

# QC to establish child health care program

**By Nelson S. Badilla**

A comprehensive children's health care program is set to establish in Quezon City anytime this year.

Mayor Herbert Bautista, in a statement issued over the weekend, said the health development program covers the "first 1,000 days of a child."

The first 1,000 days starts from "the first day of conception until a child's second birthday" as pointed out in the recently approved City Ordinance 2703-2018, Bautista said.

The ordinance authored by Councillors Julianne Alyson Rae Medalla and Diorella Maria Sotto described the first 1,000 days of the newly born babies as "the most critical period for growth and development of a child."

Medalla said the number one purpose of the local law is "to establish a sustainable early childhood health care program in Quezon City, as strongly recommended by the World Health Organization for a child to grow, learn and lead a long-term healthy and stable life."

The program is also aimed at providing prenatal and postnatal maternity care services to pregnant women in order to protect their health as well as to ensure the nutritional diet of their new born child, she said.