## Quezon City, PDEA ink workplace pact

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by Rio N. Araja

The Quezon City government on Tuesday vowed to step up its efforts in ensuring a drug-free workplace through a partnership with the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency seeking to eliminate drug abuse in private establishments. Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte, QC Anti-Drug Abuse Advisory Council chairperson, said the city government is pleased to team up with PDEA to promote a drug-free workplace.

"We are proud to work with PDEA on this advocacy because our city has been recognized by various agencies and other cities for our measures to counter illegal drugs in our city," she said. "Our QCADAAC was awarded as one of the most efficient in the country that's why I know we are qualified to accept the challenge of being the pilot implementation site of this program," Belmonte added.

PDEA launched the drug-free workplace advocacy program on private establishments, such as hotels, restaurants, bars, subdivisions, condominiums and warehouses, where employees would be educated on the harmful effects of illegal drug abuse. "We want a safe and healthy work environment for all workplaces in Quezon City. That's why we started promoting the drug-free workplace right here in our local government offices and barangays," Belmonte said.