

QC NAMES OUTSTANDING BIRTHING HUBS

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FIFTY-FIVE local birthing clinics got this year's Seal of Excellence (SoE) from the **Quezon City Health Department**. The department said the awardees represented 63 percent of all lying-in clinics in the city, up from 23 percent in 2016. SoE is a quality label awarded to private lying-in clinics compliant with all national and local government laws on maternal and child health care. Mayor **Josefina Belmonte** said the birthing clinics give mothers a safer option in delivering their children. "No mother should die delivering her child and no child should die by being delivered into this world," she said. City Health Chief Dr. Esperanza Escano Arias said the increasing number of awardees was proof that the city's birthing hubs were cooperating with the local government unit in providing quality health care service to mothers and their babies. "Malaki ang naitulong nilang lahat sa ating lungsod dahil naibaba na natin ang maternal mortality rate sa QC na iilang city lamang ang nakakagawa (They have contributed much to the city because we have lessened the maternal mortality rate in QC, which only few cities can do)," Arias said.