



CITY ORDINANCE NO. 334

August 27, 2003

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING SPECIAL PROTECTION AND AN INCENTIVE PROGRAM FOR BARANGAY WORKERS OF THE CITY OF BACOLOD, PROVIDING A FUND FOR THE PURPOSE AND THE MECHANISMS FOR THE USE THEREOF.

WHEREAS, it is well known that in local governance, there are frontliners public servants who perform the most crucial and essential services to the people in the area of community security and peace, health, and well-being, but who do not enjoy adequate protection at present in terms of their insurance and other needs;

WHEREAS, that among these workers are our barangay tanods, barangay health workers, barangay nutrition scholars, and other workers whose job and calling often expose them to danger and the elements, but whose compensation are often not enough for their services;

WHEREAS, there is a crying need to afford them greater security and/or protection, and provide them with some incentives in consideration of their very great sacrifice for the people, such as those called for by Sec. 393 (d) and sec. 522 of the Local Government Code (RA 7160), RA 7875, and other related laws or issuances of the national government;

WHEREAS, the local government of the City of Bacolod, akin to the principle of *parens patriae*, is willing to share its resources with its component barangays to provide these workers with said protection and incentive;

WHEREFORE, be it ordained, as it is hereby ordained by the Sangguniang Panglungsod of Bacolod in session assembled, that:

TITLE:

This ordinance shall be known as an **ORDINANCE PROVIDING SPECIAL PROTECTION AND AN INCENTIVE PROGRAM FOR BARANGAY WORKERS OF THE CITY OF BACOLOD, PROVIDING A FUND FOR THE PURPOSE AND THE MECHANISMS FOR THE USE THEREOF.**

ARTICLE 1. Statement of Policy.

The local government of Bacolod City hereby recognizes the invaluable, if not heroic, services rendered by frontline workers of the barangays, protecting people and property, providing for their most basic health and nutrition needs, and attending to the welfare and well-being of the citizens. Among said workers are our barangay tanods, barangay health workers and nutrition scholars, and other barangay-based workers of the city.

It is hereby declared the policy of the local government of Bacolod City that they shall be afforded the most essential protection and an incentive program in recognition of such services.

ARTICLE 2. DEFINITION OF TERMS.

Barangay workers, for purposes of this Ordinance, shall refer to barangay-based workers, receiving allowances or honoraria either from the City Government or the Barangay unit served, or both, assisting the barangay and the City Government in the effective and efficient delivery of basic services to the grassroots level. They shall include the following:

- (a) **Barangay Health Worker (BHW)** - refers to a person who has undergone training programs under any accredited government or non-government organization and who voluntarily renders primary health care services in the community after having been accredited to function as such by the City's Health Board (LHB) in accordance with the guidelines promulgated by the Department of Health (DOH) and City Ordinance No. 280, Series of 2001.
- (b) **Barangay Nutrition Scholars** - under P. D. 1569 is a barangay-based volunteer worker responsible for data-gathering on, and delivering nutrition intervention services and other related activities such as community health, backyard food production, environmental sanitation, culture, mental feeding, and family planning to the barangay.
- (c) **Barangay Tanods** - community guards employed and deployed by the Barangays per authority of the Local Government Code, numbering not more than twenty (20) per barangay
- (d) **Other barangay workers** - includes other workers of the barangays performing regular works of service for the barangay such as drivers, garbage collectors, utility men, etc.

ARTICLE 3. BENEFITS UNDER THIS ORDINANCE.

The benefits provided under this ordinance are the following:

1. **Philhealth coverage** under RA 7875, Philhealth Circular No. 08 Series of 2003 dated February 03, 2003, DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2002-66 dated April 24, 2002, and other related issuances of the national of the government;
2. **Scholarship benefits** under the scholarship program of the city.

Under this, the oversight committee, in coordination with the Scholarship Committee of the City, shall draw up a criteria for the availment by the barangay workers of the City scholarship program for their children and/or dependents,

3. **Legal assistance** for work-related cases

All work-related cases involving barangay workers shall be handled by the City Legal Office.

4. **Nominations, Awards and Commendations**

Nomination by the City to existing awards or citations program of the government such as the Presidential or Lingkod Bayan Award, Outstanding Public Officials or Employees Award or the "Dangal ng Bayan Award, the Civil Service Commission or "Pag-asa Award", and other similar awards given by the national and/or local government pursuant to pertinent rules and regulations.

5. **Other benefits** not included in this ordinance but which shall subsequently be determined as desirable or needful shall be added either by amendment of this ordinance or enactment of new legislative measures to that effect, as may be proposed by the Oversight Committee and approved by the Sangguniang Panlungsod.

ARTICLE 4. OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.

In order to oversee the implementation of the intents and objectives of this ordinance, there is hereby created an OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE, composed as follows:

- Chair : City Mayor, or her authorized representative
- Vice-Chair : SP Representative chosen by the SP
- Members : ABC (or Liga ng mga Barangay) President
President, Federation of Barangay Tanods
President, Federation of Barangay Nutrition Scholars
President, Federation of Barangay Health Workers
City Health Office
Representative of the Philhealth
Representative of the Civil Service Commission in
Bacolod City

ARTICLE 5. POWERS, FUNCTIONS, AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.

Section 1. The Oversight Committee shall have the following powers, functions, and duties:

1. Compile a list of bonafide, recognized barangay tanods at a maximum of twenty (20) per barangay, and such number and names of barangay nutrition scholars and barangay health workers for each barangay for coverage of benefits under this ordinance, and submit the same to the Sangguniang Panlungsod for approval, provided that, in the case of Barangay Health Workers, they shall have been duly accredited and registered with the City Health Office, and shall have rendered service of at least one year;

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- It shall also consider other barangay workers not classified as above but who may be deserving of said coverage, depending on available funds of the City.
2. Determine which of the barangays are most in need of the protection and programs provided herein, and prioritize their recommendation as first to be assisted;
 3. Negotiate with the Philhealth and/or other government offices or agencies providing health and/or other insurance under the best possible terms and conditions, getting therein the names of the recommended barangay workers sought to be covered, the premiums to be paid therefor, and the benefits to be guaranteed, and recommend the same to the Sangguniang Panlungsod for final approval and release of the pertinent funds;
 4. Evaluate from among the recipients as to who among them might be nominated by the City to the Presidential or Lingkod Bayan Award, Outstanding Public Officials or Employees Award or the "Dangal ng Bayan Award, the Civil Service Commission or "Pag-asa Award", and other similar awards given by the national government pursuant to pertinent rules and regulations;

Or, recommend to the Sangguniang Panlungsod the grant of local awards or commendations, to be called the "Bulawanon nga Servisyo" Award, which shall be given upon approval by the Sangguniang Panlungsod.
 5. Assist the barangay workers enjoy and/or avail of the benefits provided for in this Ordinance.

The recommendations of the Committee shall be passed by the same after majority of its members voting thereon, a simple majority being present, provided that due notice has been given to all members, which recommendations shall be effective upon approval by the Sangguniang Panlungsod.

ARTICLE 6. FUNDS

For purposes of this ordinance, there is hereby created a SPECIAL TRUST FUND in the initial amount of ONE MILLION PESOS (P1M), to be taken from the general fund, and which shall be used for defrayment of the cost of insurance coverage by the Philhealth and/or other such similar programs of the government, as well as provide annual cash awards, incentive, or assistance as may be recommended by the Oversight Committee, as well as other purposes salient to the objectives of this ordinance, subject to the approval by the Sangguniang Panlungsod.

This amount shall be replenished annually in the annual budget, and shall be augmented as the need for it shall arise.

ARTICLE 7. DISCLAIMER CLAUSE.

Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to diminish any benefit or incentive already given by any other program or law of the national or local government under the pertinent rules and regulations.

ARTICLE 8. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval and after publication as required or allowed by law.

CARRIED BY THE VOTE OF:

Affirmative:

Councilors: Archie S. Baribar, Roberto M. Rojas, Jude Thaddeus A. Sayson, Ana Marie V. Palermo, Celia Matea R. Flor, Jose H. Gabuat, Lyndon P. Caña, Bobbie S. Lucasan, Greg G. Gasataya, Reynold I. Iledan, Sonya M. Verdeflor.

Negative : None.

Official Leave : Councilor Arturo V. Parreño.

Absent : Councilor Marx Louie S. de la Rosa.

Author : Councilor Lyndon P. Caña.

Co-Author : Councilors Archie S. Baribar, Roberto M. Rojas, Ana Marie V. Palermo, Jose H. Gabuat, Greg G. Gasataya and Arturo V. Parreño.

Passed : August 27, 2003 (Special Session).

Comments: Passed.
Councilor Elmer T. Sy was out of the session hall when this ordinance was passed.

RAMIRO L. GARCIA, JR.

Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

9/3/03

ATTESTED.

ATTY. NILO T. ALEJANDRINO

Secretary to the Sanggunian

APPROVED: September 5, 2003

LUZVIMINDA S. VALDEZ

City Mayor

9/4/03