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IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES FOR TEMPORARY SHELTER ASSISTANCE UNDER JOINT DSWD-NHA PROJECT SILUNGAN

I Introduction

When a disaster causes such a massive and sustained displacement of the affected population the usual evacuation centers prove inadequate and the need to address the temporary shelter needs of the families arises. This has been the case for those affected by the July 16th Earthquake. To address this need the agencies under the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) launched Project Silungan. One component of Project Silungan is the construction of Evacuation Centers in hard-hit cities and municipalities by the National Housing Authority.

II Agency Responsibilities

The Evacuation Center component of Project Silungan is a joint effort of NHA and the Department of Social Welfare and Development. The responsibilities corresponding to each Agency are as follows:

- A. National Housing Authority (1) Coordination with DSWD in identifying areas where Evacuation Centers are needed based on the number of families with totally damaged homes in need of temporary shelter assistance.
- 2. The identification of Evacuation Center sites in coordination with Local Government Units;
- 3. Mobilization of resources and supervision of actual construction of Evacuation Centers. Turns over the completed Evacuation Center sites to DSWD.
- B. Department of Social Welfare and Development (1) Identifies families whose homes have been totally damaged and are in need of temporary shelter assistance in the proposed Evacuation Centers in the interim that the Core Shelter Assistance is being processed.
- 2. Coordinates with the National Housing Authority to determine the sites and the size of the Evacuation Center that will be constructed on these sites based on the need.
- 3. Upon turnover of constructed Evacuation Centers by NHA issues occupancy permits to families who were previously assessed to meet the established eligibility requirements.

- 4. Ensures that the beneficiary families are socially prepared to avail of the temporary shelter assistance provided in the Evacuation Centers in the short run at the same time that they are adequately motivated to eventually complete the construction of structurally strong permanent houses.
- 5. Organizes the families in Evaculation Centers to ensure their capability to perform the communal tasks required for the orderly operation of these centers according to acceptable hygienic and sanitation standards.

III Objectives

The general objective of Project Silungan is to provide temporary shelter assistance to families affected by the July 16th Earthquake in the interim that the provision of a more permanent dwelling is in process. The specific objective is to provide temporary shelter through the construction of Evacuation Centers in cities and municipalities that have been hardest hit by the earthquake. Basic Features of the Evacuation Centers (Bunkhouses):

- a. They can have a maximum of six modules where each module will house 100 families;
- b. Each family will be provided with individual living quarters of 2.4 x 3.6 meters;
- c. Each Evacuation Center will have the following facilities:
 - Communal facilities for cooking, washing and toilets;
 - Service areas for laundry & drying;
 - Multi-purpose open area.

IV Eligibility Requirements

The earthquake victims eligible to live in these Evacuation Centers are the following:

- 1. Families whose monthly income is below the food threshold of P1,400 for a family of six in urban centers or P1,200 in rural areas.
- 2. Those whose houses were totally destroyed by the earthquake. Totally destroyed houses are those houses which are not livable either because they are completely missing or completely destroyed although some materials can still be salvaged from the site.
- 3. These families may not receive any shelter assistance from any of the existing housing agencies such as GSIS, SSS, Pag-ibig, National Housing Mortgage and Finance Corporation, etc. nor have they received any shelter assistance from any NGO in connection with the July 16th Earthquake.
- 4. Those families who are willing to execute an agreement that they will vacate the Evacuation Center as soon as their permanent housing requirements have been met.