Penalty awaits QC officials who fail to distribute food aid

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THE Quezon City Government will penalize barangay captains and city officials who fail to distribute food assistance to residents affected by the enhanced community quarantine.

"This should not be happening because we have already distributed one million food packs in Quezon City," Mayor Joy Belmonte said in a statement. According to Belmonte, the Quezon City Government has received reports that indigent citizens did not receive food relief.

She said the City Government has a list of beneficiaries who were identified by barangay officials.

"It would be best to refer questions about food packs to your respective barangay officials," Belmonte said. Belmonte said that barangay captains and city officials who refuse to follow the city's relief distribution protocols will be suspended. "We ask our barangay captains and city officials to set aside differences and distribute food packs to the most affected families,' said Belmonte. "Favoritism and politics have no place during this time of need. Food packs should be given to those in need, regardless of political affiliation and preference," she added. Last Wednesday, April 1, authorities arrested 21 protesters demanding relief goods and other assistance in Quezon City. The protesters are residents of Sitio San Roque in Barangay Bagong Pag-asa. Belmonte said they have increased their food pack target to 750,000 families.

---(SunStar Philippines)