

COVID-19 Special Coverage

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DILG: Aggressive Contact Tracing is "game changer" to defeat COVID

The DILG said that aggressive contact tracing is the key to the success of the COVID-19 response in Metropolitan Cebu and Baguio City and it will be a "game changer" to the entire country if Congress will allocate funds for the hiring and deployment of additional contact tracers under Bayanihan 2.

NTF Vice-Chairperson and DILG Secretary Eduardo M. Año gave credit to the extensive and aggressive contact tracing that is now being implemented in Cebu City for the reduction of COVID cases in the city. "We did a lot of things in Cebu but among all our interventions, we are making progress now because of contact tracing," he said.

Año said that while contact tracing efforts are already being done by more than 7,000 contact tracing teams with a total of more than 85,000 contact tracers across the country, there is a need to hire at least 50,000 more to meet the WHO recommended ratio of one contact tracer for every 800 people.

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"We need to significantly increase the number of contact tracers to meet the 1:37 ratio target recommended by Mayor Magalong which has been effective in Baguio and in Cebu City."

-DILG Secretary Eduardo M. Año



DILG, DOH launch 'BIDA ang May Disiplina' campaign; urge LGUs to organize Barangay Disiplina Brigades

In a bid to change the behaviour and encourage discipline among Filipinos to combat the global pandemic, the DILG and the Department of Health (DOH) today jointly launched the "BIDA ang May Disiplina: Solusyon sa COVID-19" national advocacy campaign in Barangay Jesus Dela Peña, City of Marikina..

DILG Secretary Eduardo M. Año said that the "BIDA ang May Disiplina" campaign is a joint effort of the DILG and DOH brought forth by the goal of encouraging people participation in the battle against COVID-19 by living a life of discipline and earnestly practicing the minimum health standards set by health authorities. He also encouraged all local government units (LGUs) to organize Disiplina Brigades in all barangays in the country to encourage adherence to health standards in the community.

The Barangay Disiplina Brigades shall be composed of community members, including barangay tanods, who will remind their neighbours and friends of minimum health standards and call the attention of those who violate health protocols.

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STATEMENT OF THE DILG SECRETARY EDUARDO M. AÑO

On August 13, 2020, I began experiencing flu-like symptoms including a sore throat and body aches. I began my self-quarantine and got myself PCR tested on August 14. Last night, August 15, I received my test result informing me that I am once again positive for COVID-19. In the meantime, I am being closely monitored by my doctors while I am in isolation.

I make this announcement to call the attention of all persons I had close contact with to go on self-quarantine, observe any symptoms in accordance with DOH guidelines, and take appropriate action.

I also make this announcement to emphasize the severity of the virus, and to encourage everyone to wear a mask, wash their hands frequently, and practice social distancing. By adhering to these guidelines, we can all help keep our loved ones and our community safe.

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REGIONAL NEWS



DILG Caraga records arrival of 10,303 locally stranded individuals (LSIs)

The DILG Regional Office 13 – Caraga has recorded a total arrival of 10,303 Locally Stranded Individuals (LSIs) beginning May 16, 2020 when the National Task Force (NTF) Against COVID-19 Order 2020-02 issued on May 13, 2020 relative to the Operational Guidelines on the Management of Locally Stranded Individuals (LSIs) became effective.

The Regional Task Force (RTF) – Caraga activated the Sub Task Group (STG) on the Management of LSIs headed by the DILG in the regional level. This is to provide a systematic and coordinated approach in facilitating the return of LSIs to their respective residences in the region.

More so, the heavy influx of LSIs has resulted to a growing concern of local government units (LGUs) for the provision of the logistic and other resource requirements for food, transportation, testing kits and rising demand of quarantine facilities for the arriving LSIs.

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DILG XII supports Provincial Governments' bid for safer roads in the region

The DILG-12 held a four-day virtual training was facilitated for provincial engineers and development planners, as support to the provincial governments' efforts to ensure safer roads in the region.

The Department targets to strengthen the provincial government's knowledge and capacity in analysing and preventing road crashes as they plan and construct local road projects, including those funded under the national government's Conditional Matching Grant to provinces (CMGP).

DILG XII Regional Director Josephine Cabrido-Leysa, CESO III said, the training will help provincial governments construct safer, quality roads "with the end goal of minimizing accidents".

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DILG Cordillera intensifies zoning containment strategy vs. COVID-19

The DILG Cordillera is reinforcing the capacities of its field offices and local government units (LGUs) for the implementation of zoning containment strategy against coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19).

"The Zoning Containment Strategy (ZCS) can also be used to efficiently implement Covid-19 National Action Plan thru the Prevent, Detect, Isolate, Treat, Reintegrate and Mainstream (PDITRM) Strategy," said Marlo Iringan, DILG-Cordillera Regional Director today.

He said that the recently concluded video conference on ZCS, puts the emphasis on the importance of limiting the movement of people while contact tracing and testing are done as a strategic approach to stem the spread of the virus in the community as soon as it has been detected.

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NEWS FROM ATTACHED AGENCIES



BJMP officer assists neighbor to give birth

Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) JO1 Edison G Tapia, a registered nurse, was about to report to his new assignment at San Andres District Jail today when his neighbor sought his help.

He assisted Maritess Tatel, 35 years old, who was about to give birth. There was not enough time to bring her to the hospital, so his skills as a nurse is sufficient to aid the mother as she delivers her sixth child in breech position.



PCW launches new, accessible, and mobilefriendly website

The Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) relaunches its website with a fresh new look, more accessible, mobile-friendly, and is packed with added features and content.

Launched on the 11th anniversary of the Magna Carta of Women (MCW) on August 14,

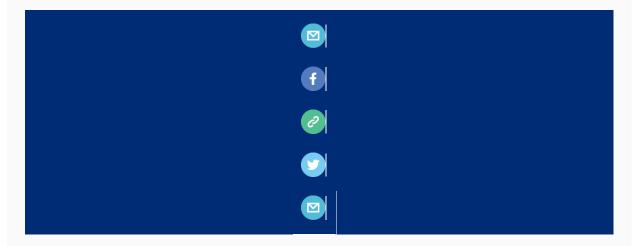
2020, the new PCW website adapts to the need to deliver online services and information towards gender equality and women's empowerment in a digital era.

Stakeholders can now navigate the new internet site with more ease. Coping with the demands of the always online digital citizens, the website is mobile-friendly and adjusts to various types of internet-ready devices.

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Isay MAHUSAY



Matino, Mahusay at Maaasahang Kagawaran para sa Mapagkalinga at Maunlad na Pamahalaang Lokal