors why the implementation of the activities under this project has been successful. To commit their time in rendering a lecture to our participants is another thing. Hence, the activities will not be as effective as it is if not to the effort, commitment and expertise of the resource persons.

**b. Participants**

- Needless to say, every activity will not be going to work without the presence and interest of the participants. The project team is grateful to see the huge number of participants who regularly attends the series of sessions regardless of their busy schedules; this just depicts that the activities are also essential for them.

**c. Project Team**

- Everything will not be possible without the tireless effort of the project team to make the activities effective and efficient; from the planning, preparation up to the implementation, the hard work and support from each member of the team is relevant to the fulfillment of this project.

**III. Over-all Assessment/ Conclusion:**

This pandemic has changed many things worldwide, the daily lives, educational system, and the way we communicate and entertain ourselves. It is truly a societal change, and a big test to different social welfare agencies.

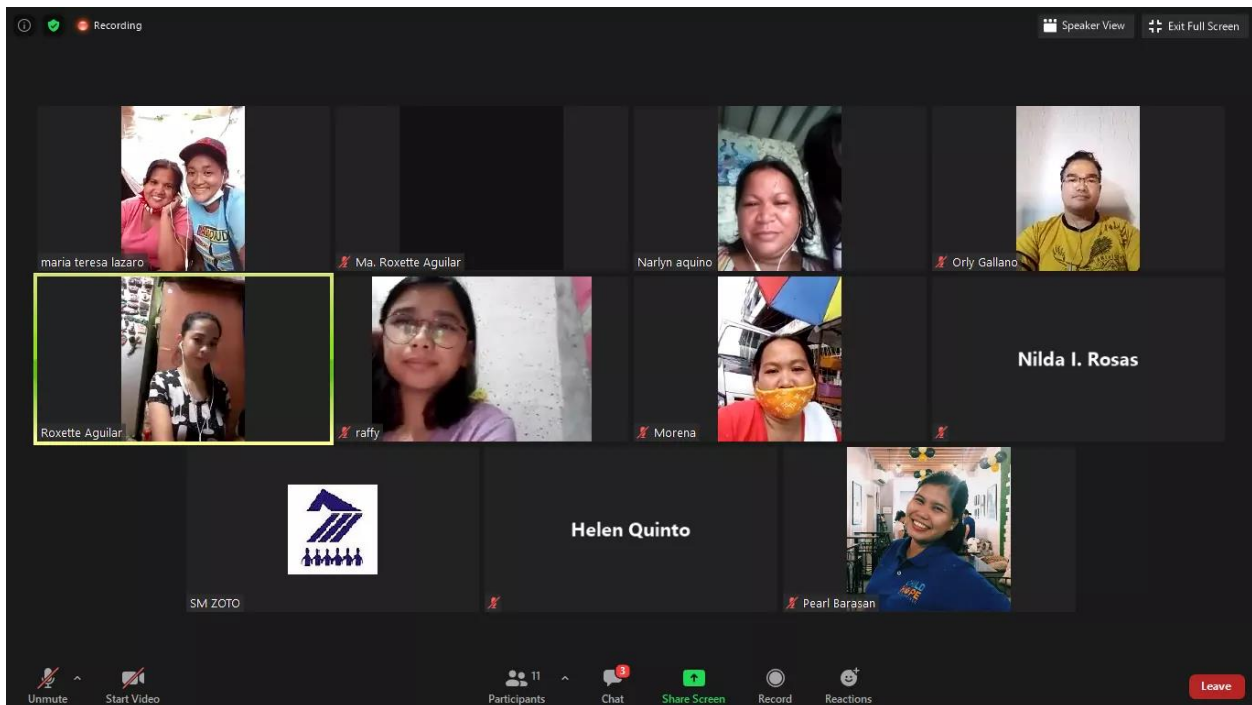
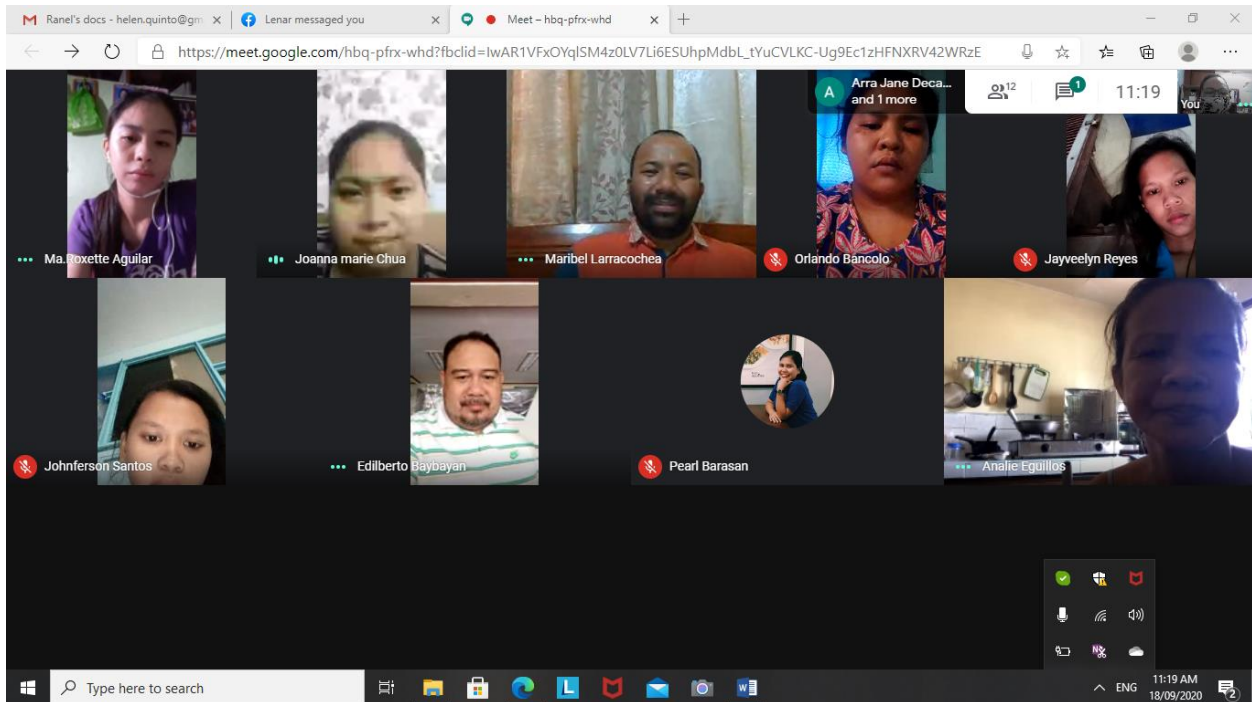
Moreover, its impact in the project of our organization has been a big challenge since there are lots of limitations and health protocols to be followed, but the activities implemented via online have served a big help to the beneficiaries in adapting to the new normal and motivates them to learn during this time.

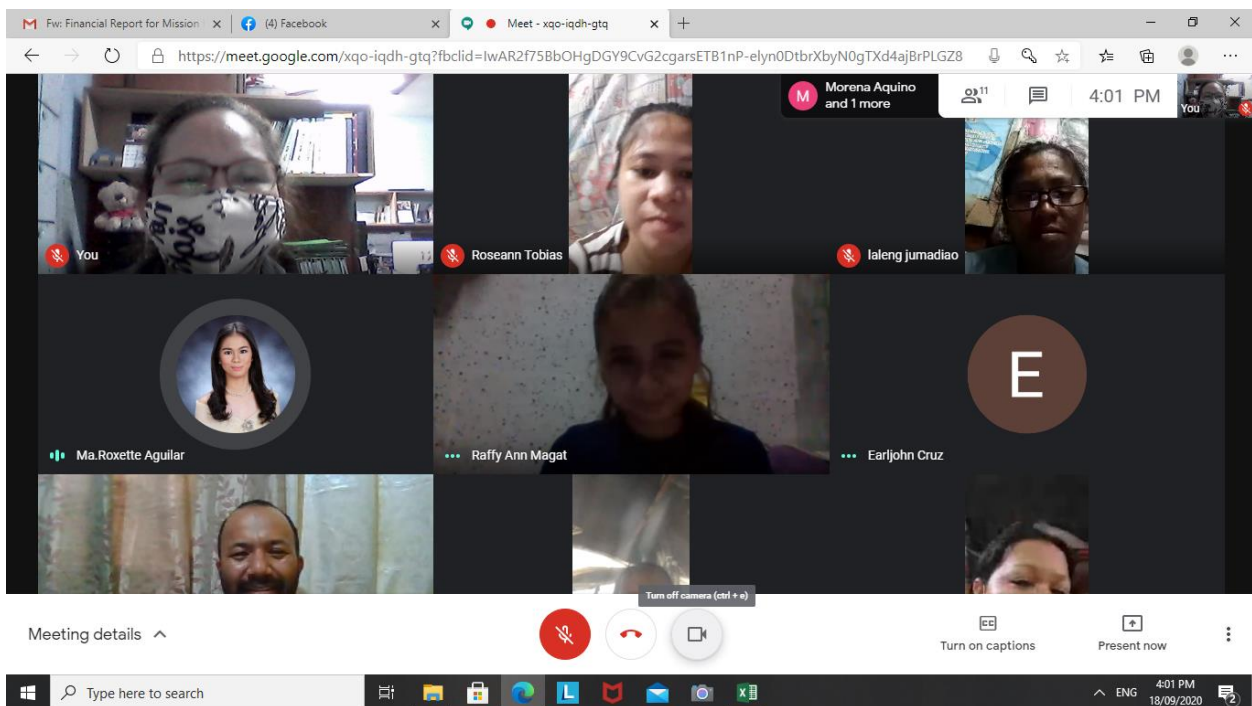
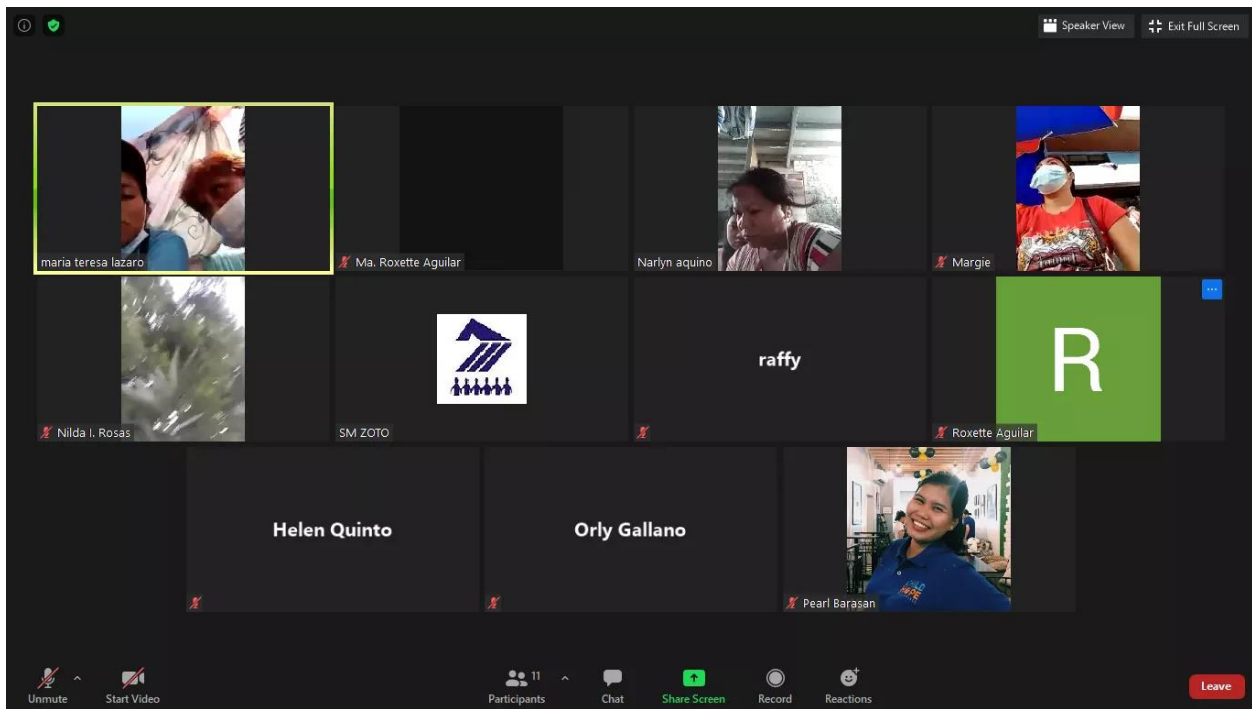
Amidst of this trying time, Childhope remained strong and true to their mission. It has not been easy to cope with the unfamiliar changes caused by this pandemic, and to this day we are still trying to better our services while taking risks. Gladly, we were able to plan and conduct some activities, whereas we admit that we still need time to improve our new normal ways to operate and render services to our beneficiaries.

As for now, the implementation of the project is going well and most of the activities are being conducted accordingly to the timetable. However, given the age and interest of some of our team members (especially those who are not “techie”), we still need trainings and other related webinars to help us keep up with the growing demand of online world and its different platforms.

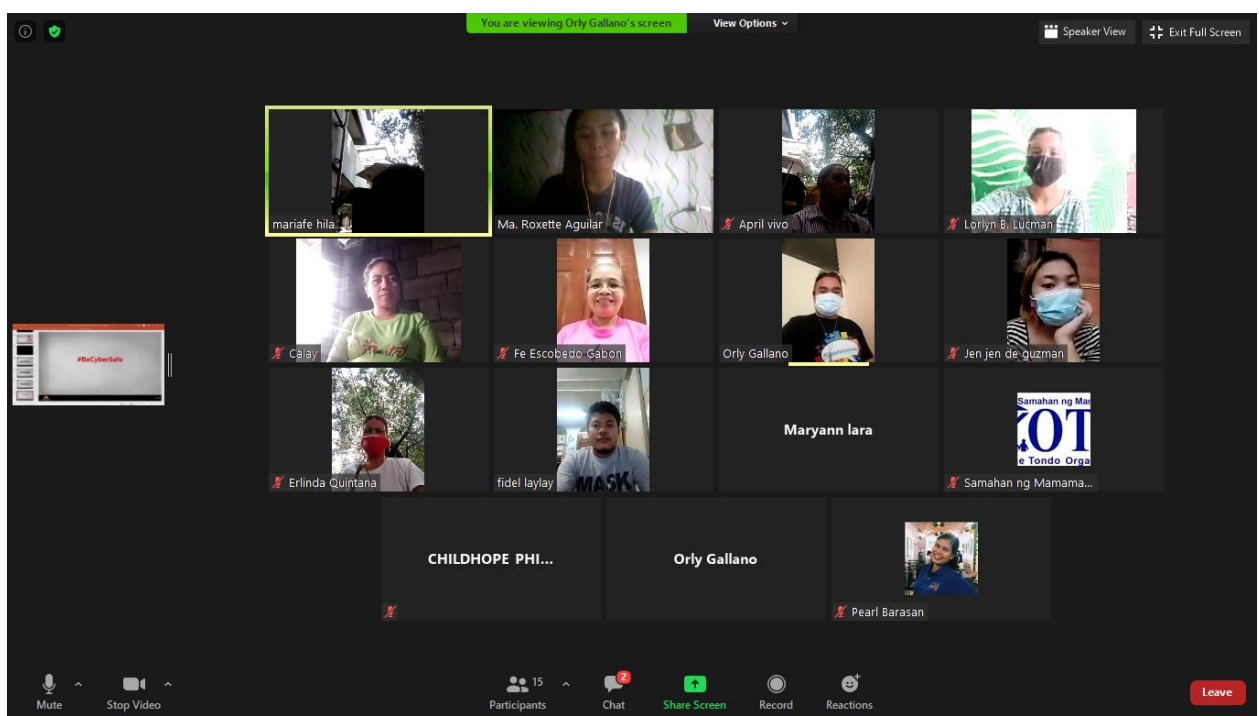
## Annex (photos)

### **\*Some photos taken during Family Development Online Sessions\***









**\*Some photos taken during Skills for Life Online Sessions\***



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