QC breaks gender barriers in healthcare

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QUEZON City has become the first local government unit in the country to enact a gender-inclusive health ordinance that guarantees accessible, respectful, and affirming healthcare services for individuals of all gender identities and expressions.

“This groundbreaking ordinance reaffirms Quezon City’s commitment to a healthcare system that is truly inclusive,” said Mayor Joy Belmonte. “Every citizen deserves care that recognizes and respects who they are.”

Belmonte stressed the importance of removing healthcare barriers, especially for gender-diverse and transgender residents who have long faced discrimination and limited access to essential health services.

Under the ordinance, all public health facilities in Quezon City must provide genderaffirming consultations, counseling, medical guidance, referrals to specialized care, and mental health support tailored for LGBTQIA+ individuals. Rio N. Araja