R12 BEST PRACTICES IN DEALING WITH COVID-19 CRISIS



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
SOCCSKSARGEN



SARANGANI PROVINCE

LGU: Malungon

ON HELPING THE LOCAL FARMERS AND ENSURING NUTRITION OF THE PEOPLE AMIDST THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The Local Government Unit of Malungon has been steadfast in its efforts to contain, control and protect the people from the on-going COVID-19



pandemic. Upholding the welfare of the people is one of the top priorities of the local government in all its undertakings to overcome the challenges, issues and concerns brought about by this global health crisis. We strive and work hard to be able to live in a community where the people are protected and capacitated to overcome the threats of health problems such as viruses and diseases.

The only land-locked municipality in Sarangani Province, the major means of livelihood and other

economic activities of the

people in Malungon rely on agriculture. Hence, one of the sectors heavily affected by the community quarantines and lockdowns as a preventive measure to combat the virus are our local farmers, particularly those who are in the upland communities. The people, on the other hand, have to secure adequate supply of vegetables and fruits in their tables as basic consumption and ensure the family members' health and nutrition to protect them from getting infected with the deadly COVID-19. Both the farmers and consumers are also negatively affected due to some restrictions and limitations imposed on transport and mobility.

LGU Malungon thru the Municipal COVID-19 Task Force under the leadership of the Municipal Mayor Atty. Maria Theresa D. Constantino in partnership with the barangay officials and concerned agencies immediately acted on it in order to prevent the dilemma from escalating. One of the best practices of the



local government that has continuously played an important role to this endeavour is basically anchored on unity and cooperation between the local government, people and stakeholders.



To provide relief to the local farmers and consumers, the local government thru the Market Supervisor checked and recorded the varieties and volume of vegetables and fruits regularly sold in the public markets of the barangays. This became the basis in what and how much agricultural produce were picked up from the farms in upland communities and transported to the common "bagsakan" identified by the municipal government to be assorted and delivered to the barangays. Then, the barangay officials were tapped as partners to help facilitate in the mobilization of these agricultural

produce from the pick-up point to the markets in the barangays.

However, there was still a problem on the tons of excess harvest of vegetables and fruits which are bound to rot and waste if not sold in the market. Thus, the idea of a mobile palengke which is also done in several local government units in the country in order to provide means for the people to buy products without the need to go to the market, prevent them from violating the community quarantine protocols and protect them from the risks of getting infected with the virus. As for the Municipality of Malungon's version of mobile palengke, Gulay-On-The-Go was established.

"Gulay-On-The-Go: From Malungon Farm To Your Table Mobile Palengke" is a personal initiative of Ms. Almin T. Abejaron, a resident of Barangay Nagpan, Malungon, Sarangani Province in which the orders are placed thru an online selling platform and being delivered right at the doorstep of the customers. This is in order to help fill the gap between the farmers and the consumers in Malungon. The farmers are struggling with tons of agri-products which may rot after harvest due to limitations of delivery in all "bagsakan" and decline of prospective



major businesses/traders. Consumers, on the other hand, have limited access to the farmers' produce due to limited mobility caused by the indefinite community quarantine. The founder felt the need to venture into this concept because of her high respect and concern to our farmers for our food supply. She thinks that there is also enough agricultural produce in the region by

bridging access to logistics. It is an act of "bayanihan" by supporting local products; we also support our local farmers from the uplands.

Since this initiative was started, 10,250 kilos of assorted vegetables and fruits have been delivered to more than 500 families helping more than 200



farmers. 1,200 kilos of vegetable and fruits were also donated for the consumption of the frontliners and indigents.

These initiatives and innovation involving the unity, cooperation and participation of the concerned entities and individuals have contributed in so many ways as the municipality is continuously battling the COVID-19 pandemic. These, along with the other programs, interventions and practices have greatly helped Malungon and even Sarangani Province in sustaining its status as a COVID-19 Free community.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION OF HEALTH WORKERS AND FRONTLINERS IN LGU MALUNGON AMIDST COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The Local Government Unit of Malungon has been steadfast in its efforts to contain, control and protect the people from the on-going COVID-19

pandemic. Upholding the welfare of the people is one of the top priorities of the local government in all its undertakings to overcome the challenges, issues and concerns brought about by this global health crisis. We strive and work hard to be able to live in a community where the people are protected and capacitated to overcome the threats of health problems such as viruses and diseases.



The most essential and capacitated partners of the government in dealing with the pandemic are the brave health workers and volunteers who comprise what we call as our frontliners. They are those who tirelessly man the checkpoints and borders and work all the time in the hospitals, quarantine



facilities and isolation centers to take care of the COVID-19 positive patients, Persons Under Investigation (PUIs) and Persons Under Monitoring (PUMs) among other patients and clients in need of medical attention. However, they are among the most vulnerable individuals who are always exposed and at risk of contracting the deadly virus. They are also burdened by the fear of the possibility of infecting

their family members when they interact with them whenever they are at home. Sadly, they as well became targets and victims of discrimination by the people in the communities with the assumption that the frontliners might be the ones who will infect them with the virus.

Hence, in keeping with the need to promote and protect public health, public interest, public safety and the welfare of the constituents and recognizing the clear and present dangers posed by the pandemic, Community Quarantine was implemented. The commuting health workers and frontliners were provided by the local government the mobility with the use of the Municipal Bus. With the imposition of the Regional Enhanced Community Quarantine and Regional Lockdown of Region XII, it was observed that there is a need for the commuting health workers and frontliners to be accommodated in the municipality to contain all the workers together with the residents within the community and in order to avoid acts of discrimination and social stigma.

Malungon Municipal COVID-19 Task Force under the leadership of the Municipal Mayor Atty. Theresa Maria D. Constantino in partnership with the concerned offices immediately acted on it by issuing on April 6, 2020 the Executive Order 23A, an order directing the establishment temporary



accommodation of health workers and frontliners in the Municipality of Malungon.

Pursuant to this order addressing their need relative to their living quarters or accommodation closer to their work stations and contain them within the community, the Malungon Sports and Youth Hall was identified and used for



the said purpose. Upon the recommendation of the members of the Municipal COVID-19 Task Force, two additional facilities, the Malungon Women and Children Protection Center (WCPC) and Sunken Arena Covered Court were added to be also utilized and are now being prepared to be converted as temporary accommodations. The Malungon Sports and Youth Hall is currently

utilized as the living quarters of the health workers, Malungon WCPC will be used by the social workers and the Sunken Arena Covered Court for the quick response team and rescue volunteers.

In the transition of these facilities as temporary shelters, the Municipal Administrator and COVID-19 Incident Commander together with the General Services Officer were tasked for the procurement of basic necessities such as mattresses/bedding and pillows, installation of additional air conditioning units, kitchen utensils and other essentials. Municipal Engineer was directed to institute and plan repairs, perimeter and safety measures as enclosure or back fencing, facilitate the necessary works, partitioning and installation or repair of additional toilet and bath with accessories. On the other hand, the health workers and frontliners who are staying in the said facilities were advised to limit unwarranted or non-essential travels to and from places of residence outside

of the municipality unless absolutely necessary and to stay within the contained area in observance of the community quarantine.

This initiative as one of the best practices of the local government that has continuously played an important role in this undertaking is basically anchored on unity,



cooperation, compassion, participation and service with a happy heart of the local government, its people and the stakeholders. In so many ways, this approach has also contributed much as the municipality is continuously battling the COVID-19 pandemic. These, along with the other programs, interventions and practices have greatly helped Malungon and even Sarangani Province in sustaining its status as a COVID-19 Free community.

LGU: Maitum

Nineteen (19) barangays are clustered into two (West and East) and a schedule of 6 am to 12 noon for those barangays in the eastern side to do essential transaction like purchasing of food commodities in the supermarket

of Maitum and 12 noon to 6 pm for western side barangays.one of the stringent measures to prevent people of Maitum from a crowded gathering and social distancing will be strictly imposed. Barangay Officials, the PNP and the Philippine Army with their respective force multipliers are tasked to enforce the preventive measure from mass gathering. The



Mayor also emphasized that Punong Barangays must be prepared always as they will be called frequently for a meeting and updating of the actions undertaken and what actions need to be done in the war against COVID-19.

LGU: Malapatan

The LGU designed and reproduced COVID-19 IEC materials written in the local dialect as one of preventive measures in the fight against COVID-19.



LGU: Kiamba

Distributed half sack of rice per household instead of the small amounts to help sustain the food needs of the constituents in long term.





<mark>LGU: Alabel</mark>

Purchased various vegetable seedlings through the office of the municipal agriculturist, bought the vegetables produce from the same local farmers who are recipient of the seedlings and distributed as the relief goods for the entire community.





Hon. Vic Paul Molina Salarda, Municipal Mayor of Alabel, conducts daily facebook live providing updates on the COVID-19 status in the municipality

SOUTH COTABATO PROVINCE

ESTABLISHMENT OF SOUTH COTABATO COVID-19 CENTER

Firmly believing that the collaborative effort of the government and of the private sector promises greater impact and would lead to a more responsive government in addressing the growing concern on COVID crisis, the Provincial Government South Cotabato of Governor headed by the Reynaldo S. Tamayo Jr, established a COVID-19 Center, in partnership with the South Cotabato Medical Society.

The SOCCSKSARGEN General Hospital (formerly the Upper Valley Community Hospital) which served as the COVID-19 center is located in the municipality of



Surallah purposely established to handle patients with suspected severe symptoms of the corona virus in South Cotabato. It officially opened and is declared fully functional and ready to accept referrals for COVID-19 persons under investigation (PUIs) since April 05, 2020.

Chief of the South Cotabato Provincial Hospital (SCPH) Dr. Conrado Braña and Provincial Health Officer Dr. Rogelio Aturdido, Head of the South Cotabato Integrated Provincial Health Office (IPHO) ensured that the hospital is complete with facilities needed for their operation against COVID 19. It is manned by government and private doctors, has an initial capacity of 20

beds, and a complete intensive care unit or ICU setup that can be expanded later on depending on the need and the availability of resources.

With this milestone, the Governor Hon. Reynaldo S. Tamayo Jr., together with all the officials and employees of the Province of South Cotabato expressed his heartfelt thanks to all our modern day heroes, the health workers, South Cotabato Medical Society, doctors, nurses, PNP, BFP, PRDRRMO, midwifes, C/MDRRMOs, private hospitals, volunteers and all its partners for their sacrifices and for all their noble contributions in the fight against this pandemic.

With an eye for a more responsive governance, the establishment of the COVID Center is only one among the many initiatives of the Provincial Government of South Cotabato under the leadership of Hon. Tamayo.



3-Bed Capacity ICUPhoto credits: SOCCSKSSARGEN
General Hospital FB page



DAILY PRESS CONFERENCE

The Provincial Government of South Cotabato conducts daily press conference to provide the South Cotabateños with updates on CoVid, to respond to queries, and to inform the public of new policies issued by the Governor himself including those guidelines issued by the DILG, DOH and other national agencies regarding lockdown, enhanced community quarantine, price freeze, and the like.

This is just one among the PLGU's public awareness initiative to let the people know a) what the government is doing to control, monitor, and resolve

the COVID crisis; b) the efforts of the PLGU and the C/M/BLGUs in providing relief goods to the constituents, and the like.

This strategy further aimed at informing the public of what to do and

should not do, and of encouraging them to be responsible and be cooperative citizens towards the steps taken by the government to prevent the further spread of the virus.

Present during the Press Conference are the members of the IMT, and the Provincial IATF led by Provincial

Governor Reynaldo S. Tamayo Jr.



LGU: City of Koronadal

Mission of the BULIG KONTRA COVID-Koronadal:

- 1) To serve the needs of the frontliners at the different hospitals; checkpoints and the 27 barangays of the City.
- To facilitate the efficient delivery of donations coming from the private sector ensuring proper accounting and transparency amongst its network;
- 3) To coordinate with the local government units and agencies ensuring that the Stay at Home and Social Distancing should be followed in this times of pandemic
- To facilitate all services that the group can provide including moral and spiritual support
- 5) Commit to assist in building a platform where the community will understand all the policies of the local government in relation to the implementation of Enhanced Quarantine; and



6) To assist in planning an effective strategy to sustain the end to end supply chain of the LGU through the business sectors.

CLUSTERING OF BARANGAYS

Thru the issuance of Ordinance No. 9, Series of 2020, the City of Koronadal clustered the 27 barangays into three (3), the Red, Yellow, and Blue.

Each cluster were provided with their corresponding colored movement passed (1 pass per family) and are only allowed to go out twice a week to buy essential goods. Sundays are declared as "no movement day" which meant to all business establishments must be closed and going out of people to



buy goods is not allowed. This initiative which took effect on April 15, 2020 aimed at limiting the number of people buying essential goods at the same time to further the social distancing and hygiene protocol efforts of the LGU but still ensuring that all families will have ample time and opportunity to buy goods and other essentials.

MOBILE PALENGKE

With the aim of bringing market products and other essential to the Koronadaleños especially for those residing in far flung barangays, the City government has established a Mobile Palengke. The mobile palengke visits



barangays following a schedule. This initiative ensures that while the City is on Community Quarantine, the people can still buy essential goods even they are living far from the heart of the City. There is also an ONLINE MOBILE PALENGKE established thru an

http://www.havethisdelivered.com for those who wish to order essential goods online. The orders are delivered directly to houses.



BARANGAY HOTLINES

(BHERTs Hotlines, Barangay Hotline Numbers and TeleKonsulta Hotline)

These communication lines provide the Koronadaleños the opportunity to refer their concerns to the concerned authorities/officials during the COVID crisis.





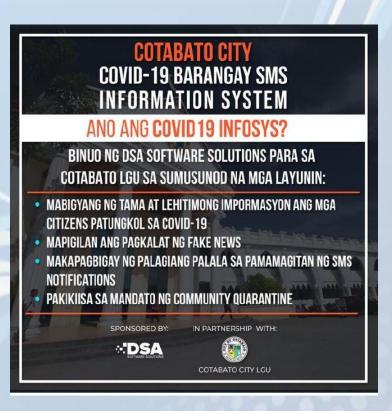
COTABATO CITY

Implementation of the General Barangay Community Quarantine, wherein Barangays are empowered to restrict the non-essential entry and exit of people, especially Senior Citizens, those who are immune compromised or with co-morbidities and pregnant women.

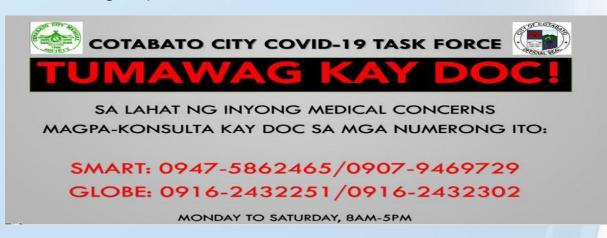




DSA Solutions, a private IT Company in partnership with the City Government the VOCID-19 launched Information SMS Barangay System, where those who are registered in the system will receive official updates and/or information from the Punong Barangay or the Mayor herself.



The City Health Office launched "Tumawag kay Doc" to promote Stay at Home" and "Physical Distancing" policies of the government at the time of COVID-19 pandemic while at the same time serving the health concerns of their residents wherein residents may seek consultation with volunteer multispecialty doctors from the Cotabato City Medical Society (CCMS) regarding their non-emergency medical/health concerns.

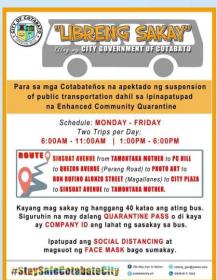


Issuance of Enhanced Quarantine Pass and Enhanced Workers Pass to curb the number of people outside and it resulted to a substantial decrease of people and vehicles in Cotabato City.



LIBRENG SAKAY ALAY NG CITY GOVERNMENT OF COTABATO

LGU Cotabato City partnered with Husky Bus to ferry Cotabateños who do not have access to transpo as they buy their essentials or transact essential business during the ECQ. Only those who have Quarantine Passes were accommodated by the two buses plying the city's main highway.

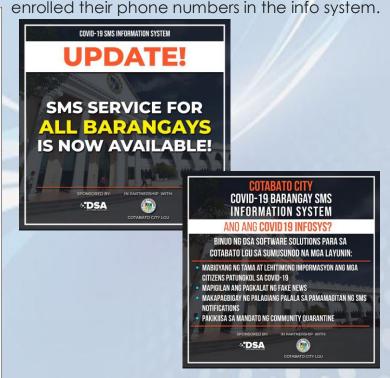




BRGY SMS INFOSYSTEM

LGU Cotabato City partnered with a local infotech company, COVID-19 SMS INFORMATION SYSTEM, to come up with a Brgy SMS InfoSystem. Each Brgy has an SMS Admin who logs in to the system and cascades information thru text messages. This will automatically be sent to all kabranggays who have

Magandang gabi, nailabas na po ang amended executive order patungkol sa guidelines ng General Community Quarantine sa ating lungsod.-BRGY POB1 Ibinalik na po ang oras na naka saad sa quarantine pass, kapag ang oras nyo ay 5am- 10am maari pang makalabas hangang 11 am.-BRGY POB1 Mula 10:01am-3pm maari pang magamit hangang 4pm at ang 3:01pm to 7:59 pm naman ay maari ng lumabas ng 2:00pm. -**BRGY POB1** Sa mga pribadong sasakyan naman po may odd and even plate number scheme. (1,3,5,7,9) - magagit ang sasakyan kapag Monday, Wednesday at friday.-BRGY POB1 Ang plakang nagtatapos naman sa even numbers(2,4,6,8,0)ay maaring lumabas tuwing, tuesday, Thursday at Saturday. No



movement day naman kapag Sunday-BRGY

LGU – COTABATO CITY'S COMPOSITE QUARANTINE TEAM (CQT)

To monitor and ensure strictest implementation of both Enhanced Community Quarantine and General Community in the City, a Composite Quarantine Team was organized. Composed of members from the PNP, CIDG, City Public Safety Office, City Traffic Management Center, City Tourism Office, City Health, CDRRMO and Guardians ERT Volunteer Group, this team started operating last March 23, 2020.



Tasks include checking of Quarantine and Working Passes, adherence to



community quarantine and social distancing, submission of residents to ECQ and GCQ rules and regulations and monitoring of business establishments and its clientele. The CQT operates daily in two teams – one team takes charge of public transportation, residents and non-residents plying the city streets, traffic control, using of passes while the other team takes

charge of the operations of business establishments amidst COVID19 pandemic.

ON LINE GROCERY OF SOUTHSEAS AND SUPERAMA

LGU Cotabato City partnered with two of its biggest supermarkets in the city to come up with the ON LINE MARKET scheme. This is in relation with our efforts to safeguard Cotabateños from COVID19, strengthen our PHYSICAL DISTANCING advocacy and to encourage them to stay at home. On line grocery aims to bring your grocery shopping right at every household's doorstep.



PROVINCE OF COTABATO

LGU: Kidapawan City

"MAGPUYO SA BALAY, MANANOM OG GULAY" CONTEST



Roughly translated as "Stay at Home, Plant your Vegetables" the term was coined by Actina Citv Agriculturist Marissa T. Aton. It started out as a City Government initiated program to encourage Kidapaweños to stay at home by tending to their vegetable gardens, thereby attaining two crucial objectives during the imposition of a community quarantine in Kidapawan City: (1) reduce the movement of outside of their persons residences; boost and (2) local food sufficiency and

production by providing a ready source of food for residents of Kidapawan City in times of need.

The initial phase of the program consisted in the free distribution of high quality vegetable seeds to residents of Kidapawan City. The program was well-accepted by the public considering that more than two thousand (2,000) beneficiaries voluntarily visited the City Agriculturist Office to obtain the seeds. Robust information dissemination campaign was also conducted thru social media platform and teleradyo.



The next challenge was to ensure that the seeds that were obtained by the general public would translate to actual planting, adequate yield and productive harvesting.

With the input of City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officer (CDRRMO) Psalmer S. Bernalte and Acting City Information Officer Atty. Jose

Paolo M. Evanaelista, the contest was later conceptualized as veaetable gardening contest wherein participants would obtain seeds from the Office of the City Agriculturist and plant the same in manner that would productive and aestheticallypleasing. The winners would be announced during the daily teleradyo program sponsored by the City Government, COanchored by both the CDRRM Officer and City Information Officer. The following guidelines were formed and were also disseminated through

GUIDELINES

- 1. All entries must be vegetables grown from the seeds distributed by the Office of the City Agriculturist.
- 2. Entries will be in the form of photos taken by the vegetable gardener of 1 photo of each kind ampalaya, kalabasa, okra, talong, sitaw. Send your photos through private message in Facebook to the City Government of Kidapawan Facebook page as your entry with the following details: NAME, ADDRESS AND CONTACT NUMBER. Submit your photos not later than 3pm of the day before the day of judging. For example, if you want to compete for Monday, the photograph must be submitted on or before 3pm of Sunday. If you submit your photo after 3pm of Sunday, it will be considered as an entry for Tuesday.
- 3. There will be one daily winner for each day of the week from Monday to Friday. To give chance to others, the daily winner cannot win again within the same week. A vegetable garden that did not win can be re submitted after a week showing the changes of its vegetables.
- 4. A weekly winner shall be selected from all daily winners.
- 5. Daily winners and weekly winners will receive cash prize.
- 6. During the fourth week, all winning entries from the daily winners shall re-submit a new photograph showing the development of their vegetable garden. All entries will be judged to determine a monthly winner, who will receive cash prize and plaque of recognition.
- 7. Championship will be adjudged by the Office of the City Agriculturist through personal visitation.



social media and teleradyo platforms.

For added motivation, cash prizes will be awarded to daily winners (Php500.00), weekly winners (Php1,000.00) and monthly winners (Php5,0000.00). All winners will be selected by the Office of the City Agriculturist through proper ranking based on the collective judgment of a panel of four (4) judges, and approved by the City Agriculturist. To involve the private sector, cash prizes will not be sourced from any government fund, but from private sponsors particularly from Kidapaweño OFWs and business owners. To date, five (5) daily winners have already been awarded with cash prizes, to wit:





The contest will run until 26 June 2020, or may even be extended until the end of the year. So far, the responses have been positive. People have been encouraged to cultivate their own backyard gardens. This is a win-win contest for all participants in that even if their garden would not be selected as the best garden, they would still be able to yield produce that they may cook for food sufficiency of their respective households. It is the fervent hope of the City Government that this will inculcate a sense of responsibility to the people for them to cultivate and produce their own food sources in order to boost resiliency against any government-initiated quarantine.

For reference, some of the entries sent to the page of the City Government are reproduced hereunder:

