
WE
CONNECT



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Reference: Caricature by Marlon Villalon
City Personnel Office

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From the Mayor's Office



BISTEKVILLE:
Providing New Communities for the Poor

People are creatures of habit. That said, regardless of how tense or spastic people would rather have it, they tend to settle down after a while. People settle, people call places home. Regardless of where they settle, one has to bear in mind that one's surroundings are a key factor in one's view of the world. Some people are fine the way they are though some wish for better. Looking to the positive, better is always on the way.

A long standing issue, the City took to the plight of informal settlers. As a way of addressing effectively the issues of informal settlements, urban flight and increased vulnerability to disaster of poor in Quezon City, the City Government, under the helm of Mayor Herbert M. Bautista, devised an elaborate housing program leading to the launch of Bistekville, a series of socialized housing communities. The program, a product of public-private partnership, is not a handout. A takeout mechanism has been devised with Pag-Ibig fund, which will extend loans to qualified families. As the loans are repaid, fresh funds are generated for more housing projects.

Bistekville 1 is rising at a 1.56 hectare property in Barangay Payatas, enough to provide about 382 new homes. Habitat for Humanity is an active partner of the City government in this project, which is located conveniently beside the Justice Cecilia Muñoz Palma High School. Beneficiaries will include the city's public school teachers and informal settlers.

Bistekville 2 is fast developing at a 4.4 hectare property in Barangay Kaligayahan near Greenfields Subidivision in Quezon City. The project is a joint venture among three partners: Ofelia Arce, who owns the land; Phinma Property Holdings, which is constructing the new homes; and the Quezon City Government.

City government statistics state that Quezon City has about 232,430 informally settled families, around 40 percent of its 2.8 million residents. Given the huge funds needed to sustain a resettlement and new community-building program, last year, Mayor Bautista signed Quezon City's Socialized Housing Tax Ordinance (SHTO), taxing homeowners with city-assessed property values exceeding P 100,000, following the provisions of the Urban Development and Housing Act enacted way back in 1992. The revenue from this new tax will contribute towards the housing program.

The tax elicited various reactions, after all no new taxes are warmly welcomed. "Kristine Joy", a young professional and lifelong Anonas resident states, "I think it's unfair for the middle class pataas to fund this project since they won't be benefitting from it directly. Yes, magkakabahay ang mga informal settlers sa QC but if it doesn't do the taxpayers any good, I'm really sorry." On the other hand, "Alvin", a student from Project 6 waxes optimistic. "I'm okay with it naman.", he says. "I'm for it. I mean, meron namani kami kahit papaanong extra income so if it's implemented properly e di may housing na sila."

As the project's birth pangs sand off the burrs of public opinio'n, residents are eager (or curious) to see what happens next. Teacher's Village resident, "Louella" gives a level assessment of the program. "Actually, maganda ang idea na yun. Gusto ko siya. Kaya lang, iniisip ko na baka hindi rin siya magiging effective solution. Oo nga, may pabahay ka na. Malaking tulong yun pero sana hindi lang hanggang doon. Kailangan kasi ng mga classes na 'to, trabaho. Something na sustainable. Alam ko hindi siya be-all-end-all but it's a great start." Louella is right – the livelihood and employment-generating components of the resettlement programs are also being put together by the City government through partnership with private companies.

Each unit costs around P 150,000. The target is to have around 970 units ready to be moved in by October of this year. A change of scenery would do wonders but the rest is up for time to decide. For the project's beneficiaries and their new homes, better is on the way.

(CCC)



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Mayor Bautista inspecting the Bistekville together with Vice-President and HUDCC Chairman, Jejomar Binay



FROM MY OFFICE WINDOW

By Mary Ruby M. Palma, mpa, dpa

We dedicate this space to introduce the Executive Family under City Mayor Herbert Bautista. These are the Heads of Departments and Attached Offices and Task Forces. They provide various services and implement programs and projects for city residence and clients. We Connect is proud to introduce the following executives and their offices.

Top (Left to Right)
Carlos Verzonilla
Dr. Salvador Enriquez
Tomasito Cruz
Gregorio Banacia
Elias Jesus Santos
Jorge Felipe
Rogelio Reyes
Manuel Sabalza
Albert Seno
Carlo Magno Abella
Adriano Apostol
Aquilino Illera

2nd Row (From Top)
Arch. Isagani Verzosa, Jr.
Engr. Joselito Cabungcal
Edgar Villanueva
Sec. Tadeo Palma
Ramon Matabang
Garry Domingo
Jose Castro
Reynald Paul Imjada
Zaldy De la Rosa
Ramon Asprer
Donato Matias
Ian Lee Punong Bayan

3rd Row (From Top)
Mayor Herbert M. Bautista
Cdr. Aldrin Cuña
Dr. Victor Endriga
Atty. Christian Valencia
Pedro Rodriguez
Marlyn Siapno
Marlowe Jacutin
Dr. Mary Ruby Palma
Eduardo Aldana
Edgardo Salud
Alberto Galarpe

4th Row (From Top)
Regina Samson
Editha Alzona
Marian Orayani
Frederika Rentoy
Ma. Theresa Mariano
Dr. Antonieta Inumerable
Rosario Yara

Bottom
Virgilio Regala
Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte
Dr. Corazon Rubio
Marlene Aguilar
Eden Villanueva
Gen. Elmo DG San Diego
Rolando Montiel
Jameel Jaymalin



CONNECTING...

By Domini M. Torrevillas

Single and Blessed

I'm glad I am connected with Quezon City, as I lived on Malakas Street for sometime in the past and continue to visit my neighbors still living there. I have an office inside the UP Diliman campus, and I participate in some of the city government's activities, including serving as one of the judges in the selection of Parangal Awards for outstanding city constituents a couple of years ago.

Not only does Quezon City have outstanding women who are politicians, women with PhDs and MDs, lawyers, singers, movie actors, and actresses. It has special projects that benefit women.

The City is the country's first to have a police women's desk to attend to cases of violence against women. It is the first to pass an ordinance promoting reproductive health, with thanks to the avid support of male Councilor Philip Juico. Many of NGOs and women's organizations supporting the reproductive health bill are based in the city.

The City, with the support of Mayor Herbert Bautista and Vice Mayor Joy Go-Belmonte, sponsors the contest for best gender-fair films during the Metro Manila film festival. Now on its 10th year, this QC award has reaped 10 gender-sensitive films which is being planned to be distributed to public schools as part of their film appreciation and tool in teaching art, values, Makabayan English and Filipino.

Best of all, our own QC GADRCO has been strongly promoting seminars, fora and information exchange programs on gender sensitivity, GAD planning and budgeting, and gender mainstreaming, together with a continuing increasing pool of GAD focals in the departments and barangays.

There is a bill in Congress asking for support for single parents. This applies to both male and female parents. This is particularly beneficial to single female parents. In our society, there is still bias against women who are separated, or whose marriages have been annulled or nullified by the court.

* * *

Everywhere I turn I see single women - - school teachers, doctors, tennis players, business women, office executives, clerks, sales girls, etc. They are single parents for different reasons. Their marriages have either been nullified or annulled by the court or their spouses have left them (in many cases because of mistresses). Some have children, but chose to remain single. Based on the SSDD records for 2011, total number of female solo parents in QC already reached 1,088.

Whatever their reasons for being single – whether by choice or because of circumstances - - these women face special issues and concerns. Which is why a law should help them support their children through school, give them medical and hospitalization benefits, scholarships so they can finish their own schooling, and the like.

* * *

I have with me a fascinating little journal entitled Happy Even After. It's put together by Ana P. Santos, a young, single journalist whose own experience as a single mom and conversations with single moms relate feelings of freedom and challenges to live meaningful lives – even after marriage (emphasis on the words even after). Let me quote Ana.

"When I became a single parent years ago, I found myself wanting to speak to someone who would understand what I was going through. Raised in a traditional Filipino family, my being a single mother was a hushed topic in family reunions and social events with old friends."

"Back then, it seemed to me that my family and friends could not really understand what it was like. Only another single mother like me would understand."

"Over the years and in my work as a journalist, I met other women who have been raising children on their own and found a certain kind of sisterhood in them. Some were friends, acquaintances or relatives. Others were government officials, incredibly successful career women, celebrities, super models. The title never really mattered. We were all just women trying to find our place in the world and mothers who wanted nothing but the best for our children."

"I also saw many other permutations of single motherhood: women who had never been married, those who were once married, widows, and even "tita mommys" who take care of other people's children (a relative's or otherwise) as their own."

"Whatever the reason, all of us had one thing in common: we were trying our best to bring up our children in the best way we knew how."

"Maybe "single" wasn't the term that should precede "mother" I thought."

"Perhaps the better term was 'solo' mom, because our previous status (single, married, separated) was immaterial compared to our desire to give our children a good life."

In Ana's journal, she tried her best to put together years of random conversations, interviews, and inspiring stories of other solo moms. This, she hopes, will be solo moms' friend, ally, stand-in co-parent, even – anything you need and want it to be. (Note: The journal has some blank pages on which the reader can write thoughts, responses, etc.) Writes Ana: "Let this journal be your own little cheerleader who will remind you that you have the power to write our own fairytale and make your own fairytale and make your own happy even after."

Yes, singlehood has its rewards. Being single can also mean being blessed, and living in bliss.

(If you want to buy copies of the journal, contact 09178207277 and check on www.happy evenafter.com.)





LEGAL FORUM

By Atty. Reslyn Yambao

Republic Act No. 9208, AN ACT TO INSTITUTE POLICIES TO ELIMINATE TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS ESPECIALLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN, ESTABLISHING THE NECESSARY INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR THE PROTECTION AND SUPPORT OF TRAFFICKED PERSONS, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR ITS VIOLATIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was signed into law last May 26, 2003.

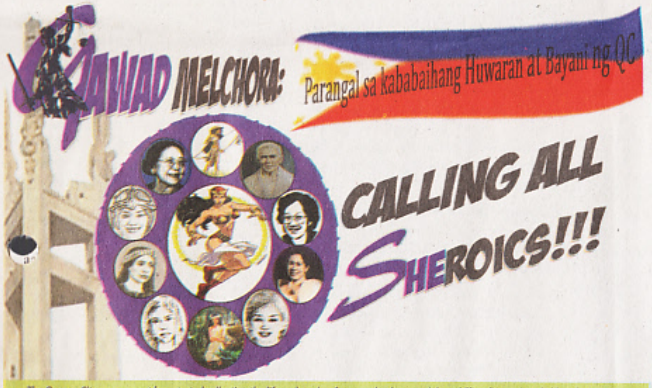
This Act defined Trafficking in Persons as the recruitment, transportation, transfer or harboring, or receipt of persons with or without the victim's consent or knowledge, on the Elimination of Child Labour (ILO-IPEC) initiated studies that resulted to a report that children in urban poor

The Quezon City Gender and Development Resource and Coordinationg Office
7/F, Civic Center Bldg. A, Quezon City Hall Compound, Gate 5, Kalayaan Ave., Quezon City, Philippines
Tel. No. 444-7272 loc. 8739 / Fax No. loc.8732
Email: gadrco@quezoncity.gov.ph / qc.gadrco2002@gmail.com

Editorial Board

There is a bill in Congress asking for support for single parents. This applies to both male and female parents. This is particularly beneficial to single female parents. In our society, there is still bias against women who are separated, or whose marriages have been annulled or nullified by the court.

* * *



The Quezon City government has started collecting the life and works of women leaders, models and "firsts" in various fields to honor the "mother of all heroes", Melchora Aquino (Tandang Sora) who celebrates her bicentennial this January 6, 2012 in her shrine at Banlat, QC.

WHO MAY NOMINATE?

All sectors (unions and other political groups, education, religious, art/culture, business, tourism, media, professional groups, NGOs, etc.) can send their nominations to the following e-mail addresses:

GADRCO - gadrco@quezoncity.gov.ph
Ruby Palma - rubympalma@yahoo.com
Maria Luisa Vidal - mlbvidal@yahoo.com

SCHEDULE AND REQUIREMENTS FOR NOMINATION

Submission of nominations in two batches: the 1st Batch is between November to February 2012 and the 2nd Batch is from March 2012 to June 2012. Chosen nominees shall be acknowledged either on January 6, 2012 or March 2012 for the 1st Batch and October 2012 for the 2nd batch.

Please include the following information:

- → Full name of nominated women model/leader/hero with address and contact number of the nominee or her relatives;
- → Nominee's sector or field (ex. governance, labor, culture);
- → Brief Life Story of Nominee (not more than 3 pages);
- → Birth and Death (date and place);
- → Contribution in/or impact on the sector/field which made the nominee deserving of being acknowledged as model, hero and leader;
- → 2-3 photos of the nominee (portrait/solo and in action);
- → Publications and award or any proof of accomplishments, honors for the nominee; and
- → Testimonial from a friend or present leader of the sector/field.

Nominator's information such as: name of person or organization submitting the nomination, address, e-mail, contact no/s. must also be submitted.

GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT RESOURCE AND COORDINATING OFFICE (QC GADRCO)
7th Floor Civic Center Building A, Quezon City Hall Compound, Quezon City
Contact No. 444-7272, Local No. 8732 (tele-fax), 8739



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The definition covers even Debt Bondage or the pledging by the debtor of his/her personal services or labor or those of a person under his/her control as security or payment for a debt, when the length and nature of services is not clearly defined or when the value of the services as reasonably assessed is not applied toward the liquidation of the debt.

As early as the 1990s, reports were submitted and studies were made that a significant proportion of children were found to have been engaged in the use of drugs as well as in trafficking the same. The International Labour Organization's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (ILO-IPEC) initiated studies that resulted to a report that children in urban poor communities were highly at risk to drugs. Sadly, the report concluded that children were influenced by people close to them like friends, family and neighbors who were engaged in drug use, sale and trafficking. Younger children were usually used in delivering drugs primarily because authorities were not suspicious of them.

The penalty provided for in this law is high enough for violators to be paralyzed once convicted but as any other law, the implementation provides for the stall in the justice process. Violators are even creative enough to use Republic Act 9344 as a shield and continue to use children in illegal activities to avoid penalties. But these two articles of law must be taken together for a better implementation and provide suitable environment for children where they can act and enjoy according to their age.

The first phrase I've learned as a student was the time-honored phrase of our National Hero, Dr. Jose Rizal - "Ang Kabataan ang Pag-asa ng Bayan", up to this date I hold this phrase true and close to my heart.

(If you want to buy copies of the journal, contact 09178207277 and check on www.happy evenafter.com.)

The Quezon City Gender and Development Resource and Coordinationg Office
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Tel. No. 444-7272 loc. 8739 / Fax No. loc.8732
Email: gadrco@quezoncity.gov.ph / qc.gadrco2002@gmail.com

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Ramil Clave, PAISO
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PREPARING FOR TANDANG SORA'S HOMECOMING AND WOMEN'S MONTH

As early as 2011, Mayor Herbert Bautista and the Tandang Sora Task Force under Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte including Barangay Tandang Sora Captain Hector Geronimo have been busy planning, coordinating and directing activities for the coming bicentennial year of the mother of all heroes and the Revolution, Melchora Aquino.

On January 6, 2012, Tandang Sora will be 200 years old.

Among the preparations being made are the following:

- Arrangements with Himlayang Pilipino management for the transfer of the remains to the new shrine in Banlat and install these with a heroe's burial on January 6, 2012, with Dr. Manuel Alba and Atty. Kit Belmonte leading the team for this concern;
- Arrangements with the National Historical Institute to declare the Tandang Sora Shrine a national shrine;
- Design and dissemination of an appropriate logo for the bicentennial year;
- Research and production of a mini and roaming exhibit on the heroine's life and her impact on the Philippine Revolution;
- Education and media promotions especially of the traits and values of Tandang Sora as woman, wife, mother, entrepreneur, revolutionary, exile and overseas worker with the help of the relatives of the heroine;
- Rehabilitating the old and new shrines and designing a tourism and art – focused environment in Banlat, with a possible women's museum extension ;
- Production of the heroine's life in film ;
- Role modeling through a Gawad Tandang Sora Award and
- Engaging the academe particularly the gender and historical scholars on discussions of the heroine's life and place in Philippine history as a national hero.

As early as 2003, GADRCO has already paid homage to Tandang Sora through an exhibit of 8 Filipino artists based in Quezon City entitled "Alay Kay Melchora Aquino." Also in 2008, an exhibit of hibiscus varieties named after Melchora Aquino and other revolutionary female heroines was exhibited at City Hall during that year's Women's Month. Next year the GADRCO, as member of the Task Force TWG on education plans to campaign for a series of trips/ motorcades from all sectors as homage to the shrine.

Meanwhile, the Division of City Schools through the Tandang Sora High School and the QC Polytechnic University have been preparing original cultural presentations which includes dramatic readings and an original play, with the latter being directed by Mr. Ramces M. Dili of the QCPU. This will be launched as part of the University's Women's Month celebration in March 2012.

All activities in 2012, including Women's Month shall center on or be connected with the bicentennial year of Melchora Aquino, the City's pride and brand of womanhood and citizenship.

WHY IS THE FILIPINO SPECIAL?



become parts of one weave. We place a lot of premium on *pakikisama* (getting along) and *pakikipagkapwa* (relating).

Filipinos are ***adventurers.*** We have a tradition of separation. Our myths and legends speak of heroes and heroines who almost always get separated from their families and loved ones and are taken by circumstances to far-away land where they



BARANGAY-YAN

Ni Melissa Faye Lauron

Marami sa mga barangay natin ang kusang kumikilos para isulong ang magkapantay na karapatan ng kababaihan at kalalakihan, lumaban sa karahasan at maiangat ang kabuhayan at kalusugan ng kanilang sinasakupan. Ang mga sumusunod ay ilang halimbawa ng mga aktibidades na ito sa taon, particular sa buwan ng Marso o Women's Month na nai-report sa GADRCO sa taong ito:

Barangay North Fairview – nagpaseminar sa pagpapasuso and pagpapakain ng mga sanggol at kabataan, libreng PAP smear at paglilinis gamit ang acetic wash; oryentasyon sa *Gender at Development*; pagsagawa ng Oplan Alis Tuberculosis, *Feeding program*, Oplan Alis Tigdas, *Dengue fumigation, Dental-medical mission, Heart aid medical mission*, at libreng acupuncture, tuli, bakuna laban sa Rabies, kasanayan sa paggupit, Disaster Preparedness at Management at serbisyo sa mga biktima ng karahasan

Barangay Payatas – sa pagdiriwang ng kanilang 35th Founding Anniversary ay idinaos din ang contest at koronasyon ng Mutya ng Payatas, medical at dental mission, sports festival, iba't-ibang kultural na program gaya ng makasaysayang drama at sayaw mula sa mga estudyante, oryentasyon sa *Breast Cancer at Cervical Cancer; seminar sa epektibong Parenting* at RA 9262 o batas laban sa karahasan sa kababaihan at kabataan; *livelihood skills trainings* at libreng pag-aaral sa massage therapy

Barangay Sauyo – pagsasagawa ng libreng pap smear at eye check-up, mass feeding, sports fest at tuloy-tuloy na pagtala at serbisyo sa mga biktima ng karahasan sa kababaihan at kabataan ng barangay

Barangay Tandang Sora – pagsagawa ng tamang pagpapakain sa mga buntis at nagbigay ng mga awareness sessions *Against Sexual Harassment*, gumawa at nagbigay ng Interactive Poster at iba pang materyales sa kampanya laban sa karahasan ; *pagsagawa ng medical/ dental/optical and legal missions*, Fire Prevention Awareness Motorcade; pap smear , breast cancer examination at Cervical Cancer Orientation Seminar at mga seminar sa mga pagkakakitaang kaalaman tulad ng bangus deboning , peanut butter- making, *at hair color application*

Barangay UP Campus – pagbibigay kaalaman sa karahasan at RA 9262 at Magna Carta of Women at kaalamang pangnegosyo, kasama na ang tuloy-tuloy na pagtulong sa mga biktima ng karahasan

Barangay Matandang Balara – nagpa-drawing contest at nagsagawa ng General Assembly ng mga Solo Parents at aero dancing

Barangay E. Rodriguez – nagsagawa ng mga kampanya laban sa dengue at nagkaroon ng medical-dental mission at feeding program

QC Female Dormitory (BJMP) – nagsagawa kasama ang GADRCO at mga paralegals ng lungsod ng humanitarian legal assistance, nagpaseminar laban sa Cancer, *Fire Safety at Prevention*, karahasan at sa RA 9262, nagsagawa ng Styro-art Workshop, Seminar sa First Aid at paghahanda sa Lindol, nagsagawa ng proyektong Dalaw Kalinga para

Meanwhile, the Division of City Schools through the Tandang Sora High School and the QC Polytechnic University have been preparing original cultural presentations which includes dramatic readings and an original play, with the latter being directed by Mr. Ramces M. Dili of the QCPU. This will be launched as part of the University's Women's Month celebration in March 2012.

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(Editor's Note: This article, excerpted from an original piece by author Ed Lapiz, is a must-read for all of us who find, and feel a hero in us, simply because we are *FILIPINOS*).

Filipinos are ***brown***. Their color is at the center of human racial strains. **This point is not an attempt at racism**, but just for many Filipinos to realize that our color should not be source of a reason for having an inferiority complex.

Filipinos are a touching people. We have lots of love and are not afraid to show it. We almost inevitably create human chains with our perennial *akbay* (putting an arm around another's shoulder), *hawak* (hold), *yakap* (embrace), *himas* (caressing stroke), *kalabit* (touching with the tip of the finger), *kalong* (sitting on someone else's lap), etc. We are always reaching out, always seeking interconnection.

Filipinos are ***linguists***. Put a Filipino in any city, any town around the world. Give him a few months or even weeks and he will soon speak the local language there. Filipinos are adept at learning and speaking languages. In fact, it is not uncommon for Filipinos to speak at least three languages: his own local dialect, Filipino, and English.

While many "conscious" and "enlightened" people today are striving to be "politically correct" with their language and, in the process, bend to absurd depths in coining "gender sensitive" words, Tagalog has, since time immemorial, evolved gender-neutral words like *asawa* (husband or wife), *anak* (son or daughter), *magulang* (father or mother), *kapatid* (brother or sister), *biyenan* (father-in-law or mother-in-law), *manugang* (son or daughter-in-law), *bayani* (hero or heroine), etc. Our languages and dialects are advanced and, indeed, sophisticated!

Filipinos are ***groupists***. We love human interaction and company. At work, we live *bayanihan* (mutual help); at play, we want a *kalaro* (playmate) more than *laruan* (toy). At socials, our invitations are open and it is more common even for guests to invite and bring in other guests. In transit, we do not want to be separated from our group. So what do we do when there is no more space in a vehicle? *Kalung-kalong!*

Filipinos are ***weavers***. One look at our baskets, mats, clothes, and other crafts will reveal the Filipino weaver and inclination to weaving. This art is a metaphor of the Filipino trait. We are social weavers. We weave weaves of other into ours so we all become parts of one weave. We place a lot of premium on *pakikisama* (getting along) and *pakikipagkapwa* (relating).

Filipinos are ***adventurers***. We have a tradition of separation. Our myths and legends speak of heroes and heroines who almost always get separated from their families and loved ones and are taken by circumstances to far-away land where they find wealth or power. Our Spanish colonial history is filled with separations caused by hamleting, and forced migration to build towns, churches, fortresses or galleons.

Filipinos had ***pakiramdam*** (deep feeling/discernment). We know how to feel what others feel; sometimes even anticipate what they will feel. Being *manhid* (dense) is one of the worst labels a person and we therefore, avoid it at all cost. We have a superbly developed and honored gift of discernment, making us excellent leaders, counsellors, and go-betweens.

Filipinos are ***very spiritual***. We are transcendent. We transcend the physical world, see the unseen and the unheard. We have a deep sense of *kaba* (premonition) and *kutob* (hunch).

Filipinos are ***timeless***. Despite the nearly half-a-millennium encroachment of the western clock into our lives, Filipinos unless at very formal or official functions still measure time not with hours and minutes but with feeling. This style is ingrained deep in our psyche. Our time is diffused, not framed. Our appointments are defined by *umaga* (morning), *tanghali* (noon), *hapon* (afternoon), *gabi* (evening). Our most exact time reference is probably *katanghaliang-tapat* (high noon), which still allows many minutes of leeway.

Filipinos are *spaceless*. As in the concept of time, the Filipino concept of space is not numerical. We will not usually express expanse of space with miles or kilometers but with feelings in how we say *malayo* (far) or *malapit* (near). Alongside with numberlessness, Filipino space is also boundless. Indigenous culture did not divide land into private lots but opened it to all. Filipinos have avidly remained "spaceless" in many ways. The interior of the *bahay-kubo* (hut) can easily become receiving room, sleeping room, kitchen, dining room, chapel, wake parlor, etc. depending on the time of the day or the needs of the moment.

So what makes the Filipino special? Brown, spiritual, timeless, spaceless, linguist's groupist's weavers, adventurers. Seldom do all these profound qualities find personification in a people. Filipinos should allow - and should be allowed to contribute their special traits to the worldwide community of men - ah. . . . But first, they should know and like themselves.

...idinaos din ang contest at koronasyon ng Mutya ng Payatas, medical at dental mission, sports festival, iba't-ibang kultural na program gaya ng makasaysayang drama at sayaw mula sa mga estudyante, oryentasyon sa *Breast Cancer at Cervical Cancer; seminar sa epektibong Parenting* at RA 9262 o batas laban sa karahasan sa kababaihan at kabataan; *livelihood skills trainings* at libreng pag-aaral sa massage therapy

Barangay Sauyo – pagsasagawa ng libreng pap smear at eye check-up, mass feeding, sports fest at tuloy-tuloy na pagtala at serbisyo sa mga biktima ng karahasan sa kababaihan at kabataan ng barangay

Barangay Tandang Sora – pagsagawa ng tamang pagpapakain sa mga buntis at pagbigay ng mga awareness sessions tungkol sa breast cancer

Barangay St. Peter – pagtawag ng miting sa mga Senior Citizen at pagbigay ng Senior Citizen ID/medicine at grocery purchase booklet, motorcade para sa Women's Month at Fire Prevention Awareness, pagbigay ng libreng reading glasses at seminar sa Massage Therapy at Kooperatiba

Barangay Paang Bundok – nagbigay ng oryentasyon sa *Fire Prevention, Disaster Preparedness at Social Security System*

Barangay Greater Lagro - naglunsad ng *5 Thousand Signature Campaign* ...panghegosyo, kasama na ang tuloy-tuloy na pagtulong sa mga biktima ng karahasan

Barangay Matandang Balara – nagpa-drawing contest at nagsagawa ng General Assembly ng mga Solo Parents at aero dancing

Barangay E. Rodriguez – nagsagawa ng mga kampanya laban sa dengue at nagkaroon ng medical-dental mission at feeding program

QC Female Dormitory (BJMP) – nagsagawa kasama ang GADRCO at mga paralegals ng lungsod ng humanitarian legal assistance, nagpaseminar laban sa Cancer, *Fire Safety at Prevention*, karahasan at sa RA 9262, nagsagawa ng Styro-art Workshop, Seminar sa First Aid at paghahanda sa Lindol, nagsagawa ng proyektong Dalaw Kalinga para s... senior citizens, at *outreach missions* mu... sa Catholic Women's League (CWL) Christ the King Parish, Center for Family Ministries at Catholic Women's League

Barangay Greater Largo – Nagpasa ng Barangay Board Resolution No. 05-03 S-2011 para sa pagkakaroon ng Barangay Committee on Decorum and Investigation (BCODI) na iniutos na batas laban sa sexual harassment

Barangay Holy Spirit – nagdaos ng libreng Kasalang Bayan, mass feeding, kasanayan sa pag gupit, at *physical fitness*

PASASALAMAT MULA SA KAANAK NI TANDANG SORA

Isang mapagpalang araw po sa ating lahat. Taos-puso po akong bumabati sa inyong lahat, lalong-lalo na sa mga apo ng ating magiting na lola at bayaning si Melchora Aquino na mas kilala bilang si Tandang Sora para sa makasaysayang pagdiriwang ng kanyang ika-200 taong kaarawan. Napakahalaga ng araw na ito hindi lamang dahil sa pag-alala sa kanyang kapanganakan kungdi dahil ito rin ang araw ng paglilipat ng kanyang mga buto dito sa Shrine na ito na magsisilbing permanenteng himlayan niya.

Unang-una, nagpapasalamat ako kay dating alkalde ng lungsod Quezon at ngayon ay kasalukuyang Speaker of the House of Representatives, si Honorable Feliciano "Sonny Belmonte, Jr. ". na siyang naging instrument sa pagkakaroon ng isang National Shrine para kay Tandang Sora. Si Speaker Belmonte ang tumulong upang ang shrine sa kinatatayuan nating lugar at paglalagakan ngayon ng mga buto ni Tandang Sora ay naitayo at nagsilbing sagisag ng ating pag-alala sa kabayanihan ng Ina ng Himagsikan. Bago ko nga pala makalimutan, naipatayo ang makasaysayang shrine na ito sa panahon ng panunungkulan ng isang magiting at masipag na taong napakalapit sa aking puso, wala iba kundi ang aking pinakamamahal na asawa, si Barangay Captain Hector Geronimo. Nagpapasalamat din ako sa kasalukuyang namumuno sa lungsod Quezon, kay Mayor Herbert Bautista na siyang tumulong upang ang mga buto ni Tandang Sora ay mailipat dito sa Shrine. Sumasaludo rin ako kay Vice-Mayor Joy Belmonte sa kanyang maayos at magandang pangangasiwa ng paghahanda ng pagdiriwang na ito. Si Vice po ang Chairperson ng "Task Force Tandang Sora". At sa mga namamahala Himlayang Pilipino, sa 40 years na pag-

at pinabalik ng mga Amerikano noong Feb. 26, 1903, siya ay 91 taong gulang noon.

At sa gitna ng kanyang kahirapan dulot ng himagsikan, tinanggihan ni Tandang Sora ang alok ng kolonyal na pamahalaan para sa isang habambuhay na pension. Ang naging tugon niya sa mga autoridad ay nagsilbi siya na walang inaasahang gantimpala, at iyon ay tungkulin ng bawat Pilipino na magsilbi para sa bayan. Sana ito rin ang maging panuntunan natin sa buhay, lalo na ang mga nagsisilbi sa pamahalaan, na tumulong at magsilbi sa kapuwa, lalo na sa mga nangangailangan, nang buong tapat at walang hinihintay na kapalit. Naalala ko ang naging battlecry ng ating mahal na P-Noy, na isa ring Aquino, noong siya ay tumakbo sa pagkapangulo ng Pilipinas – "ang tuwid na daan". Noon pa man, tinahak na ni Melchora Aquino ang nasabing tuwid na daan, at ngayon sana'y sabay-sabay nating bagtasin itong tuwid na daang kanyang tinahak tungo sa tunay na pagbabago ng lipunan. Maging hamon sana sa atin lagi ang pagsasabuhay ng kanyang kabayanihan. Bago po ako magtapos, sana po maging isang national legal holiday ang January 6 bilang pagkilala sa kakaibang kabayanihan ng aming lola na si Tandang Sora.

JOSEPHINE E. GERONIMO
PRESIDENTE NG MGA APO NI TANDANG SORA, INC.



MEET YOUR COUNCILOR:

JESSICA CASTELO DAZA, M.D.

"A Doctor for Medical and Social Ills"

Councilor Jessica Castelo Daza, M.D. belongs to a new crop of leaders - young, vibrant, dedicated, full of new ideas, and committed to improving the lives of Quezon City residents through her priority programs such as quality health services, educational, scholarships, livelihood/employment programs and moral and spiritual renewal, among others.

A Doctor of Medicine from the University of Santo Tomas, the councilor became very active in social and community activities and organized medical services programs for the poor in support of her mother, then Congresswoman Nanette Castelo Daza Eventually she entered politics, running for Councilor of the 4th District of Quezon City in the May 2010 elections and won. She was appointed chairperson of the Committee on Health of the City Council, QC.

In her first 100 days Councilor days introduced resolutions/ordinances promoting the health and welfare of her constituents, notable of which are the following:

1) Ordinance No. 2076 – An Ordinance Providing for the Promotion of Breast Feeding in Quezon City.
2) Ordinance No. 2011-103 – An Ordinance Regulating the Operations of Birthing Homes in Quezon City.
3) Resolution No. SP-5210, S-2011 – Urging the City Mayor to include HIV and AIDS Afflicted Person Who are Residents of QC in Philhealth Enrolment Program of the City Government.
4) Resolution No. SP. 5277. S-2-11- Requesting the City Mayor to Establish Teenage Counseling Centers in Each District of QC That Will Provide Counseling Services and Referral Facilities for Teenage Mothers.
5) Resolution No. SP 5200, S-2011 – Urging the QC Government to Formulate and Adopt Measures to Advance and Improve the Maternal Health Care Program Offered in Public Health Care Facilities to Achieve Zero Maternal Deaths in QC.

Aside from the medical outreach programs, Councilor Daza gives free immunization shots in the 4th District to reduce the number of students who are absent from school due to illness. She also gives Anti Tetanus Vaccines to the high-risk population such as street sweepers and BPSO to prevent them from contracting infection while doing their duties. The elderly population too is provided with Anti Flu vaccinations.To address the supply of blood especially in times of dengue, Councilor Daza established a Blood Donor's Club in ten barangays which conducts regular bloodletting activities aimed at making available blood for residents in the barangay. She is planning to conduct this in all barangays in the 4th District.

Another priority of Councilor Daza is education. Through partnership with concerned agencies, she acquired scholarships from TESDA Technical and Vocational Courses for out of school youth, displaced workers, the unemployed and housewives to uplift their lives. Some trainings under her program are Food & Beverage Services, Hilot, Finishing Course for Call Center agents, and Basic Computer Literacy.

In building a better future for her constituents, Councilor Daza recognizes moral and spiritual awareness as an essential component in attaining personal and community growth and development. To this end, she conducts Mass Baptism Programs to strengthen family foundations.

In recognition of her efforts, she was presented with numerous awards and certificates by various organizations as testaments to her excellence and accomplishments in public service. Among these are: Certificates of Appreciation from the Philippine National Red Cross, Philippine Nurses Association - QC Marikina Chapter, Soroptomist International of QC Club, National Peace Corp 2011, Lions President's League, Inc., and Consumers League of the Philippines Foundation.

QC Public Library Celebrates Library and Information Services Month

CHINESE NEW YEAR: KUNG HEI FAT CHOI

ALAM BA NINYO?

...na ang Chinese New Year ay kilala rin sa tawag na Lunar New Year o Spring Festival?

buto ni Tandang Sora ay naitayo at nagsilbing sagisag ng ating pag-alala sa Dakilang Ina ng Himagsikan. Bago ko nga pala makalimutan, naipatayo ang makasaysayang shrine na ito sa panahon ng panunungkulan ng isang magiting at masipag na taong napakalapit sa aking puso, wala iba kundi ang aking pinakamamahal na asawa, si Barangay Captain Hector Geronimo. Nagpapasalamat din ako sa kasalukuyang namumuno sa lungsod Quezon, kay Mayor Herbert Bautista na siyang tumulong upang ang mga buto ni Tandang Sora ay mailipat dito sa Shrine. Sumasaludo rin ako kay Vice-Mayor Joy Belmonte sa kanyang maayos at magandang pangangasiwa ng paghahanda ng pagdiriwang na ito. Si Vice po ang Chairperson ng "Task Force Tandang Sora". At sa mga namamahala ng Himlayang Pilipino, sa 40 years na pag-aalaga, na kung saan ang labi ni Tandang Sora, ay inilipat at inilagak noong Pebrero 1970 mula sa una niyang pinagkalibingan sa Mausoleum of the Veterans of the Phil. Revolution sa Manila North Cemetery, maraming maraming salamat din po.

Ang nakaraang buhay ni Tandang Sora ay napakagandang sariwain. Sa edad niyang 84, biyuda at sa kabila ng 6 niyang anak, pinakita niya ang pagtulong at paghahandog ng sarili para sa nangangailangan ng walang iniisip na kapalit. Hindi niya inalintana ang kanyang katandaan at mga gastusin sa pagsisilbi sa mga Katipunero. Pinakain niya, inalagaan at pinalakas ang mga maysakit at sugatang rebolusyonaryo at nagsilbing isang pansamantalang field hospital ang kanyang bahay. Sa pamamagitan ng kanyang maka-inang pagbibigay ng pag-asa, lakas ng loob at mga dalangin, naitaas niya ang moral ng mga katipunero.

Sa kabila ng katandaan nang siya ay hinuli at pinakulong ng mga Kastila, dumaan siya sa mahigpit at mabigat na pagtatanong, subalit siya'y naging matatag sa pagtanggi sa pagsasabi sa kanila ng kinaroroonan nina Andres Bonifacio at mga kasama. Siya ay dineport sa Guam noong Sept. 1, 1896 kasama ng iba pang Filipino patriots, hanggang siya ay pinalaya tunay na pagbabago ng lipunan. Maging hamon sana sa atin lagi ang pagsasabuhay ng kanyang kabayanihan. Bago po ako magtapos, sana po maging isang national legal holiday ang January 6 bilang pagkilala sa kakaibang kabayanihan ng aming lola na si Tandang Sora.

JOSEPHINE E. GERONIMO
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QC Public Library Celebrates Library and Information Services Month

There are several ways for people to preserve their history, culture and tradition. One way is to document and safeguard gathered documents in a library. This is the significant, although almost unrecognized, role of the library in people's lives.

To raise awareness on the role of the Library as an institution of knowledge and learning, the Quezon City Public Library (QCPL) is celebrating the "Library and Information Services Month" this November. As part of the celebration, the QC Public Library held the pre-launch of the Quezon City History Manuscript and Recognition of QCPL Partners in Promoting Libraries and Reading. The QC history manuscript entitled "Quezon City: A Saga of Continuing Progress is a 247-page soon-to-be published QC history book which chronicles the city's dramatic transformation from a once vast cogonal area into one of the country's most competitive cities.

Emelita Villanueva, Librarian, welcomed the guests and awardees to the launching. She said that the month of November was declared as "Library and Information Services Month" through Presidential Proclamation 837 in 1991. The declaration aimed to raise awareness in the role of the library in the life of every Filipino.



After the welcome remarks, Ms. Villanueva, together with other QCPL officials, had a ceremonial turnover of the Quezon City History Manuscript to Cdr. Aldrin Cuña, Chief-of-staff of Mayor Herbert Bautista and Ms. Emily Palma, who represented Vice-Mayor Joy Belmonte.

CHINESE NEW YEAR: KUNG HEI FAT CHOI

ALAM BA NINYO?



....na ang Chinese New Year ay kilala rin sa tawag na Lunar New Year o Spring Festival?

....na ang Chinese New Year ang pinakamahaba at pinakamahalagang tradisyunal na pagdiriwang sa Tsina?

.....na ayon sa pagsasaliksik at mga naitalang pang-astronomiya noong unang panahon, ang Chinese New year ay umiral noong ika-14th Century B.C. sa pamamahala ng Shang Dynasty?

. . . na noong 1582, ang Western-style Gregorian calendar ay dumating sa Tsina kasama ang mga misyonerong Jesuits?

...na nagsimulang gamitin ang Gregorian calendar ng mga nakararami sa Tsina noong 1912?

....na dahil sa pamumuno ni Mao Zedong na isang Chinese Communist Party leader, ipinagbawal ang pagdiriwang ng tradisyunal na Chinese New Year at ang sinunod na kalendaryo ay ang Gregorian Calendar dahil sa pakikipagkasundo ni Mao Zedong sa mga taga- kanluran?

....na noong 20th century, ang mga namumuno sa Tsina ay mas kinilala ang pagdiriwang ng tradisyunal na Chinese New Year, kaya noong 1996 idineklara sa Tsina na magkaroon ng mahabang bakasyon na tinawag na Spring Festival upang mabigyan ng pagkakataon ang mga tsino na makapagdiwang ng Chinese New Year?

....na bawat taon tuwing ipagdiriwang ang Chinese New Year ay may nakamarkang iba't ibang klase ng hayop o mas kilala bilang Chinese Zodiac?

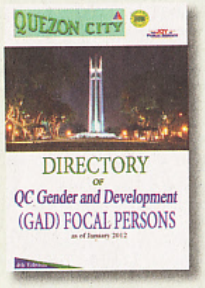
....na ang Chinese Zodiac ay binubuo ng labindalawang uri ng hayop: rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog at pig?

....na maliban sa China, ang Chinese New Year ay ipinagdiriwang din sa mga bansang tulad ng Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, Mauritius,Vietnam, Malaysia at pati na rin sa Pilipinas kung saan may mga naninirahang mga Tsino?

Landmarks for a More Gender Responsive Governance Under Mayor Herbert Bautista's Administration (GADRCO Reports on 2011 Performance)

1.) ***Sustaining a Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism for GAD Plans and Budget through the Annual Thank GAD It's Friday (TGIF) Assessment Workshops***

The TGIF series are consultation and review sessions that are conducted annually in partnership with the City Budget and the City Planning Office to monitor the status of the implementation of the QC GAD Code and the City GAD Plan and Budget. For 2011, GADRCO conducted four (4) TGIF sessions for 9 (nine) executive and legislative clusters involving 138 participants from 76 offices thru desk reviews of the QC Participatory Gender Audit Team.



2.) ***Strengthening the City GAD Focal System***

A total of 180 newly-appointed Barangay GAD Focal persons and guests attended the GAD Focal Orientation to review their functions under the Magna Carta of Women and the QC GAD Code as well as orient them on the QC GAD plan and budget processes. To date, the City has 180 GAD focal persons in departments/offices and barangays which were included in the current directory of QC GAD Focal Persons.

3.) ***Expanding and Institutionalizing Free Legal Assistance Services for Disadvantaged Women and Families***

A Memorandum of Agreement between the QC Government and the Federacion International de Abogadas (FIDA), through the GADRCO started the provision of free-legal assistance to QC-based clients of GADRCO on March 2008.

Aside from GADRCO and Office of the Vice mayor as venues for free legal services, Novaliches District Center was inaugurated last March 28, 2011 as another venue for free legal service. The City's Protection Center for women, children and families was launched using the QC General Hospital premises.



Atty. Erlinda Ferrer, FIDA volunteer lawyer listens to clients seeking legal advise.

GADRCO also began organizing 60 paralegals from various executive and legislative units with the help of EnGendeRights (NGO). They are on call to assist lawyers and GADRCO in the City's free legal assistance scheduled under the executive /NDC (Wednesdays/Thursdays); OVM (Tuesdays) and recently (Mondays) for the QC Protection Center at QC General Hospital.

6.) ***Maintaining Leadership of the City as Main Provider in Capacity – Building on Gender Equality and Mainstreaming***

For the year alone, GADRCO received 85 requests for orientation and training involving more than 3,527 participants from barangay, city offices, and other agencies and LGUs.


Employees of Regional Trial Court, QC attending Gender Sensitivity Training

Profile of QC Men and Women March 2011



7.) ***Maintenance of a Gender Statistical Profile/Databank***

Every semester, the City collates and updates major statistics from department reports and other sources of raw data. Trends are analyzed and made into a city gender profile for the use of QC officials, students and other researchers.

8.) ***Mainstreaming Gender Concerns in Task Forces/ Clusters/ and other Executive Formations***

Recognizing the cross-cutting concerns of women issues and eqtuality in governance, Mayor Bautista appointed GADRCO as a member of five bodies - the Anti-Poverty Task Force, the Disaster Risk Management Council, the Institutional Development Cluster in the City Development Plan, Task Force Tandang Sora and the TWG on Anti-Trafficking Forum.

Through this memberships, the office is able to integrate gender concerns, indicators and services in the goals and operations of these bodies and share references. GADRCO is also beginning to gather facts on QC "Sheroes or first women huwaran model at Bayani" to be included in the City's landmark and branding schemes.

9.) ***Bringing Goodwill and Leadership through Info-Caravans and Lakbal –Aral activities***

GADRCO continues to provide or look for venues to share QC milestones in gender-responsive governance including the Mayor's



TWG for the QCIAC Anti-trafficking in P

Harnessing Best Practices To

Consultative meetings convened by the GA Palma led to the formation of the Techni Against Anti-Trafficking (TWG-QCIACAT) whic Hon. Mayor Herbert M. Bautista on November departments/offices/organizations constituted the Development Resource and Coordinating Office Department (Head as co-Chair), 3) Office of the the City Prosecutor, 6) Public Employment Office, Investigation Group, and the QC Police Departm (ISS) and National Inter-Agency Task Force Agai secretariat to the TWG-QCIACAT.

Ordinance 1795 supports the implementation Trafficking Act that include the following: 1) D trafficking; 2) Train QC personnel involved in p strengthen support services and programs; 4) Esta trafficking cases; 5) Conduct inspection of houses, trafficking activities; and 6) Institute a reward sche the suppression/prevention of trafficking activities


Mayor Herbert M. Bautista sharing his insight

An initial activity of the TWG-QCIACAT w other concerned groups on the status of the imple trafficking as a form of violence against women 14th floor of the QC Main Building, the anti-traf Practices Towards Tier One" elicited attendance o QC departments/offices, the academe, law enfor The TWG-QCIACAT coordinated closely with drafting of the Covenant on Anti-Trafficki and the Anti-Trafficking Forum.

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4.) ***Celebrating Women's Month and other relevant Calendar Events***

In 2011, Women's Month in QC was celebrated with the active participation not only of City departments, barangays and non-government organizations (NGOs) but also of GAD focal persons from national government offices and hospitals located in the city.

For the first time, 94 GAD focal persons within the city government and national government agencies (NGAs) met with a common vision to strengthen linkages and shared experiences in gender mainstreaming efforts. Towards this end, GADRCO also organized Town Hall 2, a forum of GAD Focal persons and public information officers (PIOs) in agencies located in QC under the theme : "Expanding a City-Wide GAD Network and Gender–responsive IEC Resource."

Artists, musicians and dancers as well as business sector also participated in the celebrations through art exhibits, women's month slogan poster contest, cooking demonstration, and seminars.

5.) ***Advocacy through Info-Dissemination and Technology***


Applicants of the NBI Clearance reading the We Connect Newsletter while waiting for their turn in securing clearance

Production and dissemination of information materials on policies and programs for women's rights/empowerment and gender equality like the "Banig" series to familiarize not only GAD Focal Persons but also the majority who are still not acquainted with these principles and practices.

The GAD-oriented tabloid We Connect, which began publication in 2002, was expanded by Mayor Bautista from two to four issues per year and from eight to 12 pages.

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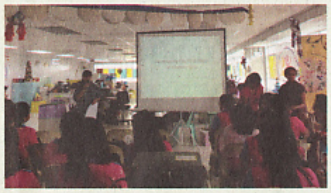

GADRCO continues to provide or look for venues to share QC milestones in gender-responsive governance including the Mayor's thrusts and best practices, in communities and other LGUs, NGOs, national departments as well as to local and international delegations visiting QC. Recent destinations included Brgy. Payatas, Women's Crisis Center, Korea-Philippines Information Technology Center, UP Los Baños Laguna, Anti-Sexual Harassment Office and San Pablo City government. On the other hand, GADRCO was visited by the GAD TWG of Lipa Water District Office, Masbate LGU Officials, Cebu City LGU officials led by their GAD Focal Person and the latest GAD visitor were the representatives from the Population Commission.

10.) ***Assisting officials for Policy Analysis/Formulation***

GADRCO monitors ordinances and resolutions related to gender equality and empowerment in various areas. It provides statistical and other information requested by councilors for passage of ordinances related to billboards control, legal education for women, and children's rights and shelter. Staff attends hearing as invited.

11.) ***Continuing Staff Development***

Enrichment activities and short but regular team leader meetings aimed at improving systems, upgrade knowledge skills, attitude and working relationships and leadership/ supervisory skills building have been conducted. Latest was the Supervisory Skills Training for GADRCO Team leaders in collaboration with various Offices which showed successful pooling of resources just to provide basic skills in handling subordinates -- a training they could not access because they are not regular employees.


Ms. Ruby Palma delivering the opening remarks during the Supervisory Skills Training Seminar participated by PESO, SBECO and SYDP and GADRCO supervisors and team leads


Mayor Herbert M. Bautista sharing his insights

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The messages and presentations served as an
regard to the implementation of R.A 9268 or the
message of DSWD Secretary Corazon Juliano-Soli
Social Technology Bureau (DSWD while ASec Te
of Undersecretary Jose Vicente Salazar of the DO
City Prosecutor R. Jonathan B. Lledo (DOJ/IACA
Salvacion Cion (GFP of QC SSDD); PCSUPT
Rowena Lambojo, OIC of the DWCPD. Senior A
IACAT, handled the integration and closing part o

Most trafficked persons were victimized becaus
Evidently, the victims of trafficking pay a terrible
social effects. Oftentimes, victims are offered with
and salaries offered are too good to be true consider
Philippines, traffickers usually ask the victim to tra
does not pass government agencies tasked to process
resort to abduction and kidnapping. Trafficking ma

SSP Alejo shared that there is no need to look
minors and it is a continuing offense. The informa
or where any of the elements of the offense occur
the commission of the incident. Trafficked person
for crimes directly related to the acts of trafficking
prosecutors should not file or threaten to file crimi
as the same re-victimizes and a violation of the lega

With regard to actions taken, ASec Teresita Don
and judges as implementers were still familiarizing
Persons Act of 2008, the US issued its Report on
Watch List. As a law, RA 9208 only had its IRR ap

The Philippines is now among the countries taki
which is a growing global concern.

IACAT addressed each issue noted in the US re
activities and projects in line with prevention and m
1) Creation of different task forces, in various airpo
of the nationwide data-base program for the IACA

Holds Forum on ons:

ls Tier One

through the initiative of its head, Mary Ruby king Group for the QC Inter-Agency Council nacted through Ordinance 1795 signed by the 11. The heads/representatives of the following ers of the TWG-QCIACAT: 1) Gender and s Chair), 2) Social Services and Development ayor, 4) Office of the Vice Mayor, 5) Office of nen and Children Protection Desk, 8) Criminal ner partners are the International Social Service icking (NIATFAT). The GADRCO acts as the

rcement of the provisions of the Anti-Human nd disseminate information materials on anti- against trafficking in persons; 3) Initiate and ystem of referral, monitoring and reporting of gs or establishments suspected of being used for hose who have provided information that led to rehension of person/s involved.



an trafficking

im intended for appraise officials, NGOs and n of preventive and corrective measures to fight of all ages. Held on December 5, 2011 at the orum which carried the theme "Harnessing Best an 100 participants representing the concerned d investigation agencies, NGOs and barangays. nal government and NGOs concerned in the eir protective unit's resources in pushing through data base management in the NCR and several regions. Added to these were the active participation of the other principal holders of the IACAT such as the DSWD and the police forces. The DOJ also initiated amendments to RA 9208 which are already due for second reading and interpellation at the House of Representatives and the Senate. Part of the amendment is the creation of a permanent secretariat for the IACAT headed by an Executive Director.

For its part, the DSWD intensified its implementation of its three existing programs under three key result areas: Prevention, Protection and Reintegration. The prevention programs and services are geared towards creating increased awareness and knowledge of communities and people, especially those who are potential victims. The prevention component covers organization/strengthening of IACAT) at different levels. The protection programs and services focus on facilitating recovery of trafficked persons from traumatic experiences while reintegrations are focused on the return of trafficked persons to their normal life.

As to the efforts of the City, Mayor Herbert Bautista mentioned that zoning of the entertainment areas are being studied. In 2007, the SSDD came up with a tracking team for trafficking. Noting that the City is adhering to the tenets of gender sensitivity, he signified that the City will eventually come up with an even more stringent and improved policy as far as anti-trafficking in persons is concerned. "Defining where the City is heading, defining where it should be, and where it should not be, is already a step forward in minimizing human trafficking in QC. One of the local policies in place is the Kasambahay Ordinance.

He took note of the DOJ's efforts in responding to anti-trafficking in persons through its campaigns and rescue operations in different regions in the country. He also commended the QCPD for being gender-sensitive in the handling of its cases, adding that "Si former Vice Mayor Planas ang nagpasimuno nito, the first Women's Desk na kinopya ng buong Pilipinas ay iyong first Women's Desk na itinayo ni Vice Mayor Charito Planas sa QC. Marami tayo ngayong police women at mga Women's Desks because of VM Charito Planas."





PCSUPT George T. Regis (5th from right), District Director of the QCPD and PINSP Rowena Lambojo (3rd from left), OIC-DWCPD together with the QCPD Station Commanders and other officers

He congratulated VM Joy Belmonte as a strong advocate of GAD and ably responding to the needs of the vulnerable sectors. He encouraged everyone to support her advocacies, as well.

The services provided by the QC SSDD include provision of temporary shelter, counseling, financial assistance, skills training, coordination with schools for those who need to resume their schooling, and referral to other units for their respective families to avail of the economic recovery assistance.

The police forces have always been on the alert especially those assigned at the Women's Desk. Most of the cases of convictions are on exploitation of women and children. Child sensitive and gender-responsive approaches are done through setting up of gender sensitive and child-friendly protection structures and systems within the criminal justice system.

Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte recognized and appreciated all those who were present in this forum for giving importance to the 18-day Campaign on Violence Against Women and Children. She eagerly announced that at the end of the campaign, a one-stop shop protection center for victims of gender-based violence and abuse will soon open at the QC General Hospital. As a consequent activity, she suggested that a workshop be held soon to plot the strategies for the City campaign to really seriously address the issue of trafficking. Other efforts related to child protection that are in place in QC include the Child-Friendly City Campaign and strengthening of the Barangay Council for the Protection of Children. She also took note of the support and active participation of the GAD focal persons in projects and activities concerning women and children. She assured that the TWG-IACAT will always gain support from the Office of the Vice Mayor, from the Mayor, as well as the support of the City Council, in the efforts to protect the women and fight for women's rights.

As an update, SACP Lledo, Chief of the NIACAT shared that the IACAT was



on trafficking

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of all ages. Held on December 5, 2011 at the
rum which carried the theme "Harnessing Best
an 100 participants representing the concerned
d investigation agencies, NGOs and barangays.
nal government and NGOs concerned in the
ir respective unit's resources in pushing through

on what each concerned unit is doing with
fficking in Persons Act of the Philippines. The
read on her behalf by Dir. Patricia Luna of the
Domingo (DOJ) delivered a message on behalf
T. The other presenters included Senior Asst
ior State Prosecutor Lilian Doris Alejo (DOJ);
T. Regis, District Director-QCPD and PINSP
Prosecutor Raymond Jonathan B. Lledo, Chief,
i-trafficking forum.

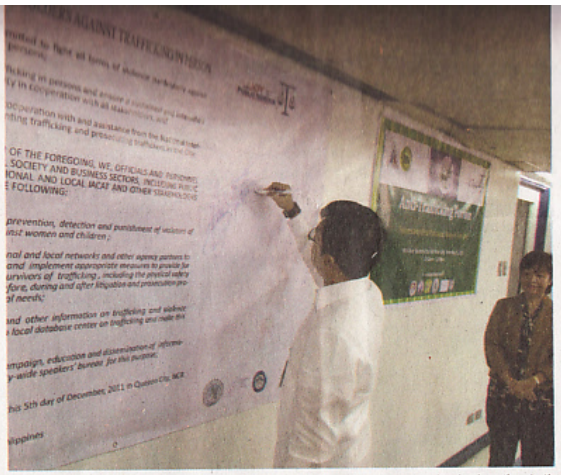
ir desire to improve their economic condition.
terms of physical, psychological, emotional and
igh paying jobs in big cities or other countries
im's qualifications. If employment is outside the
tourist visa. A trafficker does not go through or
rment, engage in shady deals and may sometimes
committed even with the consent of the victim.

means or method of commission if victims are
y be filed in the place where it was committed
where the victim actually resides at the time of
cognized as victims and shall not be penalized
obedience to the trafficker. Law enforcers and
ges against victims (prostitution, vagrancy, etc.)
tion afforded to trafficked persons.

xplained that, just when the DOJ, law enforcers
elves with RA 9208 or the Anti-Trafficking in
afficking which placed the Philippines at Tier 2
three months before the end of 2008.

ger stride in line with anti-trafficking in persons

Anti-Trafficking in Persons by actively pursuing
ng of the anti-trafficking in persons law through:
seaports all over the Philippines, 2) Development
3) Conducting seminars on anti-trafficking and



Hon. Mayor Herbert M. Bautista leads guests and resource persons in signing the Anti-Trafficking Covenant and in cutting the ribbon marking the opening of the Anti-Trafficking IEC Materials' Exhibit.



Mayor Herbert M. Bautista and Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte viewing the exhibit of Anti-trafficking tec materials

families to avail of the economic recovery assistance.

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As an update, SACP Lledo, Chief of the NIACAT shared that the IACAT was reorganized upon the assumption of Sen. Benigno Aquino as President. Seventeen of the 18 Prosecutors who are with the IACAT came from Quezon City. The IACAT has been working closely with its counterparts in the law enforcement agency – the PNP, the CIDG, and the WCPD.

The 2011 US Trafficking Report recommends enhancement of the capacities of the service providers (social work, health, law enforcement, judicial, NGOs, and others) to ensure that rescued victims are properly assisted. Stakeholders are encouraged to participate in a wider advocacy campaign against Human Trafficking to increase awareness of people on the issues of trafficking and to strengthen the prevention aspect.

Coun. Candy Medina remains optimistic, that with the dedication and concern of the TWG-QCIACAT, the challenges ahead will be dealt with accordingly. She raised the need to harmonize all existing laws and policies on trafficking, child labor and forced labor, as well as strengthening institutional capacity building, enforcement and prosecution aspects.

ASec Domingo emphasized that " the government and all its agencies cannot really win the war against trafficking without the support and cooperation of the community, hindi puwedeng komunidad lang, hindi puwedeng pamahalaan lang. Ang kailangan po ay kooperasyon, we have to, work, we have to join hands to fight the war on trafficking in persons."

As an expression of support to this endeavour, DSWD Secretary Soliman shared this message: "In behalf of the Department, we would like to congratulate Quezon City for conducting this Anti-Trafficking Forum, we hope that each of us will be more vigilant and pro-active in the anti-trafficking campaign. Please be ensured that the DSWD shall support all efforts of Quezon City in this fight Against Trafficking in Persons. Through our combined efforts, we hope that we are well on the road to the Tier 1 Status."

Marilou B. Cerilla

BUILDING BRIDGES TOWARDS PARTNER GAD CITIES

The Cebu City GAD Focal Person (GFP) in coordination with the Cebu City Women and Family Affairs Commission (CCWFAC), sent a 15-member delegation to a gender-study tour of different local government units' programs as a bench-marking activity towards making the different departments of Cebu City Hall sensitive to gender concerns and issues.

Visits to the cities of Makati, Marikina, and Quezon City, aimed to respond to the following inquiries: levels of implementation of GAD programs in the specific LGUS especially in terms of policies, programs and budget; strategies and initiatives on particular gender concerns such as responding to VAWC issues, human rights of women, integrating gender in the environment curriculum, policy formulation and budgeting, service provisions and barangay efforts; best practices and strategies in responding to different gender concerns in the LGU's different departments; economic empowerment of women and their families, and impacts of the situation of women in the over-all development and governance of the LGU.

Gender and Development Resource and Coordinating Office (GADRCO) presented Quezon City GAD milestones and vision, as well as programs and services of the Social Services and Development Department (SSDD) for women and children. Responding to the question raised by a delegate during an open forum, Dr. Ruby Palma, GADRCO head said that the GAD Budget has been distributed in the different departments during the last five years and that GAD-related expenditures have exceeded the minimum mandated 5% GAD budget requirement. She added that GADRCO is just a small group with only 14 staff complement which handles monitoring and capacity building of GAD focal persons at the department and barangay levels. GADRCO is trying to deliver beyond what it has been mandated to do, such as replicating capacity building at a city-wide level, starting with the training of around 200 GFPs. Trained in severl batches the GFPs are now actively involved in accomplishing their respective barangay's GAD Plan and Budget.

Among the departments which has mainstreamed GAD are the QC Health Department and the SSDD . The City Engineering Office has conducted basic GAD orientation among employees in its district engineering offices in QC.

Cdr. Aldrin Cuña, Chief of Staff of Mayor Herbert Bautista, shared that he evaluates the budgets of the departments based on criteria for gender-sensitive programs as the basis for computing the GAD budget allocation. He said 75% of the GAD budget is mainstreamed. He added that the GAD focal persons can work on their own GAD budget while the TOTs can be tapped to train new trainors. The GAD programs and projects of a department may be reflected through the reporting of sex disaggregated data and an accounting of how much have been disbursed for gender programs. Cdr. Cuña also said release of honorarium is based on existing guidelines as authorized by the Local Development Code and emphasized that "work should be outside of what you have to do or outside your regular tasks."

Dr. Palma added that the GAD budget from each department is now required to be signed by the GADRCO head prior to submission to the City Budget Department. There is an Incentive for GFP at the barangay level such as the P1, 000 monthly honorarium sourced from the Mayor's fund as per the QC GAD Code.

Faye Lauron shared that QC has 142 barangays and 72 departments, each with a GAD Focal Person. Continuing capacity building for GAD focal persons and refresher course for old timers is also GADRCO's plan.

On the other hand, Marie Roño, Information and Training Officer of GADRCO, reported that 30 barangays, 15 departments and five national agencies have been provided with basic GAD orientation. The next level training is on gender and governance. Free Legal Assistance is closely coordinated with the Office of the Vice Mayor. The regular screening and awarding of the Most Gender-sensitive Film since 2003 has been one of the gender-mainstreaming schemes supported by the QC government.

According to Dr. Palma, the GAD Plan is integrated in the City's Comprehensive Development Plan.

She also raised the possibility of the Quezon City government entering into partner GAD City arrangements with Cebu City and Makati City.

On behalf of the Cebu City delegation, Cynthia M. Kahulugan, Cebu City GAD Focal Person and City Secretary, thanked GADRCO and expressed appreciation of its effort in inspiring them through sharing GAD experiences. She hoped that they will be able to adopt certain strategies in Cebu City's GAD initiatives.

Marilou B. Cerilla

Letters and Random Thoughts

WEATHERING CLIMATE CHANGE

Recently, the Philippines suffered a series of calamities. Landslides were seen, hundreds of lives were taken, vast areas of land inundated by mud and floodwaters, in the end, fingers started pointing at officials, residents and enterprises as the culprit. All of these are the intricacies of life.

Global warming and climate change has been the focus of a long drawn debate. Local Governments must undertake reform measures to build infrastructure and measures to arrest the abysmal threat of the impact of global warming and climate change.

We all experienced both man made and natural calamities and this requires firm and holistic approaches to address this issue. Preparedness, acceptance and

Reader's Concern for Untitled Lots

I am presently residing at 37 Rose St. Veterans Village, Pasong Tamo, Quezon City. I am retired educator from the Isabela State University- Echague, Isabela.

I came across one of your magazines(We Connect) dated last July, October 2011 issue where the excerpts from the second state of the city address of Quezon City Mayor Herbert M. Bautista was printed.

I am convince to write your good office regarding our present situation in our Barangay.

I am very much worried for up to now our lots are not yet titled, I have been to the office of the assessor where the late Atty. Soriano was and the map shows that it was awarded to the veterans

The Cooking Administrative Assistant Angelita Peralta, GADRCO

"DINUGUAN"

Mga Sangkap:

1 kilo karne ng baboy (kasim) hiniwa ng maliliit

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We all experienced both man made and natural calamities and this requires firm and holistic approaches to address this issue. Preparedness, acceptance and commitment are the keys. We should begin seeing blue and green – an ecosystem that could sustain life. We are responsible and custodians of the next generation and their future.

Technical know-how and political will go hand in hand in order to ensure sustainability. Information services at the local level must be implemented. It is a very basic and effective strategy to achieve global sustainable environment. Urban planning, management, conservation and responsible consumption of resources play a vital role in our effort to strike a balance between progress and the protection of our environment and ecology.

Moving towards a healthy environment would provide goods and services that support the local economy in a long-term basis. Above all, it is our social and moral obligation to protect, ensure and responsibly utilize the finite resources that have been made available for our mutual benefit as we assure our posterity of a progressive and quality life in the future.

Choot Ramirez-De Vera
Office of the City Mayor (OCM)

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I am very much worried for up to now our lots are not yet titled. I have been to the office of the assessor where the late Atty. Soriano was and the map shows that it was awarded to the veterans during the reign of the late President Marcos. One of our relative is an applicant but due to old age, sold their rights to us. I was inform too that some leaders in this Barangay started working on it but did not materialize. With your program in your "We Connect" regarding tax ordinances, will not this properties if legalized and given tax declaration and will be willing to pay taxes. I am sure this will contribute to the mission, vision and programs of our good Mayor.

Given attention to this given query I hope hand in hand the Socialized Tax Ordinance Program of Quezon City will surely generate more funds to carry on the program and will be able to tender help to the needy citizens of Quezon City. "MABUHAY LAHAT ANG MGA PROGRAMS AT SANA YUNG URBAN POOR AFFAIR OFFICE" will work hand in hand with other offices to solve our problems. Thank you and more power.

Concern Citizen,
Arceli Macarilay

P.S.

In your magazine(We Connect) of the same issue I just want to know if Barangay Veterans is the one which I am concern, is the one awarded number two of the GADRCO validating team.

from the Mayor's fund as per the QC GAD Code.

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Marilou B. Cerilla

The Cooking Administrative Assistant Angelita Peralta, GADRCO

"Dinuguan"



Mga Sangkap:

1 kilo karne ng baboy (kasim) hiniwa ng maliliit
2 kilo dugo ng baboy (walang halong tubig; fresh)
1 buo bawang, tinadtad
1 sibuyas, hiniwa ng manipis
1 kutsarita asin
1 kutsara paminta (durog)
1 kutsara asukal (pula)
3 kutsara mantika
4 dahon ng laurel
10 piraso siling mahaba
1 baso ng suka
1 sachet ng seasoning mix

Paraan ng Pagluto:

1. Haluan ng suka ang dugo ng baboy para hindi mamuo.
2. Hugasan and hiniwang karne ng baboy.
3. Igisa ang bawang, sibuyas, at ilagay ang hiniwang karne. Haluin ang karne hanggang lumabas ang mantika.
4. Ihalo ang dugo, dahan-dahan ang pagbuhos, lagyan ng laurel, paminta, asukal, at asin ayon sa panlasa.
5. Haluin ng dahan-dahan hanggang lumapot at maging sarsa.



QCPD WOMEN POLICE AWARDEES OF 2011

Deserving QC Police District personnel received awards for 2011 during the department's 72nd anniversary. These awardees are the following:



1) **NUP OLIVIA T. BRAGIAS** is a living example of a professional who has always aimed to hone her skills through trainings and seminars, enabling her to perform her duties effectively and efficiently. Quality work and time is her legacy.

With extra ordinary efficiency, integrity and a high degree of professionalism as Admin. Assistant I (SG8) of QCPD, she was judged Non-Uniformed Personnel (NUP) of the Year.



2) **SPO1 CELIMA SILLAN SISON** is a well-rounded policewoman and a solo parent of three. She was appointed to the rank of PO1 on March 25, 1994.

She served as Police Aide of the QC Police District for almost eight years. As a Civil Disturbance Management operative, she and her team demonstrated professional handling of peaceful rallies or mass demonstrations.

SPO1 Sison is also the officer in charge of rape and other sensational cases involving women and children. She usually joins operations to arrest suspects, and active in disseminating information through lectures at Barangay BSDO's on public safety.

Her efforts are attested by various medals and commendations that she received. The latest award she got was that of Policewoman PNCO of the Year.



3) **PSUPT JEZEBEL D. MEDINA, DMD,** a licensed dentist, obtained her Doctor of Dental Medicine degree from the University of Baguio in 1991. She joined the PNP organization October 1, 1993 through lateral entry in the PNP Health Services from the Dental Unit.

She had been given awards and commendations since 2010 for her commitment and dedication to her duties and responsibilities in the PNP. Such awards include Certificate of Appreciation, Certificate of Commendation, Medalya ng Papuri, Medalya ng Kasanayan and Plaque of Recognition. She was also a Nominee for the Best Dental Officer of the Year award in line with the celebration of the PNP Health Service Anniversary. She assumed the post of Chief, District Health Service last November 2010, under the one Chief Policy of the PNP Health Service.

She had attended a total of one thousand nine hundred eleven (1,911) patients including PNP personnel and their dependents. She was als o able to provide dental services for the residents of Quezon City who needed dental health care. She was adjudged as "Best National Support Unit of the Year" during the 72nd QCPD Founding Anniversary.







GAD DICTIONARY

Be more general, more sexist in your language...

	THIS IS OK...	BUT THIS IS BETTER!!!
1.	*chairman*	chairperson, chair, president, presiding officer
2.	*Man, mankind*	people, humanity, human beings, humankind
3.	*manpower*	staff, labor, work force, employees, personnel, workers, human resources,
4.	*man-made*	artificial, synthetic, machine-made
5.	*man and wife*	husband and wife, wife and husband
6.	*man-months*	work-months, staff-months
7.	*businessman*	entrepreneur
8.	*fireman*	fire-fighter; fire crew
9.	*foreman*	supervisor, superintendent
10.	*landlord*	owner, proprietor

GAWAD PARANGAL



the Year.

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4) **POLICE AIDE SUSAN A. NAZARENO** started her Government Service as an emergency employee at the Office of the City Mayor on October 6, 1980. After nine (9) years of dedicated service, she was appointed as Fingerprint Technician at the Quezon City Police District and was designated as Admin. Computer Encoder. Due to her positive attitude and outlook towards work, all her tasks were efficiently and properly complied with and earned respect from her peers.

Her efforts and dedication in her 30 years of rendering service to the public as Police Aide of QC made her a recipient of numerous awards, citations, recognitions, and commendations, the Police Aide of the Year is one of them.



5) **PCINSP CLARITA C. EQUIBAL**, A mother of three sons and wife of PSUPT RAYMUNDO EQUIBAL (a former officer of QCPD) a Policewoman Officer. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Criminology from the Philippine College of Criminology in 1997.

She joined the PC/ INP police service on July 16, 1978 and has been with the Police District for more than thirty years. She finished in 2002 her Directorate for Intelligence, under the supervision of the Intelligence Training Group Camp Crame, Quezon City.

In view, of what PCINSP CLARITA C. EQUIBAL had accomplished, and is still accomplishing, she had been adjudged as "Best Policewoman Police Commissioned Officer of the Year".



6) **PCINSP ELVIRA M. VALENZUELA** is a Bachelor of Physical Education graduate from the Polytechnic University of the Philippines.

She was absorbed into the PNP as Senior Police Officer 3 on January 2, 1991 with then Central Police District, now the Quezon City Police District.

Her competency yielded emotionally satisfying produstive results because of her flexibility with regard to time. Her distinct character and ingenuity to fulfil her duties spelled success which earned her numerous medals and letters of commendation. She was also conferred with a Plaque of Recognition during the 72nd QCPD Founding Anniversary.

PARANGAL



2011 GAWAD PARANGAL HONOREES. Ten outstanding individuals and five corporations/institutions are 2011's recipients of the Quezon City GAWAD PARANGAL awards presented by Mayor Herbert Bautista and Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte during the awards night at the Crowne Plaza Ballroom, highlight of the celebration of the 72nd QC Founding anniversary last October. Assisting the Mayor in the ceremony are Chief of Staff and foundation day Steering Committee Head Aldrin C. Cuña (extreme right) and Gawad Parangal Selection Board of Director Dr. Manuel S. Alba (extreme left). The individual awardees are (left to right, second row) painter/art teacher Fernando Sena, "Comedy King" Rodolfo "Dolphy" Quizon (represented by son Vandolf), entrepreneur Ramon E. Rodriguez, constitutional law authority Fr. Joaquin Bernas, S.J., singing star Lea Salonga (represented by her mother Mrs. Ligaya Salonga), educator/performing artist Dr. Rustica C. Carpio; and (left to right, first row) mass media entrepreneur Atty. Felipe Gozon, development educator Dr. Jose Vergara and broadcast media executive Charo Santos-Concio. Not in photo is Ms. Cecilia "Cheche" Lazaro, a broadcast journalist.

Testimonies from QC-GADRCO Partners and Advocates



"Kailangan talaga ipaglaban ang karapatan bilang lesbian at bilang tao... Ipagpatuloy po ng GADRCO at Q.C. ang pagtulong nila sa mga kagaya namin, at hindi lang sa mga kagaya namin, pati na rin sa mga ibang tao na kailangan sila."

ROSALINA "Bruce" T. FABIAN
(Former Security Guard)
Currently an Emergency Library Assistant at the UP-CSWCD Library



"The great thing about GADRCO is that there is someone you can go to with concerns on gender and development, They might not even be complaints, but could be very brave suggestions. And that it can be responded to."

DR. SYLVIA ESTRADA-CLAUDIO
Director, University Center for Women's Studies Foundation, UP Diliman, Q.C.



"Nagpapasalamat kami at nabigyan kami ng pagkakataon na magparticipate at makatulong sa Quezon city na mapromote ang male method sa family planning and because of our experience here in Quezon City we were able to demonstrate na hindi lamang babae ang gustong magpractice ng family planning, maski ang mga kalalakihan din."

DR. GERARDITO F. CRUZ
C-MEN



"We are happy that we have this GADRCO that takes care of the

FAQs about "Thank GAD It's Friday" (TGIF) Seminar Series

What is the Quezon City Thank GAD It's Friday (TGIF)?

The TGIF seminar series are consultation and review workshops conducted annually since 2003 in partnership with the City Budget and Planning Offices to monitor, evaluate, as well as report the status of implementation of the Quezon City GAD Code and Annual GAD Plans and Budget including problems and opportunities related to the same in the offices and cluster levels. It aims to improve gender-mainstreaming efforts of the City.

- The first TGIF (2003) introduced technical employees to Gender and Governance, Planning and Budgeting. Since then, the TGIF series served as the venue for orienting participants on gender planning, including the understanding of the GAD Plan and Budget processes and formats as mandated by law.
- In the succeeding TGIF sessions, the GAD Council members and other departments/offices were oriented on the application of the GAD Assessment Tool Kit to enable them to determine how far gender-mainstreaming has been achieved vis-à-vis strengths and gaps/ weaknesses/ issue in their respective areas of operations.
- The series focused on validating the results of the first GAD assessment and in orienting the participants on the 2009, Gender Planning Tool Kit and Budgeting Kit process, in drawing up a GAD Plan and Budget per department/cluster that responds to identified problems/ gaps/ issues, submitted to their respective heads and the CPDO for consideration in the 2009 City Budget.
- The two-phased series enlightened participants on the importance of the GAD Budget and how they were utilized. Further, it facilitated reviewing and gathering of feedback based on departments'/offices' preparation of their GAD PPA's and Budget, validated and translated GAD PPAs in the GAD Plan Form.
- The most recent series was conducted in 2010 in four batches which introduced the City Councilor's staff to gender-responsive planning and budgeting under the Legislative Sector with inputs from Ms. Tess Salud of DBM (gender budgeting), FIDA lawyer Atty. Alma Martin (Magna Carta of Women); Hon. Candy Medina representing the legislative and Com. On Women and Dr. Ruby Palma (Good Governance and City Comprehensive Development Plan).

Who are the participants of the TGIF?

A directive had been issued specifying that GAD Focal Persons appointed in every department should be a regular administrative or budget officer for her/him to appreciate GAD and realize the importance of the GAD budget allocation.

Nine sectoral clusters are the participants in the 2011 TGIF, namely:

- Governance Cluster
- Revenue Generating and Finance Cluster
- Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development Cluster

WHAT IS THE MAGNA CARTA OF WOMEN?

The Magna Carta of Women is a comprehensive women's human rights law that seeks to eliminate discrimination against women by recognizing, protecting, fulfilling, and promoting the rights of Filipino women, especially those in the marginalized sectors.

- **PROTECTION FROM ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE,** including those committed by the State. This includes the incremental increase in the recruitment and training of women in government services that cater to women victims of gender-related offenses. It also ensures mandatory training on human rights and gender sensitivity to all government personnel involved in the protection and defense of women against gender based violence, and mandates local government units to establish a Violence Against Women Desk in every barangay to address violence against women cases;
- **EQUAL ACCESS AND ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN IN EDUCATION, SCHOLARSHIPS AND TRAINING,** This includes revising educational materials and curricula to remove gender stereotypes and images, and outlawing the expulsion, non-readmission, prohibiting enrollment and other related discrimination against women students and faculty due to pregnancy outside of marriage;
- **NON-DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT IN THE FIELD OF MILITARY, POLICE AND OTHER SIMILAR SERVICES.** This includes

THE CIVIL SOCIETY PAGE

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL - QUEZON CITY



Seated from left to right: Dr. Carmen Siongco (Immediate Past Pres.), Adoracion Yulo (Corresp. sec), Catherine Villacastin, DMD. (Treas.), Dr.Abel Noche (President), Comm. Elsie de Veyra (Pres.Elect), Zeny de leon Maranan, M.D(2ND Vice Pres.), and Anita Tinio (1st Vice Pres.)

Standing from left to right: Pat Ayson(Brd.Memb.), PP Elinor Gorospe, PP Thelma Ortiz, PP Margie Ortiz-Luis, Isabel Golamco, Dr.Marianne Dobles, Rosario Suntay(Auditor), Dr. Lilia Matulac, PP Mercy Zuniga, PP Amor

DR. SYLVIA ESTRADA-CLAUDIO
Director, University Center for Women's Studies Foundation, UP Diliman, Q.C.



" Nagpapasalamat kami at nabigyan kami ng pagkakataon na magparticipate at makatulong sa Quezon city na mapromote ang male method sa family planning and because of our experience here in Quezon City we were able to demonstrate na hindi lamang babae ang gustong magpractice ng family planning, maski ang mga kalalakihan din."

DR. GERARDITO F. CRUZ
C-MEN



"We are happy that we have this GADRCO that takes care of the concerns of women and is very, very active. And we're happy that the Division of City Schools, in my capacity as the former Superintendent, got involved actively in its activities.

DR. VICTORIA FUENTES
Former Division Superintendent, Dep Ed QC Division of City Schools



I participated in the Lakbay-Aral sa Supreme Court. I also became a juror for the Most Gender-Sensitive Film in 2009. The QC librarians invited me as speaker on sexual harassment. The research I did on sexual harassment cases expanded my knowledge on the different forms of sexual harassment.

The Mayor should establish a core group for the Committee on Decorum and Investigation (CODI) who will handle sexual harassment cases in the workplace so that people will know about this law – RA No. 7877."

ATTY. ALMA MARTIN
Lawyer, Federacion Internacional de Abogadas (FIDA) QC-GADRCO Free Legal Service Project

the GAD Budget and how they were utilized. Further, it facilitated reviewing and gathering of feedback based on departments'/offices' preparation of their GAD PPA's and Budget, validated and translated GAD PPAs in the GAD Plan Form.

- The most recent series was conducted in 2010 in four batches which introduced the City Councilor's staff to gender-responsive planning and budgeting under the Legislative Sector with inputs from Ms. Tess Salud of DBM (gender budgeting), FIDA lawyer Atty. Alma Martin (Magna Carta of Women); Hon. Candy Medina representing the legislative and Com. On Women and Dr. Ruby Palma (Good Governance and City Comprehensive Development Plan).

Who are the participants of the TGIF?

A directive had been issued specifying that GAD Focal Persons appointed in every department should be a regular administrative or budget officer for her/him to appreciate GAD and realize the importance of the GAD budget allocation.

Nine sectoral clusters are the participants in the 2011 TGIF, namely:

- Governance Cluster
- Revenue Generating and Finance Cluster
- Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development Cluster
- Administrative Support Services Cluster
- Poverty Alleviation Program and other Welfare Services Cluster
- Protective Services Cluster
- Health and Allied Services Cluster
- Education, Sports and Culture Cluster
- Legislative / Councilors Cluster

What are the expected results of the TGIF?

- Increased awareness on the importance of GAD mainstreaming through the GAD assessment kit and other review of previous GAD plans and budget
- Review of gender planning and budgeting processes
- Propose initial gender-responsive programs, projects and activities in the GAD Plan Form, per cluster (and to be proposed to cluster heads and heads of departments/offices per cluster for 2012)
- Identify and document issues, concerns, problems in GAD PPA and budget implementation and/or successful practices in departments/offices in the executive and legislative

The Magna Carta of Women: RA 9710

The Magna Carta of Women *defines the marginalized sectors as those who belong to the basic, disadvantaged, or vulnerable groups who are mostly living in poverty and have little or no access to land and other resources, basic social and economic services such as health care, education, water and sanitation, employment and livelihood opportunities, housing security, physical infrastructure and the justice system. These include, but are not limited to women in the following sectors or groups: Small farmers and rural workers, Fisher folk, Urban poor, Workers in the formal economy, Workers in the informal economy, Migrant workers Indigenous Peoples, Moro, Children, Senior citizens, Persons with disabilities, and Solo parents.*



Seated from left to right: Dr. Carmen Siongco (Immediate Past Pres.), Adoracion Yulo (Corresp. sec), Catherine Villacastin, DMD. (Treas.), Dr.Abel Noche (President), Comm. Elsie de Veyra (Pres.Elect), Zeny de leon Maranan, M.D(2ND Vice Pres.), and Anita Tinio (1st Vice Pres.)

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Not in Photo: Vice-Mayor Joy G. Belmonte, Celine Africa, Elsa Syjuco, Ginny Jugo and Atty.Fely Gido.

One of the NGOs that consistently supports the QC GAD programs is Soroptimist International of Quezon City. It is a member of an international socio-civic women's organization with local chapters distributed in different cities and municipalities in the Philippines. Its name connotes "the best for women" and its mission is to improve the conditions of women and girls at a global level. In achieving this end, Soroptimist clubs focus on their own particular communities, working together, pooling their resources and using their professional skills in pursuing projects that promote protection of human rights and advancing the status of women and girls. There are currently 79 clubs throughout the Philippines consisting of career women, businesswomen, and professionals who contribute time and raise funds for projects that benefit girls and women.

The Soroptimist clubs usually undertake projects like improving shelters for abused women, providing health services for disadvantaged women, and counseling teenage girls to improve their self-esteem. The Soroptimist International in QC conducts PAP Smear tests for inmates at the QC Female Dormitory, conducts seminar-workshops on teen-age health in coordination with the QC government and the QC DepEd, i.e Anti-Teen-age Pregnancy workshop called Pag-ibig Fridays in 2010. It actively supports campaigns on violence against women and children in adopted barangays in coordination with the QC Police District, Social Services and Development Department (SSDD), GADRCO and Punong Barangays.

SIQC also pursues campaigning for environmental protection and conservation. In general, organization-wide programs include 1) Women's Opportunity Awards, 2) Grants for Women and Girls, 3) Workplace Campaign to End Domestic Violence, 4) Making a Difference for Women Award, 5) Violet Richardson Award, 6) STOP Trafficking and other campaign programs where women are encouraged to help other women.

It was also among the NGOs given special recognition by the QC government during the 71st anniversary celebration of the QCPD at its headquarters in Camp Tomas Karingal, Sikatuna Village, Quezon City November of 2010. Its officers had been highly visible in almost all the Women's Month celebration of the QC government and in the annual gender summits. SIQC's current Pres. is Dr. Abelsenia A. Noche.

the same promotional privileges and opportunities as their men counterpart, including pay increases, additional benefits, and awards, based on competency and quality of performance. The dignity of women in the military, police and other similar services shall always be respected, they shall be accorded with the same capacity as men to act in and enter into contracts, including marriage, as well as be entitled to leave benefits for women such as maternity leave, as provided for in existing laws;

- LEAVE BENEFITS, of two (2) months with full pay based on gross monthly compensation, for women employees who undergo surgery caused by gynecological disorders, provided that they have rendered continuous aggregate employment service of at least six (6) months for the last twelve (12) months;
- NON-DISCRIMINATORY AND NONDEROGATORY PORTRAYAL OF WOMEN IN MEDIA AND FILM, to raise the consciousness of the general public in recognizing the dignity of women and the role and contribution of women in family, community, and the society through the strategic use of mass media;
- EQUAL TREATMENT BEFORE THE LAW, including the State's review and when necessary amendment or repeal of existing laws that are discriminatory to women;
- PROTECTION AND SECURITY IN TIMES OF DISASTER, CALAMITIES AND OTHER CRISIS SITUATIONS, especially in all phases of relief, recovery, rehabilitation and construction efforts, including protection from sexual exploitation and other sexual and gender-based violence;
- COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH SERVICES AND HEALTH INFORMATION AND EDUCATION, covering all stages of a woman's life cycle, and which addresses the major causes of women's mortality and morbidity, including access to among others, maternal care, responsible, ethical, legal,

THE QUEZON CITY GAD FOCAL PERSON MECHANISM

Pursuant to **The 2010 Republic Act 9710 otherwise known as the Magna Carta of Women and The Quezon City GAD Code IRR Ordinance No. SP-1401 S-2004,** respectively:

Chapter VI Section 26(b) – Creation and/or Strengthening of the GAD Focal Points (GFP). *All department, including their attached agencies, offices, bureaus, states universities and colleges, government-owned and –controlled corporations, local government units, and other government instrumentalities shall establish or strengthen their GAD Focal Point System or similar GAD mechanism to catalyze and accelerate gender mainstreaming within the agency or local government unit.*

Rule VI, Section 22: Mechanism.– *Each barangay shall play a vital role in the fulfillment of GAD goals and the City GAD Code by establishing and maintaining its own GAD mechanism and structures for effective mainstreaming in the communities, such as the following:*

- *GAD Focal Point or Technical Working Group*
- *GAD Focal Person*
- *And other structures*

In 2003, the GAD Focal Person Mechanism was put in place in Quezon City. The GAD Focal Persons are tasked to catalyze, coordinate, provide directions to, and serve as technical advisers on women-gender and development efforts within City departments/ offices/task forces and barangays.

As of 2010, **the Quezon City GAD Government Focal Persons** in the **Executive** (departments/offices/task forces/others), **Judiciary,** and **Legislative Branches** (Office of the City Councilors) totals 96. On the other hand, there are 176 GAD Focal Persons who represent the 142 barangays.

The GAD Focal Persons' Functions:

- *Serve as catalyst for gender responsive planning and budgeting in their department/ office and barangay*
- *Serve as GAD advocates in offices/departments and barangay communities*
- *Act as advisory team/person to the head of offices/departments/task forces or Punong Barangay and Local Councils on matters concerning gender/women and development issues*
- *Ensure and sustain support in monitoring and reporting of GAD related activities*
- *Spearhead development of gender-responsive data collection and reporting using gender-responsive indicators of department/office/barangay.*

GAD Focal Persons are encouraged to actively take part in capability-building activities, among them:

Annual GAD Focal Persons Orientations and General Assemblies– Aims to orient newly appointed and update reappointed Barangay GAD Focal Persons under the present administration on their roles and responsibilities, and in formulating their GAD Plan and Budget as well as the executive and legislative thrusts and priorities.

GAD Focal Persons' Directory – Updated QC GAD Focal Persons Directory

Annual Gender Summit – Promotes and distributes new / updated QC GADRCO information materials, share common issues, new trends and practices in gender and governance and law/policies with GAD Focal Persons of the city government and other agencies in QC.

Town Hall Events – 1st Town Hall event focused on assessing, acknowledging, and consolidating in a collegial and informal manner, the achievements and directions

agenda. The consultative meetings identified current issues and concerns of women and men per sector and proposed measures on how the issues that emerged can be addressed. The first consultative workshop was held on November 17 with participants from the Labor Sector, Migrants, Business Sector and the Protective Services Group. A second workshop followed the next day with representatives from the Education, Media, Elderly and Youth sectors. Representatives from NGOs/POs/Religious/faith-based organizations, Environment sector and from barangays comprised the last workshop held on November 19. The consolidated outputs of the sectoral consultations led to the formulation of the 12-Point Gender and Development Agenda which guided the City government in its prioritization of programs and actions aimed at enhancing gender equality and promotion of the rights of women and children as seen by said sectors.

A consequent activity was the GAD Summit held on November 27, 2009 at the Bulwagang Amoranto. Two hundred people representing various sectors in QC attended the GAD Summit 2009 with the theme "The New Women and their Families' Agenda towards 2010 and Beyond." Gender issues per sector identified during the multisectoral consultations held earlier were presented at the summit. In this event, the QC Comprehensive Development Plan was also presented by Ms. Patricinio Villanueva of the City Planning and Development Office (CPDO). Then Vice Mayor Herbert M. Bautista and Ms. Joy Belmonte as President of the QC Ladies Foundation affixed their signature of commitment to support and pursue the 12-Point GAD Agenda on March 1, 2010 during the QC Women's Month celebration.

The GAD agenda covered the following:

1. Improving access to affordable housing
2. Instituting more programs for workers in the informal sector and for returning OFWs on livelihood, skills training, and micro enterprises
3. Preventing violence against women and homosexuals
4. Improving reproductive health services
5. Improving access to nutrition and other health services
6. Mainstreaming gender education in schools
7. Strengthening city gender and development programs and policies
8. Promoting gender and child sensitive coverage in media
9. Increasing access of women and children to justice
10. Instituting and implementing policy on gender and child-sensitive structures and environment in the city
11. Protecting and promoting the rights of the elderly and other vulnerable groups
12. Establishing substance abuse rehabilitation centers and programs

March 1, 2010 had been a remarkable date as the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the Gender and Development Code (QCGADC) was ratified by the QC Council during its 82nd Regular Session presided by then incumbent Vice Mayor Herbert M Bautista.

MEET THE NEW CHIEF OF THE QC BUSINESS PERMIT AND LICENSING OFFICE



Mr. Garry Dela Cruz Domingo—currently heads the Business Permit and Licensing Office (BPLO) of the Quezon City government. He was appointed by the Hon. Mayor Herbert M. Bautista last August 01, 2011.

Before working in Quezon City, "Garry," as he is called by

greater efficiency. Hence, the percentage of new business increased in the City. (A report from the Information Technology Unit shows that there are more women business managers who have opened or renewed their business licenses. Coupled with the majority number of women in the informal business sector, Quezon City's economic base indeed are becoming increasingly filled - up by women.)

Garry lives by his dictum: Good management is choosing the right people who will fit the job description and will

- **EQUAL TREATMENT BEFORE THE LAW**, including the State's review and when necessary amendment or repeal of existing laws that are discriminatory to women;
- **PROTECTION AND SECURITY IN TIMES OF DISASTER, CALAMITIES AND OTHER CRISIS SITUATIONS**, especially in all phases of relief, recovery, rehabilitation and construction efforts, including protection from sexual exploitation and other sexual and gender-based violence;
- **COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH SERVICES AND HEALTH INFORMATION AND EDUCATION**, covering all stages of a woman's life cycle, and which addresses the major causes of women's mortality and morbidity, including access to among others, maternal care, responsible, ethical, legal, safe and effective methods of family planning, and encouraging healthy lifestyle activities to prevent diseases;
- **EQUAL RIGHTS IN ALL MATTERS RELATING TO MARRIAGE AND FAMILY RELATIONS**, The State shall ensure the same rights of women and men to: enter into and leave marriages, freely choose a spouse, decide on the number and spacing of their children, enjoy personal rights including the choice of a profession, own, acquire, and administer their property, and acquire, change, or retain their nationality. It also states that the betrothal and marriage of a child shall have no legal effect;
- **PARTICIPATION AND REPRESENTATION**, including undertaking temporary special measures and affirmative actions to accelerate and ensure women's equitable participation and representation in the third level civil service, development councils and planning bodies, as well as political parties and international bodies, including the private sector.

- *Serve as GAD advocates in offices/departments and barangay communities*
- *Act as advisory team/person to the head of offices/departments/task forces or Punong Barangay and Local Councils on matters concerning gender/women and development issues*
- *Ensure and sustain support in monitoring and reporting of GAD related activities*
- *Spearhead development of gender-responsive data collection and reporting using gender-responsive indicators of department/office/barangay.*

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GAD Focal Persons' Directory – Updated QC GAD Focal Persons Directory under the new administration, aids in systematizing communication and facilitates positive responses among GAD Focal persons especially in attending assemblies and trainings.

Annual Thank GAD It's Friday (TGIF) Seminar Series – Reviews current & past plans and budget implementation and accustoms new budget, planning officers, and GAD Focal Persons on GAD plans and budget mandates including the City GAD Code, Magna Carta of Women and 12 Point Agenda 2011-2012 .

Annual Women's Month Celebration – Observes the celebration of the International Women's Month, which gives recognition and acknowledge noteworthy GAD practices and achievements of Quezon City departments, offices, agencies, barangays and other sectors.

Annual Gender Summit – Promotes and distributes new / updated QC GADRCO information materials, share common issues, new trends and practices in gender and governance and law/policies with GAD Focal Persons of the city government and other agencies in QC.

Town Hall Events – 1st Town Hall event focused on assessing, acknowledging, and consolidating in a collegial and informal manner, the achievements and directions in pursuing the mandates of gender and governance, and the GAD plans and budget per mandates of RA 7192, Philippine Plan for Gender Responsive Development 2005-2025, CEDAW, Millennium Development Goals, and other relevant national and international agreements.

Annual Best GAD Practices in Barangays – Gives recognition to barangays and GAD Focal Persons exemplifying "Best Practice" in gender mainstreaming and equality. This is one of several awards given every Barangay Day (September 21).

Information Caravan in Barangay/ Community Level and for local and foreign delegations – information-sharing, distribution of information materials and showing of videos that will promote the city's visibility and achievements in gender-responsive governance and awareness in equal rights & other initiatives of the City.

QUEZON CITY GOVERNMENT'S 12 POINT GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

The Quezon City Gender and Development Code (QCGADC) is a declaration of commitment of the City to women empowerment by ensuring a community that recognizes equal treatment and opportunity between men and women. Enacted in February 2004, the Code is a hard evidence of the City's quick response to women discrimination that even surpassed the national government's promptness in terms of approving RA 9710, also known as The Magna Carta of Women, which took place only in 2009.

In 2009, GADRCO facilitated a series of multi-sectoral consultative workshops held at the Bulwagang Amoranto. The aim? A new agenda that would supplant the old women's

environment in the city
11. Protecting and promoting the rights of the elderly and other vulnerable groups
12. Establishing substance abuse rehabilitation centers and programs

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Before working in Quezon City, "Garry ", as he is called by friends and classmates (one of whom was Mayor Herbert Bautista himself) was the head of BPLO in the Pasay City government for 8 years. He describes his greatest challenge in his new position at QC as "" managing a new office with 140 employees with 60,000 establishments compared with 18 employees with some 11, 000 establishments in his former office in Pasay.

One blessing though, he says, is that he came in an office already with a good business permits system in place. "What Mayor Bautista and I are doing is just fine tuning this system," he said. Part of this system that he continues to improve is the administration of the BOSS or the Business One Stop Shop where the current process of securing a business permit was decreased to just 4 steps compared to the 9 steps before BOSS was established. The Anti-Red Tape Act requires a minimum of 5 steps as business processing response time.

A socially - responsive act is providing special lanes for senior citizens and persons with disability. When clients coming from this sector do not get their business permits done in 1 hour, the office has a policy that their permits will be delivered to their houses on the same day.

Garry, relatively young both in age and position, tries to experiment on new ways and methods for a better organized business permit and licensing system.

BPLO has released a total of 60,606 business permits amounting to P4,346,015,141 by end of 2011. He said that more people are getting served due to greater efficiency. Hence, the percentage of new business increased in the City. (A report from the Information Technology Unit shows that there are more women business managers who have opened or renewed their business licenses. Coupled with the majority number of women in the informal business sector, Quezon City's economic base indeed are becoming increasingly filled - up by women.)

Garry lives by his dictum: Good management is choosing the right people who will fit the job description and will be accountable in what they do. This must have guided him in receiving the Best BPLO Chief when he was still with the Pasay City Government. As BPLO Head of Pasay City, he was able to raise the collection then from 300 million pesos to 630 million pesos.

Another challenging and exciting happening in the business community is the observation that Quezon City is going "vertical" (as shown by the high-rise buildings being constructed especially in the proposed Quezon City Business District.) This development is envisioned to bring about 1 billion worth more investments. The city government through Mayor Bautista is also coming up with an Investment Code of Quezon City which among others will give way to tax holidays and incentives. Then too is a proposal to build the 2nd tallest international communications centre in Asia at the corner of EDSA and Quezon Avenue, turning the city into an economic magnet .

Garry says he is lucky to get appointed for a job at a young age.. Now that he is in Quezon City, he said he has 15 more years to showcase what he can do for the city." Wala na ko pupuntahan, Quezon City is the premier city to be."

Garry graduated AB Philosophy from San Beda College in 1992 and studied Law at Arellano University where he graduated in 1997. He is married to Atty. Angelica P. Hernandez and has one daughter.

Roberto Reyes VI

THE JOY OF PUBLIC SERVICE



Vice-Mayor Joy Belmonte delivering her message at the launching of the QC Protection Center at the QC General hospital

LAUNCHING OF THE QUEZON CITY PROTECTION CENTER FOR VICTIM-SURVIVORS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND ABUSE

The Quezon City Government, thru the initiative of Vice Mayor Joy G. Belmonte, launched the QC Protection Center last 12 December 2011 at QC General Hospital which commenced a comprehensive and integrated services for the victims of gender-based violence and abuse in Quezon City. This special unit (located near the emergency room) also provides appropriate care from medical, psychological, police assistance and legal consultations in one venue. It is Quezon City's goal to provide a multi-disciplinary approach in offering services and care to abused persons especially to children, and targets to carry out education programs and activities to prevent further harm, violence and discrimination in the city.

This project is also in response to the protection and prevention aspects of various violence-and-abuse-related laws such as RA 9262 (Anti-Violence Against Women and Children Act), RA 7610 (Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act), RA 8353 (Anti-Rape Law), RA 8505 (Rape Victim Assistance and Protection Act) and the QC GAD Code.

The establishment of the Protection Center is from the concerted efforts of QC General Hospital, QC Police District, Social Services Development Department, QC Gender and Development Resource and Coordinating Office, with the support of NGOs such as Child Protection Unit-PGH, EnGenderRights, Women's Crisis Center, and others..

The center is open from Monday to Friday, 8-5 pm with an in-house lawyer every Monday. For more information, please call the Office of the Vice Mayor at 444-7272 loc. 8207/8206 or 4261318 loc. 1047.



Mayor Herbert Bautista and Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte with Atty. Claire Padilla of EnGenderRights and Ms. Marissa Navales representing the Council for the Welfare of Children lead the opening of the QC Protection Center at the QC General Hospital

QC LEGISLATIVE FAMILY



MOVIE NEWS:
By Ana Maria Fajardo

My House Husband' bags 2011 MMFF Most Gender Sensitive Film Award



"My House Husband" won the QC Special Award in the Metro Manila Film Festival Awards Night last December 28, 2011 held at Resorts World Hotel."

The movie won over seven other MMFF film entries for the annual special award - QC Most Gender Sensitive Award - sponsored by the QC local government through the Gender and Development Resource and Coordinating Office (GADRCO). A signature trophy (sculptured mango tree) which was mounted, carved and designed by Sandra Torrijos, was given to the winner.

The movie starred the real couple, Ryan Agoncillo and Judy Ann Santos. It also emphasized the gender division of labor and shared decision-making and also breaks gender stereotyping. Eugene Domingo, acting as best friend of Ryan, provides enough laughs and insights, in showing how genuine, and platonic friendship can develop between two different sexes.

Now on its 9th year, the QC Gender and Development (GAD) award seeks to encourage the promotion of empowerment and equality among men and women in media as part of the city government gender advocacy and mainstreaming program.

Protection Act) and the QC GAD Code.

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QC Legislative Family



From Left (Sitting)
Councilor Eufemio Lagumbay, Councilor Eden "Candy" Medina, Councilor Precious Hipolito, Councilor Dorothy Delarmente, Mayor Herbert M. Bautista, Vice-Mayor Joy Belmonte, Councilor Jessica Daza, Councilor Racquel Malangen, Councilor Julienne Alyson Rae Medalla, Councilor Jesus "Bong" Suntay

From Left (Standing)
Councilor Roderick M. Paulate, Councilor Jaime Borres, Councilor Alexis R. Herrera, Councilor Godofredo T. Liban II, Councilor Ranulfo Ludovica, Councilor Don de Leon, Councilor Alfredo Vargas III, Councilor Joseph Emile P. Juico, Councilor Gian Carlo Sotto, Councilor Ricardo T. Belmonte, Jr., Councilor Marvin Rillo, Councilor Vincent Belmonte, Councilor Anthony Peter Crisologo, Councilor Edcel Lagman, Councilor John Ansel de Guzman, Councilor Francisco A. Calalay, Jr., Councilor Julian C. Coseteng, and Councilor Allan Reyes



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The Metro Manila Film Festival Executive Committee launched the New Wave category (independent film) and the pilot winner for this year is Neal Tan's HIV (Si Heidi, Si Ivy at Si V). The movie starred Maria Isabel Lopez, Iza Calzado, IC Mendoza and Jake Cuenca who played an impassioned filmmaker shooting on three HIV AIDS victims.

A short film called "Speechless" made by a student from Miriam College won the Most Gender Sensitive Film in the MMFF student film section.

The MGSF jury for 2011 was composed of Councilor Eden Delilah Medina, Consoliza Laguardia, Manrique Orellana, Teresita Salud, and Eduardo Lejano.



