

## Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte

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(center) and Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry-QC chapter officials unveil a mobile community testing unit to expand the city's testing capabilities in the fight against COVID-19. The vehicle, which PCCI-QC sponsored, is equipped with a generator, a mini-laboratory, negative pressure and a self-decontamination area.



The Quezon City government launched yesterday its mobile community testing unit to ramp up efforts to curb the spread of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

The city's Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit (ESU) said the modified truck would conduct rapid diagnostic and polymerase chain reaction tests on residents, especially barangay officials and frontliners.

"We will deploy the truck in areas with high number of active COVID-19 cases and places that are under special concern lockdown," ESU chief Rolly Cruz said.

The mobile testing unit is equipped with a generator, a mini-laboratory, negative pressure and a self-decontamination area. Three to five ESU personnel are manning the truck.

Joseph Juico, community testing project manager, said the unit would be able to help the local government cover more areas for testing. It is easier to set up due to lesser logistical requirements.

The city government recently hired more than 300 contact tracers and healthcare workers. Additional quarantine facilities were also established to boost the fight against COVID-19.