

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD
LUNGSOD NG BAKOLOD

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CITY ORDINANCE NO. 585

March 21, 2012

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH HOME VISITING PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 12 of the Philippine Constitution mandates the equal protection of the life of the mother and the life of the unborn from conception;

WHEREAS, Section 16 of Republic Act 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code provides that every local government within their respective jurisdictions shall ensure and promote health and safety and preserve the comfort and convenience of the inhabitants;

WHEREAS, teenage pregnancy remains one of the most difficult and far-reaching problems in our society;

WHEREAS, according to the 2002 Young Adult Fertility and Sexuality Study by the University of the Philippines Population Institute (UPPI) and the Demographic Research and Development Foundation, twenty percent (26%) of our Filipino youth nationwide from ages 15 to 25 admitted to having a premarital sex experience and that thirty eight percent (38%) of our youth are already in a live-in arrangement;

WHEREAS, the National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) report released by the National Statistic Office (NSO) on January 14, 2010 reveals that among women aged 15-19, thirty-one percent (31%) of births were unplanned, of which, twenty-one percent (21%) were unwanted;

WHEREAS, teenage mothers are exposed to the risk of malnutrition who tend to have poor eating habits and are less likely to take recommended daily multivitamins to maintain adequate nutrition during pregnancy; and worst, they are also more likely to smoke, drink or take drugs during pregnancy, which can cause health problems for the baby;

WHEREAS, according to the American Medical Association, babies born to women who do not have regular prenatal care are four (4) times more likely to die before the age of one (1) year because teenage mothers are less likely to seek regular prenatal and postnatal care which are essential for monitoring the growth of the fetus, keeping the mother's weight in check and advising the mother on nutrition and how she should take care of herself to ensure a healthy pregnancy;

WHEREAS, statistics of the Department of Health show that fetal deaths are more likely to happen to young mothers, and that babies born by them are likely to have low birth weight;

WHEREAS, teenage mothers have the risk of acquiring Human Papilloma virus (HPV) a sexually-transmitted, wart-forming virus that has been implicated in causing cancer of the cervix and women who are at increased risk for acquiring this are those who engage in sex before 18, have a pregnancy at or younger than 18, or have had at least 5 sexual partners;

WHEREAS, the United Nations Millennium Development Goals actively promote gender equality, reduction of child mortality and the improvement of maternal health in order to end extreme world poverty by 2015;

WHEREAS, this measure seeks to enable pregnant young women to obtain proper maternal health care and help them with the proper care and nourishment of their children thereby reducing the incidence of child mortality;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Bacolod City, in a regular session assembled, that:

Section 1. Title. This Ordinance shall be known as the "Maternal and Infant Care Ordinance."

Section 2. Declaration of Policy – It is hereby declared the policy of the City of Bacolod to ensure the protection and safety of both the life of the mother and the unborn. With this affirmation in delivering basic services, there is hereby a pre-natal and post natal-maternity care services in the different homes of pregnant women in Bacolod City in order to protect their health as well as the future health and well-being of their newborn children.

Section 3. Scope – This ordinance shall be applicable to all qualified beneficiaries within the definition of the terms referred to herein, concerned departments of the city government and all public and private juridical persons in the city.

Section 4. Definition of Terms.

a. Beneficiary – refers to the qualified beneficiaries under Section 5.

b. CHO – refers to City Health Office



- c. **Low Income** – means, with respect to an individual or family with an income determined to be below the income official poverty line defined by the Department of Budget and Management and the Department of Social Welfare and Development.
- d. **Medical Officer** – shall refer to the doctor assigned at the Maternal and Child Health Program under the City Health Office as designated by the City Health Officer.

Section 5. Qualified Beneficiaries – for purposes of this ordinance, the following shall be the beneficiaries of the Maternal and Infant Care services:

- (A) A pregnant woman falling under the low income bracket, not more than twenty-one (21) years old;
- (B) Families falling under the low income bracket with an infant up to the age of one (1) year old;

Section 6. Establishment of a Maternal and Infant Health Home Visiting Program – The City Health Office (CHO) shall require barangay health centers to designate the respective nurse or midwife assigned, under the Supervision of the medical officer, to deliver maternal and child-health services in the home of eligible individuals.

Every barangay health center shall maintain a case record on the data gathered involving maternal and child cases. The City Health Office shall prepare an annual report on the progress of the implementation of this Ordinance and shall furnish the Sangguniang Panlungsod a copy of the same.

Section 7. Maternal and Infant Health Home Visiting Services – The following services may be provided in the home to qualified beneficiaries:

- A. Instruction and counseling regarding health care for the woman and her child.
 - B. Counseling and health teaching concerning all aspects of prenatal and postnatal care, childbirth and motherhood, including infant nutrition and breastfeeding.
 - C. General family counseling, including child and family development and responsible parenthood.
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D. Referral to the City Health Office, Government Health Institutions or a private doctor for further maternal and infant health management.

Section 8. Prohibition on Abortion – The maternal and health services provided herein shall not include the advocacy, promotion, or encouragement of abortion or similar illegal acts.

Section 9. Funding for Seminars, Training and Materials – The amount of One Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php100,000.00) shall be earmarked annually from the general budget of the city for the conduct of trainings and seminars of health personnel and the production of maternal and infant health related materials in Hiligaynon to be disseminated to qualified beneficiaries.

Section 10. Separability Clause. If for any reason, any provision, section or part of this ordinance is declared not valid by a court of competent jurisdiction or suspended or revoked such judgment shall not affect or impair the remaining provisions, sections or parts thereof, which shall remain or continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 11. Repealing Clause. All ordinances, local rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

Section 12. Effectivity Clause. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval.

CARRIED BY THE VOTE OF:

Affirmative:

Councilors : El Cid M. Familiaran, Homer Q. Bais, Archie S. Baribar, Roberto M. Rojas, Em L. Ang, Elmer T. Sy, Sonya M. Verdeflor, , Caesar Z. Distrito, Mona Dia G. Jardin.

Negative : N o n e .

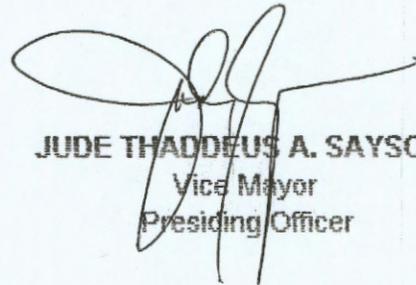
Official Leave: Councilors Catalino T. Alisbo, Carlos Jose V. Lopez and Keith Emmanuel L. Ramos.

Official Travel: Councilor Al Victor A. Espino.

Absent : Councilor Dindo C. Ramos.



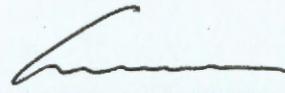
Main Author : Councilor Em L. Ang.
Co-Author : Councilor Roberto M. Rojas.
Passed : March 21, 2012 (90th Regular Session)
Comments: Passed.


JUDE THADDEUS A. SAYSON
Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:


HELEN P. LEGASPI
Board Secretary IV
OIC, Secretary to the Sanggunian

APPROVED: March 30, 2012.


EVELIO R. LEONARDIA
City Mayor 

HPL/jbz

SP
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES SECTION
DATE 4/10/12 TIME 11:40AM
BY: Janor