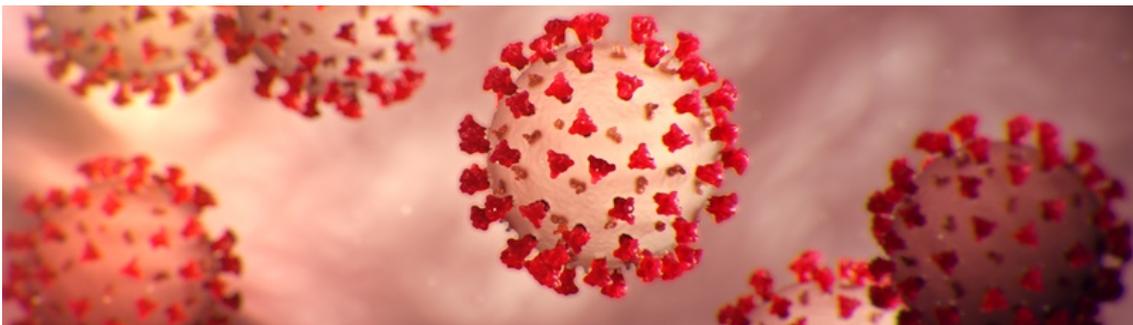




An update on the situation in Talomo, Philippines

TALOMO and COVID-19



Dear<<First Name>>

Over the last six months many members and supporters of AFFLIP have enquired about the welfare and safety of our colleagues and friends working in the Talomo schools.

We have maintained close contact with the Talomo group through email, social media platforms and Zoom conversations. Our Board flagship program coordinators have regular communication with their counterparts in Talomo and we have met online with all the Talomo administrators on seven occasions. It is indeed humbling to read an email from one of our school heads which simply stated how important it was to his fellow school heads to know that AFFLIP members and the Board genuinely care for them and their families in a crisis such as this.

I received an email from Marilyn Marcelo this week which outlines the current COVID situation in Davao, its impact on the Talomo schools and their 20,000 pupils and 600 teachers. I would like to share some sections of it with you. Marilyn leads the 15 schools in the Talomo District as their Supervisor and does so with great purpose,

Marilyn's comments come under three headings as follows:

- [An overview of the COVID situation in Davao](#)
- [How has COVID directly affected the Talomo schools?](#)
- [Strategies to support the learning of pupils](#)

Ali Douglas
AFFLIP Chair

An overview of the COVID situation in Davao

As of September 2, 2020, based on the Regional COVID Bulletin Davao City has recorded 469 active cases, 1635 recoveries, 67 deaths a total of 2171 cases. It is positive that there are a greater number of people who have recovered compared the remaining active cases. However, the City does not stop reminding the public that health protocols should be observed to reduce the number of COVID victims.

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How has COVID directly affected the Talomo schools?

Due to the CoViD- 19 Pandemic, schools had to close indefinitely during the 2nd week of March 2020. Graduation exercises were done through virtual ceremonies.



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schedule of the opening of classes is October 5, 2020 and with a close on April 30, 2021. This School Year face-to-face learning delivery is not allowed at this stage so there is a change to distance learning until such time as a vaccine is available. Based on the result of the online and remote enrolment conducted from June 1 to July 31, 2020, most parents across the 15 Talomo schools have opted for hard copy modular instruction for their children where others have chosen online/blended learning. Students are expected to have individual copies of a module per learning area either as hard copy or online.

[Read more](#)

Strategies to support the learning of pupils

The Talomo team have created a District/School Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan (BE-LCP) which is contextualized to the District/School needs. The BE-LCP spells out all the information that the School Heads, Teachers, Learners, Parents, Stakeholders require, including the responsibilities of everyone involved. All schools conducted orientations and dry-runs in both Printed Modular Distance Learning and Online Distance Learning starting August 4-10, 2020.



They have conceptualised the Talomo District Learning Management System for online learning, produced additional materials in the form of video recorded demonstration lessons and provided printed reading materials to learners, especially those who were diagnosed as frustration level and non-readers.

At the request of the Talomo administrators, the Board made the decision to provide tablets and sim cards for our sponsored scholarship students this year, given that the regular items supplied will not be required. The tablets will become the property and responsibility of the scholars and will enable them to join the online learning program. Roger Saunders and John

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