

Cash aid distribution begins in NCR+

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THE distribution of cash assistance to help low-income families cope with the impact of the enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) began Wednesday, April 7, 2021, in the National Capital Region (NCR) and provinces of Bulacan, Cavite, Rizal and Laguna.

The Manila City Government started the payout on Tuesday afternoon, April 6, but halted this due to failure of the residents to observe physical distancing. Distribution resumed on Wednesday.

The Manila City Public Information Office said P1.52 billion was allotted for low-income earners in the city.

Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Secretary Rolando Bautista, Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Undersecretary Jonathan Malaya and Parañaque City Mayor Edwin Olivarez led the distribution of cash assistance to the residents of Barangay Vitalez.

There were 1,801 beneficiaries in the city, according to Olivarez.

In Caloocan, a total of 368,925 residents are expected to receive the assistance provided by the government.

The local government of Quezon City and Taguig City have also started distributing cash aid. Earlier, the Taguig City Government also distributed locally funded food packs to affected residents.

To ensure orderliness of the cash aid distribution, local government units identified venues of payout and provided schedules to the beneficiaries.

The national government has allotted P22.9 billion as cash assistance for 11.2 million people in the NCR, three million in Bulacan, 3.4 million in Cavite, 2.7 million in Laguna and 2.6 million in Rizal.

The beneficiaries will receive P1,000 each, or a maximum of P4,000 per family.

In an interview, Malaya said the joint monitoring and inspection team of the DILG and DSWD will monitor the distribution of assistance.