

ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SYSTEM

Tagaytay City

Pursuant to Section 14 of Republic Act No. 9155 otherwise known as Governance of Basic Education Act of 2001, it states that: the Department of Education shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality basic education and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. The Department of Education (DepEd) Tagaytay District, in close coordination with the City Government of Tagaytay implemented the Alternative Learning System (ALS) Program in the City and aims to attain the target "Education for All (EFA) by 2015.

As part of implementation strategy, the City Government, through the ALS Coordinators, has been conducting Advocacy Socialization and Mobilization in various barangays to determine the number of school leavers. The ALS coordinators also conduct massive information campaign; discuss the importance and benefits may be derived from the literacy program – stress the fact that literacy program empowers an individual and enables anyone to get informed of the fast changing life and updates with the new trends of developments through the years.

From 12 classes conducted in the previous year which covered 24 barangays, there are now seventeen (17) classes on-going in all clustered barangays or 70.58% area coverage. In other words, all 34 barangays have been covered - with a remarkable increase of about 30% area coverage from 2007 to 2008, respectively. This activity is being undertaken in close coordination with the

barangay officials and private sector service provider. As of 2008, there is one service provider actively involved in the program - represented by Jesu Mariae International School. Other NGOs with similar concern/advocacy pertaining to promotion of literacy will be encouraged as prospective service providers.

The program aims to provide an alternative pathway by which out of school youth and adults will earn educational qualification comparable to the formal education system. The service providers teach the learners on reading and writing based on the 4As of learning principles: **A**pplication, **A**bstraction, **A**nalysis and **A**ctivity. Learning sessions are also conducted among examinees for Accreditation and Equivalency Test (A&E).

During this fast changing times, technologies are rapidly changing and one of these is Information Technology (IT) or Computer Technology. Majority of the tasks being done depend largely on the use of computer. To make the parents, adults, school leavers who are literate but non-literate in computers, the City Government in close collaboration with the Department of Education-Tagaytay District conducts Alternative Learning Systems. They are taught basic knowledge on computer operations/manipulations. In the recent year, additional training programs have been conducted which include: Basic Housekeeping and Janitorial Job; Nail Art Designing; Hair and Make-up Culture.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Local government's agenda/program for literacy and continuing education as stated in the municipality/city development plan (enclose municipality/city development plan).

The City Government has been an active advocate and partner of the Department of Education in implementing various programs for literacy and continuing education.

The city being a beneficiary of a technical assistance from World Bank through the League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP) has formulated a City Development Strategy (CDS). The CDS serves as a guide/bible of the City Government in the implementation of various programs/projects/activities.

As reflected in the CDS document, the City Government in close collaboration with the Department of Education (DepEd) provide quality basic education that is equitably accessible to all and expected to lay the foundation for learning and service for the common good. In fact, Alternative Learning System (ALS) ranked 3rd among the top priority programs/projects contained in the CDS.

Moreover, Tagaytay has been chosen by the UN-Habitat and United Development Programme thru the Philippine Urban Forum, as one of the pilot cities to localize the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). One of the goals is to ensure quality education in the primary/elementary level.

Hence, utilizing the Special Education Fund, the City has also improved the existing school facilities by constructing additional school buildings to address

the increasing number of enrollees thereby provide a more conducive environment for learning; provided the necessary equipments; appropriated funds for the acquisition of lot for school expansion, among others.

Ordinances and resolutions related to literacy and continuing education passed and implemented by the municipality/city and/or school board over the past three years (enclose copy of each ordinance or resolution)

The City Government in close collaboration with concerned department/offices and national government agencies, has been successful in the sustained implementation/enforcement of the following local issuances.

- **City Ordinance No. 2005-327** - an ordinance granting Seven Hundred Fifty (Php750.00) as monthly allowance for the existing high school scholar and deserving students of Tagaytay City. [Explanatory Note: The City Government has already implemented scholarship grants to deserving students in the college level for years now. Said grants are due to the rising cost of living specially on transportation expenses; this allowance is sought to be increased to cope up with the above problems thru another legislative act of the Local School Board and this august body]. (enacted on 21Feb. 2005)
- **City Ordinance No. 2005-328** - an ordinance granting Five Hundred (Php500.00) as monthly allowance for the existing college scholar and deserving students of Tagaytay City. [Explanatory Note: The City Government has already implemented scholarship grants to deserving students in the college level for year now. Said grants are due to the

rising cost of living specially on transportation expenses; this allowance is sought to be increased to cope up with the above problems thru another legislative act of the Local School Board and this august body]. (enacted on 21Feb. 2005)

- **City ordinance No. 2005-344-** an ordinance mandating the implementation of “**Kalinga Eskwela**” within the City of Tagaytay. Its main purpose is to keep our pupils/students in school to prevent them from skipping classes thereby keeping them from the temptation of committing crimes due to vagrancy and illness. (enacted on 11 July 2005)
- **City Resolution No. 2007-028** - a resolution authorizing the Local Chief Executive to hire, enter into and sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with any qualified person of group of persons as a consultants for the City College of Tagaytay (CCT). Passage of this resolution is to address the need of enhancing the standard and quality of education of CCT – passed on 05November 2007.
- **City Resolution No. 2007-1606** – a resolution authorizing the Local Chief Executive, Hon. Abraham N. Tolentino, to request from the Honorable Tain-Tsair Hsu, Mayor of Tainan City, Taiwan for the donation of second hand computer to the City of Tagaytay and to enter into and sign an agreement for the said donation. (passed on 28 May 2007).
- **City Resolution No. 2007-1581** - a resolution adopting Local School Board Resolution # 2006-05 covering appropriation for Annual Budget for CY 2007.

- **City Ordinance # 2008-013** - an ordinance amending section 4 of City Ordinance No. 2002-229, known as “ An Ordinance establishing the City College of Tagaytay. This ordinance, as amended, seeks to provide/offer additional courses (both in associate and bachelor’s degree) . (enacted on 26 Feb. 2008)
- City Resolution No. 2008 - 091
A resolution adopting the Local School Board Resolution No. 2008 – 04 authorizing the transfer of Neogan Elementary School to a safer location.
- City Resolution No. 2008 - 098
A resolution recognizing Jesu Mariae Int’l. School with an extension wellness center in Brgy. Patutong Malaki South, this City as Private Service Provider of alternative learning system in Tagaytay City.
- City Resolution No.2008 - 100
A Resolution authorizing the Local Chief Executive Hon. Abraham N. Tolentino to enter into and sign the Deed of Absolute Sale for the acquisition of a lot within Brgy. Neogan for the site of the new Neogan Elem. School.
- City Resolution No.2008 - 117
A Resolution recognizing the Department of Education District of Cavite Tagaytay Elementary Teachers for their invaluable performance and contribution to the quality of education in the City of Tagaytay.

Resources (human, physical and financial) which the municipality/city council or local school board provided: literacy and continuing education program last year and the current year. (Enclose approved/signed municipality/city budget for the year).

- **Hiring of casual teachers**

To ensure effective implementation of literacy and continuing education program, the City Government hired new teachers funded out of the Local School Board and Discretionary Fund of the Local Chief Executive.

- **Allocation of Funds for Allowances of Alternative Learning System(ALS) Coordinators**

- **Construction of Additional classrooms/school buildings**

In order to address and accommodate the increasing number of enrollees in the public schools both in the elementary and secondary levels, the city government constructed additional buildings/classrooms;

- **Scholarship Program**

Established scholarship program intended primarily for the less-privileged but deserving high school and college students.

MANAGEMENT OF LITERACY /CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS/PROJECTS

(If there are programs/projects in the community on literacy/continuing education , describe each providing the following information. Use additional pages as needed).

Name of Project : Alternative Learning Systems (ALS) Accreditation and Equivalency Test.

Background of project (include history, rationale, components, cooperating agencies)

Although ALS is initiated by the National Government specifically the Department of Education (DepEd), the City Government has been providing full support to the program in terms of providing funds and other logistical requirements. Thus, in order to sustain and ensure success and active participation of various stakeholders(education sector) in the implementation of various literacy programs of the city, the Local Chief Executive issued Executive Order No. 100 (Series of 2007) – an order creating the City Literacy Coordinating Council - tasked to undertake and spearhead execution of the following functions:

- To set policy and program directions for the eradication of illiteracy;
- To formulate measures on the establishment and maintenance of city data bank and information exchange and dissemination on system to support literacy efforts of the city;
- To recommend strategies on the development of a mass movement for the total eradication of illiteracy in the City;
- To identify management schemes of literacy programs and adopt measures and boost research and development work in literacy by the City Government;
- To recommend ways and means of raising funds in order to support the literacy programs, projects and activities;

- To recommend measures on how to organize and strengthen support structures for literacy at the City level.

The committee is chaired by the LCE, co-chaired by the Vice Mayor; Members: DepEd District Supervisor, SP Chairman on Committee on Education; ABC President, City PIO; Principals of three (3) Public High Schools; City College of Tagaytay Administrator; Public School Teachers Association President and a representative of a Private School.

The target participants/recipients of the ALS program are school leavers composed of out-of –school youths, parents and adults who are interested and willing to gain knowledge for their intellectual and personal development.

As of this year (2009), city’s literacy program has been able to maintain integrated several sub-component programs, namely:

- **Basic Computer Literacy** - Basically, the training deals with the Basic Training in the operation and manipulation of Personal Computer (PC) which includes the four (4) most widely used programs in Information Technology - MS Word, Excel, Power point, Publisher and Internet.
- **Basic Bartending Course** (including Skirting, Table Setting, and Napkin Folding) - the training course provides the learner the knowledge and basic bartending techniques. This particular short term course hopes to empower the city’s school leavers for

possible employment opportunities in various tourism establishments.

- **Bonsai-Making** - this is a 120-hour course (6 days training) participants are taught the basic knowledge and techniques on bonsai making. . Due to relatively cold climate, Tagaytay is a conducive place for bonsai. Needed materials and resources for bonsai are readily available on the hillsides. This has been a source of income/livelihood for some local residents.
- **Rag-Making** - out of old clothes and fabric scrap materials coming textile factories from the nearby towns.

It is good to note that the foregoing livelihood training initiatives are integrated/intertwined with the community-barangay based Agrikulturang Nayon sa Tagaytay (ANT) Program of the City Government, specifically in providing technical guidance and support in the course of project implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Generally, several school leavers have benefited from the program.

- **Housekeeping and Janitorial Job** - male and female with the age ranging from 18-30 years old are qualified to undergo the training. They also undergo 48 hours on the job training at the Tagaytay International Convention Center (TICC). The training aims to provide and upgrade vocational skills and equip learners in an acceptable housekeeping and janitorial standards.

- **Nail Art Designing** - the training is designed to provide basic knowledge on Nail Art Designing.
- **Handicraft (plate made of coconut-broomsticks)** - the livelihood training was conducted at Barangay Sambong where the indigenous materials for the product are readily available. Finished products are marketed locally being used for especial occasions like fiesta, wedding, etc.

Project management, funding (allocation of resources), networking, sustainability. To further illustrate effective management, include problems encountered and corresponding solutions taken.

To ensure effective management, ALS Coordinators are required to submit monthly accomplishment report to the City Planning and Development. They also attend in the monthly meeting/session of the Association of Barangay Captains to present an update/status of various activities relative to implementation of ALS program in the barangays. This is also a forum where some issues/concerns are tackled and resolved.

Normally, problems encountered by the ALS Coordinators is : **Lack of interest of some prospective learners** particularly those in the far-flung barangays.

Nevertheless, after series of literacy sessions and having presented the benefits they can get from the program, they gradually manifest interest and regularly attend succeeding sessions. Moreover, senior citizens who are illiterate with the age of 65 years old and above really refuse to engage themselves in the program for some personal reasons such as degenerating

physical conditions or inability to withstand long hours of training, among others.

For 2008, the City Government through the Local School Board Budget, earmarked Php220,000.00 for Alternative Learning System (ALS) Coordinators.

For the current year (2009), the Local School Board Budget has allocated the total amount of 1,082,000.00 for ALS program.

Barangay Officials also help the coordinators in motivating them to participate in the literacy program.

In fact, some barangays have allocated funds for ALS program in their respective Annual Budgets; other barangay officials even voluntarily providing traveling allowances and I.D. pictures as well as snacks for the learners in the course of attending the Accreditation and Equivalency Program.

Delivery systems/strategies to sustain and institutionalize literacy/continuing education programs. Describe approaches in initiating and delivering literacy/continuing education projects (including local government officials and community participation, use of indigenous resources, learning materials, media technology, etc.)

Delivery systems/strategies and approaches include:

Advocacy and Social Mobilization -

- Establishment of Network with concerned program implementers/stakeholders;
- Conduct of information campaign/dissemination through coordination with the barangay officials to identify prospective clientele;

- Posting of posters/leaflets which contain basic information about ALS program including schedule of classes, basic requirements for availing the program, etc.
- Formulation/preparation of modules and the necessary materials needed for the conduct of classes;
- Tap possible involvement and active participation of Non-Government Organizations, Private Sectors in the community;

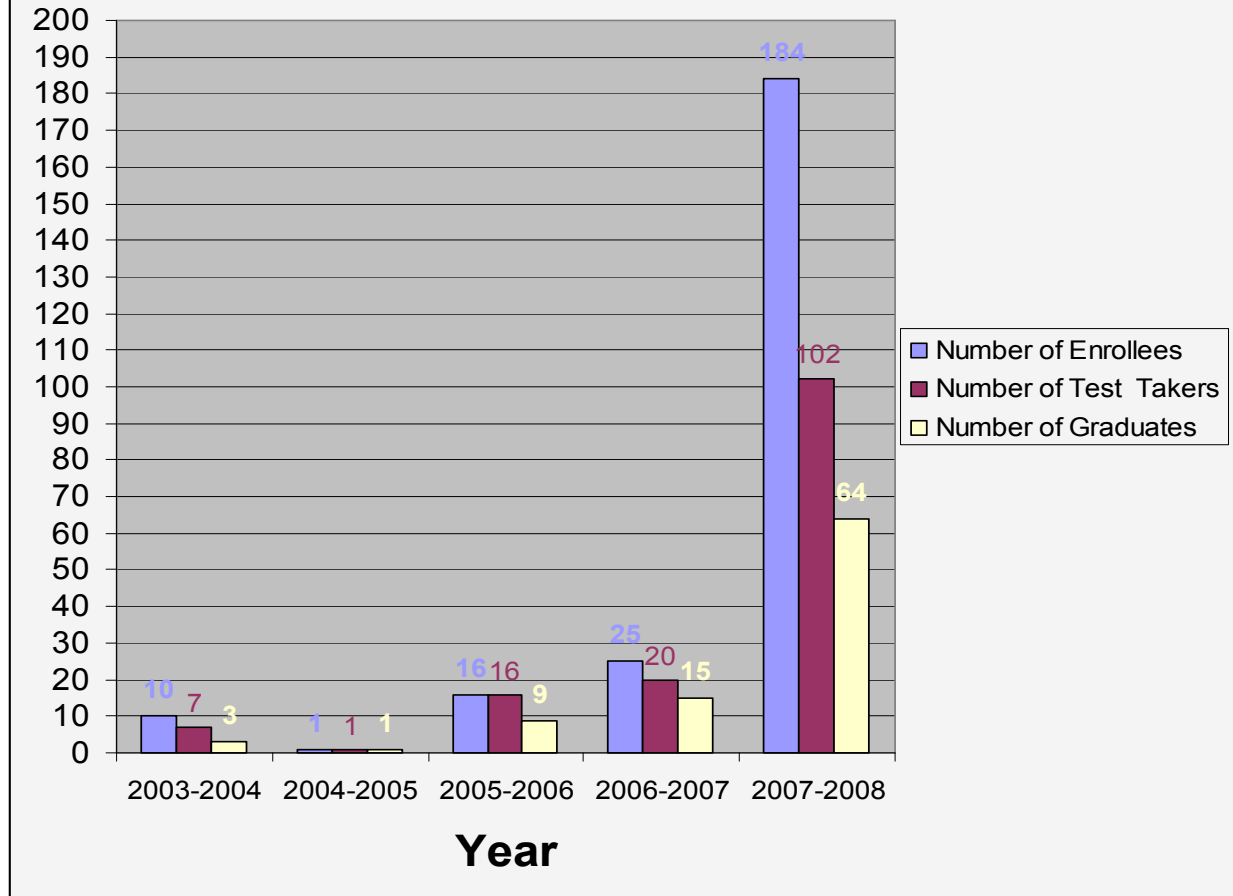
Positive effects on program clients. Improvements in the quality of life of community members, other changes in the community resulting from project intervention, economic opportunities generated. Include tables of comparative literacy rates and/or graduates against enrollees.

To date, a total of 236 clients have already benefited from the Alternative Learning System (ALS) Program since its implementation in 2003 - pertinent data are presented/distributed as follows:

School Year	Number of Enrollees	Number of Test Takers	Number of Graduates
2003-2004	10	7	3
2004-2005	1	1	1
2005-2006	16	16	9
2006-2007	25	20	15
2007-2008	184	102	64
	Total # of enrollees 236	Total : 146	Total # of graduates 92

Out of 184 enrollees for SY-2007-2008, 102 or 55.43 % finished the training courses while only 64 or 62.74 % graduated.

Comparative Literary Rates and/or Graduates against Enrollees



Out of 92 program graduates, 25 of them pursued their education to college and availed the scholarship program of the City Government; 10 were absorbed as government employees; two (2) obtained their college degree from Cavite State University – one finished Mass-communication and the other one obtained the degree of Business Management who is now in Singapore for his On the Job Training (OJT); one (1) Basic Bartending/barista Course graduate and in his second year on-board in a Star Cruise Ship as waiter; and 7 are engaged in

various small-scale (home-based) businesses like candle-making, flower arrangement, bonsai-making, etc), respectively. Some others are contractual service crews in various fast-food chains and restaurants within the city.

Network institutions involved in the implementation of literacy and continuing education programs/projects and other programs/projects implemented (include government agencies, NGOs, private sectors, civic organizations, etc.)

Institutions involved in the implementation of literacy program(particularly ALS) are: City Government of Tagaytay, Department of Education (DepEd-Tagaytay District); Department of the Interior and Local Government. City Social Welfare and Development Office, City Agriculture Office, Association of Barangay Captains (ABC), Tagaytay Tourism Council and three (3) Non-Government Organizations representing specifically the religious sector within the community. Late last year, the city approved a resolution (City Resolution No. 2008-098) recognizing Jesu Mariae International School as service provider. Thus, in order to ensure proper coordination, and ascertain status of the program, meetings are held monthly.

Involvement and/or participation of elective and appointive municipality/city officials in literacy/continuing education of the local government.

The incumbent City Mayor, Hon. Abraham N. Tolentino issued an Executive Order in 2006 - creating City's Literacy Coordinating Council to ensure involvement and active participation of various stakeholders in the implementation of various literacy programs/projects of the City Government.

The council serves as the policy-making body. It is also responsible in conducting monitoring and evaluation of the program. Likewise, the Association of Barangay Chairmen and their Kagawads play a vital role particularly in disseminating basic information about the literacy program to their respective constituencies.

Strategies undertaken by local officials to generate awareness and to encourage (1) other officials, (2) community members, and (3) intended beneficiaries to support the literacy projects.

1. **Creation/Establishment of the City Literacy Coordinating Council (Executive Order No. 100** –Series of 2007 - The council is chaired by the LCE, co-chaired by the Vice Mayor; Members: DepEd District Supervisor, SP Chairman on Committee on Education; ABC President, City PIO; Principals of three (3) Public High Schools; City College of Tagaytay Administrator; Public School Teachers Association President and a representative of a Private School.
2. **Designation of ALS Coordinators from DepEd** - one (1) from Elementary and one (1) from secondary;
3. **Designation of Mobile Teachers**
4. **Social Mobilization and Advocacy** - Announcements are posted in conspicuous public places such as market, church, busy streets and on the target sites. There are also trusted enumerators assigned in the target sites who can easily identify prospective learners.

5. Establishment of Alternative Learning System Accreditation and Equivalency System (ALS A&E) Learning Group

- They are responsible in the gathering of potential beneficiaries in an assembly/launching of the project as well as in communicating their role to the project;
- Gathering of data (profiling of the beneficiaries) which includes birth records, birth certificates and other detailed background information;
- Conducts of survey and home visitation among prospective learners.
- Conducts the Functional Literacy Test (FLT);
- Facilitates screening after FLT to determine the appropriate level for the learners;
- Facilitates enrollment.

5. Orientations, Placement and Counselling

Social Mobilization and Advocacy is a major part of Project Implementation Plan of the literacy project (Tagaytay Alternative Learning System-ALS)