MARCH 31, 2012
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QC gov't opens breast-feeding station at city hall

By Julie M. Aurelio

MOTHERS who bring their babies to work with them at the Quezon City Hall can stop worrying about finding a comfortable and private place for breast-feeding their little ones.

Last week, the city government opened a breast-feeding station at city hall as part of the celebration of Women's Month and in line with a local ordinance adopting the Breast Feeding Act of 1992.

Mayor Herbert Bautista and Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte led the launching of the station which is situated on the ground floor near the legislative wing.

"This is also part of the city's campaign to promote breast-feeding among mothers, even in workplaces," Bautista said in a statement.

Also present was Health Usec. Teodoro Herbosa who lauded the city government's initiative in supporting the law on breast-feeding.

The station corner can accommodate as many as 10 nursing mothers at the same time. It is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Citing data from the World Health Organization, babies are best breast-fed exclusively for the first six months.

Breastfeeding Station

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QC Gov't Opens Breastfeeding Station

The breastfeeding facility is located at the inner ground floor of the legislative building.

It can accommodate as many as 10 nursing mothers and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

QC Mayor Herbert Bautista said that the opening of the facility is a testament to the city's child and maternal care advocacies as the city wants to be known as one of the country's mother-baby friendly locality.

Third District Councilor Allan Benedict Reyes cited Bautista and Belmonte for the initiative citing breastfeeding as the normal, natural and preferred method of nourishing infants.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends that babies should be breastfed exclusively for six months in order to give the mother and child maximum health

As part of the city's celebration of "Women's Month" the Quezon City (QC) government has opened a breastfeeding station in the city hall compound to provide female employees and visitors to nourish their babies.

Aside from celebrating women's month, QC Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte said that the program is part of the city's campaign to promote breastfeeding even in workplaces.

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BREASTFEEDING AT QC HALL: Quezon City Mayor Herbert Bautista and Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte is joined by Health Undersecretary Teodoro Herbosa in a ribbon-cutting ceremony during the formal opening of the QC Hall breastfeeding station in celebration of Women's Month. The new facility, located at the inner ground of the QC hall legislative building, can accommodate at least 10 nursing moms at any given time. The facility is open not just for QC Hall employees but to visitors as well. With them are Councilors Dorothy Delarmente, Allyson Rae Medalla, Francisco Calalay Jr. and Randulfo Ludovica and city health officer Dr. Antonieta Inumerable.

· opening of QC Hall breastfeeding station

THE DAILY tribune
Metro
Saturday, May 12, 2012 P. 3
Cris Martinez, Editor e-mail: metro@tribune.net.ph

QC to celebrate Mother's Day with a breastfeeding seminar

To promote breastfeeding among city hall employees, especially pregnant and nursing mothers, the Quezon City government will conduct a one-day breastfeeding seminar this month, Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte announced yesterday.

Belmonte said the event, which is part of the city's Mothers' Day celebration, will be held on May 14 (Monday) at 8:30 a.m. at the Lecture Room A, Legislative Building.

According to the vice mayor, there is a need to properly inform city hall employees, especially pregnant women and nursing mothers, on the health benefits of breastfeeding.

She also believes that city government should also create a support system for pregnant women and nursing mothers to encourage them to breastfeed instead of using bottled or formulated milk for feeding.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends that babies should be breastfed exclusively for six months to give mother and child the maximum health benefits.

Last March, the city government designated a breastfeeding station within the city hall compound to encourage employees and visitors to promote breastfeeding even outside their home.

To date, QC is one of the progressive cities that has adopted into ordinance the Breast Feeding Act of 1992. Arlie O. Calalo

Breastfeeding