

Assessing the Impact of Holistic Intervention Program for Children in Conflict with the Law (CICL) After Rehabilitation in Bahay Pag-Asa in Cauayan City, Isabela

Shun Wicliff Urbano¹, Jerome C. Arcangel², Trisia May M. Cordosoc³, Christian F. Gonzales⁴, Arnold T. Pascua⁵, Marvin Cabantac⁶, Joan A. Quilang⁷, Concordia Marie A. Lagasca-Hiloma^{8*}

¹⁻⁸School of Arts and Sciences, Isabela State University-Cauayan Campus, Philippines

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the impact of holistic intervention programs for Children in Conflict with the Law (CICL) who underwent rehabilitation at Bahay Pag-Asa. The research investigates the experiences of the children, challenges encountered during the intervention programs, strategies employed to address these challenges, the effects of the programs on rehabilitation, and the valuable lessons learned. The findings of the study show that while some children had positive experiences and benefited from vocational training, sports, and spiritual enhancement, others faced difficulties adapting to the structured environment and needed more personalized attention. The intervention programs positively influenced rehabilitation, increasing self-awareness, improved social skills, and enhanced vocational abilities. However, the study identified challenges like loneliness, homesickness, and social problems. The findings highlight the need for ongoing support, individualized interventions, and comprehensive reintegration strategies. This research contributes to understanding practical rehabilitation approaches for CICL and underscores the importance of holistic programs in promoting successful reintegration into society.

Keywords: Children in conflict with the Law, CICL, Bahay Pag-Asa, holistic intervention programs, rehabilitation, reintegration

Introduction

Over the past decade, the Philippines has observed a notable decline in crime rates committed by juvenile delinquents. For example, in 2018, the crime rate among sixteen to seventeen-year-olds saw a remarkable 30% reduction when compared to the crime statistics from 2017 (Macaraeg, 2019). Nevertheless, despite this decline, the prevalence of crimes

committed by children in conflict with the Law (CICL) remains a significant concern. For instance, the aforementioned 30% reduction reduced the figure from 7,131 to 5,044 cases (Macaraeg, 2019). Moreover, in 2020, the PNP Women and Children Protection Center reported 15,892 arrests, with 9,502 turned over to the Department of Social Welfare and Development, 2,447 sent back to their families, 3,111 remaining at large, and thirty-seven under the custody of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism [PCIJ], 2022). Recent years have witnessed an increase in the level of aggression among juvenile offenders. In 2020, 1,506 CICLs were involved in rape cases, 1,207 in drug-related offenses, 765 in theft, 1,452 in violation of RA 11332, and 10,079 in other crimes (PCIJ, 2022).

Republic Act 9344, also known as the Juvenile Justice Welfare Act of 2006, forms the foundation of juvenile justice in the Philippines. This legislative framework underscores the country's acknowledgment of the pivotal role played by children and youth in its development. The Law also emphasizes the State's unwavering commitment to nurturing and safeguarding the holistic welfare of Filipino children, covering their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social dimensions. After seven years, Republic Act 9344 was amended by Republic Act 10630, further strengthening the country's juvenile justice and youth welfare system by mandating local government units (LGUs) to establish Bahay Pag-Asa Centers. Translated as "House of Hope" in English, Bahay Pag-Asa centers are designed to provide a nurturing environment for CICLs, focusing on rehabilitation and support rather than confinement alongside adult inmates. Bahay Pag-Asa operates as a 24/7 child-care institution, established, funded, and supervised by local government units (LGUs), often in collaboration with licensed or accredited non-government organizations (NGOs).

Moreover, Bahay Pag-Asa centers are committed to implementing comprehensive intervention programs that begin at an early age, with the ultimate aim of proactively preventing recidivism and delinquent behavior during adolescence and adulthood. These centers adopt a holistic intervention approach, considering individuals in their entirety. This approach encompasses not only mental health but also physical, social, emotional, and spiritual well-being. The program encompasses a range of activities, including therapy, skill development, alternative learning, instruction, recovery, and family reintegration, as outlined by the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Council of the Republic of the Philippines in 2017. These programmatic techniques and systematic social protection initiatives are designed to enhance children's physical and social well-being, proactively deter juvenile delinquency, and interrupt or prevent re-offending, as indicated by Fabre et al. (2016).

Given these considerations, Bahay Pag-Asa plays a crucial role in the overall Juvenile Justice system of the Philippines. Experts recommend the continuous implementation of these programs to ensure the proper rehabilitation and restoration of children in conflict with the Law. Furthermore, the utilization and enhancement of these initiatives contribute significantly to the character and personality development of these children (Aala et al., 2013). Additionally, a collaborative effort between detention center personnel, parents, and community groups is necessary to address this issue (Turner, 2019). Therefore, the effectiveness of an intervention program relies on the wholehearted cooperation of the participants (Atianzar, 2022).

The literature on programs and activities aimed at rehabilitating Children in Conflict with the Law (CICL) is extensive, with ongoing research studies exploring this subject. One

of the earliest studies in this area was conducted by Collingwood and Genthner (1980), where they assessed skills training as a rehabilitation strategy. Their findings revealed that “skills, prior record, and race” were significant factors distinguishing recidivists from no recidivists (Collingwood & Genthner, 1980).

In 1990, Izzo and Ross (1990) conducted a comprehensive meta-analysis of 46 articles examining intervention programs for juvenile delinquents. Their research demonstrated that cognitive programs were “more than twice as effective as non-cognitive programs,” thus supporting the “cognitive model of offender rehabilitation” (Izzo & Ross, 1990). However, in a more recent systematic review, it was established that interventions with the highest efficacy in reducing recidivism included family-based interventions, particularly family therapy and community-based interventions. This is due to the multifaceted nature of juvenile delinquency, often stemming from family conflict, dysfunction, neglect, and maltreatment (Azami et al., 2023). Consequently, interventions should encompass the broader context involving family, peers, neighborhoods, schools, and the larger community to address the needs of juveniles effectively.

In the Philippines, there has been a noticeable upsurge in literature dedicated to the exploration of intervention and rehabilitation programs for CICL, including initiatives such as Bahay Pag-Asa. In 2020, Cortel (2020) conducted a study that delved into diversion programs, with a focus on the Bahay Pag-Asa program, serving as a center-based diversion offering “residential and rehabilitation facilities for CICL” (Cortel, 2020). The study revealed that programs promoting more meaningful and active participation yielded more engaging and impactful interventions (Cortel, 2020).

Similarly, in Luna’s study (2022), the research assessed the provision of social welfare services for CICLs at Bahay Pag-Asa. The results indicated that the increased availability of social welfare services for youth reformists enhanced the efficiency of support for CICL and resulted in higher satisfaction levels among Bahay Pag-Asa stakeholders (Luna, 2022). Furthermore, in a study by Bongbong et al. (2023), house parents who work with CICL were examined. It was found that cultivating strong connections with the children through trust, respect, effective communication, and empathy is crucial not only for the children’s growth and development but also for fostering harmonious relationships between them and their house parents.

Within the research conducted in the country, there is an apparent gap concerning the assessment of Bahay Pag-Asa’s effectiveness and its impact on the rehabilitation of CICL. Palomares (2018) investigated the experiences of CICL in one of the Bahay Pag-Asa facilities in the southern region of the country. Findings revealed various struggles faced by CICL, including a slow and prolonged litigation process and instances of human rights violations, such as the failure to inform accused individuals of their rights upon capture and poor living conditions in youth centers and correctional facilities like Bahay Pag-Asa.

This research aims to address the aforementioned gap. The primary objective of this study is to evaluate the impact of holistic intervention programs for CICL after their participation in Bahay Pag-Asa’s programs. Specifically, it seeks to answer the following research questions:

1. What were the experiences of the children who underwent holistic intervention programs in Bahay Pag-Asa?

2. What challenges did the children encounter during their participation in the intervention programs?
3. How did the children address these challenges in the intervention programs?
4. What were the effects of the intervention programs on the children's rehabilitation?
5. What valuable lessons did the children learn after undergoing rehabilitation in Bahay Pag-Asa?

By examining the experiences of CICL, this study aims to gain a deeper understanding of the effectiveness of holistic intervention programs and how they can be improved to better serve the needs of CICL, ultimately promoting their successful rehabilitation and reintegration.

METHODOLOGY

The research team opted for a qualitative research design to investigate the implementation of the intervention program for children in conflict with the Law (CICL). Specifically, they employed semi-structured interviews that allowed them to pose additional questions during the interviews for the purpose of seeking clarifications and deeper insights.

The participants selected for this study were former CICLs from Cauayan City, particularly those who had successfully completed intervention programs at the Bahay Pag-Asa center. This choice was made because they were the individuals who had firsthand experience with these intervention programs. A total of seven (N=7) former CICLs were chosen using the purposive sampling technique. Purposive sampling is a non-random sampling method wherein participants are selected based on specific characteristics or qualities that align with the research objectives.

All the respondents resided in Cauayan City, Isabela. Six out of the seven respondents were below the age of 18 when they were placed in Bahay Pag-Asa for rehabilitation. The age range of the individuals included in the study ranged from 13 to 20 years old. One respondent had a lengthy stay in Bahay Pag-Asa, exceeding seven years, while another remained for over four years, with the rest having shorter durations, less than two years.

The researchers conducted one-on-one interviews with each respondent using an interview guide designed to address the study's objectives. The questions were centered on the assessment of the children's experiences with holistic intervention programs. The interview guide was formulated based on the study's research questions, which were derived from existing literature and prior studies. Six open-ended interview questions were designed to gather information about the participants' experiences, challenges, and perceptions of the intervention programs, as well as to assess the effectiveness and impact of these programs on their lives.

The specific holistic intervention programs in question had been predetermined by the researchers prior to the interviews with the former CICL. The Head of the Bahay Pag-Asa Center identified these programs. Before conducting the interviews, the researchers provided each participant with a consent form. This form served as proof of their consent to be interviewed and contained a brief description of the study, including confidentiality and disclosure policies regarding the use of their real names during and after the study. Once the respondents signed the consent form, the interviewer informed them about the interview's commencement, as well as the recording process.

Following the interviews, the researchers transcribed the respondents' answers into written texts, referred to as raw data. These raw data were subsequently transformed into refined data to facilitate analysis. As part of the data refinement process, the researchers translated this information into English. The refined data underwent analysis using a thematic analysis approach.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. The Experiences of Children in Conflict with the Law with the Intervention Program in Bahay Pag-Asa.

Cultivation of Responsibility Through Caring for Plants

The intervention programs in Bahay Pag-Asa aim to help children in conflict with the Law (CICL) with their personal development in various ways. The findings reveal that agricultural activities, including vegetable cultivation and livestock rearing, have positively impacted the respondents. They expressed a newfound love for planting and learned practical skills such as farming, harvesting, and selling the produce for additional income. The gardening program provided physical exercise and contributed to their emotional well-being by reducing stress and improving their mood.

Overall, cultivating gardens within Bahay Pag-Asa's premises has proved beneficial in instilling patience, diligence, and a sense of responsibility among the CICL respondents as part of their rehabilitation process. A study showed that diversion programs, vocational training, livelihood skills training, fun games, and sports development were perceived to be more effective than other methods. Rehabilitated youth are reported to have adopted a better perspective on life and are coping with problems well. (Manuel, 2019.)

Livelihood Initiatives Aimed at Enhancing Income Opportunities and Practical Skills

The participants have acquired practical skills through various programs, including bead-making and rug-making. These skills have helped them become more self-sufficient, allowing them to rely less on others and make valuable contributions to their lives. Acquiring these skills gives individuals a feeling of achievement and lays the foundation for their future success and self-reliance. It also helps them develop a sense of independence and confidence, which can lead to more significant opportunities for personal growth. The interview findings highlight the significance of livelihood initiatives in enhancing income opportunities and practical skills among children in conflict with the Law (CICL). These livelihood initiatives have equipped the CICL participants with tangible skills and instilled a sense of responsibility, self-reliance, and confidence that can positively impact their prospects. By providing them with practical skills and income-generating activities, these initiatives are crucial in empowering the CICL participants and facilitating their successful reintegration into society.

Spiritual Enhancement Through Bible Sharing Enhancement

The interview results indicate that engagement in sharing and discussing the Bible within Bahay Pag-Asa has enhanced the participants' spiritual well-being. The participants expressed how their involvement in Bible study and prayer has deepened their connection with God and strengthened their faith. They highlighted the transformative impact of these

spiritual practices, noting that it has led them to reevaluate their actions and prioritize doing good. The participants also recognized the importance of spiritual development, acknowledging that it has helped them improve and find a purpose. These findings align with existing research that emphasizes the significance of spiritual development in youth work and its positive impact on personal growth and self-discovery. In a study, researchers note the positive impacts of spiritual development on youth. The authors propose that spiritual development involves, in part, the dynamic interplay of three dimensions: belonging and connecting, awareness and awakening, and a way of living. Three initial challenges and opportunities are emerging: empowering youth to explore core developmental issues, motivation and focus, and multisector engagement (Shek, 2012).

Recreational Activities: Way for Socialization and Interaction

Based on the interpretation of the interview results, it is evident that recreational activities, particularly sports like basketball, are essential in Children in Conflict with the Law (CICL) residing in Bahay Pag-Asa. These activities positively affect their physical and mental health, helping to alleviate stress and promote overall well-being. Engaging in team sports provides an avenue for socialization and interaction among the CICL, fostering bonds and friendships within the institution. The respondents' testimonies highlight sports' importance in building camaraderie, enjoying shared experiences, and developing essential skills like teamwork, leadership, and communication. By offering a secure and encouraging setting for sports activities, Bahay Pag-Asa plays a significant role in promoting the holistic development of CICL.

Facilitating the Development of Emotional Support for CICL in Need

Bahay Pag-Asa endeavors to foster self-awareness among children in conflict with the Law (CICL), thereby facilitating the development of emotional support for those in need. The organization achieves this by deeply understanding the distinct characteristics and emotional state of CICL. The results of the interviews highlight Bahay Pag-Asa's commitment to fostering self-awareness among children in conflict with the Law (CICL). The institution recognizes the importance of understanding the unique characteristics and emotional states of CICL, encompassing positive and negative traits, emotional assistance, and challenges they face. Bahay Pag-Asa aims to create opportunities for CICL to develop positive behaviors and attitudes by providing a safe and nurturing environment.

The staff members at Bahay Pag-Asa play a crucial role in supporting the self-awareness journey of the CICL by being available to listen, offering guidance and solutions to their problems, and encouraging open communication. Thus, creating a safe and supportive environment within Bahay Pag-Asa becomes crucial for its employees to promote open communication and cultivate positive relationships with the children (DuBois, 2021).

Development of Physical Health and IQ of CICL

Bahay Pag-Asa Pagasa provides a range of dynamic activities to monitor changes and achieve positive outcomes among children in conflict with the Law (CICL). Intelligence quotient (IQ) tests serve as instruments for assessing the cognitive aptitude and capacity of CICL.

The interviews reveal that Bahay Pag-Asa utilizes a range of dynamic activities, including IQ tests, to monitor changes and achieve positive outcomes among children in

conflict with the Law (CICL). The IQ tests serve as instruments for assessing the cognitive aptitude and capacity of CICL, measuring various cognitive abilities such as rational thinking, deductive reasoning, and problem-solving. The administration of IQ tests is deemed essential for evaluating the potential for learning and identifying patterns of strengths and weaknesses among CICL.

In addition to the cognitive assessments, Bahay Pag-Asa also offers wellness activities such as Zumba, which provide physical exercise and contribute to the overall well-being of the CICL. Engaging in Zumba activities promotes physical fitness and creates an alternative environment for the CICL to form new social connections and establish interpersonal relationships. These dynamic activities contribute to the holistic development and positive outcomes for the CICL within the Bahay Pag-Asa program.

B. Challenges Encountered by CICL in the Intervention Program

The results revealed that the problems encountered with the Intervention Program were loneliness, homesickness, and social problems such as engaging with new people, unfamiliar environments, misunderstanding with other CICLs, and unfair treatment. The CICL addressed these challenges through an intervention program. The children in conflict with the Law (CICL) adapted to their new environment and interacted with people by utilizing the knowledge and skills they acquired through the intervention program. The first few days of CICL in engaging intervention program are their most challenging time. To engage in any intervention wholly, CICL must feel belongingness and comfort. Hence, the Bahay Pag-Asa must recognize the social engagement of social workers and other children in conflict with the Law (CICL) towards newly detained CICL as an essential factor in the intervention program. Snehil and Sagar (2020) conducted a study revealing the intricate relationship between the Juvenile justice system (JJS) and the mental health of the juveniles involved. Children in conflict with the Law (CICL) need care and protection because it has a higher prevalence of mental health and substance use-related problems. This study suggests that Mental health professionals can play a significant role in realizing this goal by contributing at all levels: mental health promotion, preventing juveniles from coming in contact with JJS, treating juveniles in contact with JJS, and subsequent rehabilitation. The current viewpoint highlights the crucial mental health aspects of juveniles involved.

Misunderstanding and Lack of Clear Communication

The issue regarding self-awareness among CICLs and their house parent stems from a need for more transparent communication and understanding. CICL believes that it is respectful to listen to the houseparent. CICL also learned the importance of surrendering and communicating with God. The CICL, in this situation, felt anxious about the employee of Bahay Pag-Asa, leading them to question what was happening. However, the respondents found a way to address this by praying. The CICL highly valued the houseparent's guidance and advice because he saw it as a way to change his attitude and behavior.

The interviews highlight the multidisciplinary approach the Bahay Pag-Asa program employs, which involves a diverse group of professionals, including social workers, house parents, psychometricians, physicians, nurses, and educators. The house parents play a crucial role in executing the intervention plan and ensuring the safety and well-being of the children in their care.

Adjustment of CICL into New Environment and Unfamiliar People

Adapting to unfamiliar situations or surroundings is essential to CICL development and growth. The given issue at hand pertains to the concept of adaptation, which refers to an approach utilized by CICL to manage the changes effectively. Adaptation is crucial for CICL to transition into adulthood and become productive members of society. With the ability to adapt, CICL can handle daily challenges and experience difficulties in their personal lives. Therefore, programs aimed at CICL development and growth must prioritize the development of adaptive skills.

The interviews shed light on the significance of adaptation in the development and growth of CICL. Successfully transitioning into adulthood and integrating into society necessitates the ability to adapt to unfamiliar situations and surroundings. The respondents highlighted the challenges they initially faced in adapting, such as difficulty making new connections and the fear of being hurt by others.

Misunderstandings with other CICL

Inefficient communication can result in numerous misinterpretations or conflicts as well. These consequences can encompass committing errors or inaccuracies in task completion, experiencing emotional distress, encouraging conflicts, or creating social distance among CICL. These challenges can also affect their self-esteem and ability to form positive relationships. Furthermore, these challenges may also affect their ability to form and maintain positive relationships with other CICLs. Therefore, professionals working with CICL need to provide tailored support and interventions that address these specific barriers to success. (Young et al., 2017). Hence, to address these barriers, professionals working with CICL should prioritize effective communication and provide tailored support to enhance their communication skills and overall well-being. By promoting transparent and effective communication, professionals can contribute to the successful reintegration of CICL into society.

Coping with Homesickness: Navigating Separation from Family in Bahay Pag-Asa

Homesickness relates to the mental distress that arises when CICL is in an unfamiliar and unusual setting, separated from their familiar and habitual environment. Various factors can trigger this feeling, such as being away from family and friends, experiencing culture shock, or feeling overwhelmed by new responsibilities. Bahay Pag-Asa employees must recognize the signs of homesickness and provide support to help CICL adjust to its new surroundings. Encouraging communication, providing opportunities for socialization, and offering reassurance can all help alleviate feelings of homesickness.

Homesickness, which is associated with general distress, depression, and anxiety, has a significant impact on children's well-being. Further research is necessary to investigate interventions and support to improve homesickness and enhance children's overall well-being. (Demetriou et al., 2022).

The intervention programs and the support from the social workers reveal their effectiveness in helping cope with homesickness. Bahay Pag-Asa employees must recognize the signs of homesickness and create a welcoming environment that encourages communication, socialization, and reassurance.

C. Addressing the Problems of CICL Regarding Intervention Programs

The results show that the intervention program of Bahay Pag-Asa is an excellent help to Children in conflict with the Law (CICL) to cope with the problems they face inside the center.

They solve their problem by telling their house parents inside the center about their problems. Sometimes, whenever they have a misunderstanding, instead of fighting, they redirect their attention by playing basketball or seeking guidance through prayer and from the Lord. They let their heads cool down before talking to their fellow CICLs. It means that CICLs can handle every problem they face correctly, and CICLs can apply what they have learned in Bahay Pag-Asa's intervention program. The result also shows how social workers' attitudes and mindsets affect the CICL's ability to successfully navigate the difficulties of dealing with their problems.

A study supports this result, which states that the children experienced several stressors, particularly about the status of their cases, the situation of their families back home, their modular learning, and their mutual relationships. Nevertheless, the children employed active and positive coping mechanisms to alleviate their worries. Specifically, these were performing productive tasks, engaging in recreational activities, seeking social support, and spiritual activities (Valera, 2022).

D. Effectiveness of Intervention Programs in Bahay Pag-Asa

The interview results indicate that the Bahay Pag-Asa programs effectively facilitate positive changes, personal growth, and improved relationships. Respondents highlighted the guidance and support provided by the staff, emphasizing the role of staff members as guides and mentors. The programs instilled positive behavior changes, enhanced problem-solving and coping skills, and fostered self-improvement.

These findings highlight the comprehensive and holistic approach taken by Bahay Pag-Asa in empowering CICL graduates. The programs have successfully provided a supportive and transformative environment by addressing their emotional, social, spiritual, and vocational needs. The respondents' testimonials further reinforce the effectiveness of these programs in bringing about meaningful changes in their lives.

The interpretation of these results emphasizes the importance of tailoring interventions to meet the diverse needs of individuals who have faced challenging circumstances. It emphasizes the significance of providing practical skills, emotional support, a sense of belonging, and opportunities for personal growth and spiritual development. By combining these elements, Bahay Pag-Asa has created a comprehensive framework that empowers children who conflict with the Law to overcome adversity and embrace positive change.

E. Impact and Learning

The interview results highlight the transformative impact of the intervention programs in Bahay Pag-Asa on the respondents' lives. The programs have played a significant role in personal development and empowerment, leading to positive attitudes, skills acquisition, and decision-making changes. The thematic analysis reveals the positive perception of the effectiveness of programs in Bahay Pag-Asa as the respondents discussed the impact and learning outcomes resulting from their engagement with the intervention programs. They emphasized the importance of critical thinking, considering the consequences of their actions,

and developing respect for others. The acquisition of practical skills, such as planting, cooking, and housework, was highlighted as valuable in their daily lives. Engaging in social activities, such as learning to play basketball and socializing with others, contributed to their personal growth and enhanced their ability to socialize effectively.

The respondents also reported specific areas of personal development, including cultivating patience and temper control, improved discernment in recognizing genuine and fake individuals, and a focus on self-care and agriculture skills. They emphasized the significance of these skills and attitudes in leading a positive and productive life outside of Bahay Pag-Asa.

This result aligns with the findings from various related studies. One study found that most CICL graduates in Malolos Tanglaw Center and Valenzuela Bahay Pag-Asa considered the programs “helpful” towards their rehabilitation. The programs implemented in these centers encompass components such as home life, health care, education, values formation, recreation and sports, and skills development. These findings support the effectiveness of the programs in Bahay Pag-Asa in empowering CICL graduates and enhancing their overall well-being.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, evaluating the holistic intervention programs for Children in conflict with the Law (CICL) in Bahay Pag-Asa demonstrates their significant impact on personal development, behavior improvement, and social integration. The intervention programs have successfully addressed the emotional, social, spiritual, and vocational needs of the CICL. The findings highlight several key points.

Firstly, the intervention programs have been instrumental in helping CICL develop their social, emotional, physical, intellectual, and spiritual selves. The programs have provided opportunities for personal growth, skill acquisition, and improved self-image. CICLs have become more accountable and responsible through their engagement in household tasks and active participation in the center. The programs have fostered positive behavior and attitudes, enabling CICL to reintegrate into society successfully.

Secondly, the intervention programs have effectively addressed the problems encountered by CICL within the center. Loneliness, anxiety, and social difficulties were common challenges, but the intervention programs equipped CICL with the necessary tools to cope and adjust. Establishing a supportive and nurturing environment and the involvement of social workers and fellow CICLs played a crucial role in facilitating their adaptation and social engagement.

Thirdly, the study emphasizes the importance of the intervention programs’ holistic approach, which includes nurturing relationships, mentorship, spirituality, and vocational skills development. These elements have contributed significantly to the overall transformation and personal development of the CICL. The programs have empowered them to make positive choices, build meaningful relationships, and envision a brighter future.

Therefore, intervention programs seek to promote children’s behavior and attitudes in conflict with the Law (CICL) to foster their development into responsible and productive individuals. These programs provide opportunities for CICL to acquire social and occupational skills and improve their self-image through various activities that aid in developing trust among individuals towards others. Overall, evaluating the holistic

intervention programs in Bahay Pag-Asa showcases their effectiveness in promoting positive changes, individual development, and enhanced interpersonal connections among CICL. These programs play a crucial role in empowering CICL to overcome adversity, reintegrate into society, and become valuable members of their communities.

LIMITATIONS AND IMPLICATION

This study has a number of limitations. Firstly, the study has a relatively small sample size. While the researchers selected seven former CICLs for their study, a larger sample size could have provided more comprehensive insights and a broader perspective. Generalizing the findings to a larger population of CICL may be limited due to the small sample. It is recommended, then, that future researchers aim to employ a much larger sample size.

Secondly, the study focused on CICLs from Cauayan City who had experienced the intervention programs at Bahay Pag-Asa. The cultural and regional differences may have influenced the experiences and perceptions of the participants. Hence, the findings of the study cannot be generalized. Hence, the researchers recommend employing a research methodology that employs probabilistic sampling.

In addition, the researchers acknowledge that the respondents might have been inclined to provide socially desirable answers, especially when discussing their experiences in a rehabilitation program. They might have been hesitant to reveal negative experiences or challenges due to fear of judgment or repercussions, which could affect the accuracy of the data collected. It is recommended, then, that future researchers employ a quantitative research study in order to address such biases.

Lastly, a study provides a snapshot of the experiences and impact of the intervention programs at Bahay Pag-Asa. It does not capture the long-term effects and trajectories of CICL after their rehabilitation. A longitudinal study is then recommended in order to fully assess the lasting impact of these programs.

Despite these limitations, the study's results remain meritorious. Firstly, the findings highlight the positive impact of the intervention programs at *Bahay Pag-Asa* on the personal development of CICL. These programs should be continually reviewed and enhanced to ensure that they remain effective in addressing the evolving needs of CICL. Regular feedback from participants can help in this process.

Additionally, policymakers and government agencies should take note of the positive outcomes of holistic intervention programs like those at *Bahay Pag-Asa*. This study's findings can be used to advocate for increased funding and support for such programs, emphasizing their role in reducing recidivism and promoting the successful reintegration of CICL into society. Likewise, the study highlights the role of house parents and social workers in supporting CICL during their rehabilitation. Providing adequate training and resources for these personnel is essential to maintaining the effectiveness of the programs.

Lastly, the study identifies several areas of interest for further research, such as the long-term impact of rehabilitation, the effectiveness of different program components, and the experiences of CICL in other regions. Future researchers should continue to explore these aspects to contribute to the improvement of rehabilitation programs for CICL.

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