

COMMUNITY READINESS FOR FIRE INCIDENTS IN BARANGAY 178, CAMARIN, CALOOCAN CITY

ABSTRACT

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This study examined the level of preparedness of Barangay 178, Camarin, Caloocan City in addressing fire incidents. As one of the most populated communities in the city, with more than 110, 000 residents, the barangay faces significant fire risks due to narrow streets and clustered housing structures, which increase vulnerability to fire hazards. These conditions highlight the importance of assessing the community's readiness for fire prevention and emergency response. The study employed a quantitative-descriptive research design. A total of fifty (50) respondents were selected, composed of community residents, fire volunteers, and Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) personnel. A researcher-made and validated questionnaire served as the primary data collection instrument. The survey evaluated three key areas of preparedness: access to emergency hotlines, participation in fire safety programs, and availability of firefighting resources. Statistical analysis was conducted to determine whether significant differences existed among the respondent groups. The findings revealed that while the community demonstrates a certain level of awareness and engagement in fire prevention practices, several concerns remain. These include inadequate firefighting equipment, infrastructure limitations, and limited participation of residents in fire drills and safety-related activities. Statistical analysis showed no significant differences among the responses of residents, fire volunteers, and BFP personnel, indicating a shared perception regarding the barangay's current level of preparedness. The results suggest that Barangay 178 possesses foundational awareness and some existing fire safety mechanisms; however, improvements are still necessary to strengthen overall preparedness. Structural challenges and limited community involvement affect the effectiveness of fire response efforts. Enhancing readiness requires improved dissemination of fire safety information, provision and maintenance of essential resources, regular conduct of fire drills, strengthened safety campaigns, and closer collaboration between local authorities and residents. These measures are vital in building community resilience and ensuring more effective fire prevention and emergency response.

RECOMMENDED CITATION

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