

QC govt kicks off Fire Prevention Caravan

AMID the fire incidents occurring left and right in Quezon City, including a huge fire that affected 450 families in Barangay San Antonio recently, the Quezon City local government launched the Community-based Fire Awareness Program that aims to educate residents on basic fire prevention measures on March 5.

Together with the **Quezon City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (QCDRRM)**, **Red Cross**, **Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP)**, **Meralco**, and **QC Social Services Development Department (SSDD)**, the QC government will conduct seminars weekly in different villages that will tackle fire awareness and electrical safety tips.

Quezon City Vice Mayor Josefina **"Joy" Belmonte** graced the event where she expressed her frustration on the number of fire cases happening in Quezon City since January this year.

"Naisip nating isagawa ito dahil halos araw-araw simula Enero lagi tayong may sunog sa ating lungsod. Kakaiba ang dami ng sunog

na nararanasan natin mula nang mga nagdaang buwan," Belmonte noted. "Nagtataka ako bakit ganoon na sa isang maliit na pagkakamali tulad ng electrical connection, naiwang kalan at kandila ang dami-dami nang naapektuhang buhay, damay-damay ang lahat. Nakakalungkot," she said.

Belmonte emphasized the importance of awareness on fire prevention measures saying that fire cases could be avoided if the people know the danger of illegal electrical connections and the different fire hazards.

"Para sa akin bilang isang lider,

hindi sapat sa akin ang nangyayaring mga solusyon dahil paulit-ulit 'yung pagkakamali sa ating mga kababayan na overload na naman, jumper na naman, iwan 'yung niluluto. 'Yan lang naman laging pinagmumulan ng apoy," she stressed.

"Kung malalaman natin ang mga wastong hakbang sa pag-iwas sa sunog, siguradong magiging mas main-gat tayo na suriin ang sarili nating mga tahanan at huwag basta pabayaang nakasinding kandila, kalan o 'yung niluluto," said Belmonte.



■ Quezon City Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte attending to a constituent.