

## Kids in orphanage hit by COVID-19

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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.

Out of the total number, 99 are children with ages 18 and below.

The Office of the City Mayor immediately sent paracetamol, vitamins, hygiene kits, face masks, alcohol, and food packs to the orphanage.

According to 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 (Such closed long-term care facilities must maintain strict protocols because even if only one case enters them, everyone can be easily infected),” Cruz said.

Mayor Joy Belmonte called for 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 (We strongly warn that non-compliance with or nonimplementation of minimum public health protocols is a violation of RA 11332. Our persons in authority must be strict in enforcing them so that we can prevent the spread of the virus),” she said.