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“Lisod kaayo sa part kanang maingnan ka ug unsa man na siya uy, nganong ing-ana lang man permente iyang activity” (It was very difficult in our part to be told “why s/he always implements such kind of activity?”)

They further shared that people elected them in that position that is why they should act in behalf of the youth in their community. According to the participant,

“Gi-elect mi sa mga tao that is why we should act not for in behalf of the barangay council but in behalf of the Sangguniang Kabataan in our respective barangay. So, sa ngalan nga SK, ang among mga programs jud is mainly concerned on the needs and interest of the youth only” (We have been elected by the people that is we should act not in behalf of the barangay council but in behalf of the youth in our respective barangay. So as SK, our programs should be mainly concerned on the needs and interest of the youth only.)

Conflicting Loyalty between Personal Needs and Commitment as SK Council

SK Council from Barangay Villarica and Barangay Sadaan shared that in the implementation process they had difficulties in manpower since more often than not their Kagawads were not really active during the planning and implementation of the program. According to participants, the SK Kagawads were not active in rendering their service because some were in school and others were working.

“Dili man pud namo ma-force ang uban namo nga kagawad nga magtabang during sa implementation sa among activity kay usahay naa silay klase ug ang uban nanarbaho pud sa layo. Tapos isa pa dili pud namo sila mapugos kay wala man silay honorarium gud” (We cannot force some of our kagawad to help in the implementation of our activity because sometimes they have their classes and others are working far. We also cannot force them because they do not have honorarium.)

The participants shared that they cannot force their SK Kagawads to render services during the implementation of their programs because they were not allocated with salary from SK budget. Thus, the only thing that the SK Chairperson could do was to divide the remaining money from the activities among the SK Kagawads who rendered services, stayed in the entire program and accomplished the task given to them.

Poor Participation of KK in SK programs

The participants found difficulty in mobilizing youth to actively participate in SK programs. Whenever, there are programs or activities that SK Council implemented in their barangay especially when it comes to educational awareness or in the form of seminars or even in environmental related program, they often observed that many youth were not attending. According to them, youth participation in SK programs was challenging because most youth nowadays are fond of using social media and playing electronic, or mobile games. The participants stated,

“Kung kabahin sa attendance ug willingness sa mga kabataan nga magparticipate, kanang nakalimtan na nila ang ilahang mga social responsibilities. Mas gusto na sila ug social media. But when it comes to contributory to the development sa community wala jud” (When it comes to attendance and willingness of the youth to participate, they have forgotten their social responsibilities. They preferred social media. IN addition, when it comes to contribution to the development of the community, they have is none.)

Similarly, the participants found difficulty in terms of the youth participation because youth a typically spent their time in school and other extra-curricular activities. While, others were already working outside the community. To address these challenges encountered, the SK council had different strategies to cope with it. The participants mentioned that dissemination information was done per purok for the people to know the programs being done by the SK Council with the help of the SK Kagawad. In information dissemination, the participants used megaphone to inform the people of the program to be implemented.

“Gagamit mi ug megaphone ga tuyok tuyok mi per purok para mabal an sa uban na mga youth nga na ay activity para pud maka attend sila” (We use megaphone. We have to go around the street so that the youth are informed with the activity to be conducted.)

For the youth to participate and be aware with the activity implemented by the SK Council, they had to do some strategies. They had to encourage them and disseminate information through the use of a megaphone. Further, the participants reported that as reward, they gave five kilos of rice to each PWUD who participated in the activity. The participants further stated that they gave free snacks and free lunch to youth who were participating in their SK programs/activities. According to them, free snacks and free lunch were their main strategy to invite more youth to

participate in their SK programs/activities. During the actual implementation of SK programs, the SK Council headed by the SK Chairperson kept on reminding the participating youth to actively participate in the activities because it provided additional learnings that would help them to grow as an individual aside from the free food reward.

Difficulty in finding a venue for activities

Participants from 3 barangays of the study areas mentioned that one of their challenges in the implementation of the program was the lack of venue particularly the covered court. The usual problem of the participants in the implementation of their program happened during foundation and fiestas. The SK Council of these barangays were feeling hopeful as they shared this problem and said that in every implementation of their foundation activity they needed to find other space for the event. The participant stated,

“Ang number one jud namo nga problema diri sa amoang barangay kay ang venue, kay wala mi covered court. Dati pag-abot sa foundation sa among barangay didto mi nag-foundation sa court gilid sa Amado Hospital. Then last year, giconduct namo among foundation dira atubangan sa barangay hall. Naga-rent mi daan ug parabolic tent kay naay time nga moulan during sa activity.” (The number one problem here in our barangay is the venue, because we do not have our own covered court. Before, every foundation of our barangay, we conducted it at the court beside Amado Hospital. Then, last year, we held our foundation in front of our barangay hall. We also rented parabolic tent in preparation for the rain)

The data mean that the SK Council of these barangays had their initiatives to find ways to look for venues for the implementation of their programs or activities. As experienced by the SK Council of these barangays, they also helped the Barangay Council in processing some requirements to build their covered court as their venue.

Conclusion

Based on the result of the study, the researchers concluded that SK Council from Barangay Poblacion 1 to 8, Villarica and Sadaan encountered challenges in both planning and

implementation of the SK programs. However, these challenges serve as opportunities for them to learn and improve to be better leaders.

Recommendations

Based on the result of the study, the researchers recommend the following:

1. SK Federation of Midsayap should conduct trainings and seminars in planning and implementation of SK programs and projects;
2. Barangay Local Government Unit should guide and support the SK Council in the planning and implementation of SK programs and projects;
3. Local Government Unit should evaluate the performance of duties and responsibilities of the SK officials and make some solutions, recommendations to solve the challenges;
4. Department of Interior and Local Government Unit (DILG) should conduct policy research to review the SK functions, responsibilities and performance;
5. For CECD extension service should conduct trainings and seminars particularly on technical writing which would address challenges they encountered in planning and implementation; and
6. Future researchers should look into the coping mechanism of the SK Council on how they handle the challenges in the planning and implementation.

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