



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
DILG-NAPOLCOM Center, EDSA corner Quezon Avenue, West Triangle, Quezon City
<http://www.dilg.gov.ph>



MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
No. 2020 - 064

29 MAR 2020

**TO : ALL PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY AND MUNICIPAL MAYORS,
DILG REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND FIELD OFFICES, AND ALL
OTHERS CONCERNED**

**SUBJECT : PROVINCIAL/CITY/MUNICIPAL SPECIAL CARE FACILITIES AND
ISOLATION UNITS AMID THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

In an effort to effectively address and manage the expected surge in the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases, Patients under Investigation (PUI) and Persons under Monitoring (PUM) in the country, and consistent with the provisions of Resolution No. 16 dated March 27, 2020 by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-MEID), all Local Chief Executives (LCEs) are:

1. Directed to identify government facilities that may be temporarily converted into isolation and quarantine facilities.

These identified government facilities shall be reported to the National Incident Command of the National Task Force (NTF) on COVID-19, and the Task Group on Resource Management and Logistics. The said Task Group will classify the identified facilities into those that can be utilized for the isolation of PUIs, and those where positive COVID-19 cases with mild symptoms may be managed. The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) will also be conducting site inspections and commence works on the identified facilities, as approved by the NTF;

2. Enjoined to immediately identify, designate and establish their respective COVID-19 special care facilities, in support to the IATF Resolution No. 16 provision, as stated above.

These special care facilities must be enclosed but well-ventilated structures, with walls, windows and doors (negative pressure is not necessary). These can be empty houses or buildings, equipped with appropriate furniture and beds, with sufficient provisions for electricity and running water, kitchen, toilets and baths. It should be able to accommodate as many individuals as possible, without crowding. Every person must be kept isolated from the others within the building and may be approached only by health care workers donning the required PPEs. Thus, it is necessary to have one person per bedroom, otherwise, each bed must be two (2) meters or more away and

separated by vinyl curtains that should be decontaminated with the 0.1% sodium hypochlorite solution or 62-71% ethanol at least once a day, and air-dried. Every person should be provided with their own bed, pillow and blanket. The special care facility and isolation units should, as much as possible, be situated some distance away from populated areas, but easily accessible to health care workers and other health authorities who shall monitor the status of those who shall be placed in it. Hotels, resorts and other similar establishments designed to cater to people can also be tapped and operated as special care facilities and the rooms converted into isolation units.

In putting up such facilities, the LGUs may utilize appropriate funds, including the 20% Development Fund of LGUs, pursuant to the DILG and DBM Joint Memorandum Circular No. 01 dated 27 March 2020, and the Quick Response Fund of the Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund, consistent with the Proclamation No. 929, "Declaring a State of Calamity Throughout the Philippines Due to Corona Virus Disease 2019" signed by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte last March 16, 2020.

All Regional Directors are directed to cause the immediate and widest dissemination of this Memorandum Circular and assure compliance from the foregoing LCEs.

For strict compliance.


EDUARDO M. AÑO
Secretary



References:

1. *IATF Resolution No. 16 s. 2020 Recommendations Relative to the Management of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Situation dated 27 March 2020*
2. *DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2020-023 Amended Guide to Action Against the 2019 Novel Corona Virus Acute Respiratory Disease dated 06 February 2020*
3. *DILG and DBM JMC No. 01 Additional Guidelines on the Utilization of the 20% of the Annual Internal Revenue Allotment for Development Projects in view of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation dated 27 March 2020*
4. *Proclamation No. 929 dated 16 March 2020*
5. *PAHO WHO Interim Recommendations in the Context of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), March 18, 2020*