MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
NO. 2012-61

TO: ALL PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY/MUNICIPAL MAYORS, PUNONG BARANGAYS, THE ARMM GOVERNOR, THE ARMM DILG REGIONAL SECRETARY, DILG REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND FIELD OFFICERS, AND OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT: ADOPTION/IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GUIDELINES IN THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF A REFERRAL SYSTEM ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AT THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT LEVEL

The Inter-Agency Council on Violence Against Women and Their Children (IAC-VAWC) has issued the "Guidelines in the Establishment and Management of a Referral System on Violence Against Women and Their Children at the Local Government Unit Level", pursuant to Section 54 of the implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of RA 9262 also known as the Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004.

It aims to establish a referral system at the local government level to have an integrated and coordinated community response to victims of violence against women (VAW). The referral system primarily covers the implementation of four laws that address VAW, namely: RA 9262, Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003 (RA 9203), Anti-Rape Law of 1997 (RA 8353) and Rape Victim Assistance and Protection Act of 1999 (RA 8505). The Anti-Sexual Harassment Act of 1995 (RA 7877) is included only in so far as community response is concerned.

In this regard, all Local Government Units (LGUs) are encouraged to adopt/implement or utilize the Guidelines in providing response to victims of violence against women. The Guidelines can be downloaded at www.dilg.gov.ph or at www.pov.gov.ph.

All LGUs shall closely coordinate with their respective Local Committee on Anti-Trafficking and Violence Against Women and Their Children (LCAT-VAWC) for the necessary technical assistance for the use of the said Guidelines. All Provincial Governors and Mayors of Highly Urbanized Cities are also enjoined to disseminate this directive to the LGUs under their jurisdiction.

In addition, all DILG Regional Directors and Field Officers are hereby directed for the widest dissemination of this issuance.

For information and guidance.

JESSE M. ROBREDO
Secretary

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