



Urdaneta City University Teams Up with Schools and Barangays to Fight Poverty Through Extension Program

Urdaneta City University (UCU) has officially launched a series of extension programs aimed at addressing poverty in the region. This new initiative, which focuses on empowering local communities through educational support, is a collaborative effort between UCU, local schools, and barangays (villages). The program is part of the university's commitment to supporting the local government's ongoing efforts to eradicate poverty and contribute to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal of ending poverty in all its forms by 2030. In this way, UCU is reinforcing its role as a key partner in the fight against poverty, aligned with both local and global goals.

The official launch of the program was marked by the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement led by UCU's Extension Director, Jerry Dichoso, who played a pivotal role in forging partnerships between the university, local schools, and barangays. The event, held at the respective campuses of the partner schools and barangays, saw the signing of Memoranda of Agreement (MOAs) with several barangay councils and schools in the region, formalizing their commitment to work together in delivering the program's objectives. As a result, the partnerships were solidified, creating a clear framework for collaboration and ensuring that the program would reach its intended beneficiaries.



Furthermore, the partnership signing marked the beginning of a strong and meaningful collaboration that brought much-needed support to local communities. "Through this collective effort, we aimed to create a ripple effect that would empower local residents, enhance their skills, and provide them with the knowledge they needed to improve their lives and break free from the cycle of poverty," said Dichoso. "This was more than just a project; it was a movement for positive change." Thus, the initiative goes beyond immediate assistance, fostering long-term empowerment and self-sufficiency within the community.



In addition, the partnership between UCU, local schools, barangays, and the local government is an example of how education can be leveraged as a powerful tool for social change. UCU's extension program is a concrete step toward achieving a poverty-free future, aligning with the Philippine government's national development goals and the global mandate to eradicate poverty. By working together, these entities are amplifying the impact of the program and contributing to broader social transformation efforts.

Looking ahead, UCU plans to expand the program to include additional barangays and schools, reaching even more marginalized communities. The university is also exploring opportunities to collaborate with NGOs, business organizations, and other stakeholders to enhance the impact of the program. As a result, the university is laying the groundwork





for a sustained and far-reaching effort that will continue to benefit local communities for years to come.

