



**DLSZ Statement on the Alleged Food Poisoning of Beneficiaries of Goodbye Gutom Project in Sitio Makabuhay, Brgy. Poblacion, Muntinlupa City
(Issued on September 23, 2018, 11:00am)**

The Administration of De La Salle Santiago Zobel School (DLSZ) expresses its sincere apologies and regret to the residents of Sitio Makabuhay, Barangay Poblacion, Muntinlupa City for the unfortunate incident that may have resulted from the September 22, 2018 feeding program called Goodbye Gutom that the school has been conducting for the past four years. Although the alleged food poisoning and the cause for it has yet to be ascertained, DLSZ is exhausting all efforts to assist the affected families in coordination with Muntinlupa Mayor Jaime Fresnedi, Poblacion Brgy. Captain Allen Ampaya, the City Health Office through Dr. Magdalena Meana, Mr. Rommel Abad of the City Sanitation Office, and the Ospital ng Muntinlupa through its Chief, Dr. Edwin Dimatatac.

There were 220-250 residents of mixed age groups who were served a breakfast meal of sautéed ground pork, rice, boiled eggs, bananas, and bottled water at around 8:30 in the morning. Of the 111 individuals who were rushed to the Ospital ng Muntinlupa beginning 4:00 in the afternoon of September 22, 110 have already been discharged as of early Sunday morning, September 23, 2018. The remaining patient is still undergoing tests as of press time.

Once again, DLSZ will continue to monitor the residents who are now recuperating and will extend all possible means to help them. The school has suspended the Goodbye Gutom Program until we have come to identify the root cause of this unfortunate event and will put in place appropriate measures to avoid a similar occurrence in the future.

For updates or concerns, please contact Mrs. Suzette Balgos, Head of DLSZ's Advancement & Communications Office at mobile no. +639178597590 or email adcomm@dlszobel.edu.ph.

UPDATE as of September 24, 2018

The last patient who suffered from vomiting was released from the Ospital ng Muntinlupa after lunch yesterday, September 23, 2018, and is back to his normal activities today.

The School, in coordination with the Barangay officials, continues to monitor the health conditions of the patients and to make sure that any prescribed medication is taken.