

The 1st FP/RH Roundtable Notes

Family Planning Program in the Work Place

Partnership between APINDO and BPMPAKB

Thursday, 20 February 2014, 09 – 12 AM

The 1st Family Planning/Reproductive Health Roundtable (FP/RH) was attended by 26 participants from 3 companies, 7 NGOs, 1 UN Agency, 1 government agency and 1 association with Yayasan Cipta Cara Padu (YCCP) as the host of the Roundtable. Inne Silviane, Executive Director YCCP moderated the discussion. Topic of the discussion was Family Planning Program in the Work Place which featured the partnership between Indonesian Employers Association (APINDO) and the Family Planning Board for Community, Woman, and Child Empowerment (BPMPAKB) in Pontianak municipality.

The Roundtable was opened by Kemal Soerawidjaja, Executive Director of CCPHI. He explained that the Roundtable was the first one, and it is going to be conducted periodically every three months as a forum to exchange information and experience on the FP/RH issues among organizations in Indonesia. This Roundtable was initiated by CCPHI and YCCP. Izhar M. Fihir, YCCP Board Member, gave welcome remarks to all participants. Izhar explained that YCCP engaged in strategic communication and policy advocacy related to FP/RH issues.

After the introduction session led by moderator, Darmanelly, Head of BPMPAKB and Andreas Acui Simanjaya, Chairman of APINDO Pontianak presented their partnership program. APINDO is an association of employers in Indonesian while BPMPAKB is a local government agency which coordinates the various policies related to reproductive health and family planning in the city of Pontianak, West Kalimantan (www.bp2kb.pontianakkota.go.id).

The partnership between APINDO and BPMPAKB initially began with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the National Population and Family Planning Board (BKKBN) with the National Board of APINDO in Jakarta. This MOU was the basis for BPMPAKB to start communication with APINDO Pontianak. APINDO Pontianak initially did not respond, but after getting full information on the benefits related to workers' productivity, and through series of meetings facilitated by the Advance Family Planning Program (AFP)* team, APINDO Pontianak finally agreed to collaborate with BPMPAKB to implement the family planning programs in member companies. The program included some activities such as education about the benefits of family planning for employees, training for family planning counselors, counseling services for family planning clients, and various competitions to raise public awareness on the importance to become an FP client. Until 2013, the efforts have benefited 50 companies in APINDO Pontianak, and approximately 1,500 employees.

Summary of Discussion

In this session participants discussed various aspects of implementation and the impact of family planning on the business world. The summaries of discussion are as follows:

- To increase interest and number of companies to be involved in the Family Planning program, APINDO and BPMPAKB asked the Mayor of Pontianak to invite various stakeholders (e.g.: company

owners) to the meeting, and distributed the policy brief containing information on the importance of Family Planning for company/business. After gaining commitment, BPMPAKB trained employees or representatives from companies to be FP volunteers (cadres). These cadres will educate their peers about the benefits of Family Planning. Through this approach, the information on FP can be dispersed to all employees in the companies.

- The key success factor of this partnership is clear working relations and tasks between the two institutions. APINDO contacted its members (companies) to support Family Planning program through various meetings, and provides access for BPMPAKB if there is any company that is willing to open a family planning service in its workplace. While BPMPAKB provides materials and education for employees, opens Family Planning service facility in workplaces, and trains FP cadres. BPMPAKB also provides technical assistance to the cadres in maternal and child health, and counseling services on adolescent reproductive health. BPMPAKB, along with AFP team, provide insights on RH costing, which would show the relationship between employees' productivity and reduce corporate spending in the health sector.
- Both institutions coordinate with other relevant institutions such as the District Health Office and Family Welfare Programs (PKK). District Health Office provides access to services for employees who need advanced health care services; meanwhile PKK empowers cadres on maternal and child health issues, either to employees and the community around the companies. The companies should provide funding to conduct educational activities, while BPMPAKB provides resource person/trainer.
- Penalties should not be given to companies that are not willing to participate in the program. Companies would voluntarily participate if they get benefits and advantages for their business, such as decreased number on employees' absenteeism and increased productivity. Cadre will also be an important factor in improving company's commitment, as they will conduct a variety of educational activities to employees and company's management.

Closing

DY Suharya *Partners Relations Specialist* CCPHI closed the Roundtable by thanking the moderator from YCCP, presenters APINDO and BPMPAKB. Summary notes of the meetings can be accessed at www.ccpfi.org. The 2nd FP/RH Roundtable will be held in April 2014. If you need the attendance list, please contact admin@ccphi.org

Footnote:

*) AFP is a program managed by YCCP that aims to revitalize family planning programs in the region through a series of empowerment and advocacy activities. (www.afp-indonesia.org)