Republika Ng Pilipinas
TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD
Lungsod ng Bacolod

CITY ORDINANCE NO. 1116
December 16, 2025

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY OF EVERY YEAR AS THE 'BACOLOD CITY DENTAL HEALTH MONTH' IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD IN LINE WITH THE NATIONWIDE OBSERVANCE OF NATIONAL DENTAL HEALTH MONTH HELD ANNUALLY IN FEBRUARY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Section 15 of Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, Article XV, Section 3 (2) of the same Constitution provides that, "The State shall defend the right of children to assistance, including proper care and nutrition, and special protection from all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty, exploitation, and other conditions prejudicial to their development;

WHEREAS, Presidential Proclamation No. 559, series of 2004, declares the month of February of every year as "National Dental Health Month" which strengthen the period as stated in Proclamation No. 235, dated January 24, 1951 from February 3 to 9 to a one (1) month period to make it more significant to reach out more people especially in the countryside and make them more conscious about the value of good oral/dental health;

WHEREAS, in the World Health Organization (WHO) Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly in 2021 approved a Resolution on oral health that recommends a shift from the traditional curative approach towards a preventive approach that includes promotion of oral health within the family, schools, and workplaces, and includes timely, comprehensive, and inclusive care within the primary health-care system, and also affirms that oral health care shall be included in health coverage benefits;

WHEREAS, on November 26-29, 2024, the first-ever World Health Organization (WHO) Global Oral Health Meeting took place in Bangkok, Thailand, reiterates Member States' commitment to the landmark 2021 resolution on oral health and declared, "No health without oral health", elevating oral diseases as a global health priority:

WHEREAS, the Local Government Code of 1991 mandates local government units to exercise powers and discharge functions and responsibilities that are necessary, appropriate, or incidental for the efficient and effective provision of the basic services and facilities;

WHEREAS, the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Bacolod enacted its City Ordinance No. 1014, Series of 2022, otherwise known as "Bacolod City Comprehensive Health Program" (BacCHP), that shall support the implementation of an annual health check-up and regular distribution of free maintenance medicines in conjunction with the City Health Office (CHO) through the preventive healthcare program of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth);

WHEREAS, PhilHealth Circular No. 2024-0034 enables financial access of PhilHealth beneficiaries registered to a PhilHealth Konsulta Package provider (KPP) to essential oral health services in primary care oral health/dental clinics, and Department of Health (DOH)-licensed facilities have the capacity and intent to provide dental services;

WHEREAS, there is a need to institutionalize different programs, projects, and activities that shall address the oral health problems and oral health services, and to maximize the BacCHP program of the City to support the Philippines Vision for 70/20, ensuring that Filipinos have at least 20 teeth by age 70;

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

SECTION 1. TITLE - This Ordinance shall be known as the "BACOLOD CITY DENTAL HEALTH MONTH CELEBRATION" Ordinance.

SECTION 2. PURPOSE - The purposes of this Ordinance are:

1. To promote good dental health, prevent dental caries (tooth decay) and other dental health problems among children and adults in the City of Bacolod.
2. To conduct annual activities that can effectively arouse consciousness among people to promote oral health by providing programs and activities, training, and support through Bacolod City Health Office (CHO)-Dental Division and other agencies.
3. Appropriating sufficient funds for the City Health Office (CHO) Dental Health Division for the Bacolod City annual celebration of Dental Health Month.

SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS - As used in this Ordinance, the following terms shall mean:

A. Oral/Dental Health - refers to a state of being free from chronic mouth and facial pain, oral and throat cancer, oral sores, a birth defects such as cleft lip and palate and enables an individual to perform essential functions such as eating, breathing, and speaking, and encompasses psychosocial dimensions such as self-confidence, well-being, and the ability to socialize and work without pain, discomfort, and embarrassment.
B. Dental Care - concerns the health of teeth and gums. Dental care is part of oral health care.
C. BCDHM - Bacolod City Dental Health Month
D. Dental Caries- refers to the scientific term for tooth decay. It refers to cavity formation in teeth caused by bacteria that attach to teeth and form acids in the presence of sucrose, other sugars, and refined starches.
E. Primary Oral Health/Dental Health Clinic - refers to health facilities that provide dental consultation, prevention, promotion, and basic curative primary oral/dental care services. They practice referral systems with PhilHealth Konsulta Package Providers (KPs) and other health care providers for the promotion and maintenance of health, and prevention of disease among PhilHealth beneficiaries in their catchment population.
F. Pit and Fissure Sealants Application - is the application of dental materials called sealants on occlusal surfaces of primary and permanent molars to prevent dental caries.

G. Participation of the National Health Insurance Program- is a process whereby a health care provider commits to providing quality health care services to the program members and their dependents as stated in its performance commitment. In return, It shall receive payment from PhilHealth for services provided. (IRR of R.A. No. 7875 as amended by R.A. Nos. 9241, 10606. Section 3.mm) as defined in PhilHealth Circular No. 2024-0034
H. Bacolod City Comprehensive Health Program (BacCHP) Beneficiary/member - refers to a person who is a holder of a valid BacCHP Card and initially assessed at his/her barangay by the authorized health center personnel.
I. Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) Beneficiary/member- as principal or dependent with updated premium payments as required by PhilHealth, and had submitted the required documents for the program. To use PhilHealth at dental clinic, find an accredited facility (often the Konsulta provider or an affiliate) by presenting the PhilHealth ID/MDR, and the clinic directly deducts the covered amount (around P1,000/year for basics like cleaning, exams, sealants, extractions) from the bill, with the paying any balance.

SECTION 4. CELEBRATION OF "BACOLOD CITY DENTAL HEALTH MONTH" - The Local Government Unit and all its subdivisions, together with all 61 barangays, as well as government agencies within the city, are required to celebrate and participate in the observance of the National Dental Health Month through the Bacolod City Dental Health Month Celebration in consonance with the annual theme, programs and activities, and to appropriate funds therefor;

Relative to this, all agencies concerned are hereby enjoined to conduct community-based and school-based programs in partnership with Primary Oral Health/Dental Health Clinic with the help of CHO-Dental Division and/or of 61 barangays identified satellite clinic for Dental Services and Dentures, seminars, symposia, lectures, and other activities designed to increase oral health awareness in the community with organization, agencies or institutions advocating dental health.

SECTION 5. COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAM- the city may hold a community-based program that includes patients with diverse families, as well as the elderly, homeless children and adults, persons with disability (PWD), HIV Positive, and indigent families, including nutrition assistance and educational sessions.

SECTION 6. SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAM - the city, in cognizance with the Department of Education Comprehensive Oral Health Program (DepEd Order No. 03, s.2019), may help improve oral hygiene knowledge and practice of learners on dental health care by providing health care programs from kindergarten, especially through Barangay Day Care Centers, until reaching Grade 12 in all public schools and all DepEd personnel in schools and officers in Bacolod.

Intensifying advocacy among schools, parents, and administrators by implementing policies focused on sustaining positive oral health habits among learners.

SECTION 7. PROGRAMS DURING THE CELEBRATION – Through the City Health Office (CHO)-Dental Health Division as the Lead Agency, the city may conduct dental health care and dental health services subject to existing laws, rules, and regulations (e.g. Universal Health Care Act - Republic Act (R.A.) No. 11223; PhilHealth Circular No. 2024-034 or the PhilHealth

Benefit for Preventive Oral Health Services in Primary Care, DepEd Order No. 03, S. 2019) to wit;

1. Dental Services- programs, among others, are Dental extraction and follow-up dental treatment, basic or emergency dental treatment to restore or heal damaged teeth or tissues, comprehensive care with access to oral specialty services (e.g., oral surgery, orthodontics, etc.), toothbrushing activities, scaling and polishing (Oral Prophylaxis) (preventive and Curative), and free pit and fissure sealant program with children with permanent molar teeth.

   Free pit and fissure sealant program with children with permanent molar teeth may be conducted through community-based at the CHO Barangay Dental Satellite Clinics and/or A school-based program in partnership with the Department of Education (DepEd), where the preferred beneficiaries are K-12 students, Special Education (SPED) students that can accommodate their individual differences, disabilities, and special needs, and learners in the Alternative Learning System (ALS).

2. Free Denture Initiative- "Balik-Ngiti Program", "Libreng Pustiso", Dental laboratory services like denture relines or repairs, and the like.

3. Preventive Services- giving education on oral care, risk and nutrition assessment, oral screening, and the like.

4. Referrals to clinical services and counseling through enrolling in any other health care assistance identified by the city.

5. Upgrading the competencies of dental personnel through continuing professional development through local and international training relevant to the needs of the dental services and care, warranting the integrity, accuracy, and accessibility of oral health records and reports, and the dental practice itself.

6. Maximize opportunities for enhancing implementation of the oral health program through close collaboration with various partners and stakeholders, including other government agencies, organizations, and local government units (LGUs), other institutions, communities, and families.

7. Correct oral health and hygiene practices, oral health nutrition, oral health problems which may be due to unhealthy behaviors related to diet, hygiene, nutrition, smoking, and excessive alcohol consumption.

8. The services that met DOH standardS, open for frequent feedback from patients. An infection prevention program for oral screenings and clinical services that meets DOH standards.

9. Use of new technologies such as telehealth, electronic records, and other wellness and disease management tools.

10. Any other programs and activities that the city may find necessary and appropriate for the celebration of the Bacolod City Dental Health Month.

SECTION 8. PROGRAM MONITORING AND REPORTING- The city should create a database for the community-based oral health programs and a list serve to share relevant information. Comprehensive evaluation plan that measures effectiveness and quality of the services as well as client/patient and staff satisfaction.

The CHO-Dental Division shall maintain a master list of beneficiaries and the program availed of for monitoring and evaluation purposes

SECTION 9. BACOLOD CITY COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH PROGRAM (BacCHP) DENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM - In the event that the member/beneficiary requires additional laboratory test not covered by PhilHealth's Primary Care Benefit Program, the BacCHP shall assist the member/beneficiary to obtain the additional laboratory test at any government or private health care provider.

SECTION 10. BUDGET ALLOCATION. For the celebration of Bacolod City Dental Health Month, the amount of Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php500,000.00) is hereby immediately appropriated upon the approval of this ordinance and every year thereafter.

SECTION 11. LEAD GOVERNMENT AGENCY - The City Health Office (CHO), particularly the Dental Division, shall spearhead the celebration with the assistance of Barangay Health Centers/Stations of the 61 Barangays and other relevant agencies.

SECTION 12. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE - Any provision or portion of this ordinance found to be violative of the constitution or invalid shall not impair the other provisions or parts thereof that shall continue to be in force and in effect.

SECTION 13. REPEALING CLAUSE - All ordinances, rules, and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed, amended, and/or modified accordingly.

SECTION 14. EFFECTIVITY - This ordinance shall take effect upon its approval and after publication in a newspaper of local circulation.

CARRIED BY THE VOTE OF:

Affirmative:

Councilors : Caesar Z. Distrito, Israel P. Salanga, Em L. Ang, Jude Thaddeus A. Sayson, Celia Matea R. Flor, Dindo C. Ramos, Wilson C. Gamboa, Jr., Psyche Marie E. Sy, Homer Q. Bais, Danna Marie C. Barzo.

Official Travel : None.

Official Leave : Councilors Jason Isidro S. Villarosa and Lady Gles Gonzales-Pallen.

Main Author : Councilor Wilson C. Gamboa, Jr.

Co-Authors : Councilors Caesar Z. Distrito, Psyche Marie E. Sy and Lady Gles Gonzales-Pallen.

Passed : December 16, 2025 (25th Regular Session of the 12th Council).

Comments : P a s s e d .

- - - - -

CLAUDIO JESUS RAYMUNDO A. PUENTEVELLA
Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:

ATTY. VICENTE C. PETIERRE III
Secretary to the Sanggunian

APPROVED: _____

GREG G. GASATAYA
City Mayor

VCP/CGT/llt

10 DAYS LAPSED
AS OF 06 JAN 2026

SP LEGISLATIVE
SERVICES SECTION
DATE: 01/06/2026 TIME: 9:15am