



THE EXTENT OF EFFECTIVENESS OF THE DEVOLVED SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AMONG SELECTED BARANGAYS OF BULUAN, MAGUINDANAO
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ABSTRACT

This quantitative study on the extent of effectiveness of the devolved programs and services of DSWD of Buluan, Maguindanao, used validated self-made questionnaire to gather data from selected beneficiaries of 4Ps, supplementary and livelihood programs and services. Of the 4,215 beneficiaries, slovin's formula identified 365 as part of the study. The respondents were randomly selected. In the analysis of data, descriptive and some bivariate tools were utilized to obtain the information needed to resolve the existing issues and problems. Results of the study revealed that the effectiveness of the program objective, its adequateness and appropriateness was highly effective. The timeliness of programs and services was low. There was significant association between demographic profiles of beneficiaries with the extent of effectiveness of the DSWD programs and services. There was a small positive association between the experiences and the extent of effectiveness on the devolved social welfare programs and services

Keywords: 4 P's (Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program), extent of effectiveness, adequateness, appropriateness, timeliness.

INTRODUCTION

The passage of the Local Government Code (LGC) of the Philippines in 1991 was in consonance with the some provisions of the Organic Act for the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao of 1989. Autonomous Regions in Muslim Mindanao have more powers than other LGUs and is considered the largest level of Local Government Unit of the Philippines. Article X of the Philippine Constitution provides for a decentralized local government administration through the various territorial and political subdivisions such as, the autonomous regions, provinces, cities, municipalities, and barangays. This article further mandates Congress to enact a local government code for a more responsive and accountable local government structure, and an organic act for the Autonomous Regions in Muslim Mindanao. This is particularly on the devolution of social welfare programs and services to the local government of the national government through the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

In 1998, President Joseph Ejercito Estrada issued Executive Order No. 15 "Redirecting the Functions and Operations of the Department of Social Welfare and Development" to strengthen the department's repositioning efforts that began soon after the implementation of the LGC of 1991. As a consequence, the DSWD provided assistance to various stakeholders in the implementation of programs, projects and services that will curb poverty and empower marginalized individuals, families, and communities to improve quality of life. It implemented statutory and specialized social welfare programs and projects (DSWD, 2014).

As it progresses with time, the devolution of basic social services to lower government units brought new sets of problems. In the article of Aubrey Makilan on *The Price of Devolution*, primary issues raised in devolving social services include the LGU's generally low priority for social services due to budgetary constraints. In Addition, the DSWD had not focused on empowering LGUs to become fund generators. Training and technical assistance was not package for such generation of funds (Makilan, 2005). Moreover, there was also a shortage of manpower with technical competence, especially on the area of procurement (Brillantes, n.d.).

To address the lapses committed by LGUs in the implementation of RA 7160, the Department of the Interior and Local Government or DILG introduces a governance system called the Local Governance Performance Management System or LGPMS. It aimed to provide results-oriented information concerning levels of LGU management capacity, service delivery and state of development from which may evolve decisions or actions to optimize investments or resources, establish LGU performance benchmarks and generate strategic data for local and national policy development (DILG, 2014).

LGPMS' major output is the Annual State of Local Governance Report or the SLGR. It comprises some of the indicators from which this study intends to investigate, more particularly on social services. LGPMS furthermore covers two broad areas that are Governance and Developmental Aspect from which, this study will dwell much on social and economic developments of some barangays in the Municipality of Buluan, Province of Maguindanao. Specific indicators of the study derived from the performance indicators of LGPMS for barangays include programs and services indicators on; health particularly on percentage of child nutrition and percentage of maternal care; social welfare specifically on child's basic education and household livelihood. The supplemental feeding program and the livelihood program are within the LGPMS criteria parameter assessment (LGPMS, 2013). The devolved social welfare programs and services that need to be measured are the: Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program-4Ps, supplementary feeding program and the sustainable livelihood program. These are under the DSWD directives and are now integrated to the LGU of Buluan's Municipal Social Welfare Development office. Due to budget constraints and some programs was ended their contracts, only the three programs are remained under the directives of the DSWD of Buluan, Province of Maguindanao.

The DILG scales up the Seal of Good Housekeeping into the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG). Good governance promotes transparency and accountability in the use of public funds by delivering basic services that are responsive to people's needs. In this context, the SGLG is recognition of good performance of provincial, city and municipal governments, not only on financial housekeeping, but also on other areas that directly benefit the people. It is a continuing challenge for local governments to perform better, and ultimately, achieve a desirable condition where local governments: (a) Sustain the practice of transparency and accountability in the use of public funds; (b) Prepare for challenges posed by disasters; (c) Demonstrate sensitivity to the needs of vulnerable and marginalized sectors of society; (d) Encourage investment and employment; (e) Protect constituents from threats to life and security; and Safeguard the integrity of the environment (DILG,2014).

This study therefore, would like to investigate if these devolved social welfare programs and services have installed wellness and development to the members of the selected barangays in the Municipality of Buluan in the Province of Maguindanao.

METHODS

The study used the quantitative research design. The subjects of the study are the social welfare programs and services beneficiaries of the five barangays of the Municipality of Buluan, Maguindanao province. These beneficiaries are either under one of the three programs and services offered as shown in the table below.

The respondents of the study are the selected beneficiaries of the three devolved social welfare programs and services of the selected barangays; that are the 4Ps, the supplemental feeding, and the livelihood programs. Table 3.1 below presents the distribution of the respondents by program.

Table 3.1: Devolved Social Welfare relative to its Household Beneficiaries and Study Respondents per Program and Services

<i>Programs and Services</i>	<i>Number of Household Beneficiaries (Subject)</i>	<i>Sample Beneficiaries by Program & Services (Respondents)</i>
Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps)	2,718	235
Supplemental Feeding	849	74
Livelihood Program	648	56
Total	4,215	365

Sampling Size and Procedure

In the identification of sample size, Slovin's formula was used with 5 % margin of error. Of the 4,215 beneficiaries, Slovin's formula identified 365 as part of the sample size. This was then stratified according to the programs and services. See table below for the sample size distribution of respondents per stratified programs and services of the Devolved Social Welfare in the municipality. Furthermore, table 3.2 below presents the sample size per barangay.

Table 3.2: Devolved Social Welfare Program and Services per Barangay relative to its Beneficiaries and Study Respondents

<i>Barangay</i>	<i>DSWD Beneficiaries</i>	<i>Sample size of selected Barangays</i>
1. Poblacion	577	50
2. Maslabeng	1,383	120
3. Lower Siling	802	69
4. Upper Siling	426	37
5. Digal	1,027	89
Total	4,215	365

In the identification of respondents per barangay, the questionnaire was distributed via random sampling. The questionnaires were given to those program beneficiaries who are present during the actual distribution. The respondents were asked to fill-in the questionnaire while the researchers wait until the whole questionnaire was complied. Any questions raised by the respondent was entertained by the researcher with full knowledge on the said study parameters.

Research Instruments

The study instruments were of two sets; the first questionnaire was intended for the 4Ps and Supplemental Feeding beneficiaries; and the second set was for the Livelihood Program beneficiaries.

The questionnaire was comprised of five (5) parts. Part 1 was the demographic profile of the respondent, which are, age, sex, civil status, monthly income, and number of children. These profiles are believed to have an influence to the responses of the respondents on the programs and services offered by the devolved social welfare unit of the DSWD. The second part was the questions on the experiences of the respondents on the programs and services offered by the devolved social welfare unit to the beneficiaries, and the third part was questions on the effectiveness of the program relative to the program objectives, adequateness, appropriateness and timeliness on the delivery of the services.

Part four pertains to the issues encountered by beneficiaries relative to the implementation of the programs and lastly the part five of the questionnaire, pertains to the possible suggestions to improve the implementation of devolved programs and services.

See appendix 1.1 for the validated and Filipino translated survey questionnaire for 4Ps and Supplementary Feeding respondents.

See appendix 1.2 for the validated and Filipino translated survey questionnaire for livelihood program.

After the validation of the questionnaires from three (3) experts as determined by the Graduate School, the reliability was also analyzed using Cronbach's Alpha. The 4P's and Supplementary feeding program questionnaire of 35 items has a reliability index of 0.840 while the questionnaire on livelihood program of 12-items has a reliability index of 0.919. This means that both questionnaires are acceptably reliable questionnaire to measure the effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services of the selected barangays in the Municipalities of Buluan in the Province of Maguindanao in terms of parameters experience and effectiveness.

For the interpretation of both survey questionnaires, see appendix 2.0 for the details.

Data Collection Method

The distribution of the instruments to the members of the community households was made. In the distribution of the instrument, the sampling procedure was followed as expected. It was a guided administration of instrument.

After the collation of all the filled in questionnaires, data were tabulated in a spreadsheet (Microsoft excel 7) and were exposed to a statistical software. Analysis and interpretation of all data and gathered information were executed.

Finally, recommendations and conclusions were made and then the reporting of the final paper to the board of panellists.

Statistical Treatment of Data

In the analysis of demographic profile of the respondents; age, sex, civil status, monthly income and number of children was intervally grouped and the highest percentage grouped distribution was determined. Percentage group distribution between male and female was identified.

The ordinal dataset on the experienced of the respondents and the extent of effectiveness were quantitatively described using the weighted average mean. The weighted average for each of the program and services; program objectives; adequateness; appropriateness; and timeliness were also descriptively determined. See formula (1) below on weighted average:

$$\mu_w = \frac{\sum wx}{\sum w} \quad (1)$$

Where μ_w is the weighted mean; Σwx is the summation of the product of the weights and frequency responses; and Σw is the summation of the weights.

To determine the strength of association between the variables that are, the demographic profile, the experiences of the respondents and the level of effectiveness of the programs and services, various bivariate analytical tools was utilized.

Demographic profiles' age, civil status, monthly income and number of children being associated to the respondent's experiences and the level of effectiveness of the programs and services was all utilized the Spearman's Rho. It was noted that all variables mentioned were ordinarily interacting to each other. See formula (2) below on Spearman's Rho:

$$r_s = \frac{6 \Sigma D^2}{N^3 - N} \quad (2)$$

Where r_s is the Spearman's Rho; ΣD^2 is the sum of the squared differences between ranks; and N is the number of cases. The study was tested at 0.05 level of significance. Furthermore, the demographic profile sex, respondent's experience, and level of effectiveness of the programs and services were utilizing the Chi-Square Goodness-of-Fit. This was used to quantitatively analyse interaction between a nominal datasets and ordinal datasets. See formula (3) below on chi-Square Goodness-of-Fit.

$$X^2 = \sum (o - e)^2 / e \quad (3)$$

Where X^2 is a value of the random variable whose sampling distribution is approximated very closely by the chi-square distribution; o and e represents the observed and expected frequencies, respectively, for the i th cell.

Data on problems encountered of program and services implementation and recommendations for further improvement of implementation, the descriptive data percentage was utilized. The greater of percentage distribution would mean, the more the issues must be given a concern and the greater the percentage of recommendation, the more improved of implementation must be provided.

Interpretation of data analysis

The following matrix was used to guide the interpretation of tables.

Table 3.1: Interpretation Matrix on the Quantitative Experience of the Respondents on the particular Devolved Social Welfare Programs and Services to the LGU of Buluan, Maguindanao.

<i>Interval Scores</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Description</i>
4.00 - 3.30	Strongly agree	Involvement of the respondent on the said devolved social welfare programs and services could be felt, highly active and clearly observe at the highest degree.

		Range of involvement is 81 to 100%.
3.25 – 2.55	Agree	Involvement of the respondent on the said devolved social welfare programs and services could be felt and observe at a higher degree. Range of involvement is 61 to 80%.
2.50 – 1.80	Disagree	Involvement of the respondent on the said devolved social welfare programs and services could be felt in a small degree only. Range of involvement is 21 to 40%.
1.70 – 1.00	Strongly disagree	Involvement of the respondent on the said devolved social welfare programs and services could not be felt. Range of respondent's involvement is 0 to 20%.

Table 3.2: Interpretation Matrix on the Extent of Effectiveness of the Devolved Social Welfare Programs and Services to the LGU of Buluan, Maguindanao.

<i>Interval Scores</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Description</i>
4.00 - 3.30	Very extensive	Level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services is very high and could be quantitatively rated between 81 to 100%
3.25 – 2.55	Extensive	Level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services is high and could be quantitatively rated between 61 to 80%
2.50 – 1.80	Moderately extensive	Level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services is low and could be quantitatively rated between 21 to 40%
1.70 – 1.00	Not extensive	Level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services is very low and usually very ineffective; and could be quantitatively rated between 0 to 20%

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Socio Demographic profile

Table 4.1 below presents the frequency distribution of the respondent's age. In the table age is categorized into interval with 56 as the highest age of the respondent and 18 as the lowest. The frequency count was utilized to describe the grouping. The percentage was also utilized to describe the age interval grouping relative to the total sample size of the study subjects.

Table 4.1: The frequency distribution of the respondent's age

<i>Age interval</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
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16 to 23	11	3 %
23 to 29	55	15 %
29 to 34	90	24.7 %
34 to 40	61	16.7 %
40 to 45	84	23 %
45 to 51	35	9.6 %
51 to 56	29	7.9 %
Total	365	100 %

Table 4.1 revealed that there were about 365 respondents in the study. These were coming from the three programs and services subjects. From the given age interval, subjects age between 29 and 34 has the most number of respondents at 90 or (24.7%) , followed by age interval 40 and 45 at 84 or (23%) and the third age interval was between 34 and 40 at 61 or (16.7%) respondents. Thus, saying that most of the respondents were matured enough to be part of the study.

In terms of sex distribution among respondents, most of the respondents were female at 356 or (97.5%). Only 9 or (2.5%) were male. These also suggest that, female are active relative to social wellness of the household. See table 4.2 below.

Table 4.2: The frequency distribution of the respondent’s sex

<i>Sex</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Male	9	2.5 %
Female	356	97.5 %
Total	365	100 %

Table 4.3 presents the frequency distribution of the respondent’s average monthly income by a mid-point method. The table revealed that 289 or (79.2%) of the respondents have monthly income between Php4001.00 and Php6000.00 per month or with a midpoint monthly income of Php5000.50.

While 71 (19.5%) of the respondents have monthly income between Php2001.00 and Php4000.00 or with a midpoint monthly income of Php3000.50. This means that the grouped average monthly income of the respondents was at Php4, 581.32 only. See table below.

Table 4.3: The frequency distribution of the respondent’s average monthly income

<i>Monthly Income distribution</i>	<i>Midpoint (M)</i>	<i>Frequency (f)</i>	<i>Percent</i>
none	0	3	8 %
P 2001 to 4000	P3000.50	71	19.5 %
P4001 to 6000	P5000.50	289	79.2 %
P6001 to 8000	P7000.50	2	5 %
Total		365	100 %
<i>Average Monthly Income</i>	P 4,581.32		

The remaining percentages of distribution of monthly salary among respondents were either spread in both extremes of the distribution table. It should also be noted that three (3) of the study respondents do not have income at all.

Table 4.4: Frequency distribution on the respondent’s number of children

<i>Number of children</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percent</i>
2 and below	43	11.80 %
3 to 4	160	43.80 %
5 to 6	126	34.50 %
7 and above	36	9.90 %
Total	365	100 %

In terms of the number of children per family of the respondents, table 4 revealed that 160 or (43.8%) of the respondents do have children between three (3) and four (4). Furthermore, 126 or (34.5%) do have children between five (5) and six (6), or with an average of three (3) children per family.

Experiences of Respondents on the Devolved SW Programs and Services

Table 4.5 presents the descriptive analysis of the respondent’s experiences on the devolved social welfare programs and services. The weighted mean was utilized to determine the expected respond of the respondents on their opinion on the selected social welfare programs and services offered by the LGU. The standard deviation measures the spread of responses relative to the respondent’s mean responses. The criteria on the level of experiences of the respondents on the devolved Social Welfare Programs and Services to the LGU of Buluan are as follows: (a) the interval score 3.30 to 4.00 has a category “strongly agree” which means that and could be describe as, the involvement of the respondent on the said devolved social welfare programs and services could be felt, highly active and clearly observe at the highest degree. Range of involvement could be between 81% and 100%; (b) the interval score 2.55 to 3.25 has a category “agree” which means that and could be describe as, the involvement of the respondent on the said devolved social welfare programs and services could be felt and observe at a higher degree. Range of involvement is between 61% and 80%; (c) the interval score 1.80 to 2.50 has a category “disagree” which means that and could be describe as, the involvement of the respondent on the said devolved social welfare programs and services could be felt in a small degree only. Range of involvement is between 21% and 40%; and finally, (d) the interval score 1.00 to 1.70 has a category of “strongly disagree” which means that and could be describe as, the involvement of the respondent on the said devolved social welfare programs and services could not be felt. Range of involvement is between 0% and 20%.

Table 4.5: The weighted mean and standard deviation on the respondents’ experiences on the devolved social welfare programs and services

<i>Programs and Services</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>Std. Deviation</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>
4Ps				

You are from poorest of the poor of the community	235	3.15	0.80	Agree
Your stipend is commissioned by some LGU officials every allowance day	235	2.81	0.71	Agree
The allowance allocated for your student/s is enough	235	2.56	0.55	Agree
The line is very long in getting the allowance	235	3.45	0.50	Strongly agree
Sometimes my name is not included in the payroll every allowance day	235	1.85	0.65	Disagree
Grand Mean	235	2.76	0.24	Agree
Supplemental Feeding				
You are from poorest of the poor of the community	74	3.46	0.65	Strongly agree
You have received enough amount of nutritional food	74	2.93	0.30	Agree
The weight of the children (e.i. from 3-5 years old) is gaining.	73	2.97	0.37	Agree
Your day-care children has enough space for playing	74	3.03	0.16	Agree
Your day-care children are active inside the classroom	74	3.07	0.25	Agree
Grand Mean	74	3.09	0.21	Agree
Livelihood				
You are from poorest of the poor of the community	56	3.38	0.68	Strongly agree
The amount received for capitalization is good for starting a business	56	2.98	0.36	Agree
We have improved our livelihood	56	3.05	0.52	Agree
Grand Mean	56	3.14	0.36	Agree

Respondent's Experiences in 4Ps

The 4Ps indicator of "The line is very long in getting the allowance" provide a strongly agree description and 3.45 weighted mean, means that the involvement of the respondent on the said devolved social welfare programs and services could be felt, highly active and clearly observe at the highest degree. The range of involvement is 81% to 100%.

The responses of the respondents on the three indicators of 4Ps program that are, "You are from poorest of the poor of the community", "Your stipend is commissioned by some LGU officials every allowance day" and "The allowance allocated for your student/s is enough" with weighted mean at 3.15, 2.18, and 2.56 respectively provide an "agree" description. This means that the involvement of the respondents on the said devolved social welfare programs and services (i.e. 4Ps) could be felt and observe at a higher degree. This could be rated between 61% and 80% involvement of the respondents. The 4Ps indicator of "Sometimes my name is not included in the payroll every allowance day" provide a disagree description with weighted mean 1.85 which means that the involvement of the respondents on the said devolved social welfare

programs and services could be felt in a small degree only. The range of involvement is from 21% to 40%. Furthermore, the standard deviation revealed a wide spread of responses from among the respondents.

The general opinion of the respondents on their experiences on the 4Ps program in the Municipality of Buluan was at 2.76. This was corresponding to “agree” or was agreeable on the said 4Ps program. This also means that the involvement of the respondents on the said devolved social welfare programs and services (i.e. 4Ps) could be felt and observe at a higher degree.

The distribution of their responses relative to the grand mean was at 0.24, which was comparably small than those of the specific indicators of 4Ps at 0.80, 0.71, 0.55, 0.50, and 0.50 respectively. This means that the general views of the respondents on 4Ps as a program that helps alleviate poverty was better.

Respondent’s Experiences in Supplemental Feeding

The indicator “You are from poorest of the poor of the community” provide a strongly agree description with weighted mean 3.46 which means that the involvement of the respondent on the said devolved social welfare programs and services could be felt, highly active and clearly observe at the highest degree. The range of involvement is 81% to 100%.

The responses of the respondents on the four indicators of supplementary feeding program that are, “You have received enough amount of nutritional food”, “The weight of the children (e.i. from 3-5 years old) is gaining”, “Your day-care children has enough space for playing”, and “Your day-care children are active inside the classroom with weighted mean at 2.93, 2.97, 3.03, and 3.07 respectively provide an “agree” description. This also means that the involvement of the respondents on supplemental feeding program could be felt and observe at a higher degree. This can be rated from 61% to 80%.

On the other hand, the general response of the respondents on their experiences on the supplementary feeding program was at 3.09. This is corresponding to “agree” on the said program. This means that the involvement of the respondents on supplemental feeding program could be felt and observe at a higher degree.

Furthermore, the standard deviations revealed a wider spread of responses from among the respondents at 0.30, 0.37, 0.16, 0.25 and 0.65 compared with that of the grand standard deviation at only 0.21. This means that the overall experiences of the respondents on supplemental feeding is better than their specific experiences on the said program.

Respondent’s Experiences in Livelihood Program

The responses of the respondents on the three indicators of the livelihood program that are, “You are from poorest of the poor of the community” provide a strongly agree description with weighted mean 3.38 means that the involvement of the respondent on the said devolved social welfare programs and services could be felt, highly active and clearly observe at the highest degree. The range of involvement is 81% to 100%. The livelihood indicator such as “The amount received for capitalization is good for starting a business”, and “We have improved our livelihood with weighted mean at 2.98 and 3.05 respectively provide an “agree” description. This also means that the involvement of the respondents on livelihood program could be felt and observe at a higher degree. On the other hand, the general opinion of the respondents on their experiences on livelihood program was at 3.14. This corresponds to an “agree” description on the said program. This also means that, the involvement of the respondents on the said devolved social welfare programs and services could be felt and observe at a higher degree. This involvement can be rates between 61% and 80%.

Furthermore, the standard deviation revealed a wider spread of responses from among the respondents at 0.68, 0.36, and 0.52 compared with that of the grand standard deviation at 0.36.

This means that the overall experiences of the respondents on livelihood is better than their specific experiences on the said same program.

Extent of Effectiveness of the Programs and Services

Table 4.6 below presents the descriptive analysis of the respondent’s extent of effectiveness on the devolved social welfare programs and services. The weighted mean was utilized to determine the expected respond of the respondents on their opinion on the extent of effectiveness on the specific social welfare programs and services offered by the LGU. The standard deviation measures the stretch of response relative respondent’s mean responses. The criteria on the extent of effectiveness of the devolved Social Welfare Programs and Services to the LGU of Buluan are as follows: (a) the interval score 3.30 to 4.00 has a category “Very extensive” which means that and could be describe as, the level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services is very high and could be quantitatively rated between 81% and 100%; (b) the interval score 2.55 to 3.25 has a category “Extensive” which means that and could be describe as, the level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services is high and could be quantitatively rated between 61% and 80%; (c) the interval score 1.80 to 2.50 has a category “Moderately extensive” which means that and could be describe as, the level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services is low and could be quantitatively rated between 21% and 40%; and finally, (d) the interval score 1.00 to 1.70 has a category of “Not extensive” which means that and could be describe as, the level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services is very low and usually very ineffective; and could be quantitatively rated between 0% and 20%.

Table 4.6: The weighted mean and standard deviation on the extent of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services

<i>Devolved social welfare programs and services</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>Std. Deviation</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>
Program Objectives				
4Ps	235	3.21	0.23	extensive
Supplemental Feeding	74	3.28	0.31	extensive
Livelihood	56	3.22	0.33	extensive
Grand Mean		3.24	0.21	extensive
Adequateness				
4Ps	235	2.90	0.26	extensive
Supplementary Feeding	74	3.20	0.42	extensive
Livelihood	56	2.94	0.38	extensive
Grand Mean		2.93	0.26	extensive
Appropriateness				
4Ps	235	2.89	0.21	extensive
Supplementary Feeding	74	3.26	0.30	extensive
Livelihood	56	3.26	0.30	extensive
Grand Mean		2.97	0.24	extensive
Timeliness of Delivery				

4Ps	235	2.39	0.28	Moderately extensive
Supplementary Feeding	74	2.53	0.50	Moderately extensive
Livelihood	56	3.32	0.28	Very extensive
Grand Mean		2.47	0.30	Moderately extensive

In this study, Program objective refers to the goal of the program or service that is being able to meet to describe the effectiveness of the said programs and services. On program objectives relative to the 4Ps program revealed a weighted mean response was at 3.21, which was descriptively interpreted as “extensive”, which means that the level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services is high and could be quantitatively rated from 61% to 80%.

On program objectives relative to supplemental feeding, the weighted mean was at 3.28 and is interpreted as “extensive”, which also means that the effectiveness of supplemental feeding is high and can be rated from 61% to 80%.

Relative to livelihood, the weighted mean was at 3.22 and is interpreted as “extensive”. This means that, livelihood is an effective program and of high concerns from among the respondents.

The standard deviation of each of the three programs and services varies at 0.23, 0.31, and 0.33 respectively. The overall standard deviation of the three programs and services was at 0.21. This means that the responses of the respondents on each of the programs and services were a bit loose compared with their overall responses.

The table on adequateness presents beneficiary’s response on the sufficiency of the material and non-material assistance from the Municipal Social Welfare and Development of the Municipality of Buluan on the three programs and services.

Relative to 4Ps with sample size of 235, the extent of adequateness was at 2.90 which were interpreted as “extensive”. This means that the level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services is high. This could be quantitatively rated between 61% and 80%.

On supplemental feeding, the extent of adequateness was at 3.20 which were also interpreted as “extensive”. This could be interpreted as the level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services is high and could also be quantitatively rated between 61% and 80%.

On the beneficiaries of the livelihood, the extent of effectiveness of the services was at 2.94 which was categorically describes as “extensive”. This also means that the level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services is high. Numerical rating could be from 61% to 80%.

The grand mean on the extent of effectiveness on the three programs and services was at 2.93, which was interpreted as “extensive”. This finally means that the level of effectiveness of the three devolved social welfare programs and services is high. This could be numerically interpreted with the rate between 61% and 80%.

Finally, the standard deviation of the three programs and services relative to adequateness were at 0.26, 0.42, and 0.38. Compared with the overall spread of responses at 0.26, the responses of the respondents on the extent of effectiveness on the adequateness of the programs and services were better than that of each of the three programs and services of the Local Government Unit of the Municipality of Buluan.

In this study, appropriateness refers to the beneficiary’s individual judgment on the suitability of the material and non-material assistance from Municipal Social Welfare and Development of the Municipality of Buluan.

Relative to 4Ps the extent of adequateness was at 2.89 which were interpreted as “extensive”. This means that the level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services is high and could be quantitatively rated between 61% and 80%.

On supplemental feeding, the extent of appropriateness was at 3.26 which were also interpreted as “extensive”. This means that the level of effectiveness of the devolved programs and services is high. This could be quantitatively rated between 61% and 80%. On the livelihood of the beneficiaries, the extent of effectiveness of the services was at 3.26 which was categorically describes as “extensive”. This also means that level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services was high and could also be quantitatively rated between 61% and 80%.

On the other hand, the grand mean on the extent of effectiveness of the three programs and services was at 2.97, which was also interpreted as “extensive”. This also means that the level of effectiveness of the devolved programs and services was high. This could then be quantitatively rated between 61% and 80%.

Finally, the standard deviation of the three programs and services relative to appropriateness were at 0.21, 0.30, and 0.30. Compared with the overall spread of responses at 0.24, the responses of the respondents on the extent of effectiveness on the appropriateness of the programs and services were better than that of each of the three programs and services of the Local Government Unit of the Municipality of Buluan.

In this study, timeliness of delivery refers to the beneficiary’s personal judgment if material and non-material assistance reach to them at the time they are needed.

On timeliness of delivery relative to the 4Ps program revealed a weighted mean response at 2.39, which was interpreted as “moderately extensive”, which means that the level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services is low and was quantitatively rated between 21% and 40%.

On timeliness of delivery relative to supplemental feeding, the weighted mean was at 2.53 and is interpreted as “moderately extensive”, which also means that the level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services is low. This can be quantitatively rated between 21% and 40%.

Relative to livelihood, the weighted mean was at 3.32 and was interpreted as “extensive”. This means that the level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services is low and could be quantitatively rated between 21% and 40%.

The grand mean of timeliness of delivery relative to the three selected programs and services was at 2.47 which were interpreted as “moderately extensive”, this finally means that the level of effectiveness of the devolved programs and services is low. This could also be numerically rated between 21% and 40%.

Finally, the standard deviations of the three programs and services relative to timeliness of delivery were at 0.28, 0.50, and 0.28. Compared with the overall spread of responses at 0.30, the responses of the respondents on the extent of effectiveness on the timeliness of delivery of the programs and services were almost the same than that of each of the three programs and services of the Local Government Unit of the Municipality of Buluan.

Extent of Effectiveness across Socio Demographic Profile

Table 4.7 below presents the association between the respondent’s demographic profile (i.e. age, sex, civil status, monthly income, and number of children) and the extent of effectiveness of each of the devolved social welfare programs and services (i.e. 4Ps, supplemental feeding, and livelihood) of the Municipal Social Welfare and Development of the Municipality of Buluan.

The Pearson chi-square two-tailed test distribution was utilized in this study to determine if significant association does exist between variables under analysis. The analysis was tested at 0.05 level of significance.

Table 4.7: The Pearson Chi- Square distribution of the respondent’s demographic profile and extent of effectiveness of each of the devolved social welfare programs and services

	<i>4Ps</i>			<i>Supplementary Feeding</i>			<i>Livelihood</i>		
	<i>X²-value</i>	<i>Degree of freedom</i>	<i>p-value (2-tailed)</i>	<i>X²-value</i>	<i>Degree of freedom</i>	<i>p-value (2-tailed)</i>	<i>X²-value</i>	<i>Degree of freedom</i>	<i>p-value (2-tailed)</i>
Age	489.91	294	0.00	35.98	48	0.89	73.82	96	0.96
Sex	76.99	49	0.01	4.76	8	0.78	7.13	16	0.97
Civil status	118.04	98	0.08	37.96	16	0.00	14.09	32	0.99
Monthly income	276.81	98	0.00	44.67	16	0.00	21.39	32	0.92
Number of children	265.11	147	0.00	15.87	24	0.89	50.79	48	0.36

Table 4.7 above revealed that not all of the variables of demographic profile were associated to each of the devolved social welfare programs and services of the Municipality of Buluan. The civil status was not associated with X²- value of 118.04 at p-value (2-tailed) at 0.08. The association was tested at 0.05 significant levels.

As shown in the table, age and the extent of effectiveness of the 4P program was associated with X²-value of 489.91 and p-value (2-tailed) at 0.00. This means that the null hypothesis was rejected and concluded that there was significant association between age and the extent of effectiveness of the 4P program in the Municipality of Buluan.

In terms of sex and the extent of effectiveness of the 4P program was associated with X²-value of 76.99 and p-value (2-tailed) at 0.01. This also means that the null hypothesis was rejected and concluded that there was significant association between sex and the extent of effectiveness of the 4Ps program.

In terms of monthly income of the respondents and the extent of effectiveness of the 4Ps program was associated with X²-value of 276.81 and p-value (2-tailed) at 0.00. This also means that the null hypothesis was rejected and concluded that there was significant association between monthly income and the extent of effectiveness of the 4Ps program in the Municipality of Buluan.

Between number of children and the extent of effectiveness of the 4P program was associated with X²-value of 265.11 and p-value (2-tailed) at 0.00. This also means that the null hypothesis was rejected and concluded that there was significant association between respondent’s number of children and the extent of effectiveness of the 4Ps program.

Furthermore, in terms of the “Supplemental Feeding”, the table revealed that only civil status and monthly income were significantly associated with X²-values at 37.96 and 44.67

respectively and the p-values were at 0.00 and 0.00. This means that the null hypothesis were all rejected and concluded that there were significant association between respondent’s civil status and monthly income respectively, and to the extent of effectiveness of the supplemental feeding program of the devolved social welfare programs and services of the Municipality of Buluan in Maguindanao Province.

Finally, from the above table, it revealed that Livelihood program cannot be associated to any of the variables on demographic profile. The p-value of each of the variable age, sex, civil status, monthly income, and number of children are said to be more than the assumed level of significance of the study at 0.05. Thus, concluding that respondent’s responses on the livelihood program have no association from either of the variables of demographic profile.

Correlation between extent of effectiveness and experiences on the devolved social welfare program and services of DSWD

Table 4.8 below presents the correlation between the respondent’s experiences and the extent of effectiveness of each of the devolved social welfare programs and services (i.e. 4Ps, supplemental feeding, and livelihood) of the Municipal Social Welfare and Development of the Municipality of Buluan.

The Spearman’s Correlation two-tailed test distribution was utilized in this study to determine if significant relationship does exist between variables under analysis. The analysis was tested at 0.05 significant levels.

Table 4.8: The spearman’s correlation distribution of the respondent’s experiences and extent of effectiveness of each of the devolved social welfare programs and services

<i>Programs and services</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Spearman correlation value</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>t-value</i>	<i>P-value</i>
4Ps	235	-0.001	Small negative correlation	-0.023	0.982
Supplemental feeding	74	0.004	Small positive correlation	3.702	0.000
Livelihood	55	0.088	Small positive correlation	0.645	0.522

On the relationship between the respondent’s experiences and level of effectiveness on each of the programs and services the supplemental feeding program showed a very small positive correlation at 0.004. Furthermore, the table revealed a t-value of 3.702 which is significant at p-value 0.000. This means that the null hypothesis must be rejected and concluded that there is a weak relationship taking place between the respondent’s experiences and the level of effectiveness on the supplemental feeding program of the Local Government Unit of the Municipality of Buluan.

It is also observed that there was a negative small correlation at -0.001 exist in 4ps program at t-value -0.023 which is not significant at p-value 0.982. This means that there is a relationship taking place between the respondent’s experiences and the level of effectiveness on the 4Ps program of the Local Government Unit of the Municipality of Buluan. On the

relationship between the respondent’s experiences and level of effectiveness on the livelihood programs and services the table revealed that there was a positive small correlation at 0.088 z but were not significant at p-values 0.522. This also means that the null hypotheses must be rejected and concluded that there is a relationship taking place between the respondent’s experiences and the level of effectiveness on the livelihood program of the Local Government Unit of the Municipality of Buluan.

Problems Encountered by beneficiaries during the implementation of the devolved social welfare programs and services

Table 4.9 presents the frequency distribution on the problems encountered by the respondents during the implementation of the devolved social programs and services of the Municipal Social Services Welfare Office of the Municipality of Buluan in the Province of Maguindanao. The frequency distribution was utilized in this analysis to determine the issues and concerns encountered by the respondents.

Table 4.9: The frequency distribution of the issues encountered on the implementation of the devolved social programs and services

<i>Programs and Services</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Problems Encountered</i>	<i>Responses</i>	
			<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
4Ps	235	Allowance is delayed	235	100 %
		Allowance is not enough	200	85.11 %
		Allowance is commissioned by barangay Captain (100 for every 500)	150	63.83 %
Supplemental Feeding	74	Arroz caldo has small amount of chicken(imbalance nutrients)	74	100 %
		Feeding is not regular (twice a week)	50	67.57 %
Livelihood	56	Animal raising has limited chances to survive because the area is not appropriate (chicken, goat)	20	35.71 %
		No monitoring from DSWD on health of animal	20	35.71 %
		Cash loan is not enough for a long time business (10,000 starting capital given by DSWD)	36	64.29 %
		Cannot able to pay the loan	56	100%

In 4Ps program in the municipality, according to the 235 respondents that the monthly allowance was always delayed and is not enough to the members of the family (200). Of the 235 respondents, 150 or sixty three and eighty three tenths percent (63.83%) of the respondents said that the Barangay Captain were always asking for a commission of Php100 per Php500 allowance of the beneficiaries.

While in the supplemental feeding program, the seventy four (74) parents/guardians of the children said that the Arroz Caldo provided has small amount of chicken and with imbalance nutrients. Furthermore, 50 or sixty seven and fifty seven tenths percent (67.57%) of the parents/guardians said that the program was not regular (i.e. twice a week).

Finally, in the livelihood program, the usual issues and concerns was on the inability to pay the loan as responded by the fifty six respondents. Thirty six (36) or sixty four and twenty nine tenths percent (64.29%) of the respondents said that cash loans were not enough for a long time business (i.e. Php10, 000.00 starting capital given by DSWD). According also to the thirty five and seventy one tenths percent (35.71%) or 20, that chicken and goat has low survival rate due to lack of space in the area and DSWD were not monitoring the health of their raised animals.

Respondent’s Suggestions on the Implementation of the Programs and Services

Table 4.10 presents the frequency distribution on the suggestions of the respondents during the implementation of the devolved social programs and services of the Municipal Social Services Welfare Office of the Municipality of Buluan in the Province of Maguindanao.

The frequency distribution was utilized in this analysis to determine the suggestions by the respondents.

Table 4.10: The frequency distribution of the suggestions on the implementation of the devolved social programs and services

<i>Programs and Services</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Suggestions</i>	<i>Responses</i>	
			<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
4Ps	235	Increased the allowances	235	100 %
		On time getting of allowances	235	100 %
		Stop commissioning of Barangay Captain	150	63.83 %
Supplemental Feeding	74	Balance the nutrients served to every children	74	100 %
		Have regular feeding session	50	67.57 %
Livelihood	56	Monitor the business and animal raising every month	56	100 %
		Increased the amount for capitalization	36	64.29 %

In 4Ps programs and services, the respondents suggested that the allowances must be increased (235) and be given always on time (235). Of the 235 respondents of the study, 150 of them said that the Barangay Captain/s must cease from collecting commissions from the allowances of the beneficiaries.

In the supplemental feeding programs and services, according to the respondents (74) that balance nutrients must be serve to the children. Fifty (50) or sixty seven and fifty seven tenths percent (67.57%) of the respondents said to provide regular feeding sessions to the children.

Finally, in the livelihood program, the 56 respondents suggest that monitoring of the business and animal raising must be made every month. Thirty six (36) of the fifty six (56) respondents also said that increased in capitalization is needed.

Summary

This study aimed to determine the effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services to selected barangays of the Municipality of Buluan in Maguindanao. In resolving the effectiveness of the program and services, some parameters included in the study are the

demographic profile of the respondents that includes age, sex, civil status, monthly income, and the number of children. The experiences of the respondents on the devolved programs and services was also measured to gain better understand and current practices that come crossed by the respondents. The extent of effectiveness was also measured in terms of the program objectives, adequateness, appropriateness and timeliness of the delivery of the said social programs and services.

To further measured parameters, association between variables were also tested. The tests of relationships were made between respondent's demographic profile and extent of programs and services effectiveness, and respondent's experiences and the extent of effectiveness. Problems encountered during the implementation were also determined. Recommendations were then ask to further enhance the devolved social welfare programs and services in the future.

Analyses on demographic profile have revealed that most of the respondents were of age between 23 and 34 which are classified to be "matured age level respondents". Ninety seven and fifty tenths percent (97.50%) or 356 of the respondents were female. Common monthly income interval distributions of the respondents were between Php4, 001.00 to Php6, 000.00 with seventy nine and twenty tenths percent (79.20%) or 289 respondents. Number of children per family was between 3 and 6, that comprises about seventy eight and thirty tenths percent (78.30%) or 286 of the total respondents.

In terms of the respondent's experiences on the devolved social welfare programs and services, the 4Ps program got a grand mean of 2.76 with standard deviation 0.24, which means that the respondents agreed that 4Ps program could be felt and observe at a higher degree. The respondent rated the program between 61% and 80% agreement. The supplemental feeding program got a grand mean of 3.09 and standard deviation 0.21. This also means that the respondents agreed that the supplemental feeding program could be felt and observe at a higher degree. The respondent also rated the program between 61% and 80% agreement. Finally, the livelihood program with grand mean 3.14 and standard deviation 0.36, have the same responses with that of the 4Ps and supplemental feeding programs.

On the extent of effectiveness on the devolved social welfare programs and services, the grand mean of the program objectives was at 3.24 and standard deviation 0.21. This means that the level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services was high and was quantitatively rated by the respondents between 61% and 80%. The adequateness of the programs and services was at 2.93 and standard deviation 0.26, which was categorically "extensive". This implies that level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services was high and was also quantitatively rated between 61% and 80%. On appropriateness the grand mean was at 2.97 and standard deviation at 0.24. This means that level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services was high and was quantitatively rated between 61% and 80%. Finally, in terms of timeliness of delivery of the devolved programs and services, the response was at "moderately extensive", which means that, the level of effectiveness of the devolved social welfare programs and services was low and was quantitatively rated between 21% and 40%, which below 50%.

On the relationship between the demographic profile and extent of effectiveness, the following statements were presented at 0.05 significant levels; there was a significant association between age and 4Ps when χ^2 -value at 489.91 with p-value 0.00. There was a significant association between sex and 4Ps when χ^2 -value at 76.99 with p-value 0.01. There was a significant association between monthly income and 4Ps when χ^2 -value at 276.81 with p-value 0.00. Furthermore, for supplementary feeding, there was a significant association between civil status and supplemental feeding when χ^2 -value is at 37.96 with p-value 0.00 and there was a significant association between monthly income and supplemental feeding when χ^2 -value is at 44.67 with p-value 0.00. Interactions between other variables were not associated to each other.

In terms of relationship of responses between experiences and extent of effectiveness relative to each programs and services, only supplemental feeding program was of small positive correlation with r -value = 0.004 but the t -value was at 3.702 with p -value 0.000. This means that there was a small positive correlation between the respondent's experience and extent of effectiveness on the devolved programs and services.

Met challenges of the respondents on the said devolved social welfare programs and services were; for 4Ps with 235 respondents, allowance is delayed (235 responses), allowance is not enough (200 responses), and allowance is commissioned by barangay captains at PhP100.00 per Php500.00. For Supplemental feeding of 74 respondents, 74 of them said that Arroz Caldo has small amount of chicken. For livelihood of 56 respondents, 36 respondents said that cash loan is not enough for a long time business and all of the respondents showed a difficulty in repaying the loans.

Suggestion of the respondents on the said on-going programs and services were; for 4Ps with 235 respondents, all said that allowances needs to be increased, all respondents said that allowances must be given on time, and barangay captains must stop commissioning from the small allowances of the beneficiaries. For supplemental feeding, of the 74 respondents, 74 also said that balance of nutrients should be served to the children, and have regular feeding session (50 responses). And finally on livelihood, the 56 respondents said that there should be regular monitoring of business and animal raised and increased the amount of capital was also needed.

Conclusions

The conclusions of the study were based on the above summary. The following conclusions were as follows;

- Most of the respondents are classified to be matured age level.
- Most of the respondents were female.
- The average monthly income of the respondents is P 4,581.32
- The average number of children per family is three.
- The extent of effectiveness as to the program objectives of the devolved social welfare programs and services was high.
- The adequateness and appropriateness of the programs and services was categorically extensive and the levels of effectiveness were high.
- The timeliness of delivery of the devolved programs and services was low.
- There was a small positive association between the experiences and extent of effectiveness on the devolved social welfare programs and services.

Recommendations

The following recommendations that were based from the above conclusions are:

For National

- Policies on 4Ps must be customized to those “real” vulnerable households in the community.
- Policies on per child allocation must be enhanced based on the “real” needs of the beneficiaries in the community level.
- DSWD national must set standards on feeding programs and must be checked regularly the actual distribution in the municipal level.
- DSWD national must do the regular monitoring of the beneficiaries' business and animal raising.

- DSWD must also include qualified Internally Disabled Persons in the 4Ps and/or Livelihood programs as they were said to be another vulnerable groups in the community.

For Regional

- Supervision on the distribution of household allowances to beneficiaries must be double checked by the DSWD in a regional level to see to it that allowances have reach the beneficiaries.

For Municipal

- DSWD both local and national may regularly review policies on beneficiary selections, which are, criteria selection, validation, and monitoring to see to it that the right beneficiaries are the one included in the program/s.
- Moreover, this study therefore recommends that the Municipal Social Welfare Service Office must practice and promote good governance through transparency and accountability as this will brought about enhanced services and better programs to help out alleviate poverty in the Municipality.

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