



Leyte-Samar

# DAILY EXPRESS

POSITIVE • FAIR • FREE

VOL. XXXII NO. 049

TUESDAY, JUNE 09, 2020

P15.00 IN TACLOBAN



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321 / 323

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TACLOBAN

RIZAL AVENUE

*Amid calls to scrap it due to increase of COVID-19 cases*

# Alfred backs 'Balik Probinsiya' program

LIZBETH ANN A. ABELLA/ROEL T. AMAZONA

**TACLOBAN CITY-** Mayor Alfred Romualdez of this city said he welcomes residents of this city who are returning home under the 'Balik Probinsiya' program of the government, to include the overseas workers.

Romualdez said that these people should not be deprived of their right to return home despite some calls for them to remain where they currently stay amid the coronavirus disease 2019(COVID-19) pandemic.

"They should not be barred from returning home. It is their constitutional right to return home. Will you not allow your loved ones to return home?" Romualdez said.

To recall, Ormoc City Mayor Richard Gomez asked the national agencies to conduct swab samples to those who wish to return to the provinces to ensure that they are not carriers of the virus and would not cause any spread of the virus.

Ormoc City has posted its first COVID-19 case involving an overseas worker.

The COVID-19 cases of Eastern Visayas, particularly Leyte, saw an increase after several of those who

returned home under the Balik Probinsiya program as well as the local overseas workers started returning.

In Leyte, which was among the first provinces of the country to implement the Balik Probinsiya program, its COVID-19 now stand at 17 cases.

In Tacloban City, two of its COVID-19 cases involved returning overseas workers. Its first case, involving a 29-year old woman, was reported by the City

Health Office to have recovered from the deadly ailment and has now returned to her home where she will undergo another 14-day quarantine as part of the health protocols.

Mayor Romualdez said that the government, to include the local government units, are doing their effort to ensure that the coronavirus would not further spread.

For one, he said, those who are returning home are immediately being quarantined to isolation facilities put up by the local government units.

The city government here has put up its own isolation center located at the northern part of the city which was originally built as an evacuation center.



**PEACE AND SECURITY.** Palo Archbishop John Du meet with Col. Zosimo Oliveros, the commanding officer of the 802nd Infantry Brigade, on Monday(June 9) and discussed the current peace and order situation in the provinces of Leyte, Biliran and Southern Leyte which are within the coverage of the brigade. Archbishop Du promised his full support with the military in the attainment of lasting peace and sustainable development in these three provinces.(802ND IB)

## Borongan mayor asks public to always observe health protocols to ensure its being COVID-19 free city

**TACLOBAN CITY -** Mayor Jose Ivan Dayan Agda of Borongan City is determine to continue making his city COVID-19 free through strict implementation of health protocols and having information of residents who wanted to return to the city.

With the ballooning of COVID-19 cases in the region, Agda urged his people to be vigilant to make sure that Borongan will remain without any coronavirus case.

As of present, Borongan is the only two cities in the region without any COVID-19 case. The other one is Maasin City.

The city mayor calls on the public to always observe health protocols while going out of their houses and by wearing of

see Borongan /page 10...



**Borongan City Jose Ivan Dayan Agda says strict practice on the wearing of face mask and social distancing are key towards in making their city free from the coronavirus. Thus, he is appealing to his people to observe this health protocols. (City Information Office)**

## As Ormoc City reports its first COVID-19 case Mayor Gomez reiterates appeal to national agencies to swab test returnees before leaving for provinces

**TACLOBAN CITY-** A returnee overseas worker is Ormoc City's first coronavirus disease

2019(COVID-19) case.

This was confirmed by its city mayor, Richard Gomez, who issued his appeal

allowed to return to their respective hometowns.

Gomez said that its first confirmed COVID-19 case is a 46-year old man who previously worked in Saudi Arabia but returned to Ormoc on May 27.

His swab results were part of the 90 samples released by the Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center Testing Center on Friday.

Gomez, who confirmed their first COVID-19 case

see Mayor Gomez/ page 10 ...



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**MAYOR RICHARD GOMEZ**

to national government agencies to test all returnees before they would be





About 300 local government employees will help strengthen the implementation of the city ordinances on anti-smoking and face mask (City Ordinance 2020-14-07). They will assist in ensuring that the public observes the wearing of face masks and other health protocols such as physical distancing in the community. (TACLOBAN CITY INFORMATION OFFICE)

## 300 City Hall employees designated as COVID-19 monitoring team

TACLOBAN CITY-Acting City Health Officer Dr. Gloria Fabrigas during the deputization seminar on Monday, June 8, talks to the 300 local government employees to help strengthen the implementation of the city ordinances on anti-smoking and facemask (City Ordinance 2020-14-07). As ordered by May-

or Alfred Romualdez, the said employees will be part of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) Monitoring Team and will assist in ensuring that the public observes the wearing of face masks and other health protocols such as physical distancing, in the community. According to the face-mask ordinance, all per-

sons are required to wear a facemask when going outside their homes, while in transit, inside an establishment, and in public spaces. Any person found violating the ordinance shall be penalized ranging from P1,000 to P5,000 with community service. To date, Tacloban City has recorded two COVID-19 cases, the first

case, who is a 29-year old returning overseas Filipino (seafarer) is now isolated but will soon be discharged after her second sample tested negative, while the second case, who is asymptomatic and currently admitted, is a 31-year old locally stranded individual (LSI). (TACLOBAN CITY INFORMATION OFFICE)

## PRO-8 turns over 597 units of ISO equipment

PALO, Leyte – The Police Regional Office (PRO-8) has turned over 597 units of Internal Security Operations (ISO) equipment to its different units.

PRO-8 Regional Director Police Brigadier General Bernabe Balba said that the 597 units consist of 372 units 5.56mm Basic Assault Rifle (BAR) “Galil Ace22N” with accessories; 141 units 5.56mm BAR “K2C1” with accessories; 50 units 9mm “Taurus” Striker Fired with accessories; 20 units “NEGEV 7” Light Machine Gun (LMG) with Retractable Butt Assembly and accessories; 12 units K3 5.56 Light Machine Gun (LMG) with accessories and 2 units 9mm “Canik” Striker Fired with accessories were turned over to different Police Provincial Offices (PPOs), City Police Of-

fices (CPOs), Regional Mobile Force Battalion (RMFB) and all Provincial and City Mobile Forces.

Balba said that along with the 597 are 20,020 rounds cartridge 5.56 mm ball; 20,000 rounds cartridge 7.62mm ball; 3,627 Magazine 30 rounder for AR15/M16 5.56mm; 2,600 rounds cartridge 9mm ball; 863 ballistic eye wear; 208 Magazine for 9mm Pistol and 128 magazine box/pouch were also turned-over to the said recipient units.

“We are very grateful to our President for giving priorities to our men in uniform. Maswerte tayo dahil meron tayong ganitong kagamitan. Indeed, it will boost the morale of our personnel to fight our battle against the CPP/NPA,” Balba said. (RESTITUTO A. CAYUBIT)

### AFFIDAVIT OF ADJUDICATION BY SOLE HEIR OF ESTATE

NOTICE is hereby given that NESTOR C. PORTILLO SR., the only surviving heir of Sps. Sotero S. Portillo and Leonila C. Portillo who died on October 17, 1989 at Alangalang, Leyte and December 15, 2005 at Quezon City, Metro Manila executed an Affidavit of Adjudication over two (2) parcels of land which are particularly described as follows: 1) A parcel of land designated as Lot No. 1000-H-3-A, PSD-08-039477-D, a portion of Lot No. 1000-H-3, LRC, PSD-0286250, located at Brgy. Sagkahan, City of Tacloban, Leyte, Transfer Certificate of Title No. 122-2020000241, containing an area of 236 square meters, more or less, registered in the name of Sotero S. Portillo, married to Leonila C. Portillo; 2) A parcel of land designated as Lot No. 1000-H-3-B, PSD-08-039477-D, a portion of Lot No. 1000-H-3, LRC, PSD-0286250, located at Brgy. Sagkahan, City of Tacloban, Leyte, Transfer Certificate of Title No. 122-2020000242, containing an area of 179 square meters, more or less, registered in the name of Sotero S. Portillo, married to Leonila C. Portillo; per Doc. No. 361, Page No. 74, Book No. IX, Series of 2020 of Notary Public Atty. Aljim Denver M. Arcueno. LSDE: June 9, 16 & 23, 2020

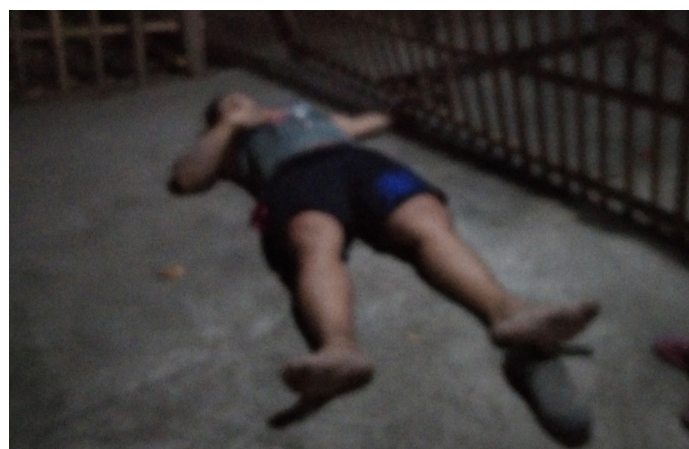
## Gym instructor killed after assaulting a police officer in Baybay City

ORMOC CITY- A gym instructor was killed by a police officer whom he challenged to a fist fight.

Baybay City police station chief Lt. Col. Alberto Renomeron said that Samuel Managbanag, 31, a gym instructor, sustained single gunshot wound in his chest and was already dead upon arrival at the city’s Western Leyte Provincial Hospital as declared by attending physician Dr. Russel Gerry Dejarne.

Renomeron said in an interview that in that Police Corporal Ronel Tapales, 32, was doing an intelligence work in that area of the city’s Barangay Sto. Niño, when he chanced upon a group of persons having a drinking spree beside on the street.

The police officer



A gym instructor was killed after he had a scuffle with a police officer of the Baybay City Police Office. Samuel Managbanag was shot by Corporal Ronel Tapales after they engaged in a fistfight after the police officer reminded him that public drinking is prohibited in the city.(BYRON ALCOBA)

reminded the men that drinking of liquor in the public is prohibited under an existing ordinance of the city.

When told to stop their drinking binge, Managbanag, a man of huge body build and known to be expert in martial arts, challenged the cop for a fist fight.

Tapales ignored the suspect’s challenge but

he was assaulted which prompted him to run.

While being chased, Tapales was cornered near a bamboo fence, and had no choice but to

pull out his service firearm and fired the suspect once at a close range, Renomeron said.

Recovered at the scene was one piece fired bullet of caliber .9 mm pistol.

Tapales voluntarily deposited his service firearm, a .9 mm caliber gun and one magazine loaded with 11 live bullets.

(ELVIE ROMAN ROA with RONALD O.REYES)



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# Lightning kills man in Samar

TACLOBAN CITY-A 23-year old man was killed after he was hit by a lightning in Zumarraga town in Samar province on Sunday (June 7) while he was trying to untie a rope of their motorized banca.

Killed was Romulo Papelerin of Barangay Mualbual who was with his friends on a motorized banca on their way for a swimming when the freak incident happened at around 11:30 am on that day, said Staff Sergeant Mat Jomel Tañega of the Zumarraga municipal police station.

Tañega, in a phone interview, said that Papelerin was with 13 others, including their village Sanggu-niang Kabataan chairman Esmeraldo Alborta for a swimming to an island located across their village, when he was hit by the lightning.

“As he was pulling the rope of the motorized banca as they were to leave for a swimming, heavy rain suddenly poured followed by a lightning which hit the victim who was standing at the rear portion of the banca,” the police officer said.

The victim died immediately though he was brought at the Samar Provincial Hospital in Catbalogan City.

None of his companions were hurt by the incident, the police said.

(JOEY A. GABIETA)

# Barangay councilor arrested in a buy-bust operation

TACLOBAN CITY-Police arrested a barangay councilor during a buy-bust operation here in the city Saturday (June 6).

The suspect was identified as Arthur Dave Degalla, 38, married and kagawad of Barangay 51-A, this city.

Purchased from the suspect was one heat-sealed transparent plastic sachet of substance believed to be shabu.

Confiscated from his possession were two sachets of shabu, one P500 bill used as buy-bust money, 31 pieces of P500 bills as bogus money, one mobile phone, and cash amounting to P3,120.

The suspect will face charges for violation of sections 5 and 11 of Republic Act 9165, otherwise known as Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002.

(RONALD O. REYES)

# LGUs Basey, Marabut in Samar tag CPP-NPA-NDF persona non grata

TACLOBAN CITY- In two separate occasions on June 2, 2020, the Municipal Task Forces- ELCAC in Basey and Marabut, both in Samar, declared the Communist Party of the Philippines - New People's Army and National

Democratic Front (CNN) as unwelcome and persona non grata in their respective areas.

In a Municipal Task Force ELCAC meeting through a joint meeting of the Municipal Peace and Order Council, Muni-

pal Development Council, Sangguniang Bayan Members and Punong Barangays of Basey, the members unanimously agreed to declare the Communist Party of the Philippines - New People's Army and National Democratic Front (CNN) as unwelcome in their area and persona non grata.

The decision and pronouncement transpired during the meeting that was held at the municipality on June 2, after discussing of the adverse impact of the CNN's presence in their community.

Earlier that day, the Sangguniang Bayan members of Marabut also signed a resolution declaring the CNN as persona non grata.

The 63rd Infantry Battalion of the 8th Infantry Division, Philippine Army, welcomed these signifi-

cant and pivotal decisions of the Local Chief Executives, Council members and Chairpersons including their respective Punong Barangays.

In a statement, Lt. Col. Edgar Allan Orbito said, “The people have spoken. Communism and terrorism are unwanted in Basey and Marabut.”

“I therefore ask those active and still deceived members of the CNN to instead cooperate and help build a peaceful community,” Orbito added.

“Our government is opening its doors for those who wanted to go back, otherwise they will face the full force of the law if they opted to continue terrorizing the locals,” Orbito concluded.

Last year, President

# Unattended cooking burns 4 houses in Capoocan town

ORMOC CITY-A mid-day fire on Sunday at the town's poblacion in Capoocan, Leyte was caused by an unattended cooking, said SFO2 Leo Hernandez, fire investigator of the town's fire bureau.

The blaze gutted down four houses whose dwellers were mostly elderlies.

Hernandez said that the fire started at the house of Eutequia Makabenta, 88,

who fell asleep while cooking for lunch. She lives alone.

The fire investigator said in a telephone interview that Makabenta was saved by her niece who was also her neighbor, when she noticed a fire starting in the kitchen particularly a cooking using liquefied petroleum gas (LPG).

Citing the account of Makabenta's niece, the in-

vestigator continued “the elderly who was already awake that time seemed shocked while watching the growing fire so the niece immediately grabbed her aunt out of the house.”

Also left homeless were Makabenta's sister, Clara Paz, 80, and other neighbors Timotea Nicole, 60 and Nelia Aborque, 52. All of them failed to save any belongings since the fire

had already engulfed their houses that were made of light materials.

Five fire trucks including responders from the neighboring towns of Carigara, Barugo and Jaro worked together to put out the blaze.

The incident started at 12:40 pm and was put out at 2 pm with total damage cost at P1.7 million.

(ELVIE ROMAN ROA)

# Proposed Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pagasa sites in Eastern Samar classified as low flood and landslide susceptible

The proposed sites for the Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pagasa Program (BP2) at Barangays Caisawan and Cantubi of the municipality of Balangkayan, province of Eastern Samar were classified as low flood and low to moderate landslide susceptible.

The joint site inspection by the MGB RO VIII, personnel from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Regional Office VIII (DENR-ROVIII), Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Eastern Samar (PENRO-Eastern Samar), Community Environment and Natural Resources Borongan (CENRO-Borongan) and the Local Government Unit of Balangkayan, Eastern Samar, disclosed

low flooding and low to moderate landslide susceptibility of said areas, therefore, allowing development and dwelling therein.

Field findings on such areas with low landslide susceptibility however, recommended that specifications in the National Building Code and Structural Code of the Philippines must be strictly followed and modified, if necessary, based on recent events such as Super typhoon Yolanda and occurrences of earthquakes in the Visayas area.

Also, the Joint DENR-DILG-DND-DPWH-DOST Memorandum Circular No. 2014-01 also requires that areas which are classified as having Low Susceptibility to flooding may allow development and



Assessment of the Proposed Site for the Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pagasa Program located at Brgys. Caisawan and Cantubi, Balangkayan, Eastern Samar together with DENR-ROVIII, PENRO-Eastern Samar, CENRO-Borongan, and Representatives of LGU Balangkayan and BLGU Caisawan



Assessment Briefer at PENRO Eastern Samar

dwelling provided possible flood heights and structural integrity are considered in the design. While areas classified as having low susceptibility to landslides may be allowed provided that continuous monitoring of the slope (upslope and on site) is conducted.

Furthermore, areas classified as having moderate susceptibility to landslides are zones wherein dwelling and development may

be allowed provided that appropriate engineering intervention measures are made with continuous monitoring.

The joint site inspection and assessment by the team was conducted on May 19, 2020. Concerned LGU officials, MDRRMOs and the Municipal Planning and Development Office (MPDO) also joined the team in the inspection.

(PR)

In particular, the approach will utilize localized peace engagements wherein LGUs and other stakeholders in the community will take the lead in finding solutions to resolve the decades-long communist insurgency in the country.

(opt/PIA-8)

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**DAILY EXPRESS**  
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The Leyte Samar Daily Express is published with editorial and business offices at G/F Knights of Columbus Bldg., 187 P. Zamora St., Tacloban City

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## Here comes the bill



Although, in other countries, anti-terrorism laws have long been in existence, the passage of a similar bill in the Philippines was greeted by fierce protests and mass actions, partly for reasons that it was endorsed by Mala-

canang as urgent when in fact we are battling with a global pandemic that must be addressed more quickly, instead.

Tasked with the responsibility of protecting the citizens and the country's legal institutions, our democratic form of government is just ensuring that its actions against any act of terrorism are within the bounds of law, hence the crafting of this bill. Not only should there be a law to back up such actions, but said law should have a stronger set of teeth, not just against actual terroristic acts, but also against all activities that breed terrorism.

On the part of those who oppose this bill, their reasons are rather varied, depending on their groups represented, and their advocacies pursued. This explains the consequent division among the ranks of protesters. They might be participating in the same rally, but the causes they are fighting for vary.

The shallowest reason for opposition is the mere apprehension that this bill might be misinterpreted and abused by authorities, resulting in human rights abuses. The gravest reason for dissent could be that of rebels and terrorists themselves, who are then worried with the threats of their annihilation.

Still another group of worried individuals comes from Bible believing Christians who, despite having no terroristic plans in mind, with terrorism being totally absent in their vocabulary, are apprehensive that this future law might lead to the mandatory national ID system, that will soon be replaced with the microchip implanted on people's hands or foreheads, which fulfills the mark of the Beast, or the anti-Christ, or Satan in the flesh prophesied in the book of Revelation.

It is generally feared, then, that though this bill is just against terrorism, it could implicate other non-terrorist groups and individuals later. May the authorities endeavor to make clear distinctions between real terrorists and those who are not in implementing this bill, should it be approved into law. It should be very specific, not general. It should promote peace and order, not chaos.



**Things To Mind**

DOMS PAGLIAWAN

## Rethinking a dream

Have you ever heard of the so-called American dream? Well, this is not just common in the Philippines; it used to be a world-wide phenomenon. Perhaps not anymore this time when the US is in chaos due to violent protests and the numerous cases of coronavirus. But I

guess, it's just a temporary setback. It's going to resurrect, and soon, many people from poorer countries will again keep on dreaming of setting foot on American soil.

As a citizen of a third-world, impoverished nation, I would be a hypocrite

to say that the prospect of American Dream doesn't attract me at all, given my desire to prosper financially. Surely it does, albeit not literally, for I prefer to enjoy its benefits in my country, or elsewhere, without necessarily relocating to the American soil.

Obsessed with this dream since its advent, people from all over the world had been crowding the United States in the past centuries. Fortunately, this 'prosperity gospel' had spread far and wide for the world to benefit as the American gurus are good at underscoring free enterprise, free flow of information, access to trade and investment, developmental experience, and protection of private enterprise.

I regard the American

Dream, then, as an ideal, or a symbol, not a literal land of opportunity that overflows with 'milk and honey', and where immigrants could join the American way of life. From the apparent intent of my countrymen who keep flocking to the American shores, however, it's a dream of getting there, of high wages, of material abundance, which are too difficult to possess in our country.

Thus, my idea about this dream differs a little bit since it is affected by my sense of nationalism, and by my dislike of their colonial mentality. Yes, I've been rather critical of anyone who seems to equate America with heaven. I have inferred from select classics that such an

see Rethinking/page 9 ...





Observer

ALVIN GZ. ARPON

Unpredictable Crisis

Our church is one-God-given source of inspiration and guidance. We felt quite relieved when we attended the “first mass” at V&G Phase 6, after this regular religious gathering was banned by government authorities to protect our people from the danger of being infected by this first deadly virus that hit our land and people

worldwide.

-oOo-

**Msgr. Benedicto Catilogo, Parish Priest of our Lady of Lourdes Parish delivered an inspiring homily during the mass. He motivated parishioners not to be “fully” afraid about this corona-virus disease that is hitting our land.**

**The spiritual leader encouraged the faithful in**



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DR. PACIENTE CORDERO, JR.

How much do we understand about V I R U S?

The past couple of months came about the buzzword **V I R U S** (i.e. **corona virus a.k.a. Convid 19**), a very much talked about term in print, broadcast, and S M S. Good for the more learned sector of the world’s human population. But how about among the greater less schooled sector?

From one widely used biology book (I used since my teaching stint with the Sultan Qaboos University, Sultanate of Oman up to the present), defines VIRUS simply as “**A particle (not a cell) of genetic material that can invade a living cell, commandeer and utilize its metabolic machinery to reproduce.**” In 1935, biologist Wendell Stanley, who is credited for discovering one of the many known shapes of Virus “. . . when he extracted a needle-like, crystalline material from the juice of 900 kg of tobacco leaves. When he dissolved these crys-

tals and applied the solution to tobacco leaves, it caused a serious disease . . . **tobacco mosaic virus (TMV)**, a rod-shaped particle with a protein coat around a core of RNA or ribosomal/ribonucleic acid.

Viruses come in various structures : **rod-shaped** as the **TMV**, others are in the form of **geodesic** (= made up of a framework of linked polygons) **domes** like those that cause human colds and animal tumors; still others appear **globular** like the influenza-causing virus, showing spiky proteins over their surfaces. Such that SARS and MERS viruses had their characteristic structures – Nouvelle Coronavirus or Convid 19 show its virus with crown-like external architectural design.

Virus-related diseases have been discovered by plant and animal science researchers, both here and abroad. Viruses disease happens principally through cell lysis

the parish to have a very strong faith in God. God is the only source of our strength to face this deadly crisis – the first one that happened to us in many years, he enthused.

-oOo-

At the moment no one knows when this crisis will end. There is yet to be a proven cure or medicine to this pandemic. No one knows how the virus really move around. No one knows where the virus really come from. It is unseen. Even those affected are not immediately known. Even those declared negative but in a later examination, surprisingly they turn positive.

**There is only one way to protect us from this pandemic – Pray. And really pray hard and sincerely!**

**Thank you Msgr. Ben!**

and toxin production – thus, in lytic cycle, it takes place after the virus replicates which leads to destruction and followed by newly released particles being capable of destroying nearby healthy cells or migrate to neighboring organisms. Toxin-producing virus cause inhibition of cell metabolism. In humans, several viral diseases are caused by viruses such as retrovirus as in AIDS. Others:

Human Viral Diseases	Virus causing organisms
Dengue fever	Togavirus (flavivirus)
Common cold	Oryza viruses rhinoviruses
Smallpox	Smallpox virus
Influenza	Orthomyxovirus Types A, B, and C
Atypical pneumonia	Paramyxoviruses, types 1- 3
	Orthomyxovirus, Types A, B, and C
Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome	H T L V (LAV)

The present Convid 19 has affected almost 200 nations an territories with horrible statistics appertaining, and medical and biological researchers have yet to uncover the type of Virus and the corresponding treatment. Researchers are extra careful in introducing anti-viral medication, since many chemicals capable of poisoning virus infected cells, also



Foulshot

AL ELLEMA

Returned

Over two months of being locked in homes and communities to keep people from getting infected or infecting others with the dreadful corona virus disease (covid19), the president ordered the downgrading of the enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) to general community quarantine. The order was buttressed on economic reasons following advice from economic experts from whom the president listened to. It was a move to heal the deteriorating economic condition of the country after the closure of businesses nationwide. The strategy was to prime the engine of economic activities with the aim of recovering the losses suffered from the lockdown. There was urgency in ordering people to start going back to work despite the unstable public

health and public safety situation.

The steep curve that was skewing graver each day that covid19 cases are tallied was a clear indicator that the pandemic is aggravating as the number of positive cases and deaths was constantly on the rise. This, despite the number of recoveries from those infected that are tallied as well in the matrix showing updates of the public health situation. People were promised that the health department will conduct mass testing to determine the extent of the spread of the virus. It was a promise backed by funds that were generated through the powers granted to the president placing government funds at his disposal to respond to the covid19 pandemic.

By and by, people were conditioned to believe that the steep curve is gradually flattening despite the continued increase in the number of covid19 cases and deaths caused by the dreadful virus. The figures in the tally of covid19 cases was constantly on the rise but the health department keep on explicating that the situation is gradually moving to normalcy. What was once a

raw tally of covid19 cases which was used to portray the high risk that people face, threatening the public to stay home as the infection is getting widespread by the day, is now shown as a percentage of the population. Such presentation is clearly intended to deceive the public as the percentage appears too negligible to cause fear. The ploy is geared to buttress the direction of reviving economic activities by sending people back to work purportedly due to the flattened curve of covid19 cases.

Public cries for the health department to conduct the promised mass testing is ignored as the rush to revive the economy is now the priority over public health and public safety. The downgrading of the risk due to the covid19 virus was followed with the idiotic suggestion to send people from Manila to the provinces. The suggestion was haphazardly implemented with funding for transportation of the returning residents to the various provinces. There was no time to subject to covid19 test the people to be returned to the provinces. Local officials who raised objection to what was dubbed as “Balik Probinsiya program” were quickly warned by the president from not accepting the people being sent to their localities. The return of untested undocumented people to was forced upon the local official and the threatened community of the person being returned

*comments to allelma@yahoo.com*

Prayer for the Nation and for Those who Serve in Public Office



Pray the Holy Rosary daily for world peace and conversion of sinners (The family that prays together stays together)

God, our Father, you guide everything in wisdom and love. Accept the prayers we offer for our nation, by the wisdom of our leaders and integrity of our citizens, may harmony and justice be secured and may there be lasting prosperity and peace.

Almighty and eternal God, You know the longings of our hearts and You protect our rights in your goodness, watch over those in authority, so that people everywhere may enjoy freedom, security and peace.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever, Amen. (Courtesy of Daughters of St. Paul)

*Letters should be as brief as possible, and sent with the writer’s name, signature address and phone numbers (if any) to: “Letter to the Editor”, Leyte Samar Daily Express. They may be edited for length and clarity*



Republic of the Philippines  
PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR  
Catarmán  
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SANGGUNIANg PANLALAWIGAN

EXCERPT FROM THE JOURNAL OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANg PANLALAWIGAN OF THE PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR HELD ON OCTOBER 21, 2019 AT 2:30 IN THE AFTERNOON AT ITS SESSION HALL, CAPITOL, CATARMAN, NORTH-ERN SAMAR.

ORDINANCE NO. 18  
Series of 2019

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES TO CHILD DEVELOPMENT WORKERS OF NORTHERN SAMAR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Authored by  
Honorable GINA O. SILVANO

Co-Authors:  
Honorable ALBERT A. LUCERO  
Honorable NEIL S. HERNANDEZ  
Honorable HAZEL A. DELA ROSA  
Honorable PASCASIO JOSHUA MARIA H. VICARIO III

BE IT ORDAINED by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan in session assembled:

Section 1. TITLE. This Ordinance shall be known as the Northern Samar Child Development Workers’ Benefits and Incentives Ordinances, and for other purposes.

Sec. 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. It shall be the policy of the Province to provide quality standard of early childhood education and adopt an integrated and holistic approach of Child Development Program/Services available to all 3 to 4 years old children.

It shall likewise be a declared policy to guarantee and enhance the quality of life of Child Development Workers who are frontliners of the said program.

Sec. 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS

- a. Child Development Workers – refers to barangay-based workers appointed by the Municipal Mayors, registered/accredited by the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office through the recommendation of the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office; has undergone the required training in accordance with law and regulations and responsible for the conduct of Child Development Sessions and implementation of other Child Development Service/Program.
- b. Registered/Accredited Child Development Worker – refers to Child Development Workers who has undergone three (3) day training with the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office and a one (1) year of volunteer service in the Barangay.
- c. Child Development Workers’ Registry – refers to the profile of all registered Child Development Workers to be maintained and regularly updated by the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office through the Municipal Social Welfare Office.

Sec. 4. COVERAGE. This Ordinance shall cover all Registered/Accredited Child Development Workers in the Province of Northern Samar who voluntarily render Day Care Services for at least one (1) year, except those CDW who are holding permanent/plantilla positions.

Sec. 5. INCENTIVES AND BENEFITS. In recognition of their services, all Registered/Accredited Child Development Workers who are actively and regularly performing their duties as certified by the MSWDO, as referred to in Section 4 hereof shall be entitled to the benefits and incentives as follows:

- a. Financial Assistance – Accredited/Registered Child Development Workers, except CDW holding permanent/plantilla positions, shall receive financial assistance of not less than P6,000.00/year (P500.00/month) from the Provincial Government. The specific date, time and place where to receive the allowance shall be upon the discretion of the Governor.
- b. Loyalty Incentive – Accredited/Registered Child Development Workers who have rendered cumulative service for the following number of years shall be correspondingly entitled to a certificate of recognition, duly signed by the Governor, and monetary incentives, as follows:
  - 1. 10-15 years – P1,000.00 and Certificate of Recognition

- 2. 16-20 years – P2,000.00 and Certificate of Recognition
- 3. 21-25 years – P3,00.00 and Certificate of Recognition
- 4. 25-30 years – P4,000.00 and Certificate of Recognition
- 5. 31-35 years – P5,000.00 and Certificate of Recognition
- 6. 36-40 years – P6,000.00 and Certificate of Recognition

This loyalty benefits shall be given every five (5) years from the time this ordinance is approved.

The length of cumulative service shall be reckoned from the time the CDW was registered with the PSWDO and volunteer service in the barangay. This particular benefit shall be given by the Governor or his duly authorized representative during the Annual Provincial Child Development Workers Day or Convention.

c. Child Development Worker’s Day/Convention – There shall be an annual gathering of all Child Development Workers in the Province. The Provincial Government shall provide the necessary finding requirements for the realization of this event.

Sec. 7. APPROPRIATION. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Ordinance, following its enactment, shall be included in the ensuing appropriation ordinance embodying the amount or through a supplemental budget; and every year thereafter the same shall be included in the annual budget of the Provincial Government.


Sec. 8. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If any provisions of this Ordinance is declared invalid, the remainder or any provisions hereof not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

Sec. 9. REPEALING CLAUSE. All ordinances, executive order, issuance including rules and regulations inconsistent with the Ordinance are hereby repealed and/or modified accordingly.

Sec. 10. EFFECTIVITY. This ordinance shall take effect in the year 2020.

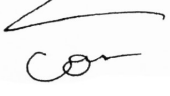
ENACTED by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan this 21st day of October 2019, Catarmán, Northern Samar.


 MARIA ANA G. AVALON Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan	 FLORENCIO A. BATULA Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan
 HAZEL A. DELA ROSA Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan	 NEIL S. HERNANDEZ Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan
 GINA O. SILVANO Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan	 CHRISTIAN EMMANUEL W. UY Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan
 ELCID A. ABALON SK Federation President Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan	

  
ALBERT A. LUCERO  
Temporary Presiding Officer  
Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan

  
ADONIS H. REBADULLA  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan

Approved:

  
EDWIN MARINO C. ONGCHUAN  
Governor  
NOV 28, 2019



Republic of the Philippines  
Province of Northern Samar  
**MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JOSE**  
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**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIAN BAYAN**

**EXCERPT FROM THE JOURNAL OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIAN BAYAN OF SAN JOSE, NORTHERN SAMAR HELD ON MAY 27, 2020 AT THE SANGGUNIAN BAYAN SESSION HALL.**

PRESENT:

Hon. Raul T. Robles

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Municipal Vice Mayor,  
Presiding Officer

Hon. Merlita S. Evangelista

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Sangguniang Bayan Member

Hon. Silvino T. Balasolla

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Hon. Harlan A. Tomenio, Sr.

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-do-

Hon. Ernesto E. Nualla

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-do-

Hon. Virgilio V. Esidera

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-do-

Hon. Marcelino A. Mora

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-do-

Hon. Electorado P. Somoray, Jr.

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-do-

Hon. Jose Agripino S. Ballesta

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-do-

Hon. Ma. Gundelina V. Balasolla

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Liga nga mga Barangay  
Federation Vice President

Hon. Joebert A. Evaristo

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Pambayang Pederasyon ng  
Sangguniang Kabataan, President

ABSENT:

None

**Ordinance No. 07**  
Series of 2020

Sponsor : **HON. JOSE AGRIPINO S. BALLESTA**  
Co-sponsors: **HON. HARLAN A. TOMENIO, SR.**  
**HON. MERLITA S. EVANGELISTA**

**AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING THE MANDATORY WEARING OF FACE MASKS OR OTHER PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENTS AND STRINGENT PRACTICE OF SOCIAL/ PHYSICAL DISTANCING BY ALL PERSONS IN PUBLIC PLACES OF SAN JOSE, NORTHERN SAMAR DURING THE INTERVENING PERIOD OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

**WHEREAS**, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 922, series of 2020 dated March 08, 2020 declared A State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines due to Covid-19 and enjoins all government agencies and Local Government Units to render full assistance and cooperation in this time of health pandemic;

**WHEREAS**, Sangguniang Bayan Resolution No. 15, series of 2020 of this municipality, was enacted adopting Presidential Proclamation No. 929 dated March 16, 2020-Declaring a State of Calamity throughout the Philippines due to Corona Virus Disease 2019;

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Governor of the Province of Northern Samar, Hon. Edwin Marino C. Ongchuan issued Executive Order No. 01-03-20, series of 2020 placing the entire province under General Community Quarantine effective March 19, 2020 and it was also extended up to May 15, 2020 pursuant to Executive Order No. 03-04-20;

**WHEREAS**, Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 provides that: *Every local government unit shall exercise the powers expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental for its efficient and effective governance, and those which are essential to the promotion of the general welfare. Within their respective territorial jurisdictions, local government units shall ensure and support, among other things the xxx promotion of health and safety xxx;*

**WHEREAS**, under Section 5.1.1 of DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2020-062 entitled: *“Suppletory LGU Guidelines on the implementation of Enhanced Community Quarantine in Luzon, and State of Public Health Emergency in Other Parts of the Country due to the COVID-19 Threat”*, all LGUs are charged with the promotion of health and safety within their jurisdiction. As such, they are to take the lead in the prevention and control of the spread of Covid-19 at the local level;

**WHEREAS**, the spread of Corona virus disease in the Philippines is now quite alarming;

**WHEREAS**, in order to overcome the present risk of Covid-19, the Local Government Unit of San Jose, Northern Samar must require simultaneous efforts on different facades, including all the persons who are living or working in San Jose to cooperate together and work harmoniously with a common goal of defeating the Covid-19 menace;

**WHEREAS**, in fighting this unseen opponent, the mandatory use of face masks or other Personal Protective Equipment can significantly mitigate the possibility of local or community transmission and can effectively reduce the contamination in the communities especially by persons who are asymptomatic but may already be carriers of Covid-19;

**WHEREAS**, Health Advisory of the Department of Health requires persons to strictly observe stringent social/physical distancing to ensure that the virus is not passed on to other persons through the release of respiratory droplets and other contact from an infected person;

**WHEREAS**, it is said that Covid-19 spreads mainly among people who are in close contact (within about 6 feet) for a prolonged period. Spread happens when an infected person cough, sneezes, or talks, and droplets from their mouth or nose are launched into the air and land in the mouths or noses of people nearby, hence social/physical distancing is required;

**NOW WHEREFORE**, after thorough deliberations and discussions and upon motion of **HON. JOSE AGRIPINO S. BALLESTA** with secondment of **HON. HARLAN A. TOMENIO, SR.** and **HON. MA. GUNDELINA V. BALASOLLA**, this Sangguniang Bayan in session assembled hereby ordains that –

**SECTION 1. Short Title** –This Ordinance shall be known and cited as the Mandatory Wearing of Face Mask or other Personal Protective Equipment and Social/Physical Distancing Ordinance.

**SECTION 2. Converge** – All persons who are found within the territorial jurisdiction of San Jose, Northern Samar are covered by this Ordinance.

**SECTION 3. Definition of Terms** – As used in the Ordinance, the following terms shall be construed as follows:

a.) **Face mask** – is a protective mask used to cover the nose, mouth and chin with specifications and proper use as recommended by the Department of Health (e.g. surgical masks, medical masks, N95 masks) or reusable or washable face masks ordinarily sold in commercial markets.

Due to scarcity of face masks, any cloth that can cover the nose, mouth and chin shall be considered as an equivalent face mask.

b.) **Personal Protective Equipment** – is protective clothing, helmet, goggles, or other garments or equipment designed to protect the wearer’s body from infection.

c.) **Social or physical distancing** – refers to staying at least one (1) meter away from the people to help avoid from being Covid-19 infected.

**SECTION 4. Mandatory Use of Face Mask or Other Personal Protective Equipment**– Every person is required to wear face mask or other Personal Protective Equipment at all times while in public places. This requirement shall be followed while the danger of Covid-19 is still persisting.

**SECTION 5. Stringent Social/Physical Distancing**– All persons are mandated to exercise stringent social/physical distancing of at least one (1) meter from other persons.

**SECTION 6. Compliance in Private Commercial Establishments**– To effectively promote and encourage compliance to this Ordinance, all private commercial establishments operating in the Local Government of San Jose, Northern Samar shall: (a) conspicuously display at or near the entrance of the establishment a full copy of this Ordinance; and (b) strictly prohibit entry of any person who is not wearing a face mask or an equivalent thereof in the establishment.

**SECTION 7. Penalty** – Any person found violating this Ordinance shall be penalized accordingly, to wit:

First offense	-	Fine of PhP 500.00
Second offense	-	Fine of PhP 1,000.00
Third offense	-	Fine of PhP 2,500.00 and/ or imprisonment of not more than 6 months depending on the discretion of the court

**SECTION 8. Disposition of Fines** – The proceeds from the mentioned fines shall be distributed in the following manner:  
30% shall accrue to the municipal government  
70% shall accrue to the barangay where the apprehension took place

Payment of fines shall be at the Municipal Treasurer’s Office.

**SECTION 9. Information and Education Campaign** – The Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office and the Rural Health Unit shall disseminate information on the requirements of this Ordinance to the public immediately upon effectivity of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 10. Implementation Mechanism** – The San Jose Municipal Police Station shall spearhead the stringent implementation of the provisions of this Ordinance. Barangay Officials and Tanods are likewise deputized by this Ordinance to apprehend violators.

**SECTION 11. Effectivity Clause** – This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval.

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED** by the Sangguniang Bayan in session assembled this 27th day of May, 2020 at San Jose, Northern Samar.

<b>HON. MERLITA S. EVANGELISTA</b> Sangguniang Bayan Member	<b>HON. SILVINO T. BALASOLLA</b> Sangguniang Bayan Member
<b>HON. HARLAN A. TOMENIO, SR.</b> Sangguniang Bayan Member	<b>HON. ERNESTO E. NUALLA</b> Sangguniang Bayan Member
<b>HON. VIRGILIO V. ESIDERA</b> Sangguniang Bayan Member	<b>HON. MARCELINO A. MORA</b> Sangguniang Bayan Member
<b>HON. ELECTORADO P. SOMORAY, JR.</b> Sangguniang Bayan Member	<b>HON. JOSE AGRIPINO S. BALLESTA</b> Sangguniang Bayan Member
<b>HON. MA. GUNDELINA V. BALASOLLA</b> Liga ng mga Barangay Federation Vice President, Ex-Officio Member	<b>HON. JOEBERT A. EVARISTO</b> Pambayang Pederasyon ng Sangguniang Kabataan President, Ex-Officio Member

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance of the Sangguniang Bayan of San Jose, Northern Samar during its regular session held on May 27, 2020 at the Sangguniang Bayan Session Hall.

**Atty. CECILIA A. TOMENIO-LOPEZ**  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

Attested:

**HON. RAUL T. ROBLES**  
Municipal Vice Mayor,  
Presiding Officer

Approved:

**HON. ATTY. CLARENCE E. DATO**  
Municipal Mayor



Republic of the Philippines  
PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR  
Catarman  
-oOo-  
Sangguniang Panlalawigan

EXCERPT FROM THE JOURNA OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANG-GUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF THE PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR HELD ON NOVEMBER 22, 2019, AT 2:16 IN THE AFTERNOON AT ITS SES-SION HALL, CAPITOL, CATARMAN, NORTHERN SAMAR

ORDINANCE NO. 19  
Series of 2019

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PIONEERING PROVINCE-LED FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEDICINE RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM (FM RTP) TOWARDS ENHANCED QUALITY SERVICE DELIVERY

Authored by:  
Honorable MARIA ANA G. AVALON

Co-Authors  
Honorable ALBERT A. LUCERO  
Honorable GINAL O. SILVANO  
Honorable PASCASIO JOSHUA MARIA H. VICARIO III  
Honorable MARITES J. GILLAMAC  
Honorable HAZEL A. DELA ROSA  
Honorable FLORENCIO A. BATULA  
Honorable NEIL S. HERNANDEZ  
Honorable GOLDA S. BALLESTA  
Honorable CHRISTIAN EMMANUEL W. UY  
Honorable ELCID G. ABALON  
Honorable LIZA C. ESIDERA

WHEREAS, it is recognized that health is integral to the socio-economic development of a community and as written in our Philippine Constitution of 1987 is the state's responsibility to protect and promote the right to health of all people;

WHEREAS, by virtue of the Local Government Code of 1991 (Republic Act 7160), local government officials now exercise general supervision and control of the health programs, services and activities devolved by the Department of Health, providing them the authority to develop and implement health programs most-suitable to their locality and context;

WHEREAS, local health systems, often led by physicians, perform according to the quality of the competency, commitment and care of its people;

WHEREAS, the Province of Northern Samar, recognizing the commitment and dedication of physicians who work and stay in the province to provide direct service delivery to Nortehanons is committed to investing in its people;

WHEREAS, Provincial and Municipal government of Northern Samar are provided the opportunity to partner and cooperate with one another incribed in Art. X, Sec. 14 of the Constitution, which states, “Local government may group themselves, consolidate or coordinate their efforts, services and resources for purposes commonly beneficial to them in accordance with the law”;

WHEREAS, the Provincial and Municipal governments of Northern Samar have signed a Memorandum of Agreement on 14th of December 2017 (copy is hereto attached) stating their commitment to collaborate for the improvement of quality service delivery through the upgrading the competencies of human resources for health within the province;

WHEREAS, the Provincial Health Office of Northern Samar is recognized by both the provincial and municipal government as the implementing office for the Family and Community Medicine Residency Training Program will institutionalize a Core Team for efficient program implementation;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health (DOH) is committed to supporting continuing development of health professionals, most especially in those in rural and geographically isolated and disadvantage areas (GIDA) and recognizes the protential role of Family Medicine Practitioners as gatekeepers of the primar health system;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health (DOH), through Department Order No. 2013-0171 entitled “Policy and Guidelines on Establishing/Expanding Family Medicine Residency Training Program in DOH Hospitals” is committed to establishing partnershuo with Local Government Units (LGU) to train and support rural health physicians serving poor and marginalized populations;

WHEREAS, The Philippine Academy of Family Physicians, in accordance with its mission, has implemented two tracks for training namely the Hospital-based (or Traditional) track ideal for medical officers based in government run hospitals and the Practice-based (or Innovative) track ideal for Municipal Health Officers;

WHEREAS, the quality of care provided by physicians improves with continuous training and development and that in-province programs will increase the local presence of physicians and improve recruitment of new applicants to the province;

NOW, THEREFORE, on motion of Honorable Maria Ana G. Avalon, duly seconded -

BE IT ORDAINED by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Northern Samar in its regular session duly assembled that;

Section 1. TITLE. This ordinance shall be known as the **ORDINANCE ON INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PROVINCE-LED FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEDICINE RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM TOWARDS ENHANCED QUALITY SERVICE DELIVERY.**

Sec. 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY:

a. The Provincial Government shall pioneer the implementation of a province-led Family and Community Medicine Residency Training Program (FM RTP), in accordance with the responsibility provided by the Local Government Code RA 7160 and in accordance with the quality standards set by the Philippine Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP) with the goal of improving quality health care service delivery in the entire province.

Sec. 3. SCOPE AND COVERAGE. This ordinance shall cover the following:

a. All government physicians (plantilla, casual attested or contractual position) employed and with good standing working in the province (either municipal or provincial level) are qualified to enroll in the program and shall remain employed throughout the duration of the program.

b. The training program, in accordance with the standards and guidelines of the Philippine Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP) can be completed in 3-4 years for each trainee. Once a year, the province may accept new trainees to support continuinng professional development within the province.

Sec. 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS

a. Family and Community Medicine Residency Core Team - The implementing training arm under the Provincial Health Office (PHO) that will steer the administrative operations and training implementation of the residency program. This team includes the Program Director, the Chief Operations Officer, the Training Chairperson and the Training Officer/s.

b. Family and Community Medicine Residency Training Program (FM RTP) - A specialty program offered for physicians who seek further professional development focused on Family and Community Medicine Practice, with particular consideration for strengthening primary care health delivery. This program adheres to the standards set by the Philippine Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP) and undergoes accreditation evaluation according to the rules of the PAFP;

c. Family and Community Medicine Resident or Trainee - These are government employed physicians who commit to undergoing the training program accredited by the PAFP. Residents are expected to complete the training program, in accordance with the standards and guidelines of the PAFP;

d. Family and Community Medicine Trainers - These are identified faculty members of the residency training program and can include specialists of various fields such as Family medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine, surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, health care management and public health; faculty members/trainers are expected to delivery training content in adherence to the standards set by PAFP; Hospital-based track - This program, adherent to the standards set by the PAFP, has trainees based/working in government-run district and provincial hospitals;

e. Hospital-Based Track - This Program, adherent, to the standards set by the PAFP, has trainees based/working in government-run district and provincial hospitals;

f. Learning Portfolio - A record or documentation of all the learning activities and experiences of the trainee meant to be an instructional and evaluation tool for assessing the trainees’ performance and journey throughout the training program.

g. Philippine Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP) - A specialty society recognized by the Philippine Medical Association (PMA) dedicated to providing holistic, accessible, continuous, comprehensive, family centered, coordinated, compassionate and culturally effective health care. They lead the accreditation of all Family Medicine Residency Training Programs in the country;

h. Practice-based track - This program, adherent to the standards set by the PAFO, has trainees based/working at in rural health units, at the municipal level;

i. Provincial Health Office (PHO) - The Provincial Health Office has the conduct to provide and ensure the delivery of health services within the province of Northern Samar. The PHO leads the implementation of this FM RTP, in line with its obligation to ensure the availability of skilled and knowledgeable human resources for health that can deliver appropriate health services for the people.

j. Service Delivery Network - In order to ensure the availability of quality health care across the life continuum, the various parts of the health system ought to be connected and work in synergy. In the province of Northern Samar, the local service delivery network includes health institutions that provide health services which include barangay health stations, rural healt units, district hospitals and the provincial hospital. Parallel systems that support services being offered in these health facilities include the local government units, the Provincial Health Office and the Provincial Department of Health Office. SDNs also include private health institutions and individuals but the scope of the government’s mandate is limited to the public sector. A functional service delivery network includes a health referral system that will allow patients to effectively navigate the health system and access the health care that’s most appropriate for them.

k. Training Hospital - The Northern Samar Provincial Hospital (NSPH), the highest - level government run hospital in the province is considered the program’s training hospital. The NSPH is expected to provide specialists from the four main programs: pediatrics, internal medicine, obstetrics & gynecology and surgery as trainers and/or faculty members for trainees of both the hospital-based and practice-based tracks. An Executive Order shall be issued to define the responsibilities of NSPH in relation to this training program.

Sec. 5. GENERAL PRINCIPLES. By virtue of the Local Government Code of 1991 (Republic Act 7160), local government officials now exercise general supervision and control of the health programs, servies and activities devolved by the Department of Health, providing them the autonomy to develop and implement health programs most suitable to their locality and context;

a. Quality of care - Guided by principles of health equity and service, the health system mandated to provide health services that appropriate, acceptable, adequate and affordable to individuals and their families. It spans promotive, preventative, curative and rehabilitative health services for the people. Aligned also to the principles adhered to the PAFP, quality of care includes the delivery of comprehensive, person-centered and family focused healthcare;

b. Lifelong learning - A disposition of all who seek to improve and grow professionally. This is particularly important among human resources for health because of the need to update themselves of the developments in science and health care services in order to deliver quality care for the people.

c. Collaboration - The goal of creating a functional service delivery network rests on a spirit of openness and collaboration between municipal and provincial governments as well as other key partners and stakehold-

ers. Collaboration includes sharing of resources, supporting one another and integrated planning and implementation with the goal of achieving a communal goal.

d. Health for all - Guided by the principles of the Declaration of Alma Ata, we believe that health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well being, and are merely the absence of disease. It is a fundamental human right and its attainment and realization is a shared goal for all human beings.

Sec. 6. CREATION OF THE FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEDICINE RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM (FM RTP). This program is the province’s response to the call to train and develop its health human resource for the improvement of service delivery for its constituents. The program will be implemented by the Family and Community Medicine Residency Core Team managed by the Provincial Health Office, in adherence to government rules and regulations as well as training standards set by the PAFP.

a. Program Vision: The Northern Samar Practice-Based Family and Community Medicine Training Program aims to be the pioneer training program for medical officers implemented by a local government unit, focused on the developing the competencies needed by a family physician and strengthening their capacities to adequately fulfill their duties as MHOs and District/Provincial Hospital Medical Officers.

b. Program Mission:

1. To provide teaching-learning and training opportunities that will develop the competencies needed to be an effective family physician.
2. To produce medical health officers who are duly recognized family medicine practitioners.
3. To provide capacity-building opportunities that will strengthen the skills of a medical health officer.
4. To create a positive change in the health outcomes of Northern Samar by strengthening preventive care approaches in primary care.

c. General Goals and Objectives: To establish a standardized approach and quality of care among primary care physicians in Northern Samar, as guided by the Practice-based Family and Community Medicine Residency Training for government primary care physicians.

d. Program aims:

1. To develop clinical competencies in Family Medicine for optimal primary care of patients using clinical practice guidelines and Family Medicine concepts - to develop competencies needed in developing and implementing high-quality research projects focused on addressing the region’s health system needs;
2. To strengthen skills in the optimal management of resources of one’s practice setting;
3. To strengthen skills in social mobilization in order to help communities under one’s care be empowered in health managment and in addressing the social determinants that influence their respective health situations;

4. To facilitate the implementation of DOH programs in one’s area of practice.

c. Accreditation: The program will undergo regular evaluations and accreditation from the PAFP, in accordance with their established guidelines and standards. Learning activities and other components of the program are included in the program’s training manual, also submitted to PAFP. The PAFP is the only body authorized to accredit the Family and Community Medicine Residency Training Program.

Sec. 7. ENSURING SUSTAINABLE PROGRAM OPERATIONS

a. Program Management. The Provincial Health Office will lead program operations throughout the duration of the training program. Operations should adhere in government rules and regulations as well as training standards set by the PAFP.

b. Funding: The initial amount of Three Million Pesos (Php3,000,000.00) shall be allocated for the Family Medicine Residency Training Program which amounts shall be taken from the savings of 2019 General Fund Budget for the year 2020. The Provincial Governormay utilize the appropriation intended for Special Program Allocation (SPA) to cover the authorized expenditures for the Program. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Ordinance in the ensuing years shall be included in the Annual Budget of the succeeding years.

Financial support from Municipal Governments: The provincial government and municipal governments, through the League of Municipalities, have signed an agreement to collaborate for the sustainable operations of this program. The Memorandum of Agreement signed between the provincial and municipal governments last 14 December 2017 will be the basis for ensuring inflow of financial support from all 24 municipal governments.

Other sources of funding may include the training from PhilHealth reimbursement, individual hospital contributions and other affiliation fees.

c. Status of trainees: Since all trainees are currently hired by the provincial or municipal governments, the program shall not provide any additional salary as part of the training program. Support from the provincial and municipal governments will be allocated for program operations and implementation. Throughout the duration of the program, trainees are expected to retain their employment status. Trainees may be asked to provide return of service (1:1) in exchange for the training, which they will not have to pay for.

Sec. 8. ESTABLISHING THE ROLES OF INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED

a. Provincial Health Office - The PHO is the lead implementing agency for this training programs, in line with its mandate to provide adequate skilled human resources for health to provide services in Northern Samar. All technical and administratie matters shall be within the responsibility of the PHO.

b. Philippine Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP) - The PAFP is responsible for evaluating and accrediting the program, in accordance with its standards and guidelines. Technical support, if necessary, may be provided by the PAFP, to ensure that the program is able to deliver.

c. Provincial Government - The provincial government commits to supporting the program by allocating funds annually as part of the PHO’s Provincial Investment Plan for Health. Other financial support and administrative support will also be provided insofar as it supports effective



program implementation.

d. Provincial Human Resource Department - This department will recognize the training program as a pioneering effort of the province to capacitate and develop its provincial health personnel. Support needed for strengthening human resource development of health professionals in the province is within the mandate of this office.

e. League of Municipalities - The individual municipalities of Northern Samar through the League of Municipalities (LMP) will support the program by providing financial assistance as well as permission for their Municipal Health Officers (MHO's) to participate in program activities. Municipalities will also allow other physicians of the province to rotate in their respective health units, as part of the training program implementation.

f. Northern Samar Provincial Hospital - As the primary training hospital, the NSPH will deliver the hospital-based track and will ensure the seamless integration of the practice-based track trainees into their training operations. The NSPH will provide exposure and training to the four major training arms namely pediatrics, internal medicine, surgery and obstetrics & gynecology, insofar as it aligned to the training curriculum defined by the PAFP.

g. District Hospitals - In addition to the NSPH, district hospitals in the province may also house FM RTP trainees whose training will adhere to the practice-based track, in accordance with the training standards and guidelines of the PAFP. The training should complement, not interfere, with the roles of and responsibilities of physicians working in district hospitals.

h. Rural Health Units (RHU) - RHUs will serve as the main base of practice and training of Municipal Health Officers (MHO) who choose to be part of the program. The training should complement, not interfere, with the roles of and responsibilities of physicians working as municipal health officers in rural health units.

i. Residency Officers - Trainees of the residency program can organize themselves into officer roles and committees, assigning responsibilities to support program operations. Roles may change annually, depending on their status in the training program. This includes but is not limited to the following positions and roles;

1. Chief Resident - Shall be selected and agreed upon by the Residency Training Core Team, upon the recommendation of the trainees. The Chief Resident will act as primary liaison between the Core Team and the pool of trainees, ensuring that training objectives are met and that administrative functions are adequately complied with. The Chief Resident ensures the completion and submission of the annual report of the year's activities of the training program to the Training Officer and Chairperson.

2. Treasurer - The treasurer will keep track of all finances relevant to activities of the training program, providing a mid-year and end-of-year report submitted to the Chief Resident.

3. Batch/track representatives - Each track (practice-based and hospital-based) should have representatives that will lead the coordination for their fellow trainees. Depending on the number of trainees for each track, the trainees may choose a representative for each year level, if deemed helpful in the smooth training program operations.

j. Residency Alumni - At the end of the training program, the graduates, now eligible to apply for Diplomatic status from the PAFP, may organize themselves as alumni in the province. As alumni, they can volunteer their time and expertise as faculty and mentors of younger trainees as well as to organize events in support of the fulfillment of the program's core objectives. This is meant to sustain the vision of strengthening the capacities of family physicians in the Province of Northern Samar.

**Sec. 9. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** If any provision hereof is declared null and void those not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

**Sec. 10. EFFECTIVITY.** This ordinance shall take effect three (3) weeks after its posting in the bulletin board and other conspicuous places in the provincial capitol, municipal and barangay halls in the province, and/or three (3) consecutive day publications in a newspaper of general circulation in the Province of Northern Samar.

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Transportation and  
Communication  
**LAND TRANSPORTATION  
FRANCHISING AND REGULATORY  
BOARD**  
Regional Office No. VIII  
Palo, Leyte

R8-EV/CP/PA-FC-2020-05-20143848  
Case No. VIII-2014-3848

Application for **Change Party Applicant**  
of a Certificate of Public Convenience  
to operate a **FILCAB** service  
with prayer to adopt trade name with  
**Extension of Validity**

**GERMELINA O. CARLILE-1st Party  
Applicant**  
**CHARLYN CABLAY DADO-2nd Party  
Applicant,**  
Applicant/s  
x-----x

**NOTICE OF HEARING**  
Old Party applicant was a grantee  
of a Certificate of Public Convenience  
to operate a **FILCAB** service for the  
transportation of passengers and freight on  
the route: **TACLOBAN CITY-ST. PAUL'S-  
CAMPETIC & VICE VERSA** with the use  
of **ONE (1)** unit/s which Certificate will  
expire on **MAY 4, 2020**.

In the present application and by reason  
of the death of the old party applicant, new  
party applicant request authority for the  
change of party from 1st party applicant-  
**GERMELINA O. CARLILE** in favor of  
2nd party applicant-**CHARLYN CABLAY  
DADO** with extension of validity to  
operate a **FILCAB** along the same route:  
**TACLOBAN CITY-ST. PAUL'S-  
CAMPETIC & VICE VERSA** with the use  
of **ONE (1)** unit/s which Certificate will  
expire on **MAY 4, 2020**.

**NOTICE** is hereby given that this  
application will be heard by this Board on  
**JUNE 30, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.** at its office of  
the above address.

At least **TEN (10)** days prior to the  
above date, applicant/s shall cause the  
publication of this Notice of Hearing once in  
a newspaper of local circulation.

This application will be acted upon by  
this Board on the basis of its records and  
documentary evidence submitted by the  
parties, unless the Board deems it necessary  
to receive additional documentary and/or  
oral evidence.

WITNESS the Honorable  
**GUALBERTO N. GUALBERTO**,  
Regional Director, this **1<sup>st</sup>** day of **JUNE**,  
**2020**.

(Sgd.) **GUALBERTO N. GUALBERTO**  
Regional Director

**DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL  
SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH  
ABSOLUTE SALE OF PARCEL  
OF LAND**

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of  
the late **ERIBERTO M. TRINCHERA** ex-  
trajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudi-  
cated over a parcel of land located at Brgy.  
Tanghas, Tolosa, Leyte covered by TD No.  
00554 containing an area of 12117 hectares  
more or less. A Deed of Absolute Sale was  
executed in favor **CHRISTIAN S. CIPRIA-  
NO** as vendee of a portion consisting of 316  
square meters from the above-mentioned  
property. Per Doc No. 401, Page No. 81,  
Book No. IX, Series of 2019. Notary Public  
Atty. Alfredo B. Ty, Jr.  
*LSDE: June 2, 9 & 16, 2020*

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Transportation and  
Communication  
**LAND TRANSPORTATION  
FRANCHISING AND REGULATORY  
BOARD**  
Regional Office No. VIII  
Palo, Leyte

R8-EV/PA-ST-2020-05-20143179  
Case No. VIII-2014-3179

Application for **Extension of Validity**  
of a Certificate of Public Convenience  
to operate a **SCHOOL TRANSPORT** service

**JULIE S. YU**,  
Applicant/s  
x-----x  
**NOTICE OF HEARING**  
Applicant is a grantee of a Reconstituted  
Certificate of Public Convenience to operate  
a **SCHOOL TRANSPORT** service for the  
transportation of passengers and freight on  
the route: **FROM STEFTI TO THEIR  
RESPECTIVE RESIDENCES IN  
TACLOBAN CITY & PALO, LEYTE &  
VICE VERSA** with the use of **ONE (1)** unit/s  
which Certificate is valid and subsisting until  
**OCTOBER 3, 2019**.

In the present application, applicant  
request authority for extension of validity of  
the said certificate using the same number of  
unit/s.

**NOTICE** is hereby given that this  
application will be heard by this Board on  
**JUNE 30, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.** at its office of  
the above address.

At least **TEN (10)** days prior to the above  
date, applicant/s shall cause the publication  
of this Notice of Hearing once in a newspaper  
of local circulation.

This application will be acted upon  
by this Board on the basis of its records and  
documentary evidence submitted by the  
parties, unless the Board deems it necessary  
to receive additional documentary and/or oral  
evidence.

WITNESS the Honorable  
**GUALBERTO N. GUALBERTO**, Regional  
Director, this **1<sup>st</sup>** day of **JUNE**, **2020**.

(Sgd.) **GUALBERTO N. GUALBERTO**  
Regional Director

**Rethinking...  
...from Page 4**

idea is a fallacy, that not everyone achieves that dream there, thanks to the masterpieces of Sinclair Lewis, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and John Steinbeck.

That the American Dream keeps on attracting our people, particularly the poor ones, is beyond ques-

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Transportation and  
Communication  
**LAND TRANSPORTATION  
FRANCHISING AND REGULATORY  
BOARD**  
Regional Office No. VIII  
Palo, Leyte

R8-EV/PA-PJ-2020-06-20150266  
Case No. VIII-2015-0266

Application for **Extension of Validity**  
of a Certificate of Public Convenience  
to operate a **PUJ** service

**ROLANDO G. GARCIA**,  
Applicant/s  
x-----x  
**NOTICE OF HEARING**  
Applicant is a grantee of a Reconstituted  
Certificate of Public Convenience to  
operate a **PUJ** service for the transportation  
of passengers and freight on the route:  
**TACLOBAN CITY-PALANOG & VICE  
VERSA** with the use of **ONE (1)** unit/s which  
Certificate is valid and subsisting until **JUNE  
16, 2020**.

In the present application, applicant  
request authority for extension of validity of  
the said certificate using the same number of  
units.

**NOTICE** is hereby given that this  
application will be heard by this Board on  
**JUNE 30, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.** at its office of  
the above address.

At least **TEN (10)** days prior to the above  
date, applicant/s shall cause the publication  
of this Notice of Hearing once in a newspaper  
of local circulation.

This application will be acted upon  
by this Board on the basis of its records and  
documentary evidence submitted by the  
parties, unless the Board deems it necessary  
to receive additional documentary and/or oral  
evidence.

WITNESS the Honorable  
**GUALBERTO N. GUALBERTO**, Regional  
Director, this **2<sup>nd</sup>** day of **JUNE**, **2020**.

(Sgd.) **GUALBERTO N. GUALBERTO**  
Regional Director

ENACTED by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of the Province of Northern Samar on the 22nd day of November, 2019, Catarman, Northern Samar

**MARIA ANA G. AVALON**  
Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan

**MARITES J. GILLAMAC**  
Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan

**ALBERT A. LUCERO**  
Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan

**PASCASIO JOSHUA MARIA H. VICARIO III**  
Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan

**LIZA C. ESIDERA**  
President, Liga ng mga Barangay  
Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan

**FLORENCIO A. BATULA**  
Member, Sangguniang Panlalawigan  
Temporary Presiding Officer

**ADONIS L. REBADULLA**  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan

Approved:

**EDWIN MARINO C. ONGCHUAN**  
Governor  
**JAN 22, 2020**

tion. Our workers in general could slave their way to the US just to chase it. Young girls could prostitute themselves for that same quest, believing that in this dreamland, life is better, richer, and fuller. They pin their hopes on this dream in desperation, as though there's no other way out of this nagging poverty. They barely realize, sad

**AFFIDAVIT OF LOSS**  
NOTICE is hereby given that heirs  
**MARILOU C. DYCOCO**, surviving spouse  
of **JOSE DYCOCO** executed an **AFFIDA-  
VIT OF LOSS** of Transfer Certificate of  
Title No. T-4223, situated at the Municipality  
of Mahaplag, Province of Leyte, Lot No.  
1639, containing an area of 19,302 square  
meters. That owner's copy of this Transfer  
Certificate of Title No. T-4222 was lost in  
their possession and could not be found  
anymore despite earnest, diligent and ex-  
haustive efforts done to locate it. That the  
abovementioned owner's duplicate copy of  
the title was not pledged or mortgaged nor  
delivered to any person, creditor, financial  
entity or bank for the purpose of securing  
any pending loan obligation, nor presented  
to the Register of Deeds for the purpose of  
registering any transaction involving the  
said property; per Doc. No. 412, Page No.  
84, Book No. XV, Series of 2020 of Notary  
Public Atty. Blanche Astilla-Salino.  
*LSDE: June 2, 9 & 16, 2020*

**AFFIDAVIT OF  
SELF-ADJUDICATION  
WITH SALE**  
NOTICE is hereby given that **SOLE-  
DAD E. RUIZO**, heir of the late Concepcion  
Etulle executed an affidavit of Self-Adjudication  
over a parcel of land, located at Brgy. Himarco,  
Palompon, Leyte, covered by OCT No. P-63779,  
designated as Cad. Lot No. 1211, containing an  
area of 5,112 square meters and covered by  
Tax Dec. no. 08-31035-00283-R-13. A Deed of  
Sale was executed in favor of **SPS. DANI-  
LO G. RUIZO and MARINA L. RUIZO** as  
vendee for the above-described property;  
per Doc. No. 131, Page No. 27, Book No.  
XXV, Series of 2017 of Notary Public Atty.  
Eusebio Otadoy, Jr.  
*LSDE: June 2, 9 & 16, 2020*

to say, that the heart and soul of this dream is just hard work, without which they can never achieve anything despite making it to this dreamland. With it, they need not go to America to improve their lot, for

**DEED OF PARTITION WITH CONFIRMATION OF SALE  
AND DEED OF ABSOLUTE SALE**  
NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late **ISIDORO H. VERANA**, extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land, located at Alegria, Caibiran, Biliran, containing an area of 2.932700 ha. (s), with OCT No. 0076 and Tax Dec. No. 00210, and heirs hereby confirm the sale executed by co-heir **Rodolfo R. Verana** in favor of **NOLI & BERNARDITA BAGANES** as vendee dated October 23, 2017 and A Deed of sale was executed by **Vivian Verana** over the Lot No. 11, consisting an area of 14,827.46 square meters unto the Vendee; per Doc. No 89, Page No. 20, Book No. 1, Series of 2020 of Notary Public Atty. Lolita G. Casas-Nueve. *LSDE: June 2, 9 & 16, 2020*

Republic of the Philippines  
Local Civil Registry Office  
Province of Northern Samar  
Municipality of Catarman

**NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION**  
In compliance with the publication requirement and pursuant to OCRG Memorandum Circular No. 2013-1 Guidelines in the Implementation of the Administrative Order No. 1 Series of 2012 (IRR No. RA 10172), Notice is hereby served to the public that **RENE REM B. QUINOÑES** has filed with this Office a petition for correction of entry in sex from “**MALE**” to “**FEMALE**” in her certificate of live birth and whose parents are **RENE L. QUIÑONES** and **REMEDIOS F. BASULGAN**

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this Office not later than (10) days after this publication.

(Sgd.) **DARWIN B. BEROS**  
Municipal Civil Registrar  
*LSDE: June 2 & 9, 2020*



# PCIC-8 continues free insurance implementation for agri sector amid COVID-19 pandemic

TACLOBAN CITY-The Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation in Region 8 (PCIC-8) continues the implementation of the government's free agricultural insurance program even during the current health crisis.

This was disclosed by PCIC-8 Officer-in-Charge Beta Alberto during the "Suruswerte ha PIA" radio and TV program hosted by the Philippine Information Agency Regional Director Olive Tiu.

According to Alberto, the free agricultural insurance is a government's program intended for farmers and fisherfolks who are among those in the Registry System for Basic Sector in Agriculture (RSBSA). This is to indemnify them whenever damage are incurred.

"Those registered farmers and fisherfolks in the region could avail of free insurance coverage for rice, corn, high-value crops, livestock, fishery and non-crop products," Alberto said.

She added, "Life insurance for said agriculture stakeholders could likewise be availed of, however, minimal premium payment is required."

For the amount of coverage, the PCIC officer informed that rice and corn is covered with P20,000 per hectare, while the indemnity for high-value crops depends on the cost of production such as the use of fertilizers, among others.

Aside from the crops, the office also insures livestock or farm animals such as carabao, cow, hog, goat and chicken.

For carabaos, the government offers P15,000 insurance per head, while hogs for fattening get P7,000 but with at least 45 days of age. Hogs for breeding get P10,000 per head from 6 months to one year. Goats on the other hand are entitled to P2,500 to P6,000 per head, depending on the type or breed.

Alberto also said that fish ponds with area of at least 2,500 square meters are likewise covered by the insurance, same as fish cages with maximum area of 1 sq. m. Seaweed farm is also included but depends on the cost of production inputs.

She added that fishing boats for a maximum of three units also get the coverage, provided owners are registered at their respective municipalities and that boats are licensed to operate. Fiber glass fishing boats are covered with P40,000 per unit, motorized at P15,000 and non-motorized ones at P5,000.

For the agency's accident and dismemberment security scheme, a farmer or fisherman 15-70 years old and in good health, may pay P50 for one year P50,000 coverage, or may double the premium should he wants the P100,000 insurance value.

Another program the agency has been offering is the Agricultural Stakeholders Protection (ASP) Plan that covers accident, murder, assault and nature-caused damage, where they may pay a P375 premium in one year.

In the Eastern Visayas region, PCIC disclosed that there are about P1.04 million registered farmers and fisherfolks, however, only 60,667 have availed of the program.

Meanwhile, as of May 2020, PCIC has already released P11.6 million worth of checks to more than 3,000 farmers, specifically in Northern and Eastern Samar provinces. This is to indemnify damage caused by Typhoon Ursula last December 2019. However, per information, the office is still in progress of processing an amount of P10.3-M for distribution to more than 2,600 farmers.

For Typhoon Ambo that was experienced recently, there were already 1,800 individuals who have filed for damage and the office is set to pay more or less P17-M.

The PCIC official encouraged all farmers and fisherfolks to avail of the program in order to be protected in case something bad will happen to the agricultural products.

"I hope all farmers and fishermen will avail of our program, and that the government should continue with the premium subsidy for all farmers and fishermen, as the free insurance program has only started after the Yolanda tragedy. In the previous years, farmers were paying for the premiums," Alberto said.

PIA Director Olive Tiu is also optimistic farmers would realize the importance and need for insurance, considering that agriculture stakeholders are the ones who provide food for the people, as proven during the quarantine times.

(LDL/GTT-PIA-Leyte)

## Mayor Gomez... ...from Page 1

on Friday night, said that he was sad that the coronavirus has now entered the city which imposed one of the strictest quarantine measures in Eastern Visayas.

With this development, the actor-turned city mayor said that he would bar individuals coming from areas where there are COVID-19 cases to enter Ormoc and his people would also be prohibited to go to areas where there are also cases of coronavirus.

Gomez said that while he is accepting the fact that Ormoc has now its own COVID-19 case, he could not avoid expressing his disappointment.

He said that national agencies should have at least tested for COVID-19 those who wished to return to the provinces before they would be allowed to return home to ensure that the virus would not spread to the provinces so all the efforts of these local government units like Ormoc would not go to waste.

"When we close our borders here in Ormoc City, a lot of people did not feel good about it why we have to be strict. Because COVID-19 could easily infect. Sana, before papuntahin yung mga tao sa kanila-kanilang mga bayan, i-rapid test, i-swab test muna natin before they leave the plane, bago makasakay ng bus, (para) malaman na sila ay safe at hindi infected," he said.

And if these people would turn to be positive, they should not be allowed to travel to avoid spreading the virus, the Ormoc City mayor said.

"We will be more strict in our borders. I am asking for the cooperation of the PNP. People coming from other COVID positive areas will not be allowed to enter Ormoc City and we will also bar people of Ormoc to be going out of the city," he said.

Gomez reiterated his call for national agencies to coordinate with the local government units on this scheme. "We really need to cooperate, to coordinate," he said.

"I am not happy on what happened but it could have been prevented if strict health protocols have been followed. But again, nandyan na yan, so we have to deal with it," he said.

Mayor Gomez said that the 46-year old man is now

placed at their quarantine facility.

He asked his people to inform the city government to report any returnee coming to their villages saying he does not like to see Ormoc City having more COVID-19 cases.

Meantime, the regional office of the Department of Health confirmed the second COVID-19 case of Tacloban City.

John Paul Roca, information officer of the DOH-18, said that Tacloban's second case involved a 31-year old woman who was stranded in Metro Manila when it was placed under lockdown last March.

"She is now confined in the city's quarantine facility," he said.

Tacloban City's first COVID-19 patient involved a 29-year old woman who was also returning overseas worker.

Roca also said that the town of Isabel in Leyte province also recorded its first COVID-19 case involving a 39-year old overseas worker who was on board with Ormoc City's first COVID-19 patient.

With three new cases, Eastern Visayas has now 51 COVID-19 patients.

(RESTITUTO A. CAYUBIT)

## Borongan... ...from Page 1

face masks, observing physical distancing and remembering places they visited and people they meet when going out of their respective houses.

"Let wearing of face masks be part of our new normal," Mayor Dayan said.

The city mayor also his people to inform the city government if they have relative who are planning to go back to their city.

"We shall maintain our city a COVID-19 free by being vigilant, particularly in spotting the location of returning individuals who opt to hide their presence and irresponsible acts just to get rid of having to stay in isolation facilities", Mayor Agda said.

As of last week, there are a total of 40 individuals who are being monitored by the city government who are staying at their isolation facilities.

Upon finishing their quarantine period of 14-days, they shall be cer-

tified by the city health officers and proceed further for another 7-day home quarantine.

For those with relatives who wanted to go back to Borongan, their family members will have to inform the City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office.

Borongan is placed under Modified General Community Quarantine under Executive Order 006-0520 from June 1 to June 15 in compliance to the national mandate as recommended by the National Inter-Agency Task Force.

(ROEL T. AMAZONA)

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