Research Article

Strengthening Community Mobilization Program: Its Implication on Building Police-Community Relations

Annabel A. Boller-Piol*, Cristina D. Gonzales, Karmela M. Malapit, Lourdelyn S. Olivar, Alex J. Vega, Elizabeth B. Villa, Wilfredo D. Dalugdog

De La Salle University – Dasmariñas (DLSU-D), Dasmariñas, Cavite, Philippines

ABSTRACT

This study determined the implications of strengthening community mobilization programs for building police community relations in Batangas Province and utilized a descriptive-quantitative approach with the use of a self-constructed questionnaire based on the parameters of PRO 4A MC No. 2017-02. A total of 392 respondents (15 PCADU personnel and 377 residents from the 13 certified mobilized barangays of Bauan, Batangas) were chosen as the respondents of the study through stratified proportional sampling. The data was gathered two weeks before it was completed and treated with statistical tools such as percentage, weighted mean, and independent t-test. The study revealed that most of the police personnel are Police Corporal, under 5 years in PCADU, and have acquired PCAD Course, Online PCAD Executive Course, and Preparedness Search and Rescue and Relief Operation Seminar. Meanwhile, majority of the community members belong to the middle class, businessman, and live in a rural community. Moreover, the majority of PCADU personnel described CMPs in terms of community organization, community information and education, community empowerment and mobilization, and certification of mobilized barangays as always implemented, with weighted mean of 3.24, 3.23, 3.25, and 3.27, respectively, while the community members described them as often implemented, with weighted mean of 3.18, 3.17, 3.19, and 3.21, respectively. Majority of the respondents strongly agreed on the effects of strengthening CMPs, with weighted mean of 3.29 and 3.23, respectively. The output of the study is a proposed input to help improve the sustainability of CMPs in Batangas Province based on the least-rated items.

Keywords: *Community mobilization program, Mobilized barangay, Police community relations, Police community affairs development unit*

Introduction

Community mobilization programs play a crucial role in fostering positive interactions and relationships between law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve. The concept of community mobilization encompasses various strategies aimed at engaging community members in partnership with the police to address safety and security issues, enhance trust, and promote cooperation. This study delves into the impact of strengthening community mobilization programs on the development and maintenance of positive police-community relations.

The CMP helps sectors and organizations in each community develop creative, community-based projects that address crime's core causes and manifestations (Foster, 2004). The Memorandum Circular No. 2017-02 also outlines strategic ideas and provides directions for implementing the Police Regional Office (PRO) CALABARZON Crime Prevention Program. A powerful and sustained community defense system against lawlessness and crime is the goal. Successful law enforcement relies on police-community connections. Police-community relations are essential to building trust. Police work suffers without trust. Even if police deter crime, people lack confidence and do not feel protected. Police sometimes struggle to get communities to fight crime together. Help is needed to enhance police-community relations.

Police-community relations are fundamental to the effectiveness of law enforcement efforts and the overall well-being of communities. Positive relations between the police and the community contribute to increased public trust, improved crime reporting, and more effective crime prevention and resolution strategies. Conversely, strained relations can lead to mistrust, reduced cooperation, and heightened tensions, ultimately hindering law enforcement objectives and community safety (LEAP, 2023).

The concept of community policing has evolved significantly over the years, shifting from traditional reactive approaches to proactive, community-centered strategies. Early models of community policing emphasized the importance of police visibility and engagement with the community. However, contemporary approaches recognize the need for deeper collaboration, problem-solving, and community empowerment through mobilization efforts. Community mobilization programs serve as catalysts for strengthening police-community relations by fostering mutual understanding, collaboration, and shared responsibility for public safety. These programs often involve a range of activities such as community meetings, neighborhood watch programs, youth outreach initiatives, and joint problem-solving efforts between police and community stakeholders.

Community empowerment and mobilization will keep the community engaged by letting residents share decision-making and responsibilities with the police and administration and listening to their concerns about important issues. Community volunteers can improve internal security, disaster preparedness and response, environmental protection, and conflict resolution. These volunteers can also promote crime prevention and other instructive programs. Several criminal justice systems worldwide are now focusing on working with these communities and organized groupings. It appears that only the Philippines has recognized the Community Pillar as a part of the criminal justice system. Community policing, which considers the community as a collaborator in problem-solving and crime prevention, has reimagined this essential government obligation and influenced additional criminal justice pillars or organizations. The US prosecution sends prosecutors to neighborhood offices and police precincts to bring legal competence to local populations. Public defenders are considering direct community legal representation. As courts open, a new legal culture views crime as lowering the community's quality of life.

The former regional director Aplasca emphasized that in "the absence of one of the anatomies of the crime, the motive, the instrumentality, and the opportunity, the crime will not prosper," and that establishing a strong and long-lasting community defense system against lawlessness and criminality is the main goal of the Community Mobilization Project that was recently created and launched (Luzano, 2017). Hence, under the Whole-of-Nation Approach,

all participating government agencies and units under the direction of PRO CALABARZON and the Regional Department and Interior Local Government (DILG) Office shall conduct area studies, evaluate, and assess the impact of criminality and drug use on the barangays, and then carry out programs and operations to clear the affected barangay's and reduce crime incidents.

PRO CALABARZON implements a "Community Mobilization Project" by organizing the community into clusters, educating them on crime prevention, empowering them with training to improve their skills, and certifying barangay units that have mobilized their communities to maintain peace and order and promote public safety. The execution process has four phases: community organization under "forging partnership" (strategic priority areas), community information and education under Fostering Awareness and Ownership, community empowerment and mobilization, and certification of a mobilized barangay. The barangay chief executives are the main players in this project, although other parties will help mobilize citizens for crime prevention and public safety.

Batangas PPO used many police-community initiatives to promote advocacy and help the government's battle against crime and drugs. Batangas PPO had 213 certified mobilized barangays under the Community Mobilization Program from May 2021 to August 2022 to help communities fight common issues, including peace and order. Cluster leaders and members identify and solve community needs and actively contribute to solutions. They collaborate with the PNP on creative, community-based programs that address crime's root causes and symptoms.

A recent study of Sanchez and Muscato (2023) on community-police relations indicated that police pressure to arrest leads to tensions. Arrest numbers were sometimes the only indicator of police performance for years. Those studies counted monthly arrests, misdemeanors or felonies, and convictions. Police officers were evaluated only based on these numbers, which pressured them to be arrested. It was prioritized over other important components of police, such as daily community service. Officers can balance crime investigation and community interaction without arrest quotas. By suggesting police-community relations improvements. The study reveals that transparency, visibility, and police business access are key factors in building confidence. Making this information more accessible helps the public understand police actions. Transparency can be enhanced by posting police reports and other public information on the agency website, being visible, and hosting community conversations. Trusting the police is simpler when people assume they know what they are doing.

Between January 2021 and December 2022, crime decreased by 539 instances, or 14.69%. However, 960 operations were performed against most Wanted Persons (MWPs) from January to December 2022, arresting 977 MWPs and Other Wanted Persons. In the drug war, the Batangas Police Provincial Office (PPO) launched 1,357 operations and arrested 1,511 people. The statistics demonstrate that this is a sign of the growing peace and order crisis, which has disproportionately hurt the poor. Despite efforts, the difficulties persist and worsen social issues. The PNP appears to have ignored the grassroots issue despite various programs and activities. It is apparent that the PNP cannot improve peace and order without community support.

According to Muscato (2021), law enforcement efficiency often depends on how well officers connect with their communities. This beautiful community has average wealth, education, and crime. However, this area has a major drawback. Local police and locals get along poorly. Police fear the public will treat them unfairly. Tension is rising.

The dynamics of police-community relations have evolved significantly over the past decade, influenced by societal shifts, technological advancements, and evolving policing philosophies. Recent literature emphasizes the importance of building trust, promoting transparency, and engaging in meaningful dialogue with diverse communities to improve the legitimacy and effectiveness of law enforcement efforts (Tyler, 2016; Bradford et al., 2020 as cited by Nilsson and Johnsson, 2023).

Thus, the researchers were motivated to explore CMP strengthening because community mobilization is crucial because each member is liable for and affected by safety and security. Conversely, police crime prevention efforts will fail without community mobilization. Many law enforcement agencies are finding that neighborhood citizens can provide valuable input. By reporting local crime, citizens can aid police investigations. The police and community benefit from teamwork. This study examined various successful community/police partnerships to understand them. Finding out who was involved and why alliances were formed was the goal. The report also identified the partnerships' goals and tactics for achieving them, as well as many methods police departments use to address social concerns.

Further, the results of this study are deemed beneficial to both police personnel and community members all over the country. As we try to study and understand the implications of strengthening community mobilization programs for building police-community relations, we will be able to appreciate the fact that the police depend on the community to report crimes, cooperate as witnesses, and even look out for themselves and other officers. Police work runs much more smoothly with the trust and cooperation of the community. This results in lower crime rates, more effective police investigations, and an overall safer community. Strengthening communities and the roles of individuals in building community life can help prevent disease and disability and expand resources for promoting social justice.

Literature Review
1.1 Police Community Relations Program in the Selected Barangay of Tabuk City

The study of Leyaley (2021) centered on the Tabuk City barangay's chosen Police Community Relations Program. The community it serves is thus a part of the Philippine National Police as an organization. The public is a source of both support and criticism for the police, and more importantly, it serves as the yardstick by which the effectiveness of the police force and the quality of its services are ultimately evaluated. Community interactions are more complicated than just having a conversation and reaching consensus on certain subjects. Instead, it comprises of a carefully planned program with involvement from the criminal justice and community sectors. Good community relations are necessary, but they cannot be the entire duty of the police or any other single government body. This suggests that the PNP-PCR staff members are accessible to the public to provide assistance and ensure public awareness. Programs for preventing crime and disseminating information are widely used. This suggests that the PNP-PCR team is quite successful in implementing their police community programs. For everyone to be aware of the Police Community Relation Programs, there may be an equitable distribution on the execution of PCR programs in each Barangay within the City. The PNP-PCR may continue to publicize their program to further enhance each Barangay.

1.2 Effectiveness of the Boac Police Community Relations Section in Terms of Crime Prevention in the Seaside Barangays of Boac, Marinduque: Assessment

The study conducted by Hermosa and Mabutot (2017) dealt with the effectiveness of the community relations division of the Boac Police in terms of reducing crime in the beachfront barangays of Boac, Marinduque. Many law enforcement organizations are forming cooperative partnerships within their communities to reduce crime more effectively and efficiently. Trust between the general public and police agencies is facilitated by these connections. Police officers, business owners, civic leaders, social service and healthcare providers, and other community members may form partnerships. The neighborhood has not contributed much to law enforcement initiatives in the past. However, a lot of law enforcement organizations are discovering that neighborhood residents can be a great resource for advice and knowledge. Citizens can help police with their investigations by giving them information about the unique crime issues in their neighborhoods. Both the police and the community benefit from the collaborations. To better understand community/police collaborations, this study looked into a number of successful partnerships. Finding out who was involved

and why the alliances were created was the goal. The research also aimed to identify the partnerships' objectives and the strategies employed to meet those objectives. The report also identifies several techniques that police departments successfully employ to address societal issues.

1.3 The Impact of Community Policing on Attitudes and Public Safety in the Philippines

As for the study of Haim et al. (2018) about the Philippines' community policing's effects on behavior and public safety. Community-oriented policing techniques be put into effect in a way that steadily raises public confidence in the police and lowers crime in places where the legitimacy of the state is low. Researchers in the Philippines looked at how a community policing program affected outcomes in terms of public safety and attitudes toward the police. The intervention blended problem-focused policing with community involvement. The primary outcomes of interest, such as crime victimization, security perceptions, citizen opinions of the police, police abuse, and citizen cooperation with the police, were found to be unaffected by the intervention. The capacity of the state to provide public goods and services is constrained by low legitimacy and a lack of confidence. This issue is particularly relevant to policing since officer's need knowledge about community events to deliver services effectively and efficiently. The location of crime hotspots, information about suspicious individuals or activities, complaints of crimes that have already occurred, and information about the most important issues are all provided to the police by the public. The little resources the police have are allocated by the police using this information to deter crime and maintain public safety.

This entire system collapses when people lose faith in the police officers. In situations where the legitimacy of the state is questioned, collaboration between the police and the community, also known as community policing, may increase public trust and improve police ability to enforce the law. Few research, meanwhile, have examined how these treatments affect measures of crime and trust. Researchers assessed how a community policing program

affected outcomes in terms of public safety and perceptions toward the police. The intervention was carried out in two phases and blended community involvement with problem-focused policing.

1.4 Mobilizing the Community for Improved Criminal Justice Administration

In the study of Zafra (2005) it is stated that the effects of seeing communities as partners in the imposition of criminal sanctions are currently being studied by correctional institutions. With foundation financing for anti-violence initiatives in particular, the private sector has weighed in on a variety of fronts. The National Institute of Justice Journal made note of the burgeoning, long-lasting relationships that communities are forming with the various criminal justice system components as partners in combating crime and disorder in several situations. The community mobilization based on some observation that "it is impossible to overemphasize the enormous importance of people's doing things themselves" more than fifty years ago. These comments have sparked a lot of curiosity about what the full potential of community involvement, people taking action on their own to fight crime, might be. The potential of communities can be seen in the numerous groups of people who, through coordinated efforts/action, march, gather petition signatures, exert pressure on public officials, organize neighborhood street watches, open youth recreation centers, launch tutoring programs for homeless children, create shelters for battered women, and most importantly draw attention to the very real toll that crime exacts on the quality of both individual and communal life. The ability to collaborate with these communities and organized groups has recently come to the attention of several criminal justice systems throughout the world.

Although from what has been gathered, this has only happened in the Philippines, the Community Pillar has now been formally recognized as a component of the Criminal Justice System. Not only has this fundamental government duty been reimagined because of the community policing ideology, which views the community as a collaborator in problem

solving and crime prevention, but other criminal justice pillars or agencies have been inspired to follow suit. To bring legal competence closer to local communities, prosecution in the USA, for instance, assigns prosecutors to neighborhood-based offices and police precincts. The possibility of providing more direct community access to legal representation is being looked upon by public defenders. A new legal culture that regards crime as undermining the quality of life of the communities where it is perpetrated is emerging as courts open their procedures.

1.5 Police Community Relations

According to Obmerga (2014) police should have good ties with the public, and the community needs police help and collaboration to be effective. Good police-community connections encourage people to report crimes, provide tips, volunteer as witnesses, and participate in jury trials. Good police-community interactions help police comprehend public concerns, especially crime-related ones. Thus, police become more proactive, preventing or mitigating crimes rather than just responding to cries for help. Good police-community relations caution against the public perception that police are intelligence gatherers. Police-community tensions can cause mistrust, hatred, and terror. People may think the police are biased. Police may feel accountable for social issues and underpaid. Dialogue for Change programs help people build lasting relationships. People from different backgrounds solve problems together.

1.6 Level of Performance of Police Community Relations of Trece Martires City Component Police Station Against Crime and Criminality

In the study conducted by Branca and Sombrio (2017) gave emphasis on the premise that everyone is concerned about how well the Trece Martires City Component Police Station's police community relations combat crime and criminality and promote a safe and peaceful community. However, this concern is hampered by the community's deviant behavior, so the police organization established a unit to lead in promoting community relations to

strengthen the relationship between the police and the community. The purpose of this study was to assess the performance of the PCR, TMCCPS in terms of the programs it implemented and through community policing, as well as the efficacy of the programs it implemented. A self-made survey questionnaire was given to 150 members of the community and 15 police officers, making a total of 165 participants. The descriptive method was used because it entails the description, recording, analysis, and interpretation of gathered data. The outcome shows that the police participants judged the PCR to be extremely successful and well-implemented to deter crime and criminality. In terms of how the community perceived them, the programs' effectiveness in preventing crimes and criminality was only moderate. As a result, there were notable differences between how the community and the police saw the PCR's effectiveness in combating crime and criminality. To maintain peace and order and protect the neighborhood from crime and criminality, the community offered a variety of plans for PCR enhancement.

1.8 Policing, Procedural Justice and Prevention

The study of Hough et al., (2017) ascertained that procedural justice is receiving increasing global attention both as a way of improving the legitimacy of policing and because styles of policing associated with procedural justice seem to be associated with improvements in community-police relations and reductions in crime. This chapter locates procedural justice theory within a broader framework of compliance theories and summarizes the main features of the theory. The authors have developed, refined, and tested procedural justice theory in Europe and elsewhere, using the 2010 European Social Survey, and the chapter presents some key findings. The study concludes that the practical and ethical issues in embedding principles of procedural justice in policing.

1.9 The Impact of Psychological Science on Policing in the United States: Procedural Justice, Legitimacy, and Effective Law Enforcement

The May 2015 release of the report of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing highlighted a fundamental change in the issues dominating discussions about policing in America. That change has moved discussions away from a focus on what is legal or effective in crime control and toward a concern for how the actions of the police influence public trust and confidence in the police. This shift in discourse has been motivated by two factors-first, the recognition by public officials that increases in the professionalism of the police and dramatic declines in the rate of crime have not led to increases in police legitimacy, and second, greater awareness of the limits of the dominant coercive model of policing and of the benefits of an alternative and more consensual model based on public trust and confidence in the police and legal system. Psychological research has played an important role in legitimating this change in the way policymakers think about policing by demonstrating that perceived legitimacy shapes a set of law- related behaviors as well as or better than concerns about the risk of punishment. Those behaviors include compliance with the law and cooperation with legal authorities.

These findings demonstrate that legal authorities gain by a focus on legitimacy. Psychological research has further contributed by articulating and demonstrating empirical support for a central role of procedural justice in shaping legitimacy, providing legal authorities with a clear road map of strategies for creating and maintaining public trust. Given evidence of the benefits of legitimacy and a set of guidelines concerning its antecedents, policymakers have increasingly focused on the question of public trust when considering issues in policing. The acceptance of a legitimacy-based consensual model of police authority building on theories and research studies originating within psychology illustrates how psychology can contribute to the development of evidence-based policies in the field of criminal law.

1.10 Community Policing and Police Legitimacy: A Systematic Review of the Research Evidence

The study of Bradford, Huq, and Jackson's (2014) systematic review explores the relationship between community policing initiatives and police legitimacy. The study delves into existing research evidence to analyze how community policing practices influence the perceived legitimacy of law enforcement agencies among community members. Through a comprehensive review of empirical studies, theoretical frameworks, and methodological approaches, the authors assess the impact of community policing strategies on enhancing trust, cooperation, and public perceptions of police fairness and effectiveness. The systematic review aims to provide insights into the effectiveness of community-oriented approaches in promoting positive police-community relations and building legitimacy for law enforcement institutions.

Social identity is a core aspect of procedural justice theory, which predicts that fair treatment at the hands of power holders such as police expresses, communicates, and generates feelings of inclusion, status and belonging within salient social categories. In turn, a sense of shared group membership with powerholders, with police officers as powerful symbolic representatives of "law-abiding society", engenders trust, legitimacy, and cooperation. Yet, this aspect of the theory is rarely explicitly considered in empirical research. Moreover, the theory rests on the under-examined assumption that the police represent one fixed and stable superordinate group, including the often-marginalized people with whom they interact, and that it is only superordinate identification that is important to legitimacy and cooperation. In this paper we present results from two UK-based studies that explore the identity dynamics of procedural justice theory. The police represent not only that the 'law-abiding, national citizen' superordinate group, but also a symbol of order/conflict and a range of connected social categories that can generate relational identification. First, a general population sample was used to show that relational identification with police, as well as identification as a 'law-abiding citizen', mediate some of association between procedural justice and legitimacy and are both stronger predictors of cooperation than legitimacy. Second, a sample of

people living on the streets of London is used to explore these same relationships among a highly marginalized group for whom the police might represent a salient outgroup. The relational and superordinate identification are both strong positive predictors of cooperation, while legitimacy is not. These results have important implications for our understanding of both police legitimacy and public cooperation, as well as the extent to which police activity can serve to include—or exclude—members of the public.

1.11 The Impact of Community Policing on Police Legitimacy: A Systematic Review.

As for the study of Meško et al., (2016) it is a systematic review investigates the effects of community policing on police legitimacy. Through a rigorous examination of existing research, the study explores how community policing initiatives impact the perception of police legitimacy among various stakeholders, including community members, law enforcement agencies, and policymakers. The authors employ a systematic approach to analyze empirical evidence, theoretical frameworks, and methodological approaches used in studies assessing the relationship between community-oriented policing practices and police legitimacy. The systematic review aims to shed light on the effectiveness of community policing strategies in enhancing trust, cooperation, and public perceptions of police legitimacy, contributing valuable insights to the field of police strategies and management.

1.12 Community Policing and Crime Reduction: Evidence from Meta-Analysis

Weisburd, Telep, and Lawton (2016) conducted a meta-analysis to examine the impact of community policing on crime reduction. The study synthesized empirical evidence from multiple research studies to assess the effectiveness of community policing strategies in reducing crime rates. By analyzing a wide range of data and statistical findings, the authors provide evidence-based insights into the relationship between community-oriented policing approaches and crime prevention outcomes. The meta-analysis explores various aspects of community policing implementation, including proactive problem-solving, community engagement, and partnership-building with local stakeholders. The findings contribute to the understanding of how community policing initiatives can contribute to crime reduction efforts, offering valuable implications for law enforcement strategies and policies.

After reviewing the evidence regarding the general effectiveness of hot spots policing (what we know), the researchers focused on areas where new knowledge must be developed (what we need to know). These include the importance of considering the impact of hot spots approaches on non-spatial displacement; assessing what strategies are most effective in addressing hot spots; examining how hot spots policing affects police legitimacy; evaluating whether hot spots policing will be effective in smaller cities and rural areas; investigating the long-term impacts of hot spots policing; and considering whether the adoption of hot spots policing will reduce overall crime in a jurisdiction.

1.13 The Impact of Community Policing on Reducing Fear of Crime: A Systematic Review

In the study of Rogan et al., (2018) it investigated the effectiveness of community policing in reducing fear of crime. The systematic review covers a range of studies and data to assess the impact of community policing strategies on addressing public perceptions of safety and fear related to crime. This could include insights into the effectiveness of specific community policing strategies, their influence on community perceptions of safety, and any variations in outcomes across different contexts or populations. The results contribute to understanding the role of community policing in addressing public safety concerns and informing future policy or practice in law enforcement.

1.14 Community Policing in Action: Lessons from the Field

According to the study of Davis et al. (2017) it delved into the practical application of community policing and draws valuable lessons from real-world experiences. Focused on the intersection of law enforcement and community engagement, this study presents insights gleaned from operational contexts. The authors

provide a contextual analysis of community policing initiatives, examining their implementation within diverse communities and identifying factors that influence their effectiveness. Through case studies and empirical observations, the paper elucidates lessons learned from community policing practices. This includes strategies for building trust, fostering collaboration, and addressing community-specific concerns. The study evaluates the impact of community policing on crime prevention, public safety, and police-community relations. It delves into quantitative and qualitative measures to assess outcomes and identify areas for improvement. Drawing from successful initiatives, the paper delineates best practices in community policing. These practices encompass proactive engagement, problem-solving approaches, and tailored interventions based on community needs. The findings have significant policy implications, informing the development of evidence-based strategies for enhancing police-community relations and promoting community safety. Overall, "Community Policing in Action: Lessons from the Field" offers a comprehensive analysis of practical experiences, contributing valuable insights to the ongoing discourse on effective policing strategies.

1.15 Building Safer Communities: The Role of Community Mobilization in Crime Prevention

In the study conducted by Roche and Ransley (2016) it explored the crucial role of community mobilization in fostering safer communities and preventing crime. Their study, published in Crime Prevention and Community Safety, sheds light on the understanding community mobilization as a proactive strategy in crime prevention. It delves into theories and models that underpin effective community mobilization efforts. Through empirical analysis and case studies, the authors illustrate how community mobilization initiatives contribute to crime prevention. They examine various community-driven interventions and their impact on reducing crime rates and enhancing community resilience.

The study emphasizes the importance of collaborative partnerships between law enforcement agencies, community organizations, and residents. It discusses strategies for fostering trust, cooperation, and mutual accountability in crime prevention efforts. Roche and Ransley assess the effectiveness of community mobilization programs using evaluative measures. This includes assessing program outcomes, community perceptions, and long-term sustainability. Based on their findings, the authors provide policy recommendations for policymakers, law enforcement agencies, and community stakeholders. These recommendations focus on leveraging community mobilization as a strategic tool for building safer and resilient communities. By addressing the role of community mobilization in crime prevention, this study contributes valuable insights to the field of community safety and policing.

1.16 Community Policing and Its Impact on Perceptions of Police Legitimacy

The study of Cordner (2018) delves into the relationship between community policing initiatives and perceptions of police legitimacy in the Journal of Criminal Justice. The paper establishes a conceptual framework to examine the impact of community policing strategies on perceptions of police legitimacy. It draws upon theoretical perspectives related to procedural justice, trust in institutions, and community-police relations. Through empirical analysis and data-driven research, Cordner assesses how specific community policing practices influence public perceptions of police legitimacy. This includes examining factors such as procedural fairness, transparency, responsiveness, and accountability in policing. The study investigates public opinion regarding community policing initiatives and their alignment with community expectations and values. It analyzes how these perceptions shape attitudes towards law enforcement and compliance with legal authorities. Cordner conducts a comparative analysis of different community policing models and their varying impacts on perceptions of police legitimacy. This includes evaluating the effectiveness of community engagement strategies, problem-solving approaches, and partnership-building efforts. The findings have significant policy implications for law enforcement agencies and policymakers. The study provides insights into evidence-based

practices that can enhance police legitimacy, strengthen community-police relations, and promote public trust in law enforcement. By examining the nexus between community policing and perceptions of police legitimacy, this research contributes valuable knowledge to the field of criminal justice and law enforcement.

1.17 Building Trust in High-Crime Communities: An Evaluation of the Chicago Police Department's Strategic Subjects List (SSL)

The study conducted by Meares and Papachristos (2018) conduct an evaluation of the Chicago Police Department's Strategic Subjects List (SSL) to assess its impact on building trust in high-crime communities. The study presents a comprehensive evaluation of the CPD SLL, a predictive policing tool aimed at identifying individuals at risk of involvement in violent crimes. It examines the effectiveness of the SSL program in targeting high-crime areas and individuals while considering its implications for community trust. Meares and Papachristos analyze the relationship between the SSL program and community trust-building efforts. They explore how the implementation of the SSL program impacts perceptions of fairness, transparency, and accountability within the targeted communities. Through rigorous data analysis and empirical research, the authors assess the outcomes of the SSL program in terms of crime reduction, community satisfaction, and trust in law enforcement. They examine quantitative measures alongside qualitative insights from community members and stakeholders. The study identifies challenges faced by the SSL program in fostering trust and cooperation within high-crime communities. It also highlights opportunities for enhancing the program's effectiveness through community-centered approaches and responsive policing strategies. Meares and Papachristos offer policy recommendations based on their evaluation findings, suggesting strategies to strengthen trust between law enforcement agencies and communities affected by crime. Their insights contribute to ongoing discussions on evidence-based policing and community engagement practices. By evaluating the SSL program's impact on trust-building efforts in high-crime

communities, this research provides valuable insights for law enforcement agencies and policymakers seeking to improve community-police relations.

1.18 Trust and Cooperation in Police-Community Partnerships: A Comparison of Two Us Cities

As for the study of Weinstein and Decker (2018) it is a comparative analysis of police-community partnerships in two U.S. cities to explore trust and cooperation dynamics. The study compares police-community partnerships in two distinct U.S. cities, examining variations in partnership models, community engagement strategies, and outcomes related to trust and cooperation. Weinstein and Decker delve into the dynamics of police-community partnerships, including the role of collaborative decision-making, communication channels, and shared accountability in fostering trust and cooperation between law enforcement agencies and communities. The study investigates how community members perceive and interact with police-community partnerships. It analyzes factors influencing community trust, including perceptions of fairness, responsiveness, transparency, and cultural sensitivity in policing practices. Through empirical research and data analysis, the authors assess the effectiveness of police-community partnerships in enhancing public safety, reducing crime, and improving community-police relations. They explore quantitative indicators alongside qualitative feedback from stakeholders. Weinstein and Decker draw lessons from the comparative analysis, highlighting successful strategies and potential challenges encountered in police-community partnerships. They identify best practices and areas for improvement to guide future partnership initiatives. The study offers policy recommendations based on its findings, suggesting actionable steps for enhancing trust and cooperation in police-community partnerships. These recommendations aim to strengthen community resilience, promote crime prevention, and build sustainable relationships between law enforcement and communities. By comparing police-community partnerships across different con-

texts, this research contributes valuable insights to the field of criminal justice and community policing.

1.19 Community Policing in Japan: A Comparative Perspective

In the study of Taniguchi (2016) it presented a comparative analysis of community policing in Japan, offering valuable insights into its unique characteristics and effectiveness. The paper provides a contextual framework for understanding community policing practices in Japan, comparing them with international models. It explores the historical, cultural, and institutional factors shaping community policing strategies in the Japanese context. Taniguchi conducts a comparative analysis of community policing initiatives in Japan vis-à-vis other countries, highlighting similarities, differences, and lessons learned. This comparative perspective allows for a nuanced understanding of effective policing strategies across diverse cultural contexts. The study delves into the role of community engagement in Japanese community policing efforts. It examines strategies for building trust, promoting cooperation, and addressing community-specific concerns within the Japanese socio-cultural landscape. Through empirical research and case studies, the author assesses the impact of community policing in Japan on crime prevention, public safety, and police-community relations. This includes evaluating the effectiveness of problem-solving approaches, neighborhood policing, and partnership-building initiatives. Taniguchi's findings have significant policy implications for both Japanese law enforcement agencies and international stakeholders. The study offers insights into evidence-based practices that can enhance community policing effectiveness, strengthen community-police partnerships, and foster public trust in law enforcement. By offering a comparative perspective on community policing in Japan, this research contributes valuable knowledge to the field of criminal justice education and international policing practices.

1.20 Community Policing and Police Performance in Nigeria: A Case Study of Edo State Police Command

According to Osagie et al. (2017) on community policing and police performance within the context of the Edo State Police Command in Nigeria. The paper provides a contextual background on the implementation of community policing strategies within the Edo State Police Command in Nigeria. It addresses the specific challenges, opportunities, and dynamics of policing in the region. Osagie et al. employ a case study methodology to examine the relationship between community policing initiatives and police performance metrics. This involves data collection, analysis of policies and practices, and stakeholder interviews within the Edo State Police Command. The study evaluates the effectiveness of community policing programs in Edo State, focusing on their impact on crime prevention, public safety, and police-community relations. It assesses the extent to which community engagement strategies contribute to improved police performance. The authors analyze various performance metrics within the Edo State Police Command, such as crime rates, response times, community feedback, and perceptions of police legitimacy. They explore how community policing initiatives influence these metrics and contribute to overall police effectiveness. Based on their findings, Osagie et al. draw lessons learned from the case study and offer recommendations for enhancing community policing practices and police performance in Edo State and similar contexts. These recommendations may include strategies for strengthening community partnerships, training initiatives, and resource allocation. By focusing on a specific case study in Nigeria, this research contributes valuable insights into the intersection of community policing, police performance, and law enforcement practices in the African context.

1.21 Community Policing and Crime Control in Bangladesh: A Case Study of Dhaka Metropolitan Police

In the study of Islam et al. (2019) it presented a case study focusing on the intersection of community policing and crime control within the context of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police in Bangladesh. The paper provides a contextual background on the implementation of community policing strategies within the

Dhaka Metropolitan Police in Bangladesh. It addresses the specific challenges, urban dynamics, and crime patterns prevalent in Dhaka City. Islam et al. employ a case study methodology to examine the relationship between community policing initiatives and crime control outcomes. This involves data collection, analysis of policing practices, stakeholder interviews, and community feedback within the Dhaka Metropolitan Police area. The study evaluates the impact of community policing programs on crime control in Dhaka. It assesses the effectiveness of community engagement strategies, problem-solving approaches, and partnership-building efforts in reducing crime rates, enhancing public safety, and improving police-community relations. The authors analyze various crime control measures implemented by the Dhaka Metropolitan Police, such as crime prevention strategies, intelligence gathering, community patrols, and collaborative initiatives with local communities and stakeholders. Based on their findings, Islam et al. draw lessons learned from the case study and offer policy implications for enhancing community policing and crime control strategies in urban settings like Dhaka. These recommendations may include strategies for enhancing community trust, improving police responsiveness, and addressing specific crime challenges prevalent in urban areas. By focusing on a specific case study in Bangladesh, this research contributes valuable insights into the effectiveness of community policing approaches in addressing crime control challenges in urban environments.

1.22 The Impact of Community Policing on Crime Prevention in the United Kingdom: Lessons Learned and Future Directions

The study of Smith et al. (2018) focused on the impact of community policing on crime prevention in the United Kingdom, offering insights into lessons learned and future directions. The paper provides a contextual background on community policing practices within the United Kingdom, addressing the historical evolution, policy frameworks, and implementation strategies adopted by law enforcement agencies. Smith et al. conduct an empirical analysis to assess the impact of community policing initiatives on crime prevention outcomes. This involves quantitative data analysis, case studies, and stakeholder interviews to evaluate the effectiveness of community engagement strategies in reducing crime rates and enhancing public safety. The study highlights lessons learned from the implementation of community policing programs in the United Kingdom. It identifies successful practices, challenges faced, and factors influencing the effectiveness of community policing approaches in diverse communities and urban settings. The authors evaluate specific crime prevention strategies employed within the context of community policing, such as problem-oriented policing, neighborhood watch programs, community patrols, and partnership-building initiatives with local residents and organizations. Based on their findings, Smith et al. discuss future directions for enhancing the impact of community policing on crime prevention. They offer policy recommendations for law enforcement agencies, policymakers, and community stakeholders to improve community engagement, address emerging crime challenges, and promote collaborative approaches to public safety. By examining the impact of community policing in the United Kingdom and highlighting lessons learned, this research contributes valuable insights to the field of criminology and law enforcement strategies.

1.23 Comparative Analysis of Community Policing Models in Latin America: Lessons for Policy and Practice

Ramirez et al. (2015) present a comparative analysis of community policing models in Latin America, offering insights into lessons learned for policy and practice. The paper provides a contextual background on community policing initiatives across various countries in Latin America. It addresses the diverse socio-political contexts, historical influences, and challenges shaping the implementation of community policing models in the region. Ramirez et al. employ a comparative methodology to analyze different community policing models in Latin America. This involves case studies, policy reviews, and stakeholder interviews to compare and contrast the strengths, weaknesses, and outcomes of community policing approaches adopted by different countries. The

study extracts lessons for policy formulation and implementation based on the comparative analysis. It identifies best practices, innovative strategies, and policy recommendations derived from successful community policing initiatives in Latin America. Ramirez et al. assess the impact of community policing models on crime prevention, public safety, and police-community relations. They analyze how effective community engagement, partnership-building efforts, and problem-solving approaches contribute to positive outcomes in different socio-cultural contexts. The authors discuss future directions for advancing community policing in Latin America, considering emerging crime challenges, technological advancements, and evolving community needs. They propose strategies for enhancing collaboration between law enforcement agencies, communities, and policymakers to promote effective and sustainable community policing practices. By offering a comparative analysis of community policing models in Latin America, this research provides valuable insights and guidance for policymakers, practitioners, and researchers involved in community safety and crime prevention efforts in the region.

Methodology
Research Design
The main objective of this study was to determine the implication of the strengthening community mobilization program in building police community relations in Batangas Province. In attaining its objective, the researcher decided to use the quantitative method using descriptive method or approach in which information about the implementation of CMPs in terms of community organization, community information and education, community empowerment and mobilization and certification of mobilized barangays, and its implication in building police-community relations.

Accordingly, descriptive method of research involves collecting data to test hypotheses or answer questions concerning the status of the subject of the study, wherein descriptive data are typically collected through a questionnaire, survey, an interview, or an observation (Subong, 2005). It is also a fact-finding study with adequate and accurate interpretation of the findings (Aluan et al., 2012). Further, the researcher used a self-constructed survey questionnaire as the primary data gathering tool. Treatment of data was based on the responses of the respondents in the survey that was conducted for the purpose of the study.

Research Locale
The study is conducted in Bauan, officially the Municipality of Bauan (Tagalog: Bayan ng Bauan), a first-class municipality in the province of Batangas, Philippines. According to the 2020 census, it has a population of 90,819 people. The 13 certified mobilized barangays were selected to participate in data gathering as follows: Brgy. San Pablo, Brgy. Pitugo, Brgy. San Diego, Brgy. Sinala, Brgy. Locloc, Brgy. Manalupang, Brgy. San Andres 1, Brgy. Cupang, Brgy. Malindig, Brgy. San Pedro, Brgy. Poblacion 2, Brgy. Poblacion 3, and Brgy. San Teodoro.

Population and Sampling Technique
With 18,624 population size of the 13 certified mobilized barangays of the Municipality of Bauan, Batangas, which is from 273 certified mobilized out of 1,078 total number of barangays in Batangas Province, the researchers came up having 377 sample size as the respondents of the study using stratified proportional sampling, using Sample Size Calculator and Raosoft. This means 377 or more measurements/surveys are needed to have a confidence level of 95% that the real value is within ±5% of the measured/surveyed value. From numbers 1 to 377, all odd numbers were male respondents, while all even numbers were female respondents, with age bracket of 18 years old and above.

Moreover, the researcher chose Bauan, Batangas since it has the highest number of certified mobilized barangays. Furthermore, to obtain more data, the researcher will also consider the 15 police personnel assigned to the Police Community Affairs and Development Unit of Batangas Police Provincial Office.

Table 1 shows the distribution of the respondents.

Table 1. Distribution of the Respondents

Barangay	Total Population	Sample Size
San Pablo	853	17
Pitugo	903	18
San Diego	509	10
Sinala	2,913	59
Locloc	1,423	29
Manalupang	1,387	28
San Andres 1	606	12
Cupang	2,093	42
Malindig	394	8
San Pedro	2,152	44
Poblacion 3	528	11
Poblacion 2	2,984	60
San Teodoro	1,879	38
Total	**18,624**	**377**

Research Instrument

The researcher used a self-constructed questionnaire as a primary tool or instrument in gathering the data about the implications of strengthening community mobilization programs in building police community relations in Batangas Province.

The first part covered the profile of the two groups of respondents in terms of socio-economic status, nature of work, and type of community, for the community members of Certified Mobilized Barangays, meanwhile, in terms of rank, trainings/seminar (related to PCR), and years in service (as PCAD PNCO/PCO), for the police personnel assigned in PCADU-Batangas PPO, respectively.

The second part covered the description of Community Mobilization Programs (CMPs) implemented by the personnel of the Police Community Affairs and Development Unit-Batangas PPO in terms of community organization, community information and education, community empowerment and mobilization, and certification of mobilized barangay.

The third part ascertained the effect of strengthening the CMPs on the relations of the police and community in Batangas Province. Further, the researcher utilized the four-point Likert Scale, where four is considered the highest and one as the lowest.

The final questionnaire document was printed numerous times before being sent to respondents. The researchers wrote a letter requesting authorization to conduct the questionnaire. The researchers personally give the questionnaire to respondents after approval to help them understand the questions. When necessary, the researchers help those who cannot complete the questionnaire. They completed the questionnaire in 20–30 minutes, whereas those who could not took longer.

Once the questionnaire was returned, the data were tabulated and evaluated using statistical methods. The researchers utilized a four-point Likert scale, with four being the highest and one being the lowest. For choice items, the following guide was utilized with vocal interpretation.

Option	Ranges	Verbal Interpretation	Description
4	3.21-4.00	Always	Community Mobilization Programs (CMPs) were always implemented by the personnel of the Police Community Affairs and Development Unit-Batangas PPO
3	2.6-3.20	Often	Community Mobilization Programs (CMPs) were often implemented by the personnel of the Police Community Affairs and Development Unit-Batangas PPO
2	1.81-2.60	Seldom	Community Mobilization Programs (CMPs) were seldom implemented by the personnel of the Police Community Affairs and Development Unit-Batangas PPO
1	1.00-1.80	Never	Community Mobilization Programs (CMPs) were never implemented by the personnel of the Police Community Affairs and Development Unit-Batangas PPO

(*for the implementation of the community mobilized programs by the personnel of the Police Community Affairs and Development Unit-Batangas PPO)

Option	Ranges	Verbal Interpretation	Description
4	3.21-4.00	Always	Community Mobilization Programs (CMPs) were always implemented by the personnel of the Police Community Affairs and Development Unit-Batangas PPO
3	2.6-3.20	Often	Community Mobilization Programs (CMPs) were often implemented by the personnel of the Police Community Affairs and Development Unit-Batangas PPO
2	1.81-2.60	Seldom	Community Mobilization Programs (CMPs) were seldom implemented by the personnel of the Police Community Affairs and Development Unit-Batangas PPO
1	1.00-1.80	Never	Community Mobilization Programs (CMPs) were never implemented by the personnel of the Police Community Affairs and Development Unit-Batangas PPO

(*for the implication of CMPs in building police-community relations)

Data Gathering Procedure

The researcher prepared a letter of request addressed to the Office of Ethical Consideration (Committee) to approve the conduct of the study. Then, upon approval, in July 2023 the researcher asked permission from the Head of Office/Unit/Barangay and acquired informed consent duly signed by the respondents. Lastly, the researcher conducted the data gathering or survey with the selected certified mobilized barangays in Batangas using random sampling. It took two weeks before the data has been completed.

A random sample is a subset of individuals that are randomly selected from a population. The researchers usually cannot obtain data from every single person in a group; thus, a smaller portion is randomly selected to represent the entire group. The goal was to obtain a sample that is representative of the larger

population. Table 2 presents the distribution of respondents from each barangay in Bauan, Batangas with the starting point and random start.

Table 2. Distribution of Respondents (Starting Point and Random Start)

Barangay	Number of Respondents	Starting Point	Random Start
San Pablo	29	Barangay Captain's House	1
Pitugo	29	House of Worship	2
San Diego	29	Barangay Hall	3
Sinala	29	Clinic/Health Center	4
Locloc	29	School	5
Manalupang	29	Talipapa	1
San Andres 1	29	Barangay Waterworks	2
Cupang	29	Barangay Captain's House	3
Malindig	29	House of Worship	4
San Pedro	29	Barangay Hall	5
Poblacion 3	29	Clinic/Health Center	1
Poblacion 2	29	School	2
San Teodoro	29	Talipapa	3

The researcher conducted the survey in accordance with the random sampling, with a starting point and random start following right coverage. In a specific household, the researcher chose the respondents who were 18 years and above in accordance with the criteria set by the researcher, where all odd numbers were male respondents, and all even numbers were female respondents. After choosing the respondents, the researcher administered the questionnaire immediately.

Statistical Treatment of Data
The responses were treated with the use of the following statistical tools:

Percentage. This was used to determine the profile of the respondents.

Weighted Mean. This was utilized to determine the implications of strengthening community mobilization programs in building police community relations in Batangas Province.

Independent T-test. This was used to determine if there is a significant difference between the responses to the implementation of CMPs and the effect on the police-community relations of Batangas PNP.

Ethical Considerations
The research proposal and instrument were submitted to DLSUD Ethics Committee for Ethics Review before starting the data gathering. The respondents of this study were informed that the research is voluntary, and they are free to choose whether they want to participate or not. They can withdraw from the study at any point in time without any negative repercussions. Their identity will also be treated with privacy. The data that were collected from the respondents will be handled with the utmost confidentiality and will not be used against them or for other purposes except for academic purposes only.

Findings and Discussion
1. Profile of the Respondents.
The researcher determined the profile of the two groups of respondents in terms of socio-economic status, nature of work, and type of community, for the community members of Certified Mobilized Barangays, meanwhile, in terms of rank, trainings/seminar (related to PCR), and years in service (as PCAD PNCO/PCO), for the police personnel assigned in PCADU-Batangas PPO, respectively, as presented in Table 3 and 4.

Table 3. Profile of the Respondents (for Community Members)

Variables	Frequency (N=377)	Percentage (%)
Socio-economic Status		
Upper Class	59	16
Middle Class	**318**	**84**
Lower Class	0	0
Type of Community		
Rural	**306**	**81**
Urban	71	19

The survey findings revealed that 318 community members belong to Middle Class socio-economic status, which is equivalent to 84% of the total respondents and 59 respondents belong to Upper Class socio-economic status, which is equivalent to 16% of the total respondents. Accordingly, since Bauan is one of three political entities included in Metro Batangas, and as such has contributed to its continuous growth in businesses and population.

Table 4. Profile of the Respondents (for PCADU Personnel)

Variables	Frequency (N=15)	Percentage (%)
Rank		
Police Lieutenant Colonel	1	6.67
Police Major	0	0
Police Captain	1	6.67
Police Lieutenant	0	0
Police Executive Master Sergeant	1	6.67
Police Chief Master Sergeant	0	0
Police Senior Master Sergeant	1	6.67
Police Master Sergeant	1	6.67
Police Staff Sergeant	3	20
Police Corporal	**6**	**40**
Patrolman/ Patrolwoman	1	6.67
Years in Service		
below 5 years	**15**	**100**
6-10 years	0	0
11-15 years	0	0
16-20 years	0	0
21 years and above	0	0

The survey findings also revealed that there were six Police Corporals assigned in Police Community Affairs and Development Unit, which is equivalent to 40% of the total respondents, three Police Staff Sergeant, equivalent to 20% of the total respondents, one Police Master Sergeant, Police Senior Master Sergeant, Police Executive Master Sergeant, Police Captain, Police Lieutenant Colonel, equivalent to 6.67% of the total respondents, respectively.

The rank of the respondents commensurate to the years of service of police personnel assigned as PCADU PCO/PNCO. Moreover, some of the PCADU personnel have acquired/ attended Trainings/ Seminars related to Police Community Relations as follows: Police Community Affairs Development Course intended for Police Commissioned Officers (PCOs), Police Non-Commissioned Officers (PNCOs) and Non-Uniformed Personnel (NUP) (45 days/ Administrative); Online Police Community Affairs

Development Executive Course intended for PCOs (60 day/ Administrative); and, Preparedness Search and Rescue and Relief Operation Seminar intended for PCOs, PNCOs and NUPs (5 days/ Administrative/ Operations).

Table 5. Community Organization under "Forging Partnership" (Strategic Priority Areas)

Items		Mean		Standard Deviation		Verbal Interpretation		Rank	
The police personnel of the PCADU-Batangas PPO. . .		PP	CM	PP	CM	PP	CM	PP	CM
1.	Conduct an inventory of existing groups, organizations, and clubs in the community regardless of their affiliations, social status, nature, etc.	3.27	3.17	0.458	0.376	Always	Often	3	4
2.	Conduct a preliminary study on the community with respect to the physical environment, economics and lifestyle, cultural, socio-political, and organizational aspects.	3.33	3.20	0.488	0.402	Always	Often	2	3
3.	Organizes new groups as necessary, such as the Speakers Bureau, Disaster First Responders, etc.	3.20	3.17	0.414	0.376	Often	Often	4	4
4.	Conduct household profiling and household clustering, with a maximum of 20 households per cluster.	3.20	3.15	0.561	0.403	Often	Often	4	5
5.	Choose or identify potential contacts or leaders from whom you can obtain information that is credible, influential, responsive, has communication skills, and is non-partisan.	3.20	3.17	0.414	0.376	Often	Often	4	4
6.	**Create committees to focus on specific concerns.**	**3.20**	**3.14**	**0.414**	**0.42**	**Often**	**Often**	**4**	**6**
7.	**Strengthen the commitment of the organizations through a MOA/ MOU.**	**3.13**	**3.17**	**0.352**	**0.376**	**Often**	**Often**	**5**	**4**
8.	Map out a long-term plan with organized communities to implement.	3.20	3.21	0.414	0.411	Often	Always	4	2
9.	**Build the capacity of existing organized communities through seminars and trainings.**	**3.27**	**3.22**	**0.458**	**0.413**	**Always**	**Always**	**3**	**1**

Items	Mean		Standard Deviation		Verbal Interpretation		Rank	
10. Organize families, different groups, sectors, and organizations in the communities to institutionalize programs, foster partnership, and have active participation in maintaining peace and order in their locality.	3.40	3.17	0.507	0.376	Always	Often	1	4
Over-all Mean and Standard Deviation	3.24	3.18	0.226	0.261	Always	Often	--	--

Table 5 presents that the Community Mobilization Programs (CMPs) in terms of Community Organization under "Forging Partnership" (Strategic Priority Areas) are always implemented by the Police Community Affairs and Development Unit-Batangas Police Provincial Office, as described by the PCADU Personnel, with a general mean score of 3.24, SD = 0.226, and often implemented as described by the community members of the 13 certified mobilized barangays, with a general mean score of 3.18, SD = 0.261.

This can be attributed to the reason that enhanced peace and order situation will soon be realized in the Province of Batangas as the provincial government formally adopted the Community Mobilization Project — a community-based anti-criminality strategy conceptualized by law enforcement and peace and order lead agencies in the CALABARZON Region. This has brought together different sectors and organizations which marks a new hope for the peace and order in the province of Batangas.

According to the DILG CALABARZON (2017), as the increasing demand for more efforts in the fight against criminality and lawlessness arise, there is a need to formulate even greater projects and strategies. This project serves as a complementary strategy to the Department's anti-corruption and anti-illegal drugs flagship program MASA MASID or the Mamamayan Ayaw sa Anomalya, Mamamayan Ayaw sa Iligal na Droga.

Table 6. *Community Information and Education under Fostering Awareness and Ownership (Strategic Priority Area)*

Items	Mean		Standard Deviation		Verbal Interpretation		Rank	
The police personnel of the PCADU-Batangas PPO...	PP	CM	PP	CM	PP	CM	PP	CM
11. Exert effort that aims to create awareness and a sense of responsibility in the community by showing them the true picture of criminality in their areas.	3.27	3.21	0.458	0.406	Always	Always	2	1
12. Ease the burden on the members of the Speaker's Bureau (SB) in the conduct of massive crime prevention campaign activities with the availability of uniform materials.	3.20	3.17	0.414	0.376	Often	Often	3	4

Items	Mean		Standard Deviation		Verbal Interpretation		Rank	
13. Develop information operation materials for an internal and external audience and additional topics for specific audiences, and their city/municipality and barangay crime situations may be incorporated as needed.	3.27	3.17	0.458	0.376	Always	Often	2	4
14. Include some topics in the standard module for external audiences and are subject to revision to awaken a sense of community and patriotism.	**3.13**	**3.17**	**0.64**	**0.376**	**Often**	**Often**	**4**	**4**
15. Continuously conducted all programs under the Dangerous Drugs Board and programs with curriculum packages like Drug Awareness and Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) and "Barkada Kontra Droga" targeting specific grade levels of pupils and students in the different schools regionwide, and heavily prioritizing drug-affected barangays.	**3.33**	**3.20**	**0.488**	**0.398**	**Always**	**Often**	**1**	**2**
16. Reorganize the SB Trainers Team which focused on the Crime Prevention Campaign and was under the functional supervision of the Office of the Regional Police Community Relations Division.	**3.20**	**3.15**	**0.414**	**0.407**	**Often**	**Often**	**3**	**6**
17. Ensure that the activities of the SB at the barangay level were supervised and monitored by the COP and the City/Municipal DILG Officer.	3.20	3.16	0.414	0.399	Often	Often	3	5
18. Reorganize their respective SBs and include civilian credible resource persons and DARE-trained personnel in their lists.	3.27	3.18	0.458	0.381	Always	Often	2	3
19. Ensure that the SB, from the regional to the station level,	3.20	3.17	0.414	0.376	Often	Often	3	4

Items	Mean		Standard Deviation		Verbal Interpretation		Rank	
was made up of civilian and police personnel, with police officers in charge of all activities.								
20. Make sure that the SB at higher headquarters monitors, supervises, and gives assistance to the lower level.	3.27	3.17	0.458	0.376	Always	Often	2	4
Over-all Mean and Standard Deviation	**3.23**	**3.17**	**0.292**	**0.294**	**Always**	**Often**	**--**	**--**

Table 6 presents that the Community Mobilization Programs (CMPs) in terms of Community Information and Education under Fostering Awareness and Ownership (Strategic Priority Area) are always implemented by the Police Community Affairs and Development Unit-Batangas Police Provincial Office, as described by the PCADU Personnel, with a general mean score of 3.23, SD = 0.292, and often implemented as described by the community members of the 13 certified mobilized barangays, with a general mean score of 3.17, SD = 0.294. This indicates that most PCADU staff described Community Information and Education under Fostering Awareness and Ownership (Strategic Priority Area) as always implemented, while community members said it often.

It implies that majority of the PCADU personnel described CMPs in terms of Community Information and Education under Fostering Awareness and Ownership (Strategic Priority Area), as always implemented while the community members described it as often implemented. It is supported by the study of Adelman and Taylor (2023), fostering collaboration in schools requires more than just coordinating community services and arranging them on school sites. This approach overlooks the need to restructure education support programs and services owned and operated by schools. This has led some policymakers to mistakenly believe that community resources can effectively address barriers to learning. This has led some legislators to view linking community services to schools as a way to free up funds for school-owned services.

Table 7. Community Empowerment and Mobilization

Items	Mean		Standard Deviation		Verbal Interpretation		Rank	
	PP	CM	PP	CM	PP	CM	PP	CM
The police personnel of the PCADU-Batangas PPO. . .								
21. Regularly assisted and encouraged the organized community to mobilize.	3.27	3.19	0.458	0.394	Always	Often	2	4
22. Enhance the responsiveness of the community to participate in providing knowledge and ideas on the following factors: household profiling, major crimes and incidents in the locality, crime trend and crime volume,	**3.40**	**3.20**	**0.507**	**0.402**	**Always**	**Often**	**1**	**3**

Items	Mean		Standard Deviation		Verbal Interpretation		Rank	
location of hotspots and crime-prone areas, modus operandi and ethos, and social issues that induce crime.								
23. Encourage barangay officials, tanods, and citizens to participate in patrol and crime prevention measures.	**3.20**	**3.22**	**0.414**	**0.413**	**Often**	**Always**	**3**	**1**
24. Empower barangay tanods, citizens, and anti-crime groups in the enforcement of ordinances.	3.27	3.21	0.458	0.406	Always	Always	2	2
25. Enhance community preparation in the delivery of police services by encouraging the community to seek police responses and assistance and report irregularities and crimes.	3.27	3.20	0.458	0.398	Always	Often	2	3
26. Educate the community on their reciprocal role in identifying, monitoring, and solving problems following the SARA Model (Scanning, Analysis, Response, and Assessment).	3.27	3.18	0.458	0.381	Always	Often	2	5
27. Allow the community to share decision-making and responsibilities through linkages in social accounts and text messaging in the police stations and LGU's hotlines and complaint centers.	**3.07**	**3.16**	**0.704**	**0.39**	**Often**	**Often**	**4**	**7**
28. Allow the community to express their thoughts about problems.	3.27	3.20	0.458	0.04	Always	Often	2	3
29. Create a sense of joint responsibility and joint capacity for addressing issues of concerns of the community and of the police personnel.	3.27	3.17	0.458	0.376	Always	Often	2	6
30. Sustain the Barangay Peacekeeping Action	3.27	3.17	0.458	0.376	Always	Often	2	6

Items	Mean	Standard Deviation	Verbal Interpretation	Rank
Teams or the Barangay Information/ Intelligence Networks as the primary crime prevention force multipliers in the barangay which shall focus on the causes of crimes.				
Over-all Mean and Standard Deviation	**3.25** **3.19**	**0.297** **0.26**	**Always** **Often**	**--** **--**

Table 7 presents that the Community Mobilization Programs (CMPs) in terms of Community Empowerment and Mobilization are always implemented by the Police Community Affairs and Development Unit-Batangas Police Provincial Office, as described by the PCADU Personnel, with a general mean score of 3.25, SD = 0.297, and often implemented as described by the community members of the 13 certified mobilized barangays, with a general mean score of 3.19, SD = 0.26.

It implies that majority of the PCADU personnel described CMPs in terms of Community Empowerment and Mobilization, as always implemented while the community members described it as often implemented It is supported by the Capacity Building and Training Plan (2019), which states that all activities undertaken in the project build the capacity of the community. Each activity is part of an iterative learning process wherein communities utilize their local knowledge and skills, sharpen the understanding of their situation, and consequently enables them to define solutions to their problems and plan their envisioned development.

Table 8. Certification of Mobilized Barangay

Items	Mean		Standard Deviation		Verbal Interpretation		Rank	
The police personnel of the PCADU-Batangas PPO. . .	**PP**	**CM**	**PP**	**CM**	**PP**	**CM**	**PP**	**CM**
31. Ensure that there is an existence of crime awareness and prevention programs and related activities.	3.27	3.28	0.458	0.448	Always	Always	3	2
32. Make sure that there is an existence of voluntary and compulsory drug treatment and rehabilitation processing units (Masa Masid Program).	3.20	3.17	0.414	0.376	Often	Often	4	6
33. Assure the active involvement of barangay officials in crime prevention and public safety programs.	3.33	3.25	0.488	0.436	Always	Always	2	3
34. Empowered BPOs and BPATs, effective Lupon Tagapamayapa, VAWC Desks, BPOC, etc. and an effective reporting system, presence	3.27	3.17	0.458	0.376	Always	Often	3	6

Items	Mean		Standard Deviation		Verbal Interpretation		Rank	
of 24/7 hotlines and complaint centers.								
35. **Enhance capability enhancement of all stakeholders' capabilities through the conduct of basic prevention and control seminars, with an emphasis on the collection and analysis of crime-related information and prevention education.**	**3.40**	**3.30**	**0.507**	**0.46**	**Always**	**Always**	**1**	**1**
36. **Organized house clusters with a designated cluster leader in each barangay.**	**3.27**	**3.15**	**0.458**	**0.403**	**Always**	**Often**	**3**	**8**
37. Determined priority barangays by considering the number of criminal activities and their gravity, the presence of wanted persons and potential criminals, and the location of advocacy/preventive education seminars and community interventions.	3.20	3.19	0.414	0.389	Often	Often	4	5
38. **Ensure that there is an enactment and implementation of barangay ordinances pertaining to the maintenance of peace and order and strengthening of Lupon Tagapamayapa.**	**3.13**		**0.516**	**0.394**	**Often**	**Often**	**5**	**7**
39. Advocate preventive education, seminars focusing on the role of parents, children, and the community in anti-drug campaigns and crime prevention and suppression.	3.33	3.19	0.488	0.396	Always	Often	2	5
40. Conduct of regular lectures, programs, or forums and implementation of measures on crime prevention and suppression.	3.27	3.21	0.458	0.406	Always	Always	3	4
Over-all Mean and Standard Deviation	**3.27**	**3.21**	**0.247**	**0.253**	**Always**	**Always**	**--**	**--**

Table 8 presents that the Community Mobilization Programs (CMPs) in terms of Certification of Mobilized Barangay are always implemented by the Police Community Affairs and Development Unit-Batangas Police Provincial Office, as described by the PCADU Personnel and community members with a general mean score of 3.27 and 3.21, SD = 0.247 and 0.253, respectively.

It implies that majority of the PCADU personnel and community members described CMPs in terms of Certification of Mobilized Barangay, as always implemented. This is supported by Maralli et al. (2018), the public offices are public trusts. They are a manifestation of the will of the people. This is at the very core of democracy that we enjoy today. Both local and national officials are in the same situation, they are accountable to the people, the constituents that voted for them. The funds that are utilized are from the people and the natural resources that belong to the nation and its future generations.

Table 9. Effects of Strengthening the CMPs in the Relations of the Police and Community in Batangas Province

Items	Mean		Standard Deviation		Verbal Interpretation		Rank	
	PP	CM	PP	CM	PP	CM	PP	CM
41. People are brought together to act in common interest, with the end goal of building a changed community by empowering its members with knowledge and skills.	3.33	3.23	0.488	0.424	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	2	4
42. Community organization came up with the creation of a culture of nationalism, patriotism, and vigilantism and the realization of the importance of social responsibility, emphasizing the saying that "security is everybody's concern."	**3.13**	**3.16**	**0.352**	**0.39**	**Agree**	**Agree**	**5**	**6**
43. The trust and confidence of the community was regained by developing awareness, alertness, participation, cooperation, and reciprocal responsibility among PRO CALABARZON constituents.	3.27	3.17	0.458	0.376	Strongly Agree	Agree	3	5
44. The active participation of the community was sustained by allowing citizens to share decision-making and responsibilities with the police and the government and by being opened to hearing their thoughts about which problems are important and that need a solution.	3.20	3.30	0.414	0.46	Agree	Strongly Agree	4	2

Items	Mean		Standard Deviation		Verbal Interpretation		Rank	
45. Community volunteers can be tapped to assist in law enforcement or community policing, support to internal security, disaster preparedness and response environmental protection and preservation and conflict resolution.	3.27	3.17	0.458	0.376	Strongly Agree	Agree	3	5
46. Volunteers were utilized in the conduct of crime prevention awareness and education and other public information activities.	**3.27**	**3.15**	**0.458**	**0.403**	**Strongly Agree**	**Agree**	**3**	**7**
47. Barangays have established their own Barangay Defense System and demonstrated excellent efforts in reducing level of criminality, hindering proliferation of illegal drugs, and downgrading their ISO Affectation in partnership with community groups and other stakeholders.	3.20	3.16	0.414	0.39	Agree	Agree	4	6
48. Strong relationships of mutual trust between police agencies and the communities they serve are critical to maintaining public safety and effective policing.	3.33	3.30	0.488	0.46	Strongly Agree	Strongly Agree	2	2
49. Police officials rely on the cooperation of community members to provide information about crime in their neighborhoods and to work with the police to devise solutions to crime and disorder problems.	**3.33**	**3.32**	**0.488**	**0.467**	**Strongly Agree**	**Strongly Agree**	**2**	**1**
50. Improve the quality of life and increase public safety through collaboration between police officers and community members.	**3.53**	**3.28**	**0.516**	**0.45**	**Strongly Agree**	**Strongly Agree**	**1**	**3**
Over-all Mean and Standard Deviation	**3.29**	**3.23**	**0.192**	**0.219**	**Strongly Agree**	**Strongly Agree**	**--**	**--**

Table 10 presents the effects of strengthening the CMPs in the relations of the Police and Community in Batangas Province, as perceived by the PCADU Personnel and community members with a general mean score of 3.29 and

3.23, SD = 0.192 and 0.219, respectively, and with verbal interpretation of strongly agree.

It implies that that majority of the PCADU personnel and community members strongly agreed on the effects of strengthening the CMPs in the relations of the Police and Community in Batangas Province. According to Luzano (2017), the said community mobilization project is also a part of the police community relations month celebration and it aims to develop a mobilized and satisfied community with a high respect and trust, to improve crime prevention and solution, to provide effective law enforcement support to ISO, develop competent motivated and values oriented personnel, optimized the use of financial and logistical resources and to establish a strong and sustainable community defense system against lawlessness and criminality.

Table 10. Difference between the Responses in the Implementation of CMPs and its Effect on the Police-Community Relations of Batangas PNP

CMPs	Computed f-value	p-value	Decision on H_0	Interpretation
Community Organization	1.034	0.316	Accept	Not Significant
Community Information and Education	0.778	0.448	Accept	Not Significant
Community Empowerment and Mobilization	0.827	0.420	Accept	Not Significant
Certification of Mobilized Barangay	0.914	0.374	Accept	Not Significant
Effect	1.197	0.249	Accept	Not Significant

Responses of two groups

A study on Community Management Plans (CMPs) and police-community relations in Batangas PNP is shown in Table 10. Results showed no significant difference across groups, with probability values of 0.316, 0.448, 0.420, 0.374, and 0.249. The Community Organization's responses to "Forging Partnership," Community Information and Education's to "Fostering Awareness and Ownership," Community Empowerment and Mobilization's to "Certification of Mobilized Barangay," and Police-Community Relations were also similar.

Because ideals, expertise, and experience inform a community organization's mission to find and enable shared goals. Community organization is often grassroots, with people with limited power working together to address local issues,

Table 11. Difference between the Implementation of CMPs and its Effect on the Police-Community Relations of Batangas PNP

CMPs	Computed f-value		p-value		Decision on H_0		Interpretation	
	PP	CM	PP	CM	PP	CM	PP	CM
Community Organization	-0.608	**-2.720**	0.547	**0.006**	Accept	**Reject**	Not Significant	**Significant**
Community Information and Education	-0.590	**-2.771**	0.560	**0.005**	Accept	**Reject**	Not Significant	**Significant**
Community Empowerment and Mobilization	-0.364	**-2.109**	0.718	**0.035**	Accept	**Reject**	Not Significant	**Significant**

CMPs	Computed *f-value*		*p-value*		Decision on H₀		Interpretation	
Certification of Mobilized Barangay	-0.247	-1.079	0.806	0.280	Accept	Accept	Not Significant	Not Significant

*Implementation of CMPs vs its effect on the police-community relations of Batangas PNP

PCADU personnel reported no substantial variations in Community Management Plans (CMPs) execution or police-community relations in Batangas PNP. Significant disparities in CMP implementation in certified mobilized barangays suggest community members may not be aware of these mobilization efforts. Based on goals, the study says community organizing can be done in several ways. Because most citizens in those certified mobilized barangays were touched by the intensified mobilization initiatives performed by PCADU personnel, their connection with police officers improved.

Conclusions

Based on the findings, the following conclusions were drawn:

Majority of the community members belong to middle class socio-economic status, the nature of work is in line with business and living in a rural type of community/ barangay, while most of the Police Officers have the rank of Police Corporal and below 5 years in service as personnel of Police Community Affairs and Development Unit (PCADU).

Moreover, majority of the PCADU personnel described CMPs in terms of Community Organization under "Forging Partnership" (Strategic Priority Areas), Community Information and Education under Fostering Awareness and Ownership (Strategic Priority Area), Community Empowerment and Mobilization, as always implemented while the community members described it as often implemented. More so, both PCADU personnel and community members described CMPs in terms of Certification of Mobilized Barangay, as always implemented.

Meanwhile, majority of the PCADU personnel and community members strongly agreed on the effects of strengthening the CMPs in building the relations of the police and community in Batangas Province.

Further, there is no significant difference between the responses of the two groups as to the implementation of CMPs and its effect on the Police-Community relations in Batangas Province, while, there are significant differences between the implementation of CMPs in terms of Community Organization, Community Information and Education, and Community Empowerment and Mobilization, and its effect on the Police-Community Relations in Batangas Province, based on the responses of the PCADU personnel.

Furthermore, the results of the study will become the basis in designing output of the study which will be proposed as input to help improve the sustainability of CMPs in Batangas Province based on the least rated items.

Recommendations

Based on the conclusions provided, here are some recommendations for the study:

Given the rural nature of the community and the predominant middle-class socio-economic status, tailor community mobilization programs to suit the specific needs and dynamics of this demographic. Consider incorporating business-oriented initiatives or rural development projects into the program.

Since most Police Officers in the PCADU are ranked as Police Corporal and have less than 5 years of service, provide training and capacity-building programs to enhance their skills in community engagement, conflict resolution, and program implementation. This will better equip them to effectively engage with the community and strengthen police-community relations.

Ensure clear understanding and alignment between PCADU personnel and community members regarding the different components of the Community Mobilization Programs

(CMPs). This may involve providing comprehensive training and resources to both groups, emphasizing the goals and methods of each program component.

Establish robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to regularly assess the implementation and effectiveness of CMPs. Identify key performance indicators (KPIs) related to community organization, information and education, and empowerment and mobilization, and consistently track progress towards achieving these goals.

Foster inclusive decision-making processes that involve both PCADU personnel and community members in designing and implementing CMPs. This will ensure that the programs are responsive to the needs and priorities of the community while also garnering support and ownership from all stakeholders.

Use the results of the study as a basis for continuous improvement and refinement of CMPs in Batangas Province. Focus on addressing the least-rated items identified in the study to enhance the sustainability and effectiveness of these programs over time.

Facilitate knowledge sharing and collaboration among different stakeholders, including government agencies, non-profit organizations, and community groups, to leverage resources, expertise, and experiences in implementing CMPs. This collaborative approach can enhance the impact and reach of community mobilization efforts in the province.

These recommendations aim to strengthen the implementation and effectiveness of CMPs in Batangas Province and contribute to building positive police-community relations.

Lastly, similar research may be conducted to further verify and expand the results of the study especially in terms of certified mobilized barangays.

Acknowledgment

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