FINANCING OF CATERING SERVICES IN SELECTED TOWNS OF CAVITE

THESIS

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ABSTRACT

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The study was conducted to determine the financing of catering services in selected towns of Cavite. Specifically, it aimed to determine the following: 1) socio-economic characteristics of catering service operators; 2) business characteristics of catering services; 3) sources of capital used in catering services; 4) estimated monthly income of the catering service operators; 5) terms of payment of catering services; 6) expenses of the operators in catering services and, 7) problems encountered by the catering service operators in financing their catering services.

Data were gathered from catering services in selected towns/cities of Cavite, namely: Dasmarinas, Tanza, and Indang. These were analyzed using descriptive method such as frequency counts, percentage, mean, range and rank.

The age of catering service operators had an average of 50 years. Majority of them were female and married. They were college level.

The catering services were located within a barrio or barangay. These catering businesses have been in operation for seven years. Most of them were solely owned by the operators and they offer full catering services. Combination of products and services were offered by most of the caterers. The catering services serve as their additional income. The catering services were operated with the help of hired laborers. The average number of regular employees in these catering services was four, while "on call" employees was nine.

The initial capital had an average of P167,265.00 where most of the service operators obtained from their savings while six percent from borrowings. Additional capital was obtained from relatives and informal lending ranging from P10,000.00 to P300,000.00 with an average of P85,000.00. Eighty-three percent of the respondents had short term payment only. Additional capital served for the maintenance of rental wares.

The estimated gross monthly income of operators ranged from P5,800.00 to P400,000.00 with an average of P84,879.00.

The mode of payment of the respondents was in cash (82%). Reservation for a catering service should be made from 1 to 30 days with an average of seven days. Fifty percent down payment was required upon reservation.

The actual expenses per catering service ranged from P7,500.00 to P75,000.00 with an average of P20,000.00.

Expenses were mostly on materials or equipment (tables, chairs, tents, etc), salary of staff, food ingredients, transportation, and laundry.

The most common problem of operators was the delay in payments of the clients.

Other problems involved constant change of date or weather delays, non-payment of clients, not enough capital, and shortage of manpower.

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INTRODUCTION

A catering service is entertaining, financially fulfilling, as well as challenging. It is primarily engaged in providing food services, venue preparation and decoration, rental of kitchen supplies, tents, chairs and tables and flower arrangements at institutional, governmental, commercial or industrial locations based on contractual arrangements. It involves more than preparing special meals, delivering them to a specified location, and serving guests if necessary.

Catering services have a great contribution especially on events or occasions such as weddings, christenings, birthday parties, anniversaries and also in private dinner parties and corporate events for a good reason. It takes a lot of preparation and planning to run a successful event or party. With the help of catering service, clients can relax, enjoy the event and spend time with guest. To avail this kind of service, the only thing one has to prepare is the budget and this will assure a good service.