

# QC deploys safety men for 'Undas' weekend

By Rio N. Araja

THE Quezon City government on Wednesday ordered the deployment of more safety and emergency personnel to cooperate with the Quezon City Police District to ensure an orderly and safe observation of the All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day.

"We want to reassure the public that we are prepared and that there are emergency response teams available," Acting Mayor Joy Belmonte said.

"There is going to be a lot of police visibility. We also want to inform the public that barangay watchmen and traffic enforcers have been recruited deployed to address traffic issues," she added.

Belmonte tasked the Department of Public Order and Safety to ensure the smooth flow of traffic around the city, especially in areas surrounding major cemeteries.

The Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council is also on guard for any

possible medical and other emergencies during the observance of *Undas*.

Belmonte urged residents to call up 122 to directly inform authorities for emergency cases.

A medical station has been positioned at the Araneta, Cubao bus terminal area, while the staging areas have been set up along Mindanao Avenue corner Quirino Highway, inside Himlayang Pilipino Memorial Park, and on A. Bonifacio Avenue near Barangay Paang Bundok.

Meanwhile, health and human rights groups on Wednesday urged the Quezon City government to take the necessary

steps in giving better access to health services for the vulnerable sector.

At a legislative forum organized by the Medical Action Group, its executive director Edeliza Hernandez said health rights encompass all segments of society, including the vulnerable groups, and that it is the responsibility of the local government unit to make health-care services easily available "and in good quality."

"After all, health right is a human right," she stressed.

Hernandez said the city's senior citizens, persons with disability, women and children's groups have backed the passage of three measures at the city council—the profiling and registration of PWDs, establishment of an out-patient and diagnostic medical center for the elderly, and mandatory hiring of more doctors in barangay health-care centers.