

# COVID-19 HITS QC ORPHANAGE

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A total of 122 children and personnel of the Gentlehands Orphanage in Barangay Bagumbuhay, Quezon City have tested positive for COVID-19 after an infected adult visited the institution.

Out of the total number, 99 are children with ages 18 and below, according to the Office of the City Mayor that immediately sent paracetamol, vitamins, hygiene kits, face masks, alcohol, and food packs to the orphanage.

Quezon City Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance Unit (CESU) head Dr. Rolly Cruz, an asymptomatic adult allegedly visited the orphanage and unknowingly brought the virus into the institution.

“Kailangang mapanatili ng mga ganitong closed long-term care facilities ang mahigpit na protocols dahil kahit isang kaso lang ang makapasok sa kanila ay madaling mahahawa ang lahat,” Cruz said.

Mayor Joy Belmonte called for the stricter implementation of health protocols to avoid COVID-19 outbreaks.

“Mariin nating ipinapaala na ang hindi pagsunod o hindi pagpapatupad ng minimum public health protocols ay paglabag sa RA 11332. Dapat maging mahigpit ang ating persons in authority sa pagpapatupad nito para maiwasan natin ang pagkalat ng virus,” she said.

“Patuloy nating papalawigin ang ating swab testing at contact tracing program para maabot ang mga gaya nitong high-risk closed facilities,” she added.