



<https://doi.org/10.64211/190102>

# Community-Driven Solutions for Sustainable Development: A Needs Assessment in Caarusipan, San Juan, La Union

**Bernardo B. Tayaban Jr.<sup>1</sup>, Marites C. Pagdilao<sup>2\*</sup>, Jennifer H. Arquero<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1,2,3</sup> LORMA Colleges - Campus for Health Sciences, San Fernando City, La Union, Philippines.

\* Corresponding author: marites.pagdilao@lorma.edu

© Author(s)

OIDA International Journal of Sustainable Development, Ontario International Development Agency, Canada.

ISSN 1923-6654 (print) ISSN 1923-6662 (online) [www.oidaijsd.com](http://www.oidaijsd.com)

Also available at <https://www.ssrn.com/index.cfm/en/oida-intl-journal-sustainable-dev/>

**Abstract:** Community extension is one of the trifocal functions of Philippine Higher Education Institutions in addition to Instruction and Research to contribute to the holistic development of communities through effective partnership, communication and planning of community projects and activities. This study was conducted to assess the available resources and identify the needs of Barangay Caarusipan, San Juan, La Union. The study employed a quantitative-descriptive design, utilizing a prepared survey questionnaire to gather data from the residents of the barangay. Ethical principles were observed in all aspects of data collection. The responses were tallied, counted, and presented in tabular form for analysis. Based on the findings of the study, the current services are a good foundation but need to be complemented with education and youth-focused initiatives to unlock economic potential and ensure long-term sustainability. This can create a cycle of empowerment – a better education that can boost employment, improve health, and an overall higher quality of life. Moreover, the strong social bonds or bayanihan and the high level of involvement among the residents are recognized as a powerful asset that can drive positive change. In response, the researchers have developed the Lorma Colleges Three-Year Community Extension Program for Barangay Caarusipan.

**Keywords:** Needs Assessment, Lorma Colleges, Barangay Caarusipan, Community Extension Program, Empowerment

## Introduction

Community extension is one of the trifocal functions of Philippine higher education institutions in addition to instruction and research. Schools are committed to conduct community engagements not only to perform this function but more importantly to be able to contribute to the development of a community through effective partnership, communication and planning projects and activities.

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) defines extension as the act of communicating, persuading, and helping specific sectors or target clienteles to enable them to effectively improve production, community and institutions, and quality of life. This definition is provided by CHED Memorandum Order (CMO) Number 06, Series of 2023 and it also provides that extension activities should generate impact by responding to any of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that aim to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that all people will enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030.

It is recognized that in general the different barangays, as the smallest political unit in the Philippines, are facing challenges that cause barriers to their development. In his study, Pineda (2024) concurred that as the primary unit of local governance, the barangay faces challenges in terms of limited resources and inadequate infrastructure but on the other hand, he posed that every barangay presents opportunities for growth and development, particularly in promoting sustainable development and good governance coupled with barangay empowerment to address challenges and harnessing its potential as a catalyst for positive change. This statement was affirmed in an essay

reviewed by Dr. Johnson (2023), that barangays represent the front lines when it comes to addressing issues affecting Filipino citizens including the persistent challenges related to waste, crime, unemployment, infrastructure, and public services.

The authors concluded that barangays could drive grassroots change that enhances their communities by partnering with outside organizations and engaging residents in improving initiatives. It is suggested that implementing extension programs for the school's recognized community may help elevate the community's standing once the extension offices develop appropriate activities for them (Moralista et. al, 2023) and recommended that program intervention in the form of Livelihood Training Center exclusively to empower and enhance the initiation of the community to its growth and development should be established (Micabalo, 2022).

Lorma Colleges as an educational institution is committed to its role in providing community service. For several years, the school was conducting community extension programs through its "Adopt a Barangay Program" where the administrators, faculty and staff and students plan and implement community engagements activities in various communities in La Union. This School Year 2024-2025, the school renewed its commitment in community service by designating a director for community extension and appointing community coordinators from the various academic and administration departments of the school to enhance its community engagement activities. With this, the school was able to sign partnership agreements with other barangays and organizations for the conduct of community programs and activities.

Barangay Caarusipan is one of the 41 barangays of San Juan, La Union and was endorsed by the Municipal Local Government Unit of San Juan, La Union as the suited partner for Lorma Colleges in terms of community engagement. According to the barangay health workers, there are only 509 residents with 149 family heads within 109 households in the barangay. The barangay captain also shared that most of the people rely on farming as the main source of income with rice and corn as the main crops being farmed in the barangay. In addition, a few residents are engaged in manual work as laborers and hired daily workers on the farm. This information provided were verified and expounded through a needs analysis and were documented to give a good picture of the barangay and available resources and needs were determined as basis for formulation of solution-driven sustainable development programs and strategies for the barangay.

This needs assessment study is of critical importance to the community as it sought to identify and prioritize the most pressing needs and opportunities for development within the barangay. By systematically analyzing the challenges and resources present in the community, this study aimed to provide a foundation for evidence-based planning and decision-making. The significance of the study is outlined as follows: The study will empower residents by giving them a platform to voice their concerns, aspirations, and priorities. Their active participation ensures that the outcomes of the assessment reflect the real needs of the community, fostering ownership and collaboration in addressing these issues.

The findings of this study will serve as a valuable resource for barangay officials, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other stakeholders. It will provide them with actionable data to allocate resources efficiently; design targeted programs and implement sustainable interventions that address the root causes of community challenges. It will serve as a baseline for future needs assessments, enabling the monitoring and evaluation of progress over time. Finally, this study will play a pivotal role in driving sustainable development within the barangay, promoting a higher quality of life for its residents, and fostering a stronger, more cohesive community.

This study is anchored on the following theories and concepts. Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs by Abraham Maslow in 1943 as presented by McLeod (2024) describes that human needs were arranged in a hierarchy with physiological /survival needs at the bottom, and the more creative and intellectually oriented self- actualization needs at the top. This may provide guidance in the categorization of the needs, and it will help prioritize the community / barangay needs based on hierarchical levels.

The Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) Model developed by Kretzmann and McKnight in 1993 emphasizes the development of policies and activities involving the capacities and skills of neighborhood residents (Mclure, 2022). Social Capital Theory according to Fiorini et. al, (2018) was first introduced by Bourdeau in 1985 and was defined as "the aggregate of the actual or potential resources which are linked to possession of a durable network of more /less institutionalized relationships of mutual acquaintance /recognition."

The Ecological Systems Theory developed by Bronfenbrenner in 1977 suggests that an individual's development is influenced by an interconnected environmental system ranging from immediate surroundings to a broad societal structure (Evans, 2024). The Theory of Change (TOC), introduced by Weiss in 1995, is a structured approach to

articulating and documenting the underlying logic of how a program or intervention is expected to create change (Goldsworthy, 2021). This will guide planning and evaluation of programs to ensure alignment between goals, activities, and results.

## Objectives

This study was conducted to determine the available resources and needs of Barangay Caarusipan, San Juan, La Union.

## Materials and methods

This study employed a quantitative - descriptive design as it aimed to describe the available resources and to establish the needs of Barangay Caarusipan. It focuses on the objective measurement and statistical analysis of data to provide a clear and concise summary of the research topic.

The data were gathered from the residents of Barangay Caarusipan, San Juan, La Union including the members of the barangay council. Incidental / convenience sampling was implemented where any residents of the barangay were easy to reach or access. An individual can be enrolled in this study if he or she is residing in barangay Caarusipan indiscriminate of their age, gender, employment status and number of years living in the said barangay. Nonresidents of barangay Caarusipan were excluded from the study. The interview schedule was utilized as the main tool to gather information using a prepared survey questionnaire which is divided into four main sections intended to gather information along the demographic profile of the respondents, community services and resources, community issues, community engagement and improvement. An interview with the members of the Barangay Council was conducted to gather additional information about the community and their concerns. However, information gathered from this key informant interview was used only for contextual enrichment and descriptive purposes and was not subjected to the same statistical analysis as the survey data, thereby mitigating its potential to skew the primary quantitative findings.

The sample for this study consisted of 54 respondents, who were residents of Barangay Caarusipan, San Juan, La Union. These individuals were included based on the incidental/convenience sampling method, meaning they were readily accessible and available at the time of data collection. Despite the non-probability selection, these respondents served as the primary data source, providing empirical information utilized to assess the barangay's available resources and identify its prioritized community needs through the survey questionnaire prepared.

To effectively mitigate potential internal biases inherent in the collected data, a deliberate strategy was employed despite the non-random convenience sampling technique used. While the sampling method introduced a risk of selection bias, the integrity of the data collected from the participants was rigorously maintained. Measurement bias was minimized by ensuring the survey instrument was culturally and linguistically appropriate, evidenced by the translation of the questionnaire into iloco to guarantee all respondents fully comprehended the questions and could provide accurate responses. Furthermore, to counteract response bias (such as social desirability), strict ethical protocols were observed, specifically emphasizing the confidentiality and anonymity of all information provided and the voluntary nature of participation, which fostered a neutral environment conducive to honest data provision.

This self-funded study was submitted and approved by the Chairman of the Campus for Health Sciences – Graduate Studies and Research Institute (CHS – GSRI) and Lorma Colleges before it was approved by the Research Ethics Committee (LC-REC). Ethical principles were implemented in all aspects of data gathering. The collection of data was done with the help of the barangay captain on a house-to-house basis from the month of February to March 2025. The researchers let the respondents answered the questionnaire at their most convenient time. The questionnaire was translated in iloco for the respondents who cannot comprehend English.

The respondents were informed and reminded through an informed consent form provided to them containing the objectives and importance of the study, informing them that the information they have provided will be kept in anonymity and confidential, and they were not forced to join the study and were free to withdraw anytime without harming their future services or relationship with the researchers. The participation of the respondents in this research study was entirely voluntary and has no bearing on their job or on any work-related evaluations or reports. Providing the name of the respondents was optional, and nobody outside the research team will have access to the document, and nothing will be attributed to the respondents by their name.

Once the respondents participate in this research study, they represent not only their families but also the barangay as a community and make them aware of their rights as residents of their barangay. Sharing their experiences and perspectives can greatly contribute to the betterment of the barangay and will directly benefit all the people of

Barangay Caarusipan. The information gathered from the research will be shared with the respondents before it is made widely available to the public. They will be informed once the research has been publicized. The data gathered will be stored for five years after the completion of the study and it will be deleted from the database.

The data collected from the respondents were compiled, analyzed, discussed, interpreted, and stored by the researchers. The statistical tools used were the mean computation, percentage, and frequency. The responses of the respondents were presented in tables after they were tallied and counted. Frequency counts and percentages were utilized for the interpretation and analysis of the profile of the residents and the available community resources in the barangay. The community issues and concerns in the barangay were interpreted and analyzed using the weighted mean and ranking based on the 5-point Likert scale.

## Results

The demographic profile of the respondents refers to the socio-economic information or characteristics of a particular population expressed statistically. The variables needed are age, gender, employment status and the number of years living in barangay Caarusipan. The researchers obtained these individual features to acquire a more profound knowledge of the population they had selected as their respondents.

**Table 1: Age Group Distribution of the Respondents**

Age Range	F	%
18 and below	1	1.85
18-24	6	11.11
25-34	9	16.67
35-44	12	22.22
45-54	3	5.56
55-64	10	18.52
65 and above	13	24.07
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**Source:** Data collected from the study (*Community-Driven Solutions for Sustainable Development: A Needs Assessment in Caarusipan, San Juan, La Union*).

Age refers to how long an individual has been alive or existed. Age is measured by calculating the years between the day an individual was born and the present time or year. The distribution of respondents by age in Table 1 varies, with a clear concentration in the older age brackets. After the 65+ group, the 35-44 age group was the second most represented, with 12 respondents (22.22%), followed by the 55-64 group with 10 respondents (18.52%). The least represented group was those 18 and below, with only one respondent (1.85%). The high rate of participation among the elderly or 'boomer' age group (65+) suggests they were more available for the interview. This could be due to a higher rate of unemployment among these specific demographics in the study area, making them more accessible for data collection.

**Table 2: Gender Distribution of the Respondents**

Gender	F	%
Male	22	40.74
Female	32	59.26
Other	0	0.00
Do not want to tell	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**Source:** Data collected from the study (*Community-Driven Solutions for Sustainable Development: A Needs Assessment in Caarusipan, San Juan, La Union*).

Gender refers to a person's internal sense of their own identity as male, female, or somewhere on the spectrum. This variable determines the number and proportion of males and females in barangay Caarusipan. In Table 2, majority of respondents were female, with 32 individuals making up 59.26% of the total sample. In contrast, there were 22 male respondents, accounting for 40.74%. The higher number of female respondents can be attributed to their increased

availability for interviews. Many of these women were mothers or grandmothers who primarily stayed at home, making them more accessible to the researchers. In contrast, many of the male residents were either at work or were less inclined to participate in the survey.

**Table 3: Employment Status of the Respondents**

Employment Status	F	%
Full time	8	14.55
Part time	10	18.52
Self Employed	5	9.26
Unemployed	25	46.30
Student	2	3.70
Retired	4	7.41
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**Source:** Data collected from the study (*Community-Driven Solutions for Sustainable Development: A Needs Assessment in Caarusipan, San Juan, La Union*).

Employment status defines a current or former employee's relationship with the organization they work for. The types of employment status include full-time employees, temporary employees, self-employed, and unemployed. As shown in Table 3, the majority of the 54 respondents are unemployed, with 25 individuals accounting for 46.30% of the total. Following this, part-time workers make up the second-largest group with 10 respondents (18.52%), while full-time employees are the third largest with 8 respondents (14.55%). The remaining participants include 5 who are self-employed (9.26%), 4 who are retired (7.41%), and 2 who are students (3.7%). The high representation of unemployed individuals in the survey sample suggests that their accessibility and flexible schedules made them more available for interviews compared to those with full-time jobs or other commitments. This pattern highlights a potential sampling bias, where the study's findings may more accurately reflect the opinions and characteristics of the unemployed population within the area.

**Table 4: Number of Years Living in Barangay Caarusipan**

Number of Years	F	%
Less than 1 year	1	1.85
1-5 years	6	11.11
6-10 years	3	5.56
More than 10 years	44	81.48
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**Source:** Data collected from the study (*Community-Driven Solutions for Sustainable Development: A Needs Assessment in Caarusipan, San Juan, La Union*).

The number of years living in barangay Caarusipan refers to the length of stay of the respondents in the barangay. As detailed in Table 4, the vast majority of the 54 respondents have been residents for an extended period. More than 10 years of residency was reported by 44 respondents, accounting for 81.48% of the total. In contrast, only a small number of residents were new to the area, with just 1 respondent (1.85%) living there for less than a year. The remaining respondents lived there for 1-5 years (6 individuals, 11.11%) or 6-10 years (3 individuals, 5.56%). The high percentage of long-term residents is consistent with the survey's demographic profile, which included a large number of older adults. This trend suggests a stable, well-established community where many residents have lived for a significant portion of their lives, fulfilling a developmental need for stability and a sense of belonging.

**Table 5: Available Community Services in Caarusipan as Perceived by the Respondents**

Community Services	F	%
Health Care Services	23	29.87
Child Care Programs and Services	22	28.57
Public Transportation	4	5.19
Program for the Youth	10	12.99
Education	6	7.79
Employment Services	2	2.60
Mental Health	2	2.60
Services for Senior Citizen	8	10.39
<b>Total</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**Source:** Data collected from the study (*Community-Driven Solutions for Sustainable Development: A Needs Assessment in Caarusipan, San Juan, La Union*).

Table 5 emphasizes the available services in Caarusipan as perceived by the respondents. It displays that residents in the barangay show the highest awareness of Health Care Services, with 23 participants (29.87%) acknowledging their existence. This is closely followed by Child Care Programs and Services, which 22 respondents (28.57%) were aware of. Awareness was significantly lower for other services, particularly Mental Health and Employment Services, which were only mentioned by 2 respondents each (2.60%). The high awareness of Health Care and Child Care Services likely reflects their universal necessity and frequent use within the community. The high number of parents and grandparents among the respondents could explain the strong awareness of child-related programs. Interestingly, despite the large number of unemployed respondents (as noted in Table 3), awareness of Employment Services was extremely low. This suggests a disconnect between the community's needs and their knowledge of available resources. This could be because many unemployed respondents are senior citizens or mothers who have chosen to stay home and therefore do not actively seek out or have knowledge of job-related programs. Similarly, the low awareness of Mental Health Services may indicate that these programs are not well-established or effectively publicized within the community.

**Table 6: Top Three (3) Services Needed by Barangay Caarusipan as Perceived by the Respondents**

Services	F	%
Education	7	25.00
Environment Programs and Services	8	28.57
Financial Support for Agribusiness	1	3.57
Health Care Services	9	32.14
Livelihood	3	10.71
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**Source:** Data collected from the study (*Community-Driven Solutions for Sustainable Development: A Needs Assessment in Caarusipan, San Juan, La Union*).

Table 6 shows the Top 3 Services Needed by the Barangay as perceived by the respondents. This parameter is based on Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs which identifies the needs of an individual, and Bourdieu's Social Capital Theory which defines how social networks provide resources to their members. This will also determine what programs need to maintain or prioritize. The Health Care Services sector garnered the highest frequency with a total of 9 or 32.14% of the population. Environmental Programs and Services followed with a frequency of 8 or 28.57%. Another 7 or 25% of the respondents said education services are also needed, followed by Livelihood programs with a frequency of 3 or 10.71%; and Financial Support for Agribusiness with a frequency of 1 or 3.57%.

Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs postulates that health is a physiological need necessary for survival and in addressing higher-level needs. The data suggests that the barangay has to maintain or strengthen its healthcare services as they will be the frontline access point for basic healthcare, and this would mean covering the healthcare needs of its residents to the best they can. In Bourdieu's Social Capital Theory, giving access to resources is a way for social networks to provide value to their members. Although the barangay has access to external institutions such as

healthcare programs from the LGU and medical missions conducted by other institutions, these activities may not seem to fully accommodate all the residents' health concerns due to the limited time, services, and manpower that these institutions can offer. However, it is recommended that the barangay should organize health promotions such as raising awareness about diseases and preventive measures.

Contrastingly, even if most of them are unemployed, only a few of them perceive the Livelihood and Agribusiness sectors as a need in their barangay. This is because half of the total number of these unemployed individuals are senior citizens already, thus their focus of need is mostly on the Health Sector.

**Table 7: Strengths of the Community as Perceived by the Respondents**

Strengths	F	%
Bayanihan	8	44.44
Unity	4	22.22
Community Service / Manpower	2	11.11
Law-Abiding	2	11.11
Peaceful	2	11.11
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**Source:** Data collected from the study (*Community-Driven Solutions for Sustainable Development: A Needs Assessment in Caarusipan, San Juan, La Union*).

Table 7 illustrates the strengths of the community as perceived by the respondents. The Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) Model is the basis of this indicator, which identifies the strengths, resources, and skills within a community that can be used to address local challenges and foster collaboration to promote change in the community. The eight (8) respondents comprising 44.44% of the total responses revealed that "bayanihan" is indeed one of the strengths of their community, followed by "unity" with a frequency of 4 or 22.22%; then followed by the criteria, "community service/manpower", "law-abiding", and "peaceful", each with a frequency of 2 or 11.11% of the responses.

The ABCD Model identified individual skills and community organizations as assets. The data presented above reflects that the Filipino cultural concept of "bayanihan" is still practiced in the community, as the term is used to describe cooperation and demonstrate unity as helping one another without expecting reward. This is different from "unity", which is a general state of being together or in agreement with something. These two attributes reflect the cohesiveness of the residents; and these are the factors that can either facilitate or inhibit plans being presented to them by their barangay officials.

**Table 8: Community Issues or Concern as Perceived by the Respondents**

Issues	Weighted Mean	Descriptive Equivalent
Access to Healthcare	3.37	Moderate concern
Unemployment	3.52	High concern
Crime and Safety	3.23	Moderate concern
Education Quality	3.68	High concern
Mental Health Services	3.37	Moderately concern
Substance Abuse	1.41	Not a concern
Transportation	2.49	Slight concern
Environmental Issues	2.38	Slight concern

*Legend: 1.01-1.80 – not a concern; 1.81-2.60 – slight concern; 2.61-3.40 – moderate concern; 3.41-4.20 - high concern; 4.21-5.00 – extremely high concern*

**Source:** Data collected from the study (*Community-Driven Solutions for Sustainable Development: A Needs Assessment in Caarusipan, San Juan, La Union*).

Table 8 demonstrates how concerned the participants are about the given measures. This traces the factors that contribute to the community issues based on the respondents' point of view. Education Quality has the highest recorded response with a weighted mean of 3.68, followed by Unemployment with a weighted mean of 3.52, both are under the descriptive equivalent of "Highly Concerned". Access to Healthcare has a weighted mean of 3.37 while Crime and Safety has a weighted mean of 3.23, both fall under "Moderately Concerned". Criterions that fall under the "Slightly Concerned" interpretation are Transportation and Environmental Issues with weighted means of 2.49 and 2.38 respectively. Substance Abuse has the lowest value garnering 1.41 weighted mean that it falls under the "Not Concerned" interpretation. This result may denote that the respondents are highly concerned about the quality of education that they or their children receive, which is seen as a basis for employability. They see education quality and unemployment as community issues maybe because it impacts the development of the community in terms of economic progression and quality of life of the residents.

**Table 9: Most Important Issues Facing Barangay Caarusipan as Perceived by the Respondents**

Issues	Frequency	%	Rank
Livelihood and Employment (Financial)	17	25.76	1
Education (Scholarships, Help for Students)	15	22.73	2
Health Programs and Services(Consultation, Laboratory, Health Center, Medicine)	12	18.18	3
Cleanliness	5	7.58	4.5
Infrastructure (Road Improvement, River / Flood Control)	5	7.58	4.5
Services For Senior Citizens	2	3.03	7
Transportation	2	3.03	7
Waste Management	2	3.03	7
Child Care	1	1.52	11.5
Discipline	1	1.52	11.5
Family Conflict Resolution	1	1.52	11.5
Food Security	1	1.52	11.5
Mental Health Programs	1	1.52	11.5
Sports Program	1	1.52	11.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100.00</b>	

**Source:** Data collected from the study (*Community-Driven Solutions for Sustainable Development: A Needs Assessment in Caarusipan, San Juan, La Union*).

In Table 9, Livelihood and Employment are considered the most critical issues by residents, with 17 respondents (25.76%) identifying it as a top concern. This is followed by Quality of Education, which 15 respondents (22.73%) highlighted, and Health Programs and Services, mentioned by 12 respondents (18.18%).

The focus on Livelihood and Employment is consistent with the survey's finding that nearly half of the respondents are unemployed. This suggests that financial instability is a major source of anxiety and a primary driver of other community issues. The emphasis on Education and Health is also a direct reflection of the demographic, as many respondents are parents who are concerned about their children's schooling and the overall well-being of their families. The high number of unemployed parents, in particular, may explain why financial support for education, such as scholarships, is a significant concern. Additionally, the perception of Health as a major issue likely stems from a lack of readily available local health facilities. The need to travel for basic services like consultations or medicine adds to the financial and logistical burden on residents, highlighting a crucial gap in community services. The low priority given to other issues, such as Mental Health and Family Conflict Resolution, may indicate that these problems are either not as prevalent or are simply not perceived as significant as the more immediate concerns of livelihood, education, and health.

**Table 10: Degree of Engagement in Community Activities**

Degree of Involvement	F	%
Very Involved	30	56.60
Somewhat Involved	19	35.85
Not Involved but Interested	4	7.55
Not Involved, not Interested	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**Source:** Data collected from the study (*Community-Driven Solutions for Sustainable Development: A Needs Assessment in Caarusipan, San Juan, La Union*).

Table 10 indicates that the majority of respondents are highly engaged in their community. A significant portion, 30 out of 54 (56.50%), reported being very involved in community activities. Additionally, 19 respondents (35.85%) said they were somewhat involved, while only 4 respondents (7.55%) stated they were not involved but interested. High degree of community involvement among respondents is likely a result of their time and availability, as many of them are unemployed or retired. Their active participation allows them to be more aware of the barangay's programs and services. This level of engagement reinforces the data from other tables, which showed strong community cohesion (Table 7) and awareness of local services (Table 5). The findings suggest that the participants are not only residents but also active members of their community, making their perceptions on local issues and services particularly valuable.

**Table 11: Barriers Preventing being more Involved in Community Activities as Perceived by the Respondents**

Barriers	F	%	Rank
Family or Work Commitments	24	52.17	1
Lack of Information	10	21.74	2
Lack of time	8	17.39	3
Transportation Issues	2	4.35	4.5
Others: Senior Citizen	2	4.35	4.5
Lack of Interest in Current Activities	0	0.00	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>100.00</b>	

**Source:** Data collected from the study (*Community-Driven Solutions for Sustainable Development: A Needs Assessment in Caarusipan, San Juan, La Union*).

In Table 11, the primary barrier preventing residents from being more involved in community activities is Family or Work Commitments, cited by 24 respondents (52.17%). This is followed by a Lack of Information (10 respondents, 21.74%) and a Lack of Time (8 respondents, 17.39%). The least common barriers were Transportation Issues and "Others: Senior Citizen", each mentioned by 2 respondents (4.35%). Notably, no one cited a lack of interest in current activities.

The data aligns with the Ecological Systems Theory, which posits that a person's immediate environment, or microsystem, significantly influences their behavior. The survey's adult respondents, particularly those with family and career responsibilities, prioritize their roles as parents and employees. The demands of their jobs and families consume their time and energy, making it difficult for them to participate in community activities. This finding suggests that a person's primary responsibilities and life stage are the most significant factors influencing their level of community engagement.

Lack of information is also one of the barriers to community involvement. Information dissemination might not be done fully, and this can cause misunderstanding between the uninformed or unaware residents and the barangay officials. On the other hand, since none of them met the "Lack of Interest in Current Activities" criterion, it suggests that regardless of their status in other aspects of their lives, they are still interested in and want to participate in their community programs.

**Table 12: Programs and Services the Respondents would like to See More in Caarusipan**

Programs	F	%	Rank
Health and Wellness	20	27.78	1
Youth Programs	16	22.22	2.5
Adult Education / Skill Building Training	16	22.22	2.5
Livelihood	14	19.44	4
Recreation Activities	5	6.94	5
Social Programs / Events	1	1.39	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>100.00</b>	

**Source:** Data collected from the study (*Community-Driven Solutions for Sustainable Development: A Needs Assessment in Caarusipan, San Juan, La Union*).

Table 12 specifies the services that the respondents would like to see more of in barangay Caarusipan. This will assist in creating activities that can be incorporated into their existing programs. The services that the residents most want to see more of in Barangay Caarusipan are Health and Wellness activities, with 20 respondents (27.78%) selecting this option. This is closely followed by Youth Programs and Adult Education/Skill Building, both of which were chosen by 16 respondents each (22.22%). Livelihood programs were also a priority, with 14 responses (19.44%). The least requested service was Social Programs/Events, which only received 1 response (1.39%).

The high demand for Health and Wellness programs aligns with the earlier finding that residents perceive health as a major community issue. This indicates that residents not only recognize a need for better healthcare services but also desire programs that promote a healthy lifestyle, such as health education, community gardens, or support groups. The strong interest in Youth Programs and Adult Education also reflects a community-wide desire for personal and professional development opportunities. The data suggests that focusing on these key areas would effectively address the most pressing concerns and priorities of the residents.

**Table 13: Suggestions for Improvement for the Community**

Suggestions For Improvement	F	%	Rank
Environment Related Programs	15	48.39	1
Education-related Programs	6	19.35	2
Employment	4	12.90	3.5
Health Services	4	12.90	3.5
Sports Program	1	3.23	5.5
Spiritual Services	1	3.23	5.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>100.00</b>	

**Source:** Data collected from the study (*Community-Driven Solutions for Sustainable Development: A Needs Assessment in Caarusipan, San Juan, La Union*).

Table 13 shows which program needs further improvement as suggested by the respondents. It can be seen that the most requested programs by residents of Barangay Caarusipan are Environment - Related Programs, which were chosen by 15 respondents (48.39%). This was followed by Education – Related Programs (6 respondents, 19.35%). Both Employment and Health Services were also a priority, each with 4 responses (12.90%). The least requested programs were Sports and Spiritual Services, each receiving only 1 response (3.23%).

The demand for Environment-Related Programs indicates that residents recognize the importance of a clean and safe environment. This aligns with Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, where a safe and stable environment is considered a fundamental safety need. By improving environmental services, the barangay can help residents feel more secure and protected from potential health and safety risks. The results suggest that the community sees environmental stability as a crucial factor for their well-being and is a clear area for the barangay to focus on for future initiatives.

### Conclusion

The following conclusions were derived from the results of the data gathered: (1)The demographic profile of the respondents points to a barangay with deep roots but significant economic challenges, particularly for women. (2)The community's services are strong on health care and childcare, weak on youth, education, public

transportation, employment, mental health, and services for senior citizens, which are aligned with some needs but leave gaps, especially given the unemployed female majority and long-term residency. (3) The three perceived needs – health care, environmental programs, and education are aligned with the respondents' profile – unemployed women, long-term residents, and age range 18-65, and above, and highlight key priorities for action. (4) The barangay's strengths – bayanihan and unity, and weaknesses – community service, law-abiding behavior, and peace create a mixed picture, with strong social capital but with gaps in governance and order. (5) The perceived issues or concerns that lie in access to health care, unemployment, crime and safety, quality of education, and mental health services are interconnected and require a holistic, community-driven approach. (6) The respondents perceived that livelihood is the most important issue, together with education and health programs, which are interrelated pillars of the community's well-being and align with the barangay's profile. (7) There is a high community involvement among the residents, which indicates active participation in local events, projects, and decision-making that reflects a strong social capital. (8) Three top barriers are preventing the involvement of residents in community services: family or work commitments, lack of information, and lack of time are common in the community, especially with middle-aged women and working residents. (9) The identified programs and services in health and wellness, youth programs, adult education/skill-building training, and livelihood are consistent with the identified services and programs. And (10) the respondents focused on environment-related programs, education-related programs, health services, and education as suggestions for the improvement of the community.

To ensure the rigor of the qualitative data, specifically from the open-ended survey items and the Barangay Council interview, strict ethical and methodological practices were applied to mitigate internal bias. The commitment to anonymity and confidentiality was paramount in minimizing response bias and encouraging honest feedback. The research team practiced reflexivity during the interpretation phase, critically evaluating their assumptions to ensure fidelity to the data. Furthermore, the qualitative insights were not subjected to thematic analysis but were used primarily for cross-reference and validation (triangulation). This allowed the researchers to confirm the context and narrative depth of the major quantitative findings, ensuring that the final conclusions were robustly supported by both the statistical results and the directly articulated experiences of the community.

### Recommendations

1. The current services are a good foundation but need to be complemented with education and youth-focused initiatives to unlock economic potential and ensure long-term sustainability.
2. Establish synergy between the three (3) identified needs, like:
  - a. health and environment – clean water and sanitation programs to reduce disease and ease healthcare burdens
  - b. education and employment – skills training helps women find jobs, improving household health and reducing reliance on community services
  - c. environment and youth – youth-led tree-planting or waste campaigns will build leadership skills while addressing environmental issues.
3. Combine the strong social bonds in the barangay with targeted action that can turn weaknesses into opportunities for growth and create a more inclusive, orderly, and resilient community.
4. By combining bayanihan with targeted, data-driven solutions, the barangay can address its most pressing concerns and build a healthier, safer, and more prosperous community.
5. Create a cycle of empowerment – better education that can boost employment, improve health, and overall quality of life.
6. Leverage on high involvement among the residents. This is a powerful asset that can drive positive change.

### The output of the Study: “Lorma Colleges’ Three-Year Community Extension Program in Barangay Caarusipan”

### References

CMO-No.-06-S.-2023.pdf (ched.gov.ph) retrieved October 17, 2024

Evans,O. (2024). Bronfenbrenner’s Ecological Systems Theory. Simp Psychology.<https://www.simplypsychology.org/bronfenbrenner.html>

Fiorini,P.et.al. (2018) . Management theory and big data literature: From a review to a research agenda. International Journal of Information Management. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S026840121830553X>

Frisnedi,A. Frisnedi ,A. Espinas,A. & Digo,L. (2022) Sustaining a Community Extension in the Most Vulnerable Community. International Journal of Science and Research (IJSR) ISSN: 2319-7064 SJIF (2022): 7.942. (39) Sustaining a Community Extension in the Most Vulnerable Community | april faith frisnedi - Academia.edu. Retrieved October 18, 2024.

Goldsworthy,K (2021). What is the theory of change? FAMILIES AND CHILDREN EXPERT PANEL PROJECT. [https://aifs.gov.au/sites/default/files/publication\\_documents/2109\\_what\\_is\\_theory\\_of\\_change\\_0.pdf](https://aifs.gov.au/sites/default/files/publication_documents/2109_what_is_theory_of_change_0.pdf)

Maclure, L. (2021). Augmentations to the asset-based community development model to target power systems. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15575330.2021.2021964>

McLeod, S. (2024). Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. <https://www.simplypsychology.org/maslow.html>

Micabalo, K. 2022. Assessment for a Sustainable Livelihood Driver: The Economic, Social and Environmental Viewpoint of a Community Extension Program. Asian Review of Social Sciences. Assessment for a Sustainable Livelihood Driver: The Economic, Social and Environmental Viewpoint of a Community Extension Program | Kingie Micabalo - Academia.edu. Retrieved October 14, 2024

Moralista, R., Rueda, R., Martir, E. & Artajo, T. 2023. Economic and Livelihood Benchmarking: A Basis for Community Extension Program Activities. International Multidisciplinary Research Journal. Economic and Livelihood Benchmarking: A Basis for Community Extension Program Activities | Request PDF (researchgate.net). Retrieved October 17, 2024.

Overcoming Key Issues Facing Barangays in the Philippines. (2023, September 01). *GradesFixer*. Retrieved October 11, 2024, from <https://gradesfixer.com/free-essay-examples/overcoming-key-issues-facing-barangays-in-the-philippines/>

**Next Page**

## Questionnaire



*Your Pathway to a Brighter Future*

**COMMUNITY EXTENSION SERVICES OFFICE**  
**Carlatañ, City of San Fernando**

### Community Needs Assessment Questionnaire

**Purpose:** The purpose of this survey is to identify the strengths and needs of your barangay. Your responses will help us develop programs and services to address these areas.

**Confidentiality:** All responses will remain confidential and anonymous.

#### **SECTION 1: Demographic Information**

What is your age group?

<input type="checkbox"/> 18-24	<input type="checkbox"/> 25-34	<input type="checkbox"/> 35-44
<input type="checkbox"/> 45-54	<input type="checkbox"/> 55-64	<input type="checkbox"/> 65+

What is your gender?

<input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Female	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say
-------------------------------	---------------------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------------------------------

What is your employment status?

<input type="checkbox"/> Employed full-time	<input type="checkbox"/> Employed part-time	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-employed
<input type="checkbox"/> Unemployed	<input type="checkbox"/> Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Retired
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____		

How long have you lived in this community?

<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 year	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-5 years
<input type="checkbox"/> 6-10 years	<input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 years

#### **SECTION 2: Community Services and Resources**

Which of the following services do you currently use or are aware of in your barangay?

(Check all that apply)

- Healthcare services (clinics, hospitals)
- Education (schools, adult education)
- Childcare services
- Job placement or employment services
- Public transportation
- Mental health services
- Youth programs
- Senior services
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 3:** What are the top three services you believe are most needed in your community?

<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Health Care Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Environment Programs and Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Livelihood
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Support for Agribusiness	

**SECTION 4:** What do you think are the community's greatest strengths?

<input type="checkbox"/> Bayanihan	<input type="checkbox"/> Peaceful
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Service / Manpower	<input type="checkbox"/> Unity
<input type="checkbox"/> Law-Abiding	

**SECTION 5: Community Issues**

How concerned are you about the following issues in your community?

(1 = Not concerned, 5 = Extremely concerned)

Issue	1	2	3	4	5
Access to healthcare	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Unemployment	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Crime and safety	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Education quality	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Mental health resources	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Substance abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Environmental issues (clean air/water)	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Others: Please Specify _____	<input type="checkbox"/>				

**SECTION 6:** What do you think are the three most important issues facing the community today?

<input type="checkbox"/> Child Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Cleanliness
<input type="checkbox"/> Livelihood and Employment (Financial)	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Programs
<input type="checkbox"/> Discipline	<input type="checkbox"/> Services for Senior Citizens
<input type="checkbox"/> Education (Scholarships, Help for Students)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sports Program
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Conflict Resolution	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Food Security	<input type="checkbox"/> Waste Management
<input type="checkbox"/> Health Programs and Services (Consultation, Laboratory, Health Center, Medicine)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure (Road Improvement, River Control, Flood Control)	

**SECTION 7: Community Engagement**

How involved are you in community activities?

<input type="checkbox"/> Very involved	<input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat involved
<input type="checkbox"/> Not involved, but interested	<input type="checkbox"/> Not involved, not interested

**SECTION 8:** What barriers prevent you from being more involved in community activities?  
(Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of time	<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of information
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation issues	<input type="checkbox"/> Family or work commitments
<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of interest in current activities	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____	

**SECTION 9:** What types of programs or activities would you like to see more of in the community?

<input type="checkbox"/> Youth programs	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult education or skill-building workshops	
<input type="checkbox"/> Job training or employment assistance	
<input type="checkbox"/> Recreational activities (sports, fitness, etc.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Health and wellness programs	
<input type="checkbox"/> Social events	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____	

**SECTION 10:** What improvements would you suggest for the community?

<input type="checkbox"/> Education-related Programs	<input type="checkbox"/> Health Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Environment Related Programs	<input type="checkbox"/> Sports Program

Thank you for your time and valuable input!

---

Signature



**COMMUNITY EXTENSION SERVICES OFFICE**  
**Carlatañ, City of San Fernando**

**Panagsukisok kadagiti Kasapulan ti Komunidad**

**Panggep:**

Ti panggep daytoy a surbey ket tapno maipakaammo dagiti kabaelan ken kasapulan ti barangay yo. Ti pagungtaran dagiti sungbat yo ket makatulong a mangpakaammo kadagiti programa ken serbisyo a mabalin a maiplano wenco maaramid para dagiti daytoy nga aspeto.

**Panakaitinnayon ti Sarikedda(Confidentiality):**

Amin nga sungbat ket maysa a sarikedda ken awanan ti nagan nga pakakilalaan.

**SEKSION 1: Impormasion Demograpiko**

Ania ti grupo ti pangtawen yo?

<input type="checkbox"/> Agtuinnay ti 18	<input type="checkbox"/> 18-24	<input type="checkbox"/> 25-34
<input type="checkbox"/> 45-54	<input type="checkbox"/> 55-64	<input type="checkbox"/> 65+

Ania ti kasarian yo?

<input type="checkbox"/> Lalaki	<input type="checkbox"/> Babai	<input type="checkbox"/> Sabali	<input type="checkbox"/> Haan kayat nga ibaga
---------------------------------	--------------------------------	---------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------

Ania ti kasasaad ti panagtrabaho yo?

<input type="checkbox"/> Full-time a nagtrabaho	<input type="checkbox"/> Part-time a nagtrabaho
<input type="checkbox"/> Adda sarili nga Negosyo (Self Employed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Awan trabaho
<input type="checkbox"/> Estudyante	<input type="checkbox"/> Retirado
<input type="checkbox"/> Adda pay sabali (pakiladawan): _____	

Mano tawen kayo nga ti nagyan iti daytoy nga barangay/komunidad?

<input type="checkbox"/> Awan pay laeng iti maysa a tawen	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-5 a tawen	<input type="checkbox"/> 6-10 a tawen
		<input type="checkbox"/> Sobra iti 10 a tawen

**SEKSION 2: Dagiti Serbisyo ken Rekursos ti Komunidad**

Ania kadagiti serbisyo ti madama maar-aramid wenco madama nga ma-araramat iti barangay?

(Pilyen amin nga maararamid )

- Serbisyo ti salun -at (Health care services)
- Edukasion (Example Adult Education)
- Serbisyo ti panangan ti ubing (Child Care)
- Serbisyo ti panagtrabaho (Employment)
- Publiko a transportasion
- Serbisyo ti mental a salun- at

- Programa para kadagiti agtutubo
- Serbisyo para kadagiti senior
- Sabali nga programa(pakiladawan): \_\_\_\_\_

**SEKSION 3:** Isurat ti tallo a serbisyo nga ammoyo a kasapulan unay iti komunidad yo?

<input type="checkbox"/> Edukasion	<input type="checkbox"/> Serbisio ti panagannad iti salun-at
<input type="checkbox"/> Programa ken serbisio para iti aglawlaw	<input type="checkbox"/> Pagbiabiagan
<input type="checkbox"/> Suporta a pinansial agpaay ti negosio a pang-agrikultura	

**SEKSION 4:** Ania dagiti kabaelan/ pannakkel (strengths) iti barangay yo?

<input type="checkbox"/> Bayanihan	<input type="checkbox"/> Kinatalna
<input type="checkbox"/> Serbisio ti Komunidad / Pwersa ti Trabaho	<input type="checkbox"/> Panagkaykaysa
<input type="checkbox"/> Agtalinaed ti Linteg	

**SEKSION 5: Dagiti Isyu ti Komunidad**

How concerned are you about the following issues in your community)

*Kas ano panagtalinaed yo dagiti sumaruno nga isyu iti komunidad?*

(1 = haan nga agtalinaed, 5 = agtalinaed unay )

Iyu	1	2	3	4	5
Panagserbi ti salun-at	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Panagtrabaho	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Krimen ken seguridad	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Kalidad ti edukasyon	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Serbisyo ti mental a salud	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Panangus-usar ti ilegal a droga	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Transportasyon	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Dagiti isyu ti kapalagipan (napudno ti angin/water)	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Sabali pay nga isyu (pakiladawan): _____	<input type="checkbox"/>				

**SEKSION 6:** Ania dagiti tallo nga kangrunaan nga isyu iti komunidad itatta?

- Panangtaripato iti ubbing
- Kinarinaw
- Disiplina
- Edukasion (Tulong para kadagiti Estudiante)
- Panangresolbar ti Haan a Pagkikinnaawatan ti Pamilya
- Seguridad ti Kaadda ti Kanen

- Programa Ken Serbisio Agpaay Ti Salun-at (Konsultasion, Labortorio, Sentro ti Salun-at, Medisina)
- Inprastruktura (Panagpataray ti Kalsada, Kontrol ti Karayan, Kontrol ti Panaglayos ti Danum)
- Pagbiag ken Trabaho
- Programa para iti Salun-at ti Panunot
- Serbisyo para kadagiti senior
- Programa ti *Sports*
- Transportasyon
- Kusto nga Panagibelleng ti Basura

#### **SEKSION 7: Pannaka-partisipar ken Pannakapasayaat iti Komunidad**

Kas ano ti panagpartisipar yo iti aktibidad ti komunidad?

- Kinanayon Makipartisipar
- Medyo Makipartisipar
- Haan Makiparpartisipar ngem interesado
- Haan makiparpartisipar, saan a interesado

**SEKSION 8:** Ania dagiti makabael (rason) apay haan kayo a makipartisipar iti aktibidad ti komunidad?

(Piliin amin a maikabil)

- Awan ti oras
- Awan ti impormasyon
- Problema ti transportasion
- Responsibilidad ti pamilya wenco trabaho
- Awan ti interes kadagiti aktibidad ita
- Sabali pay a rason (pakiladawan): \_\_\_\_\_

**SEKSION 9:** Ania nga klase ti programa wenco aktibidad ti kayat yo nga makita pay kuma iti komunidad?

- Programa para kadagiti agtutubo
- Edukasyon ti nagkakataengan wenco workshop para ti panangaywan iti kabaelan
- Pagsursuruan iti trabaho wenco tulong iti panagtrabaho
- Aktibidad ti rekreasion (sports, fitness, ken sabali pay laeng)
- Programa ti salun-at ken wellness
- Programa para sosyal nga aspeto (social events)
- Sabali pay nga programa (pakiladawan) \_\_\_\_\_

**SEKSIÓN 10:** Ania pay dagiti kayat yu nga isuggest para pagsayaatan o masuruan iti komunidad?

- Dagiti Programa a Maipanggep iti Edukasion
- Panagtrabaho
- Dagiti Programa a Maipanggep iti Aglawlaw
- Serbisio agpaay ti Salun-at
- Serbisio a Naespirituan
- Programa ti *Sports*

**Agyaman kami iti oras ken napateg a sungbat yo!**

---

Pirma



## **INFORMED CONSENT FORM**

**INSTRUCTION:** Please accomplish the form and ensure that all necessary documents are included in your submission.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION:**

Title of the Study: **COMMUNITY- DRIVEN SOLUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: A NEEDS ASSESSMENT IN CAARUSIPAN, SAN JUAN, LA UNION**

REC Code: 2025-067 No. of Study Participants: 54

Study Site: Barangay Caarusipan, San Juan, LaUnion

Name of Researcher/s: Bernardo B. Tayaban, Marites C. Pagdilao, Jennifer H. Arquero

Contact Information : Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Number: 0938-818-9966

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email : jennifer.arquero@lorma.edu

Name of Institution: Lorma Colleges - CHS

Institution's Address : Carlatan, San Fernando City, La Union

Type of Study:  Sponsored Clinical Trial  Biomedical Research  
 Researcher-Initiated Clinical Trials  Stem Cell Research  
 Health Operations Research  Genetic Research  
 Social or Behavioral Research  Others: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Public Health or Epidemiologic

Source of Funding :  Self-Funded  Scholarship/Research Grant

Government-Funded  Institution-Funded

Sponsored by Pharmaceutical Company

Others: \_\_\_\_\_

Duration of the Study: Start Date: October 2024 End Date: April 2025

### **INTRODUCTION** (Use Extra Sheet if Necessary)

Community extension is one of the trifocal functions of Philippine Higher Education Institutions in addition to Instruction and research. Schools are committed to conduct community engagements to perform not only to perform this function but more importantly to be able to contribute to the development of a community through effective partnership, communication and planning of community projects and activities.

### **PURPOSE OF RESEARCH** (Use Extra Sheet if Necessary)

Lorma Colleges as an educational institution is committed to its role in providing community service. For several years, the school was conducting community extension programs through its "Adopt a Barangay Program" where the administrators, faculty and staff and students plan and implement community engagements activities in various communities in La Union. This School Year 2024-2025, the school renewed its commitment in community service by designating a director for community extension and appointing community coordinators from the various academic and administration departments of the school to enhance its community engagement activities.

**TYPE OF RESEARCH INTERVENTION (Use Extra Sheet if Necessary)****1. Participant Selection**

You are being invited to take part in this research because we believe that your background and knowledge as a residence of Barangay Caarusipan can contribute much to the understanding of the study.

**2. Voluntary Participation**

Your participation in this research study is entirely voluntary. It is your choice whether to participate or not. It is okay if you choose not to participate in this research study. The choice that you make is entirely up to you and will have no bearing on your job or on any work-related evaluations or reports. You may change your mind later and stop participating even if you agreed earlier.

**3. Procedures**

We are asking you to help us assess the needs of Barangay Caarusipan. We are inviting you to take part in this research study. If you accept, you will be asked to answer a survey questionnaire. You will be asked to fill out a survey to be provided and later on collected by us on site. You may also answer the questionnaire yourself if you wish to, or it can be read to you, and you can say out loud the answer you want me to write down.

You will be asked to provide your socio-demographic profile (age, gender, employment status and how long you lived in Barangay Caarusipan) community services and resources, community issues, community engagement and improvement. If you do not wish to answer any of the questions included in the survey questionnaire, you may skip them and move on to the next question. Providing your name will be optional and all information that you provide will be strictly held confidential, and nobody outside the research team will have access to your document.

**4. Risks**

We will be asking you to share with us the needs of your barangay, you may share some personal or confidential information by chance, or you may feel uncomfortable talking about some of the topics. If ever this case happens and you may feel emotional discomfort or distress, you may take a break, and we will try our best to avoid the sensitive part for you or you may veer away from the question or choose not to answer it. You do not have to give us any reason for not responding to any question, or for refuse to answer the survey form. We will respect any decision or reactions you may have, and we will do our best to make you feel comfortable in the conduct of the data gathering.

**5. Benefits**

Once you participate in this research study you will have a chance to be heard by the officials of your barangay. Sharing your experiences and perspective can greatly contribute to the betterment of the barangay and will directly benefit all the people of barangay Caarusipan. Being part of this research study will make you aware of your rights as a residence of your barangay.

**6. Reimbursements**

You will not be provided any incentive to take part in this research. However, we will be offering snacks to express our gratitude.

## 7. Confidentiality

Rest assured that all information that you will provide will be treated with utmost anonymity and confidentiality. We will not be sharing information about you with anyone outside of the research team.

## 8. Sharing of Results

The information you will provide will not be shared to anybody outside the research team and nothing will be attributed to you by name. The knowledge that we get from this research will be shared with you before it is made widely available to the public. Each participant will receive a soft copy of the summary of the results. You will be informed once the research has been publicized.

## 9. Right to Refuse or Withdrawal

Your participation in this study is voluntary. You have the right to refuse or to withdraw your participation without any effect on your future undertakings in any way. You may cancel your participation at any time without providing us with an explanation of your withdrawal.

## 10. Who to Contact

Jennifer H. Arquero – 0938-818-9966 / Jennifer.arquero@lorma.edu

### ***CERTIFICATE OF CONSENT:***

I have read the information stated herein or it was properly explained to me. I was provided with a chance to ask questions relative to it. All questions I asked were answered properly; therefore, I consent and voluntarily participate in this study.

Name of Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Statement from the Researcher/Person Obtaining the Consent***

All information pertaining to this study was explained to the possible participant and made sure that he/she fully understood what she/he has to do in the research.

Similarly, I affirm that the potential participant was given with a chance to ask questions which I have answered accurately to the best of my ability.

Likewise, I affirm that the participant was not coerced or forced in giving consent. That he/she has voluntarily provided the consent.

Accomplished by: JENNIFER H. ARQUERO Date Submitted: 2-24-2025  
(Signature over Printed Name)

**Author(s) Biodata (50 words)**

Mr. Bernardo B. Tayaban, PTRP, MDA, PhD- Director of Community Extension Services, leads the team in exploring the impact of the extension programs of Lorma Colleges. Together with Mrs. Marites C. Pagdilao, MAN, MPA- Chairman of the CHS-GSRI and Ms. Jennifer H. Arquero, MBA – Staff Secretary of LC-REC.

