

HONORABLE JOSEPH VICTOR “JV” G. EJERCITO
Chairperson
Committee on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement
Senate of the Philippines
Pasay City

Dear **Senator EJERCITO**,

This pertains to the request of the Chairperson on the **number of informal settlers, and similar programs of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) that provide housing assistance** relative to the deliberation of Bills on **“Rental Housing Subsidy Act”**, during the hybrid Public Hearing, held on 21 February 2023.

Relative to the above, may we inform the good Chairperson that DSWD’s **Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program does not have data on informal settlers**. However, the 4Ps covers specific marginalized groups, such as Itinerant Indigenous Peoples (Itinerant IPs), **Homeless Street Families (HSF)**, Indigenous Peoples in Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas (IPs-GIDA) and Families in Need of Special Protection (FNSP) due to natural and man-made calamities.

As of 31 January 2023, the 4Ps provided assistance to a total of 3,569 active Homeless Street Families (HSF). They are distributed in seven (7) Regions, the majority coming from NCR, followed by Regions VII, IV-A, CARAGA, X, and IX. There are 23 HSFs in other regions due to transfer of residence from the original 7 regions. Please note that not all HSF beneficiaries reported are still living in the streets. They are still tagged as HSF in the 4Ps information system based on their status when they registered. The updating of their status in the information is ongoing.


On housing assistance, the Memorandum Circular No. 06, series of 2021, or the “Enhanced Support Services Intervention (ESSI) Guidelines for Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program Beneficiaries”, provides **Alternative Family Home (AFH) particularly to qualified HSFs who wish to get a stable and decent abode who do not have provinces to go back to or do not want to return to their places of origin due to lack of opportunities, conflicts within their area of origin, distance or inaccessibility to services**. Qualified HSFs are provided with rental subsidy amounting to a **maximum of PHP 6,500.00 per month for twelve (12) months** and are subject to assessment on the 11th month if there is a need to extend for a maximum of six (6) months. The program served 79 HSFs in NCR amounting to PHP 1,540,500 from FY 2021 SSI.

Lastly, please find attached the DSWD's Supplemental Position Paper to Senate Bills Numbered 170, 192, 463, 1076 and 1091 or the **"Rental Housing Subsidy Program Act of 2022"**, for reference.

This is being submitted for the Chairperson's information and consideration.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


REX GATCHALIAN
Secretary
Date: MAR 17 2023

