

Impact Analysis of the “Libreng Edukasyon kay Nanay at Tatay” (Free Education for Mother and Father) Community Extension Program

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Abstract

John Paul College in Roxas Oriental Mindoro has launched the “*Libreng Edukasyon kay Nanay at Tatay*”, a Community Extension Program in 2021. This program was designed to provide adult learners particularly parents who were unable to complete formal schooling with opportunities to pursue literacy, numeracy, and life skills education hoping to alleviate their standards of living. The program also aimed to empower mothers and fathers by enhancing their knowledge, confidence, and participation in community development. Batch 2022 has a total of 718 learners, while batches 2027, 2028 & 2029 have 69, 58 and 49 learners respectively. This study was conducted to analyze the social, educational, and economic impacts of the program, focusing on how it has improved the lives of its participants and contributed to the community’s overall well-being after four (4) years of implementation. A qualitative-descriptive research design was used, employing document analysis of program records, reports, and training materials, along with semi-structured interviews conducted among selected program beneficiaries, facilitators, and local coordinators. Data gathered were thematically analyzed to identify recurring patterns and insights related to learning outcomes, behavioral changes, and community involvement. Findings revealed that the program significantly enhanced participants’ literacy and communication skills, self-esteem, and social participation with a proof of some having been employed local and internationally while still studying. The results also showed improved family relationships and stronger abilities to assist their children in their studies. Further, the program also fostered community engagement and strengthened partnerships between the school and local partners. However, challenges such as limited resources, and technological barriers were noted but these did not hinder the beneficiaries from backing out of the program. The discussion highlights that consistent monitoring, capacity building, and localized program adjustments are important for sustainability and long-term impact. Overall, this study concludes that the “*Libreng Edukasyon kay Nanay at Tatay*” program serves as an effective model of community extension program of a higher education that promotes lifelong learning and parental empowerment. This study recommends expanding the program to more communities and integrating livelihood and digital literacy components to further enhance its impact.

Keywords: Community Extension, Adult Education, Lifelong Learning, Parental Empowerment, Literacy Program, Social Impact, University Outreach