



Boy Scouts of the Philippines

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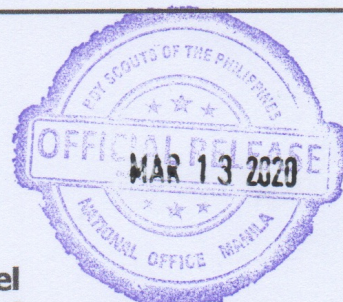
12 March 2020

NATIONAL OFFICE MEMORANDUM

No. 27 , s. 2020

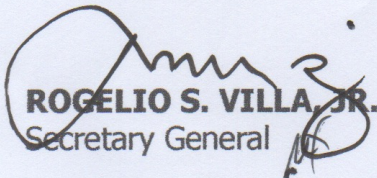
TO : National Office Directors and Personnel
Regional Scout Directors and Personnel
Council Scout Executives/Officers-in-Charge and Personnel

SUBJECT : Amid COVID-19, Take Care



1. The world is living in uncertainty. Nowhere in recent history where countries across the globe are getting more anxious due to the uncontrollable spread of the dreaded Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Governments are scampering for measures to lessen the impact of the disease. Today, the whole world is groping in the dark, not knowing how and when this nightmare would end. Some citizens are now in the state of panic, which only added some problems for the government. Our country is no exception. Sooner or later, our government will take more drastic actions to mitigate the effect of the "pandemic".
2. As Scouts, we are called upon to be ready. Our motto "Be Prepared" must find its meaning today as we shall be constrained to apply this in any eventualities. We cannot be the solution, or even part of the solution at the moment, but we can help the government or the society in every little way we can to lessen the problem, by not being the problem.
3. The government, through the Department of Health, has been issuing updates to inform the public about the current situation. As Scouts, let us take CARE and follow these steps in the midst of the growing COVID-19 threat:
 - a. **BE CONSCIOUS** – As Scouts, we must be aware of the situation. We must be conscious of our surrounding. As such, take proper care to lessen the probability of contamination. When in public, do not touch everything. Avoid crowded places. Be mindful of the comfort rooms and other places frequented by people. Be wary of anyone you talk to. Always take necessary precautions when you get out of your home, or better still, stay at home if you have nothing important to do outside. It is no time to socialize and it is the best time to use your mobile phones and the social media to communicate.
 - b. **BE ALERT** – Always be attentive of the news, be watchful of the condition in the community and be observant of what is happening in your own home. Be wary of what you read on social media, they may be fake news. Please do not spread fake news. Avoid sharing it in your social media if you are not sure of its veracity.

- c. **BE READY** – If you find yourself facing the problem head-on, you must be prepared to take necessary actions to save yourself, your family, or the community. If you think you are experiencing the symptoms of the COVID-19, go to the hospital and have yourself checked by health workers. Call local authorities if you think you found someone being afflicted by the disease. Always wash your hands with soap, sanitize with alcohol and avoid large crowds.
- d. **DO NOT PANIC** – Keep calm. You may be doing more harm than good to yourself and to other people if you panic. Avoid panic-buying of soap, alcohol, sanitizer and basic food supply. Other people need them too. Again, always remember that if we cannot be the solution, let us not be the problem. Panicking will only further push you to the edge and do drastic things that may even complicate the situation.
4. Now is the time to prove again that we are Scouts, Always Prepared!
5. For information, guidance and widest dissemination.


ROGELIO S. VILLA, JR.
Secretary General

PRCO/nmc