

QC issues guidelines on aid distribution

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QUEZON City Mayor Josefina “Joy” Belmonte on Thursday approved a set of guidelines to be observed by those carrying out humanitarian activities such as the distribution of relief goods or ayuda (assistance) under the enhanced community quarantine (ECQ).

Groups that are interested in donating or carrying out humanitarian activities should coordinate with the Office of the City Mayor at 898-842-42 local 8303 or via email at ocm@quezoncity.gov.ph.

Coordination should be done at least two days prior to the conduct of the activity.

Belmonte said the guidelines will help guarantee that minimum public health protocols are practiced and peace and order is maintained.

“The conduct of humanitarian activities is very much welcome in our city. However, we have to enforce some protocols in light of the ECQ restrictions. No programs and congregations will be allowed as they may become superspreader events,” the mayor said.

Under the memorandum, activities such as the distribution of financial and medical aid and relief goods, social amelioration programs, vaccination activities, and other activities are the only community service events that will be allowed.

Handing out donations in kind such as food and household supplies should be done in a strictly door-to-door manner, it said.

On the day of the distribution, the goods should be placed in front of beneficiaries’ houses, preferably on prepositioned chairs and tables.

According to the mayor, the donor group should be composed of no more than five individuals who must be fully vaccinated.

“They are also required to practice minimum public health protocols such as wearing of face masks and face shields and proper social distancing at all times,” she said.

The city chief executive said the donor group must be accompanied by no more than five representatives of either the city government, the Quezon City Police District or barangay officials.

The entire distribution party should not exceed 10 persons, Belmonte said.

“It will be safer for our residents or beneficiaries to stay at home and wait for the ‘ayuda’ than for them to congregate at another venue. This way, we are sure that their risk from exposure is less if not zero,” she said.