

### MFP highlights nutrition month celebration in CDO

In celebration of this year's "Nutrition Month", the Milk Feeding Program (MFP) of the National Dairy Authority (NDA) launched the Milk Feeding Program for 1<sup>st</sup> district of Cagayan de Oro City on July 9, 2013 at the Macanhan Elementary School (MES), Macanhan, Carmen, Cagayan de Oro City.

The MFP in the district is the 2<sup>nd</sup> feeding program that was launched covering 1,204 pupils/beneficiaries from eight (8) public elementary schools.



Cheers to milk! Cheers to good health! This marks the beginning of a daily supply of milk for 120 feeding days.



The selected MES students in their Nutrition Jingle that they bagged 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Inter-School Jingle Competition.



The MES Drum and Lyre Corps.

The nutrition month celebration in MES is a fun filled event that started with a parade of students donning nutrition inspired hats advocating the consumption of healthy foods such as milk, fruits and vegetables. A show case of talents spiced up the occasion from the drum and lyre presentation, dance, music, and jingle presentation that the school won as 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Nutrition Month inter-school Jingle Competition. The MFP launching was highlighted with the attendance of the officers of the City Nutrition Office, the Department of Education (DepEd), and the Parents-Teachers Association (PTA).

A series of messages of support was delivered by the different MFP partners. The event enabled the implementing agencies the opportunity to present the program and encourage active participation not only among the implementers but also the parents and their children. The district school Nurse Nicole Salido praised the Mr. Duque A. Caguindangan-School Principal for actively supporting the program by being the first in the district to purchase a weighing scale that will be very helpful in monitoring the nutritional progress of the children. Meanwhile, DepEd Medical Officer Dr. Baldomero Mark B. Meso said that it is very difficult to teach a hungry child, thus he reasoned that since the children are our national treasure, our greatest joy, it is a great challenge for every Filipino take care of them and to feed them well.

The Mindanao MFP Milk Shot Program targets to feed 58,718 malnourished children, about 37,130 is allocated for Northern Mindanao. At present, 14,060 children beneficiaries in Northern Mindanao have been enrolled in the 6 months feeding program. The milk served in the MFP is supplied by the local dairy farmer cooperatives in the region.

Providing daily milk for the children is a timely campaign that appropriately and directly supports this years' nutrition month theme: ***Gutom at malnutrition, sama-sama nating wakasan, pagkain ng gulay ugaliin, araw-araw itong ihain.***