WE CONNECT

A Publication of the Quezon City Government through the Gender and Development Resource and Coordinating Office (GADRCO)
January - June 2012





MAYOR HERBERT M. BAUTISTA: A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

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From the Mayor's Office

MAYOR BAUTISTA CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY WITH MORE SERVICES



Quezon City Mayor Herbert M. Bautista has again celebrated his birthday with various activities that highlighted his efforts to provide his constituents, especially the marginalized sector, with the best of basic services that his administration can offer. His goal is to achieve a better quality of life for the less fortunate during his incumbency as city mayor.

During his 44th birthday celebration, the city residents, mostly the underprivileged, benefited from the QC Hall-initiated special programs for free services like free ultra sound, ECG and FBS testing courtesy of the Quezon City General Hospital and its mobile clinic; free gift vouchers and gift certificates from Flawless Facial Care Center; Free Facial from Erase Placenta; SSS/ Philhealth acquisition; Free blood pressure monitoring and massage from iLearn school; full scholarship and 50% discount to valid beneficiaries given by Informatics, MedNet and CCP; free haircut from Reyes Haircutters; free eye check-up with free reading glasses from the Office of the City Mayor; free bone scanning from Anlene; Job Fair organized by the Public Employment Services Office; Health and Wellness provided by the Cultural and Tourism Affairs Office and Diskwento Caravan where people can avail of basic commodities, especially school supplies, at discounted rates.

To help the urban poor communities, Mayor Bautista has successfully traced the connections that linked private sectors, government agencies, Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs), People's Organizations (POs) and the city government to come up with the complete picture of the needed programs that will spur the continuous growth of the city's economy.

The Mayor's dedication has gained more for the poor and has established the strong foundation that strengthened the city's fight against poverty, providing decent shelter for those who never had it including those who reside along waterways and open spaces declared as danger zones.

Bautista also addressed the need for an orderly and secure environment, which is most essential in creating an atmosphere of comfort to sustain a business-friendly environment. He has been coordinating with the Philippine National Police to assess the peace and order situation and to ensure that there is no place for criminals in QC.

He also engaged in nurturing the environment by supporting the clean-air initiatives to combat pollution and other earth-killing practices.

On his 44nd birthday, Bautista promised that his administration will continuously provide citizens with the needed quality basic services, promote development, foster health, boost education, nurture environment, fight poverty, improve housing programs for the poor and maintain peace and order for a better Quezon City.

Rico de Leus



Mayor Bautista and Vice Mayor Belmonte receive a certificate of appreciation from the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), with Rosario Yara, head of CTAO



Mayor Bautista and Vice Mayor Belmonte receive gifts from Ms. Marlene Siapno, head of SBECO, and from other entrepreneurs



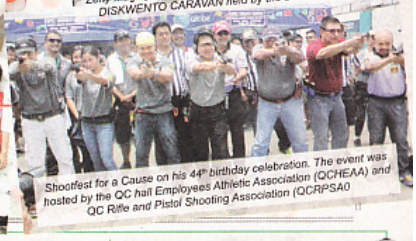
QC honors differently-abled persons



The Mayor with Trade Secretary Gregory Domingo, Usec. Zeny Magleya and City Administrator Victor Endriga at the DISKWENTO CARAVAN held by the DTI at Q.C. Hall



With the Red Cross-Quezon City Chapter



Shootfest for a Cause on his 44th birthday celebration. The event was hosted by the QC hall Employees Athletic Association (QCHEAA) and QC Rifle and Pistol Shooting Association (QCRPSAO

FROM MY OFFICE

President Manuel Quezon's dream for Quezon City to be the "model of effective

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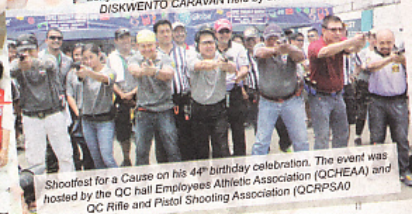

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FROM MY OFFICE WINDOW

By Mary Ruby M. Palma

HIS HONOR, THE MAYOR: *"A Man for All Seasons"*

Our Mayor, Herbert Constantine Maclang Bautista, is the longest running official of the city. He has been a successful individual in all fronts. Consider the following:

* Almost 26 years in government service, from a barangay youth leader, culminating into President of the Kabataang Barangay National Federation for 4 years and Commissioner at large for the National Youth Commission , up to Mayor of the largest and premier city at present. Before he was elected 11th Mayor of Quezon City in a landslide vote in May 2010 and assumed office in June 30, 2010 , he was member of the Quezon City Council : Vice-Mayor , albeit the youngest the city ever had , for 12 years (January 24, 1995- June 30, 1998 and in June 30, 2001-June 30, 2010) and even before that, a councilor for 3 years (June 30 1992- June 30, 1995.)

* Reckoned with his lengthy public service as Vice-Mayor and presiding officer of the Quezon City Council, Mayor Bautista undoubtedly becomes the man most sensitive and responsive to rights-based issues as seen in the most number of ordinances and resolutions he heard, approved and endorsed to various mayors. (These legislations shall be published in the next issue of We Connect for lack of space due to decreased number of pages this year.)

* Many trail-blazing rights – based legislation the Mayor himself authored and / or endorsed , must be remembered. They give the city a brand for human rights-based administration, beginning with President Manuel Luis Quezon's move to pass Filipino women's right to vote. . These policies connect the present to President Manuel Quezon's dream for Quezon City to be the "model of effective governance and responsible leadership." We Connect takes pride in mentioning some of these policy landmarks:

- a comitment to a heroic and national heritage through an ordinance declaring every January 6 of every year as "Tandang Sora Day" in 1993. This serves as inspiration and foundation for the city to celebrate Melchora Aquino's bicentennial this year which culminated in reclaiming her remains from Himalayang Pilipino to be buried in her humble home in Banlat, transform into a national shrine recently; (This reverence for women as mothers and leaders is reflected in the Mayor's act of honoring all mothers through a Gintong Ina Award, an annual activity that has been sustained through a Foundation.)

- a commitment to equal rights between sexes and among genders, and ages, through the enactment of the Gender and Development Code and its Implementing Rules and Regulations, and a pending childrens' welfare code.

- a commitment to environmental rights through the Green Building Ordinance and that of strengthening the city's Disaster Risk Management Council;

- a commitment to shelter rights through a socialized housing ordinance for the city's homeless;

- a commitment for protection rights of the vulnerable sectors through ordinances improving maternal and child care (fortifying the city's child and youth welfare ordinance), and instituting barangay-based monitoring mechanisms and welfare programs for children, persons with special needs, elderly, kasambahay, women in difficult circumstances such as prostituted women, trafficked women and solo parents;

- a commitment to the right for political participation through the establishment and/or expansion of people-based councils and inclusion of civil society in the drafting and implementation of the city's comprehensive development land use and investment plans; and

- a commitment to birth right and free education through improved daycares and expanded scholarship programs in colleges/universities and technical-vocational institutions;

Sources of his personal and political profiles describe Mayor Bautista both as an actor and politician, but we rather picture him as an expert in legislative process, national security and public administration, having taken his post graduate degrees in Public Administration and Governance at the UP NCPAG and National security Administration in the National Defense College. He is at present also the President of NCR League of Cities of the Philippines and Chair of the Social Development Committee of the Regional Development Council of the MMDA.

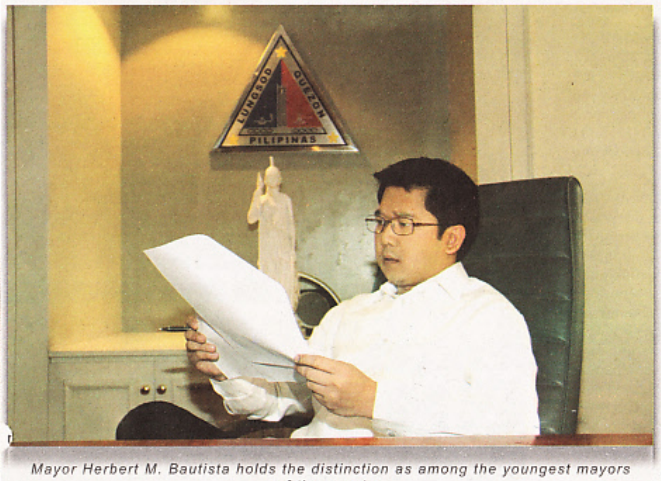
Mayor "Bistek" also has substantial knowhow in photography and cinematic arts, sports and tourism. His career in film and television started way back 1985 and gained FAMAS AWARDS as best supporting actor in the films Bobby Parkers and Parak – two of 33 films where he starred. This marriage of media and politics has indeed given Quezon City a far edge, in terms of local governance that is serious in its vision, creative in its administration, and refreshing in its approach. Captain Barbell has come to our City a hero, truer than the Black Knight of Gotham.



CONNECTING...

By Domini M. Torrevillas

(This is a rewrite of a column written for The Philippine STAR on August 5, 2010)



Mayor Herbert M. Bautista holds the distinction as among the youngest mayors of the country.

It came as a shock and delight to find Hon. Mayor Herbert Constantine Maclang Bautista standing on a chair to reach a light bulb above his desk. He said the room was too bright. He had not expected me to find him doing such a thing; but he was actually demonstrating his city administration's new thrust: cost-cutting and energy conservation measures.

He could very well have asked an aide to shut the thing off, but he himself did it. That created a good impression on me, that he could do things for himself and not depend and economic enhancement. I'd like to believe that because of all these, investors have been coming in."

He will continue his predecessor's programs, but his emphasis now will be on social development, like health, education and social services, including the re-tooling and training of teachers in the city's 260 day care centers. Why day care centers? Because, he said, "We take care of the formative years of our children. We have to re-tool teachers, and make sure our day care centers are children-friendly." On social services, he believes in

popular movies such as "Bagets," "Jack and Jill," and "Shake, Rattle and Roll." In "Shake, Rattle and Roll," a film series dating back to 1984, he won the Metro Manila best actor award.

His government service began in 1985 as chairman of the Kabataang Barangay at the Immaculate Conception in Cubao, followed by becoming the KB president of the KB national federation. In 1989, he was appointed ex-officio city councilor representing the youth sector, under the administration of Mayor Brigido Simon Jr. He then ran and won as councilor in the city's third legislative district. In 1995, he was elected vice-mayor and presiding officer of the city. From 1999 to 2001, he was commissioner-at-large of the National Youth Commission under the Office of the President. He ran and won the vice-mayor's seat the second time around, serving from 2001 to 2010. In last May's election, he won the mayorship by

Methinks one of Mayor Bautista's most valuable assets in running an efficient governance system is his having as a partner Vice-Mayor Joy Bemonte Alimurung. Both work together in projects to make the city a model for other administrators to follow. Happily, they are both gender-sensitive, launching projects that benefit not only women, but the entire city population.

I guess everyone wants to ask the question, when is he getting married? He will say, like President P-Noy, "Wait and see." I hope we don't get to wait forever.

MEET THE MAYOR'S CHIEF OF STAFF: ALDRIN C. CUÑA

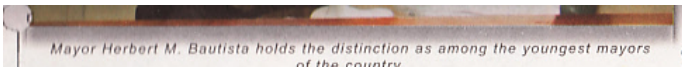
By Choot Ramirez-De Vera



To start with, I had a light bulb moment. No one ever wrote anything about this guy (yet). So panting, I rushed to the fourth floor to beg a few minutes of his time. Well, the fact of the matter is he had no choice.

Tall, sleek and witty are the best adjectives I could use to describe him. Compared to his blackberry mobile phone, his battery never drains out. A health buff who still squeezes time for daily trips to the gym and a guy who would kill for a bag of pistachios, meet Aldrin C. Cuña, the man behind the main man, Mayor Herbert M. Bautista.

This guy came from the gang green (De La Salle University) along Taft Avenue where he got his degree in Political Science. Several law schools after, he finished from the San Sebastian College-Recoletos Law School. His hunger for education was never satisfied. After which, he took his Masteral in National Security



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He could very well have asked an aide to shut the thing off, but he himself did it. That created a good impression on me, that he could do things for himself and not depend on others. He was impressive too, in a light, embroidered polo barong, looking 26 years old when he is actually 42, and brimming with energy. Plus he is still a bachelor.

Settling down in his swivel chair, he said the city pays so much for utility costs. For its schools, it pays P60-million for electricity each month, and for water, P40 million. Those costs should be whittled down, and with the implementation of a Green Building ordinance he pushed and the city council passed last year, an environment-sound system will be installed on private and public buildings, including putting up rain catchments and using rain water for flushing toilets, and using solar energy.

Mayor Herbert credits the city's debt-free status to the fiscal management wizardry of former Mayor Feliciano "Sonny" Belmonte, who is now the Speaker of the 15th Congress. What he learned from his mentor is that government money should be spent on what people really need. "The previous administration concentrated on efficiency of systems, governance, and economic enhancement. I'd like to believe that because of all these, investors have been coming in."

He will continue his predecessor's programs, but his emphasis now will be on social development, like health, education and social services, including the re-tooling and training of teachers in the city's 260 day care centers. Why day care centers? Because, he said, "We take care of the formative years of our children. We have to re-tool teachers, and make sure our day care centers are children-friendly." On social services, he believes in building health centers rather than medical missions, which he would like the private sector to undertake.

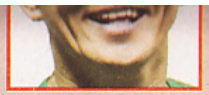
The city hall complex is now a hub of infrastructure development. Across it is the Quezon Memorial Circle which is undergoing massive modern development (to the chagrin, though, of environmentalists who want to retain a forest-like park). The completion of the project and others on the drawing board is possible with the city government's efficient revenue-collecting system.

How would he like to be remembered by Quezonians, I asked him. He smiled. "Let history judge me according to my performance."

Most of our voters being celebrity-mad, one would say Herbert was catapulted to the city's highest executive post on account of his being a popular movie/television actor. Yes and no. He was/is still an entertainment celebrity. But he has brains, too.

Popularly called "Bistek" (I like to presume he was so called because he was rather plump in his younger days), he carried comedy roles in Kabataang Barangay at the Immaculate Conception in Cubao, followed by becoming the KB president of the KB national federation. In 1989, he was appointed ex-officio city councilor representing the youth sector, under the administration of Mayor Brigido Simon Jr. He then ran and won as councilor in the city's third legislative district. In 1995, he was elected vice-mayor and presiding officer of the city. From 1999 to 2001, he was commissioner-at-large of the National Youth Commission under the Office of the President. He ran and won the vice-mayor's seat the second time around, serving from 2001 to 2010. In last May's election, he won the mayorship by a landslide, defeating formidable rivals – former Presidential Chief – of-Staff Michael Defensor, former Mayor Ismael Mathay Jr., and former Congresswoman Mary Ann Susano.

When I say he has brains too, it's because he is continuously improving himself intellectually, beyond the slapstick and brazen idiocy of most television shows. He was born May 12, 1968 to Herminio Bautista, who served as city councilor representing the fourth district two times, and Rosario Bautista, a restaurateur and entrepreneur. A brother and a sister are restaurateurs too. He finished his elementary schooling at the Victoria School Foundation in Quezon City, then his Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and Letters at San Beda College (which gave him an Outstanding Centennial Bedan award). In 1990, he received his Master of Arts in Public Administration and Governance at the University of the Philippines-Diliman. He has Masters in National Security Administration from the National Defense College. He is finishing a Doctorate in Political Science at the UP-Diliman.



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Before working with Mayor Bautista, Aldrin as he is dotingly called, worked as a faculty member at the Colegio de San Juan de Letran and assistant to Senator Santanina T. Rasul.

Moreover, little did we know that Aldrin Cuña drafted the Basilan Provincial Development Plan in 1992 under the supervision of Senator Rasul.

Thus far, Cuña, the Chief Of Staff of QC Mayor Herbert Bautista is also a Navy Commander of the Philippine Navy Reserve and faculty member at the Department of Political Science of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines. To top it all, he also is a firefighter: he is president of the Central District Fire & Rescue Volunteer Brigade Inc. and 1st VP of the Philippine Volunteer Fire Brigades Inc. Whew! I told you his battery never drains.

Cuña as a boss will make you think whenever work-related hassles come up. He will speak his mind and give you his take no matter what. He handles everything with great ease and aplomb, making sure that no stones are left unturned. Trouble-shooting for him is a kill. His favourite line- *"Kaya yan, lahat may paraan." He gets mad all right, well, maybe in a million years.*

As young as he is, already an achiever. He has been working with Mayor Bautista since 1995 as the latter's legislative head. Taking the blows and the arrows from hot heads, he is always there to keep the boat afloat whenever a storm comes in. He says he is fortunate enough to be appointed by Mayor Bistek keeping in mind and in his heart, that he is given the honor, the opportunity, the responsibility and the privilege to serve the mayor and Quezon City.

Excerpts from The Mayor's Address:

STATE OF THE WOMEN AND MEN OF QUEZON CITY

The celebration of Women's Month is not only a recognition of the high value of women's contribution to society, but also a recognition of the growing access of the less privileged members of our communities to opportunities for growth and betterment. This is a month when we must pause to make sure that the key components of our communities, especially the physically, socially and economically disadvantaged, are given a voice and can exert their muscle of representation in many of our governance programs and projects. Thus, women have become symbols of people who were or are marginalized, but are now gaining access to what can make their lives productive and meaningful.

Noong ika-anim ng Enero, tayo ay nagdiwang ng pang-dalawang daang taong selebrasyon ng kaarawan ni TandangSora, ang pinaka-matinding simbolo ng ating Lungsod sa kakayahan ng ating kababaihan na maging bayani at dakila sa iba't-ibang paraan:

Mga ina na nagtratrabaho ng matindi mula umaga hanggang gabi, matustusan lang ang mga pangangailangan ng kanilang pamilya; mga anak na walang humpay na tumutulong sa kanilang mga magulang; mga doktor, nars at health worker na nangangalaga sa kalusugan ng iba, kahit na ito ay kung minsan ay magiging mapanganib sa kanila ring kalusugan; sa mga naglilinis ng ating mga kalye at kapaligiran at nagtatapon ng basura; ang ating mga traffic side at kapulisan…kayong mga kababaihan na nagtratrabaho sa opisina para lang may pambili ng pagkain araw-araw at mapag-aral ang inyong mga anak. Dakila kayong lahat, mga kababaihan! Saan na lang mapupulot ang mga kalalakihan kung wala kayo!

I do believe that Quezon City has been successful in institutionalizing gender responsiveness in its policies, plans and programs, as shown by these development indicators:

- Membership in the City government's GAD Focal Persons mechanism increased by 33%, covering both the Executive and Legislative Offices and barangays. We ended 2011 with 270 focal persons acting as mentors and advocates for gender-responsive local governance.

- Every public school in QC has a gender focal person. Congratulations sa ating Superintendent of City Schools, Dr. Corazon Rubio, sa Division GAD Focal Person na si Dr. Estrella Merca, at sa

GADRCO na siyang nagsilbing gabay at tagapagturo sa kanila. Sa tulong ng mga gender focal persons (GFPs) sa ating mga paaralan, inaasahan ko na higit na mabibigyang pansin, lunas at hustisya, ang mga kasong diskriminasyon, pang-aabuso, at pag-iwas o pagbawas sa mga kaso ng teen-age pregnancy.

- *Katuwang ng ating pamahalaan ang Department of Justice, Philippine Justice Academy, Supreme Court at Office of the Prosecutor ng QC sa pag-sugpo ng trafficking in persons at pagdala ng hustisya at pag-aaral sa mga batas ng mga barangay tungkol sa isyung ito.*

Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte has been working with NGOs, the police and barangay officials to implement a sustainable program to address victims of trafficking, prostitution and abuse. These programs include crisis intervention centers, a Protection Center at the Quezon City General Hospital which serves as a one-stop shop where victims can go for legal assistance, livelihood and skills training, so that they can have better chances at a new life.

You will see from the roster of activities for Women's Month that our City government's program of empowerment is a collaborative effort of the Executive and Legislative branches, and is a happy mix of economic, social and educational programs.

Let me also mention with pride, that our creative and innovative mainstreaming of gender concerns, particularly in media, have not gone unnoticed by national agencies, especially by the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW). We have been invited to sit with them to craft President Aquino's plan for women under his administration, under the Women Empowerment Development and Gender Equality

WOMEN'S MONTH KIC

Theme: Women Weathering Climate Change: Governance and Accountability, Everyone's Responsibility
Q.C. Hall Risen Garden, March 5, 2012

Women's Month Kick-Off 2012



Mayor Herbert Bautista with the GAD Focal P
Tandang Sora scarves



The lady guards administered the raising of the Philippine flag.



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Joined the city-



Some AFP officers who joined -- (seate
Deputy of the Asst. Chief of Staff fo
Phil Army GAD TWG; BGEN RAMO
Staff for Personnel, AJ1 and Vice Ch
BERNADETTE P CENTILLO NC(GSC
ADVESARIO (NC) PA, Assigned Office
(AGS) PA, ChiefGAD/Head, Phil
PA; and 2LT LARRIMAR S TANGU

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persons acting as mentors and advocates for gender-responsive local governance.

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Mayor Herbert Bautista delivering his Women's Month message

• *Nandyan na rin ang pag-sali ng ating mga GAD focal person sa iba't-ibang sangay at ahensiya ng gobyerno na naka-base sa Quezon City. From the SRA, DOST mula sa Information and Communications Division. Maraming ahensiya ng pamahalaan ang kailangang hikayatin natin na hindi lang magkaroon ng GFP sa kanilang mga kawani, bagkus ay mag-allot silang 5% GAD budget sa kanilang mga departments.*

• We fully account for the gender component of our City budget. Capacity-building in gender responsiveness is an integral part of our planning and programming efforts.

better chances at a new life.

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We have also been sharing our lessons at gender mainstreaming and experiences in advocating for human and women's rights in communities with other local governments and international groups, just as we also learn from their best practices. I have also constituted a new GAD Council, expanding its membership to include appropriate representation also for marginalized sectors.

Congratulations to all those who have been working tirelessly to promote the welfare of women, disadvantaged sectors and the abused, whether men or women. This includes the GADRCO, our NGOs and national government partners and all advocates and collaborators. As they say, the fruits of good work is a better life for all!

Mayor Herbert M. Bautista



The lady guards administered the raising of the Philippine flag.



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Army, Philippine
Joined the city-



Some AFP officers who joined -- (seate
Deputy of the Asst. Chief of Staff for
Phil Army GAD TWG; BGEN RAMON
Staff for Personnel, AJ1 and Vice Ch
BERNADETTE P CENTILLO NC(GSC
ADVESARIO (NC) PA, Assigned Office
(AGS) PA, ChiefGAD/Head, Phili
PA; and 2LT LARRIMAR S TANG



Leading the Legis
together with the



Other VIPs: Rep. Emmy de Jesus of GABRIELA; Dr. Dina Fernandez, GAD Focal and Vice Chair of the Sugar Regulatory Administration; Dr.EstrellaMerca, GAD Focal and Head of the QC DepEd Division of City Schools; Ms. Florence Vercelles who led the QC Red Cross delegation; Fiscal Corazon Romano, GAD Focal person representing the Prosecutor's Office; PSI ROWENA DC LAMBOJO, Chief of the DWCPD of the QCPD; Dr. Abel Noche, with Ms.Elsie De Veyra;Mr.Ronnie Ricketts, Chair of the Optical Media Board, and former QC Vice Mayor CharitoPlanas.

OFF CELEBRATION



wearing red





Qc, the AFP-composed of 147 men representing the Philippine ce, Philippine Navy and Marines, nt.

t)COL ALEXIS E GOPICO PA(GSC), el, G1 Phil Army, and Chair of the AFP, Asst. to the Deputy Chief of of the AFP GAD Focal Point;COL rmy Chief Nurse; MAJ ANNIEVE S Chief Nurse; MAJ LEILANI S LUCAS AF ocal Point Secretariat at OG1,

DR. MARY RUBY PALMA while giving the Opening Message

Excerpts from her message:

"Mahalaga po ang umagang ito sapagkat ito ang ikalawang Women's Month celebration under the administration of our good Mayor Herbert Bautista at ito rin ang ika-sampung Women's Month na pinamamahalaan ng GADRCO. Ten years ago, kami po ay ipinanganak sa QC Executive Family. Napakaimportante pong malaman natin,na naiiba ang Women's Month 2011 at Women's Month ngayon, dahil sinunod natin ang vision at direction ng ating Punong Lungsod na maging unifying at maging citywide ang ating development. Hindi lang po sa loob ng QC government, kundi sa kabuuan na rin ng QC. Kaya't inumpisahan po namin ang pagyakap at pag-imbita sa mga GFP din ng ibat-ibang sangay ng pamahalaan na nasa QC, kasama na iyong ating protective sector. "

"At dahil na rin po sa pagsuporta ng ating Mayor sa ating Vice-Mayor na siyang Chair ng ating Tandang Sora Task Force, isa lang po ang tampok sa araw na ito. Ito po ang homage trip natin sa Pambansang Dambana o National Shrine ni Melchora Aquino sa Banlat. Sa araw na ito, pupunta po ang buong Armed Forces, ang GFP ng iba't ibang ahensiya, at GFP at heads ng iba't ibang departments and offices ng QC. Nagpapasalamat ako sa mga heads of departments natin, sa mga Punong Barangay sa pagsuporta dito at sapag-allow ninyo na makapunta at makasama dito sa homage sa Dambana ni Tandang Sora."

Homage Motorcade to Tandang Sora Shrine

After the flag raising ceremony, a formation of vehicles adorned with violet and green balloons made the motorcade a festive sight. Cora Medis, GAD Focal of the Department of Public Order and Safety (DPOS) supported by Gen. Elmo San Diego, the General Services Offices and QCPD coordinated convoy from City Hall to the New Shrine in Banlat.



The mini program at the TandangSora Shrine also commenced with the singing of the National Anthem. Punong Barangay Hector Geronimo of Banlat welcomed the pilgrims. The trip to the Shrine took 4 Mondays, coordinated by GADRCO, GAD focals of departments, barangays and tourist guides of the Office of the Vice Mayor and cultural and Tourism Affairs Office.



The Kalayaan Historical Tours and Production staged a musical-drama depicting the role that Melchora Aquino played during the revolution.



QC elementary and high school students from the Division of City Schools rendered a song and dance number.





The closing message was given by Engr. Efren Figueroa, Vice President of the *Kapisanan ng mga Apo ni TandangSora.*

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS WHO DONATED FOOD OR CASH FOR THE WOMEN'S MONTH FOR TANDANG



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AFP, Asst. to the Deputy Chief of
of the AFP GAD Focal Point;COL
my Chief Nurse; MAJ ANNIEVE S
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up was Vice-Mayor Joy Belmonte
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Thank you for coming and isang maka-bansang Women's Month!





and Production staged a musical-drama depicting the role that Melchora Aquino played during the revolution.

Schools rendered a song and dance number.





The closing message was given by Engr. Efren Figueroa, Vice President of the *Kapisanan ng mga Apo ni TandangSora.*

For the Kick-off alone, the GADRCO registry yielded 602 delegates who paid homage to Tandang Sora on March 5. (Not all the participants were able to register their names in the attendance sheet) in Banlat.

Represented at the Shrine were the AFP's major services with its 147-member contingent; QCPD officers led by its new District Director PCSUPT MARIO O. DELA VEGA and PSI ROWENA DC LAMBOJO, Chief of the WCPD; government agencies/organizations such as the Sugar Regulatory Administration, the DA-BFAR, DOST, Livestock Development Council; 14 QC departments/offices including the Novaliches District Center; QC Elementary Schools and High Schools; QCPU, and a mix of 240 GFP, Barangay Officials representing 41 barangays from 4 Districts.

The safe and orderly motorcade to the TandangSora Shrine and maintenance of peace and order within the vicinity of the QC Hall Compound was managed well by the 76-member traffic escorts and enforcers of the DPOS.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS WHO DONATED FOOD OR CASH FOR THE WOMEN'S MONTH FOR TANDANG SORA HOMAGES AND FOR THE KICK-OFF/CLOSING DATES

- **Mayor Herbert Bautista** *(food for closing event)*
- **Office of the Vice-Mayor** *(Tourist guides)*
- **Hon. Julienne Alyson Rae V. Medalla**
- **Hon. Joseph P. Juico**
- **Hon. Julian ML. Coseteng**
- **Hon. Godofredo L.Liban III**
- **Hon. Vincent DG. Belmonte**
- **Hon. Francisco A. Calalay Jr.**
- **Hon. Jaime F. Borres**
- **Hon. Alfred D. Vargas III**
- **Hon. Jessica C. Daza**
- **Hon. Dorothy A.Delarmente**
- **Hon. Anthony Peter D. Crisologo**
- **Engineering Department**
- **Hon. Ricardo T.Belmonte Jr.**
- **Hon. Alexis R. Herrera**
- **Hon. Precious Hipolito-Castelo**
- **Hon. Ranulfo Z. Ludovica**
- **Hon. John Ansell R. de Guzman**
- **Hon. Roderick M.Paulate**
- **Hon. Marvin C.Rillo**
- **Hon. Allan Benedict S.Reyes**
- **Hon. Raquel S. Malangen**
- **Atty. Kit Belmonte**
- **Connie Malangen**
- **Brgy. Captain Hector Geronimo**
- **Kalayaan Historical Tours and Production**
- **QCPD Women's Desk**
- **QC Fire Department**
- **Ms. Tey Indiongco**
- **Sun Cellular**

QUEZON CITY GADRCO STATS

FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Chart 1. Clients by Sex

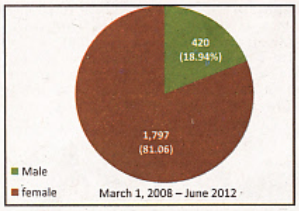


Chart 2. Clients by Origin/District

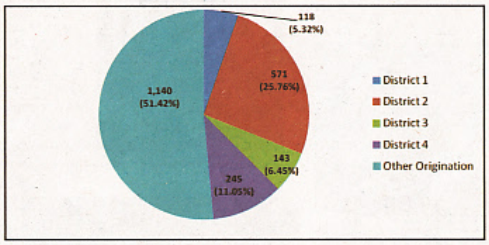


Chart 3. Clients by Endorser

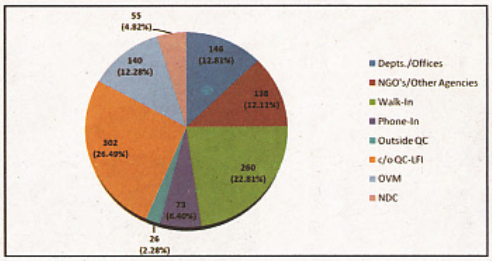
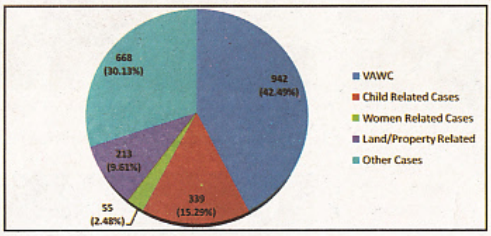


Chart 4. Clients By Nature/Category of Cases



** The program was launched in March, 2008. It was expanded to the Novaliches District Center - GADRCO Satellite last March 2011. The Free Legal and Psycho-Social Service for women and children was institutionalized with the establishment of the QC Protection Center for Gender-Based Violence at the QC General Hospital with the support of Mayor Herbert Bautista and Vice-Mayor Joy Belmonte who leads in its management.*

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF BARANGAY TEACHERS' VILLAGE WEST HOLDS ITS 1ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

By: Kagawad Ma. Ximena Ednacot, Bgy. Teachers Village West

Ever since I was elected as kagawad last 2010, my top priority is to assist all women by establishing/organizing a women's association that would provide health projects and livelihood programs and be able to inform them about women's rights for their protection as well as to uplift their status and well being.

protection of women who are victims of gender-based offenses and help women attain justice and healing."

Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte stated that, it is important to have a Women's Association to speed up delivery of projects to barangays

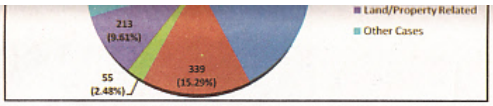
The Cooking Kagawad

Kagawad Feliza "Imay" Vergara Llaneza, Bgy. East Kamias

LAING NI IMAY

Mga Sangkap:

3 pakete ng pinatuyong dahon ng gabi (nabibili sa palengke o grocery)
½ kilo karne ng baboy
¼ kilo hipon
5 tasa ng coconut milk (gata)



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GADRCO Head Ruby Palma orients participants on the benefits of organizing a women's group

As head of the Committee on Health and Women and GAD Focal Person of Brgy. Teachers' Village West, I found out that there is a need for a women's association, so I decided to organize the 1st General Assembly of the women's association.

Last May 26, 2012, I invited Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte, GAD (Gender and Development) RCO Consultant Dr. Mary Ruby Palma, and Councilor Ivy Lim-Lagman, as guest speakers to orient the members and tackle the importance of having a women's association.

Dr. Mary Ruby Palma gave an overview on Women's Rights. She shared that all women shall be recognized as full and equal partners of men in development and nation-building, and that men share equally with all forms of productive and reproductive activities. She explained that R.A.9710:The Magna Carta of Women ensures that, "all women shall be protected from all forms of violence" and that government agencies will prioritize "the defense and protection of women who are victims of gender-based offenses and help women attain justice and healing."

Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte stated that, it is important to have a Women's Association to speed up delivery of projects to barangays particularly the health-related ones. She also said that for the first time, a Breast Feeding Station is available within the premises of the Legislative Wing of QC Hall. Other services that the OVM provides are Free Pap Smear, Breast Cancer Seminars, Anti-Cervical Cancer Vaccines, and other livelihood programs, etc. She added that her office offers free legal assistance every Tuesday at QC Hall.

Councilor Ivy Lim-Lagman, being a 4th year law student and wife of Ex-Councilor Edcel Lagman offered to help in terms of legal assistance. She promised to continue the public service her husband started. She emphasized that it is important for women to know their rights so they can protect themselves and uphold their self-esteem.

Knowing that it is difficult to have no leaders, I suggested that the election of officers be scheduled.I hope that this Women's Association will remain solid to achieve future programs and projects in Barangay Teachers' Village West.

The Cooking Kagawad

Kagawad Feliza "Imay" Vergara Llaneza, Bgy. East Kamias

LAING NI IMAY

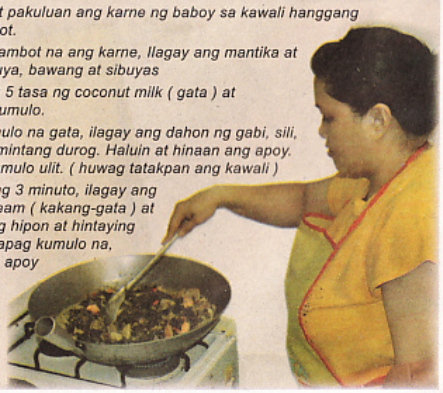
Mga Sangkap:

3 pakete ng pinatuyong dahon ng gabi (nabibili sa palengke o grocery)
½ kilo karne ng baboy
¼ kilo hipon
5 tasa ng coconut milk (gata)
1 tasa ng coconut cream (kakang-gata)
3 sibuyas (hiniwang manipis)
2 buong bawang (tinadtad)
1 buong luya (hiniwang manipis)
4 kutsarita ng patis
6 Siling labuyo (depende sa inyo kung gaano ka anghang)
1 kutsaritang pamintang durog
3 kutsaritang mantika



Paraan ng Pagluluto:

1. *Hugasan at pakuluan ang karne ng baboy sa kawali hanggang sa lumambot.*
2. *Kapag malambot na ang karne, ilagay ang mantika at igisa ang luya, bawang at sibuyas*
3. *Ibuhos ang 5 tasa ng coconut milk (gata) at hintaying kumulo.*
4. *Kapag kumulo na gata, ilagay ang dahon ng gabi, sili, patis at pamintang durog. Haluin at hinaan ang apoy. Hintayin kumulo ulit. (huwag tatakpan ang kawali)*
5. *Pagtapos ng 3 minuto, ilagay ang coconut cream (kakang-gata) at iibabaw ang hipon at hintaying kumulo. Kapag kumulo na, hinaan ang apoy at hintayin hanggang sa maglangis ang gata.*



KALAYAAN

Pananagutan ng Bayan para sa Tuwid na Daan



Sa kabila ng mga pabugso-bugsong pag-ulan ay naitaas at naiwagayway ang bandila ng Pilipinas sa pagdiriwang ng ika-114th na anibersaryo ng Kalayaan ng Pilipinas na taunang ginugunita tuwing ika-12 ng Hunyo sa buong Pilipinas. Ang simpleng selebrasyon ng Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Quezon ay pinamahalaan ng Cultural and Tourism Affairs Office (CTAO). Ang maikling programa ay tinampukan ng makabayang sayaw handog ng mga piling mag-aaral mula sa E. Rodriguez High School. Isang makabayang awitin naman ang bilang-handog ng QC Teachers' Chorale sa saliw ng tugtugin mula sa QC Symphonic Band.

Binigyang-diin ng mensahe ng Punong Lungsod Herbert M Bautista, na ang pangunahing kalaban ng bansa ngayon ay kahirapan. Ayon sa kanya, isang malaking hamon sa Lungsod at sa bansa ang makatugon sa mga pangangailangang pang-edukasyon, pangkabuhayan, pangkalusugan at iba pang serbisyong pampubliko... na makakamit lamang ang tunay na kalayaan at kapangyarihan kung ang mga ito ay matutugunan.

Sa mensahe ng Pangalawang Punong Lungsod Joy Belmonte, binanggit na *"Mahalagang alalahanin sa isang partikular na araw ang mga sakripisyo ng mga mamamayan upang makamit ang kalayaan at kasarinlan ng bayan"*.

QC WeConnect Writers' Pool Embarks On A Writing Update Workshop

"Writing is a continuing journey. From the time we started thinking, or believing, or having the urge to write, we began to embark on that journey. The journey is unending, and lasts for a lifetime." Thus said Domini M. Torrevillas, the Philippine STAR columnist and

Citing from the Reuters style guide, Torrevillas added that accuracy and fairness must not ever be sacrificed for speed. She emphasized the need to double-check facts, figures, names, dates and spellings; to proofread or watch for typographical errors. She noted

for publication in a newspaper or magazine. Journalism is, therefore, the art of telling a story in as concise and simple manner as possible."

She expounded that the type of reporting events that confines itself to facts and answers the questions "what, when, where, who, why and how," is called objective journalism. Attempts to explain the significance of an event

In conclusion, participants were warned: "Our aim as journalists is basically to inform the public about events or happenings that concern them. Our task is to inform, not to confuse our readers."

The event was co-sponsored by Vibal Publishing House and Councilor Racquel Malangen, Councilor Julian Coseteng, Councilor Anthony Peter Crisologo, Councilor Godofredo Liban II.



MEET YOUR COUNCILOR:

COUNCILOR PRECIOUS HIPOLITO CASTELO

Councilor Precious Hipolito Castelo started her showbiz career as child actress in various teleserye such as Stop Child Abuse aired over ABS CBN. She then entered into movies that sealed her acting prowess when she won as FAMAS Best Child Actress for the movie Mga Angel ng Diyos. Her personality, sophistication, and talents earned her a spot in one of the GMA 7's top rating teenage TV program - That's Entertainment hosted by Mr German "Germs" Moreno.

When she was busy as a young actress she still managed to pursue her studies at University of Sto Tomas and took up Bachelor in Communication Arts. Juggling showbiz career and studies at the same was never easy but this young lady was very determined to finish her college education. She instantly landed a job as news anchor of IBC 13 Express balita that nominated her at PMPC star awards as Best female Newscaster.

Her first venture into public service started when she was elected as Brgy. Kagawad at Brgy Nagkaisang Nayon. She was exposed to various public service activities that prepared her in facing the very challenging world of political life.

2010 proved to be a lucky and blessed year for her as she was elected by the public as number 1 Councilor in District 2 Quezon City. Her various social advocacies and programs were duly recognized. With less than a year she was named as 2010 Manuel L Quezon Bantayog awardee as Most Outstanding Quezon City Councilor chosen by Quezon City Press citing her numerous significant legislations in pushing for Community Mortgage Program (CMP) measures and providing free education through scholarships and giving basic care to senior citizens among others. She is known as Kampeon ng Edukasyon.

Her public service career focused more on the upliftment of quality of life of her constituents by providing basic and alternative livelihood, education/scholarships, health benefits, and championed the Community Mortgage Program (CMP)for the landless constituents in her District.

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Email: gadrco@quezoncity.gov.ph / qc.gadrco2002@gmail.com

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QC WeConnect Writers' Pool Embarks On A Writing Update Workshop

"Writing is a continuing journey. From the time we started thinking, or believing, or having the urge to write, we began to embark on that journey. The journey is unending, and lasts for a lifetime." Thus said Domini M. Torrevillas, the Philippine STAR columnist and WeConnect editorial consultant, before a select group of news writers/journalists from selected departments/offices in the Quezon City government.

The review/writing workshop was held May 17 at the Max's, Northridge Plaza along Congressional Extension to improve particularly the Gender and Development Resource and Coordinating Office writing skills of the staff and contributors and update them on the types and techniques of writing and journalistic trends, and ethical standards. Dr. Ruby Palma, GADRCO We Connect editor in chief and Head of GADRCO facilitated the activity.

The expertise of Torrevillas and that of Cynthia "Chai" Ulanday-Santiago, a seasoned multi-media journalist and lecturer, was tapped for the whole -day writing workshop.

To substantiate what she mentioned, she discussed the types of writing such as, news reporting/writing, feature stories, and column/ editorial writing. The basic rules in publication and writing for television and radio broadcasts are the same, though, she said. The immediacy of an event, accuracy of data, and simple reporting of accounts that are understandable to the reader and listening audience are important considerations in news writing.

Citing from the Reuters style guide, Torrevillas added that accuracy and fairness must not ever be sacrificed for speed. She emphasized the need to double-check facts, figures, names, dates and spellings; to proofread or watch for typographical errors. She noted that there must be enough context in the story to ensure balance and fairness.

In the editorial aspect, she explained that the editor expresses the policies of one's magazine's management. "He/ she cannot write something that runs counter to management policy, or attacks the company owner or his/her relatives. Editorials are either for or against governments or events."

In the afternoon session, Santiago presented the ethics-related aspects of journalistic writing including the legal basis of press freedom and its limitations, an example is that although guaranteed by the Philippine Constitution , one's freedom to express is limited if it puts national security at risk.

Cases she mentioned that are penalized by law are those which constitute libel and those that violate the anti-obscenity law, copyright concerns, among others. Even the interpretation of stories should be based on facts. She explained that imagined or manufactured stories, misquotations and labelling are other forms of irresponsible conduct.

Basically, the participants learned that: "Journalism as a form of writing, is characterized by direct presentation of facts or description of events without an attempt at interpretation, and designed for publication in a newspaper or magazine. Journalism is, therefore, the art of telling a story in as concise and simple manner as possible."

She expounded that the type of reporting events that confines itself to facts and answers the questions "what, when, where, who, why and how," is called objective journalism. Attempts to explain the significance of an event by expounding on the question "why and how," classifies a reportage as interpretative journalism.

In conclusion, participants were warned: "Our aim as journalists is basically to inform the public about events or happenings that concern them. Our task is to inform, not to confuse our readers."

The event was co-sponsored by Vibal Publishing House and Councilor Racquel Malangen, Councilor Julian Coseteng, Councilor Anthony Peter Crisologo, Councilor Godofredo Liban II.

By Marilou B. Cerilla

QUEZON CITY CELEBRATES NATIONAL ARTS AND CULTURE MONTH



On The Spot Painting Contest Winners

February was declared as National Arts Month by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 683 series of 1991 and QC Council Resolution No. 1325 series of 2000 declaring February as Quezon City Culture Month.

The QC Cultural and Tourism Affairs Office, in cooperation with the Quezon City Tourism Council, conducted art competition activities last February 23 and 28, 2012 to create cultural awareness among the younger constituents of the City. First held were the Art on Jeans competition and Latte Art Demonstration. Two of the winners for the Latte Art were granted a scholarship on coffee/barista training courtesy of Kaffe Café.

On February 28, another art workshop was facilitated by Mr. Fernando B. Sena - the Father of Philippine Art Workshop. He lectured on the basic drawing techniques. The workshop winners were given prizes in cash and in kind, as well as painting scholarship grants courtesy of Mr. Sena. CTAO

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THE JOY OF PUBLIC SERVICE

[Excerpts from VM Joy Belmonte's Speech at the Session Hall on March 26, 2012]

QUEZON CITY SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN FOR 2011-2015: MAPPING THE CITY'S INTEGRATED RESPONSE TO POVERTY ALLEVIATION



Thank you very much for accepting my invitation to attend today's session of the 18th City Council. I shall be discussing a topic that is near and dear to my heart, not only as a public servant, but also as Filipino—POVERTY, what it is and what it looks like in our City.

Mr. Mayor, members of the 18th City Council, ladies and gentlemen, in behalf of the Anti-Poverty Integrated Task Force, I now make the final delivery on our Mayor's instructions. With me is prioritized list of programs and legislation that will address the critical needs of the City's poor population. These needs were based on a profile of the poor as reflected in the baseline household survey we conducted last year. This information is enhanced by other data from the different Executive Departments and Offices that comprise the Anti-Poverty Integration Task Force. We also have a set of Socio-Economic Development Indicators that are anchored on the City's Comprehensive Development Plan and cross-referenced to the United Nation's Millennium Development Goals. These indicators shall be used to measure the City's progress towards achieving its poverty alleviation goals.

Sir, Honourable Herbert M. Bautista, I humbly submit to you the Quezon City Socio-Economic Development Action Plan for 2011-2015.

What did we discover about those who responded in the survey?

- 65%of the households were in District 2 with the rest almost equally being able to access tertiary and

For the Shelter Poor.

The goal is to create, nurture and sustain a clean and green environment that is conducive to living and accords citizens a feeling of security. This entails: reducing by 50% the number of households without access to safe water, sanitary toilet and electricity; and achieving a significant improvement in the lives of 1.3 million informal settler families.

This Socio-Economic Development Action Plan is by no means an exhaustive listing of interventions for the City's four poor groups. It is a prioritized list that took into consideration the critical needs of the different poor groups based on the profiles generated through the 2011 baseline household survey as well as complementary statistics from the different Departments and Offices of the local government. In this light, other interventions may still be crafted. What is important, however, is that with this Development Action Plan, the City now has: (a) set development goals for uplifting the quality of life for each poor group; (b) Socio-Economic Development Indicators to track progress against these goals; and (c) specific interventions through programs, strengthened services and regulatory measures as concrete actionable items in the next 4 years. The various stakeholders involved in the effort towards poverty alleviation in the City can use the Development Action Plan as the common road map or blueprint so that efforts are not dissipated and the achievement of the development goals are better assured.

LAUNCHING OF THE QC HALL BREASTFEEDING STATION

by Janet Oviedo



Thank you very much for accepting my invitation to attend today's session of the 18th City Council. I shall be discussing a topic that is near and dear to my heart, not only as a public servant, but also as Filipino—POVERTY, what it is and what it looks like in our City.

Mr. Mayor, members of the 18th City Council, ladies and gentlemen, in behalf of the Anti-Poverty Integrated Task Force, I now make the final delivery on our Mayor's instructions. With me is prioritized list of programs and legislation that will address the critical needs of the City's poor population. These needs were based on a profile of the poor as reflected in the baseline household survey we conducted last year. This information is enhanced by other data from the different Executive Departments and Offices that comprise the Anti-Poverty Integration Task Force. We also have a set of Socio-Economic Development Indicators that are anchored on the City's Comprehensive Development Plan and cross-referenced to the United Nation's Millennium Development Goals. These indicators shall be used to measure the City's progress towards achieving its poverty alleviation goals.

Sir, Honourable Herbert M. Bautista, I humbly submit to you the Quezon City Socio-Economic Development Action Plan for 2011-2015.

What did we discover about those who responded in the survey?

- 65%of the households were in District 2 with the rest almost equally distributed among the remaining three Districts.
- The average household size was 4.4.
- It is fairly a young population with an average age of 25.5 years.
- 55% were within the economically productive ages of 20-64. 45% were within the economically dependent years - 19 and below and over 65.
- Gender distribution was roughly equivalent.
- There were more married than unmarried residents, which is understandable considering the young average age. That 2% of those in the age bracket of 19 and below reported being married.
- In terms of years in residence, 26% have been in their residence for less than 5years, 30% between 5-15 years.
- In terms of 'place of origin', 27% came from outside the City.15% came from outside Metro Manila, primarily from other parts of Luzon.
- Religion is overwhelmingly Catholic, followed by Iglesia ni Cristo.

With this general picture, let us go through specific profiles of our four poor groups and consider the implications of these profiles for planning appropriate interventions.

For the Income Poor.

The goal is to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger. This entails achieving three things by 2015: reducing by 50% the number of households living in extreme poverty; reducing to a single digit the unemployment rate; and reducing to zero the underemployment rate. It also entails increasing by 100% access to tools and opportunities in ICT

For the Education Poor.

The goals are to achieve universal access to primary education and promote gender equality. This entails ensuring that by 2015: all Quezon City residents can complete the full course of basic education; there is gender equality in primary & secondary education in all levels of education; there is an increase to 100% of Quezon City residents being able to access tertiary and higher education; and that there is women's participation in politics and governance.

For the Nutrition and Health Poor.

The goals are to: reduce child mortality; improve maternal health; combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other infectious diseases; and reduce lifestyle-related diseases. This entails; reducing by 50% the number of population below the minimum dietary energy consumption; reducing by 50% the number of underweight children 0-5 years old & children 6-12 yrs; reducing by 67% the mortality rate among children under 5 years old; reducing maternal mortality rate by 75%; increasing access to reproductive health services to 100% of those who choose to avail of reproductive health services; decreasing prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS cases to less than 1%; increasing TB Cases Detection Rate and TB Cure Rate to 70% and 85% respectively; decreasing prevalence rate of dengue, rabies and leprosy fatality rates to less than 1%; and providing access to affordable essential drugs

BREASTFEEDING STATION

by Janet Oviedo



Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte spearheaded the establishment of a breastfeeding station at the innerground lobby of the legislative building in QC. The Btreastfeeding station was launched last 13 March, 2012.

Sec. Teodoro Herbosa of the Department of Health delivered a message of support. Mayor Herbert Bautista was guest of honor. Also present were Councilors Aly Medalla, Dorothy Delarmente, Ranulfo Ludovica, Francisco Calalay and Dr. Antonieta Inumerable of the City Health Department.

The breastfeeding station is open from Mondays thru Fridays at 8:00 am – 5:00 pm.

