

## Outstanding QC lying-in clinics awarded

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Daily Tribune (Philippines) · 7 Nov 2019 · A7 · Alvin Murcia

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Fifty-five birthing clinics in Quezon City were cited by Mayor Joy Belmonte, giving them the Seal of Excellence (SoE) from the Quezon City Health Department (QCHD).

The awardees represent 63 percent of all lying-in clinics in the city, up from 23 percent in 2016, the QCHD said.

The SoE is a quality label awarded to private lying-in clinics adjudged to be compliant with all national and local government laws on maternal and child health care.

Belmonte and City Health Department chief Dr. Esperanza Escano-Arias led the special ceremony awarding the clinics recently at the Sulo Riviera Hotel.

The mayor said birthing clinics give mothers a safer option when delivering their children by eliminating the need to go to unskilled birth attendants or a manghihilot.

She said no mother should die delivering her child and no child should die as he is being delivered into this world.

“We are all here today because we are committed to that objective: zero deaths in child birth, and zero deaths in all aspects of being a mother and bearing children,” Belmonte said. Arias said the increasing number of awardees is proof that QCs birthing clinics are cooperating with the local government in providing quality health care service to mothers and their babies.

She said clinics play a major role in bringing down the mortality rate in the city, a feat that is rare even among neighboring cities in the metropolis.

The conferees achieved all essential maternal, newborn, child health and nutrition indicators set by the Department of Health, the QCHD said.