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Family Financial Management during the Covid-19 Crisis: A Community Service Initiative for Tablanusu Village Jayapura Mothers

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ABSTRACT

Life is dynamic, twists and turns over a long period of time, many things can affect the financial goals that have been set, including during the current crisis due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We cannot close our eyes to the Covid-19 outbreak that occurred in the country of Indonesia at the beginning of 2020, causing a significant impact on almost all aspects of life. Not only health but also financial care is very important in solving this problem. However, good family financial management skills will help us get out of this problem easily. Through community service conducted by the teaching team and inviting students to discuss various solutions for family financial management for Tablanusu village mothers in times of crisis. The process of using this community service consists of the preparation stage starting from the inspection of the workplace, the work stage of introducing financial management, introducing finance, introducing household financial development with monitoring and analysis. The results obtained by the participants are equipping village mothers or PKK mothers with skills in managing family finances in times of crisis, so that they can help solve the problem of household arrangement funders in the future, such as ideas between partners and education costs. In organizing family finances, special solutions are needed, the use of money for certain purposes must be used as a measure of importance. Needs that are not urgent and only hobbies and activities that are not important can be crossed out of the list of expenses. Parents should make a list of basic/fundamental needs, secondary needs, and advanced needs. Women PKK remove secondary and advanced requirements if they have not fulfilled all the basic requirements. There is an urgent need for household leaders to organize all essential needs, this work can empower housewives who were previously unfamiliar with family financial management. In the face of all the family financial management problems they face, they are consequently mothers who must be careful about spending too much money that has no result or value.

Introduction

Everyone should have clear life goals to live a purposeful and focused life. These goals will guide us and help us stay focused on achieving them. One important goal is to deal with financial matters. Unfortunately, not everyone realizes how important it is to set clear financial goals. As a result, many people have worked for years but have no savings or have worked hard but their savings have not increased.

Individual financial management is often referred to as personal finance. Family financial management is a necessity that cannot be debated, as it has many effects on family members, not only individuals but also spouses, children, and even gender equality (Wiwik Berkelanjutan, 2015). Not only large corporations should manage their finances well, but also smaller families and individuals should organize their finances to balance income and debt. By managing finances well, life and the future can be easier and safer.

Setting financial goals is like planning for the future. You can't just rely on goals without a clear idea or picture of how to achieve them (Richard Mahaputra, 2021). Financial goals are projects that require financial planning. Over time, Richard suggests that all financial goals should have specific content so that what is desired today may vary and the means to achieve it may also vary.

The Covid-19 pandemic that has hit almost all countries has caused economic turmoil and impacted families, such as rising prices of necessities and the closure of many small and medium enterprises due to restrictions on social activities (PPKM). This also impacts family finances, especially for women or housewives who generally have a big role in the family. Therefore, knowledge and understanding of family financial arrangements are important to avoid mistakes in financial decision-making. It is important to manage these issues before meeting family needs to achieve financial stability. Surplus and deficit management is a principle that can help in managing family finances wisely. Financial literacy is also important for managing personal assets (Widayati, 2012). Individuals who can make wise financial decisions are likely to have future financial stability and the ability to meet their needs.

The community service partners this time are the women of Tablanusu Village, Depapri District, Jayapura Regency, led by Mrs. Heaney the wife of the Tablanusu Village Head. Considering the benefits of wisdom in managing family finances after the Covid-19 pandemic, this PKK has become helpful for the activities of mothers in Tablanusu Village. The Yapis University Papua Community Service Team offered training to the participants on skills in managing family finances. One of the main goals in setting financial goals is to achieve financial independence. Most people define financial independence as a broad concept. While financial independence should be defined by each individual personally, it can be defined as the ability to pay monthly bills worry-free and debt-free, as well as having the resources to help others, send children to college, or own assets of the desired value.

The concept of financial independence above shows that there are different trends among the partners, namely mothers in Tablanusu Village. Many of them have both positive and negative views regarding financial independence. Some of them feel that their desires have not been fulfilled, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic. This has led to several problems, such as expenses exceeding income, lack of financial planning for the future, and lack of family financial records.

The expected output of this community service project is the transfer of knowledge through education to the women partners of Tablanusu Village, Depapri District, Jayapura Regency. It is expected that partners can develop sustainable practices in managing family finances with steps such as planning, recording inventories, measuring needs, and purchasing power of each family member.

Research Design and Methodology

This community service was carried out at the residence of the head of the women of Tablanusu Village, Depapri District, Jayapura Regency, and the training was conducted on October 7, 2022. Interaction with partners is carried out during PKK activities to provide information on family financial management. These activities are carried out by the Yapis University Papua Service Lecturer Team following their scientific disciplines, aiming to train participants to better understand how to organize and manage family finances effectively.

In this Community Service, an information review will be conducted using relevant data. Primary data is obtained directly from the source or research objectives (Suharyadi and Purwanto, 2015). For this study, primary data was obtained through interviews with several mothers in Tablanusu Village to answer the problems analyzed by the researcher. The data was taken from the research site to reveal the problem and provide the information needed to answer the research objectives (Muhammad Habib Restinio, 2016). Data were collected from various sources using different methods and carried out periodically. The data collection methods used are interviews and documents, according to the characteristics of the data needed in this study.

Data analysis is the process of finding and collecting data from interviews, organizing data into groups, explaining and classifying it, looking for important patterns, and drawing conclusions so that it is easily understood by oneself and others (Sugiyono, 2009). This qualitative research conducted data analysis before, during, and after data collection. During the interview, researchers analyzed the responses of the interviewees.



Figure 1. Beach area of Tablanusu Village, Depapre District, Jayapura

Findings and Discussion

Findings & Discussion

After conducting this activity, we saw that women in Tablanusu Village are responsible for family finances. They seem to think about the best way to manage their finances at home. In a family affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a conflict between income and expenses due to financial problems. It is the mother's responsibility to manage the family finances well so that she can make good decisions about all household finances to fulfill daily needs which are then spread everywhere.

Financial management involves several plans or what can be called "smart tips" such as doing ***Economic planning***; preparing a budget by preparing a concept/type of invoice and equipment following the needs that arise during this time. ***Saving habits***; by instilling the habit of saving, the family's ability to manage finances will become easier and develop over time. ***Buying the right goods***; targeting the efficiency of income that can still be transferred to products that need to be faster and faster, so that they are more efficient, effective, and useful. ***Having a business aspect***; having a business or foreign trade will spread the movement of consumption and spending at home and sales. ***Have protection***; It is very important to think about and prevent or prevent risks that arise in the family and family. If a threat comes, it will also affect domestic finances but we do not have a shield or weapon to overcome it. But keep it relevant in context and as practical as possible. ***Passive income and passive investment***; Charity is an investment that is distributed as income before creating a product, which is a useful product that we can create with our capital or with other people's capital and generate income or expenses by maximizing it. Then passive charity, which is charity. Almsgiving does not make one poor. ***Avoiding debt***; Real debt must be paid off from savings, if the debt is more than your savings, there will be problems. So debt should be reduced as much as possible, or none at all.

To manage family finances effectively, families need to know some important tips on managing family finances. There are two important concepts about family financial management that families should know, namely balance sheet and loss/income and financial management. Cash is money that comes from us earning money, saving it, improving it, and using it in an organized, creative, and disciplined manner. Financial literacy must be known so that our family finances are stress-free and maintained. There is a saying "It doesn't matter if you don't have enough money, the important thing is that you know where it goes."

First, income. Earnings are activities whose goal is money/assets. Most income can be obtained from two occupations, such as salary and investment. Salary is earned as a worker/employee/professional/consultant. This salary can be earned by working as a couple in a family. Investment results are obtained from our activities in creating funds/assets in various ways. There are many ways to invest, such as deposits, real estate, stocks, mutual funds, bonds, and others. All our income is usually kept in cash or bank/ATM.

Second; spending. Debt means any activity that reduces money. You can see a lot from the picture. Family expenses. If not managed properly, it will disrupt the family finances and if prolonged, it will lead to loss of wealth. Generally, a family has many debts, such as home loans, loan repayments, insurance premiums, household services, children's needs, transportation, zakat/taxes, entertainment/sports, social, fashion, etc.

Third; financial statements and income statements. If someone asks you what is your current debt? How much did you earn last year? What is your income this month? What is the percentage increase/decrease/increase in your income this month compared to the same month last year?

The result obtained by the participants is to equip village mothers or PKK mothers with skills in managing family finances in times of crisis, so that they can help solve the problem of household arrangement funders in the future, such as the idea between partners and education costs. In managing family finances, special solutions are needed, and the use of money for certain purposes must be used as a measure of importance. Needs that are not urgent and only hobbies and activities that are not important can be crossed out of the list of expenses. Parents should make a list of basic/fundamental needs, secondary needs, and advanced needs. Women PKK remove secondary and advanced requirements if they have not fulfilled all the basic requirements. There is an urgent need for household leaders to organize all essential needs, this work can empower housewives who were previously unfamiliar with family financial management. In the face of all the family financial management problems they face, they are consequently mothers who must be careful about spending too much money that has no result or value.

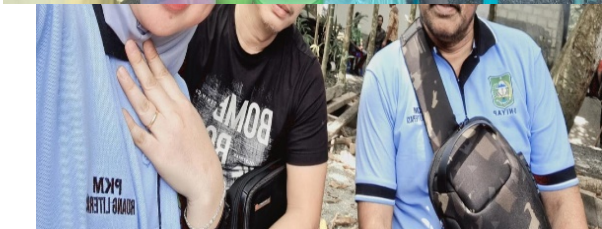


Figure 2: Training on Wisdom-Based Family Financial Management for Women in Tablanusu Village, Depapre District, Jayapura Regency.

Conclusion

This exercise opened a new understanding for the mothers of Tablanusu village, which was very satisfying for the mothers who participated. The training was huge, especially in the solutions they faced to all the problems of organizing family finances, which resulted in parents avoiding spending more money with less or less value, especially during the covid-19 outbreak. Tablanusu village parents uphold traditional beliefs and tend to open family finances to their families, often exchanging ideas or having deep heart-to-heart conversations with all family members. planning makes parents feel like they have a job now for their children in the future. Family financial arrangements include financial planning, bookkeeping, and financial arrangements that are mostly successful such as long-term planning, technological disabilities such as computers/laptops/handsets, and those done manually. Some made a separate budget to differentiate between budget and family money and some did not even make a budget. The last amount is savings, they save by depositing a certain amount of money in a bank that they trust. If they do not save, this will affect their lives, as their business will not grow such as opening a shop, adding employees, or adding a warehouse.

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