



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Benguet
Municipality of Itogon

Office of the Municipal Mayor

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EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 03-2016

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ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY-BASED PREVENTION, REHABILITATION, TREATMENT AND REINTEGRATION PROGRAM ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND ADDICTION IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ITOGON.

WHEREAS, R.A. 9165 provides that the government shall pursue an intensive and unrelenting campaign against trafficking and use of illegal drugs and other similar substances, and in relation to Section 16 of the Local Government Code, the municipal government is committed to promote the general welfare of its inhabitants by pursuing local measures and initiatives to maintain peace and order, improve public morals, enhance economic prosperity and social justice and preserve the comfort and convenience of our people, among others;

WHEREAS, the municipality is fully supportive of the anti-illegal drugs campaign of the national government which aims to rid the country from illegal drugs and similar substances with the end view of stopping all the evils arising from the use and abuse thereof such as corruption, rise in criminality, poverty and such adverse impacts on economy, health and social well-being of our people;

WHEREAS, this administration believes that users and dependents of illegal drugs and similar substances are but victims who have fallen prey to traffickers and ill-motivated personalities hence, the need for these victims to be given an opportunity to redirect their lives and return to the folds of the law in order for them to become productive, responsible citizens and contributory members of the community for their own benefits while making this municipality a safer place to live in;

WHEREAS, evidenced-based studies have shown that interventions against substance abuse and addiction have cost millions of pesos for the government, communities and families in terms of treatment and rehabilitation processes thus, the necessity of coming up with a community-based program which encourages the active involvement and participation of all stakeholders including non-governmental organizations and church-based institutions, community members and family members in all related activities from prevention to treatment and rehabilitation up to reintegration;

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of the powers vested in me as Local Chief Executive, I, **ATTY. VICTORIO T. PALANGDAN**, Municipal Mayor of the Municipality of Itogon, Benguet Province, hereby promulgate as follows:

Section 1. Establishment of the Program. There is hereby established a Community-based Prevention, Rehabilitation/Treatment and Reintegration Program on Substance Abuse and Addiction in the Municipality of Itogon.

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby declared a policy of the Municipality to promote restorative justice through the formulation and implementation of a community-based prevention, rehabilitation/treatment and reintegration plans and programs which aims to:

- a. Protect inhabitants from the ill-effects of substance abuse and addiction by pursuing a Demand Prevention campaign that would discourage initial use thereof;
- b. Ensure that drugs and related substance abusers and dependents shall be converted to become law abiding, productive and responsible citizens through successful transition from treatment and/or correctional environment to the community;
- c. Ensure that these individuals who were once substance abusers and dependents be given the opportunity to reintegrate into the society through sustainable programs on health, moral recovery and productivity;

It is further declared a policy to recognize the vital role of the international community, non-governmental organizations, church-based institutions, peoples' organizations and community members as cooperators and collaborators of the government in the formulation and implementation of the anti-drugs and similar substance abuse and addiction programs. Towards this end, the municipality shall as far as practicable, align its community-based response plans and programs with that of the national government through the Dangerous Drugs Board and other agencies and with that of the Global Organizations of which the Philippines is a member.

Section 3. Operational Principles of the Program. The community-based prevention, treatment/rehabilitation and reintegration program shall be guided by the following principles, to wit;

1. Applicable international guides may be resorted to in the formulation of plans and programs. In the like manner, adoption of applicable community-based response and interventions under national plans and programs is hereby encouraged.
2. This community-based response program is an initiative aimed at encouraging behavioral changes directly in the community with the active involvement of local organizations, community members and target populations thus, establishing an integrated network of community-based services.
3. Substance abuse problems can be treated effectively if people can gain access to treatment and rehabilitation services that best suit their needs taking into account their culture, gender, age, health and risk behavior. Such services should be of sufficient quality, sensitivity and duration.
4. Demand prevention program should cover all areas of prevention from discouraging initial use to reducing the negative health and social consequences of substance abuse.
5. Relapse prevention can be attained within the treatment and reintegration phases through appropriate interventions that will reduce social stigma and discrimination during transition period.
6. Collaboration and coordination with local and/or international non-government, church-based and private institutions, NGOs, peoples' organizations and with the local communities are indispensable elements of the program.

Section 4. Focus areas for program implementation under the community-based response/intervention. The program shall include three major activities or interventions to wit;

1. Prevention. An intervention focused on the discouragement, avoidance or reduction of risk of initial use of illegal drugs and similar substance. It involves preventive information, education and awareness programs. It also includes counseling and other relevant interventions that deal with stress, personal and relationship problems to prevent any negative psychological effects to the individual.
2. Treatment and/or Rehabilitation. An intervention which is defined by the WHO as the process that begins when psychoactive substance abusers come into contact with a health provider or any other community service and may continue through a succession of specific interventions until the highest attainable level of health and well-being is reached. Rehabilitation on the other hand typically follows an initial phase of treatment in which detoxification and other medical and psychiatric treatment occurs. It is the process by which an individual with drug-related problem achieves optimal state of health, psychological functioning, spiritual and social well-being. The elements of this treatment is (1) "the Open Access" treatment which is a non-formal intervention and (2) the "Structured Treatment" which includes detoxification process or the stabilization phase of treatment, relapse prevention or rehabilitation phase of treatment and aftercare arrangements.
3. Reintegration. The process by which an individual who, during or after undergoing treatment and rehabilitation processes shall be reunited with the community. It involves after care programs since transition from treatment environment to getting back into the community shall take place. Therefore, the respective families of substance abusers, their peer groups, and the community play a vital role in assisting them in their return to the society and supporting them in rebuilding their lives.

Section 5. Creation of a Core Group. To facilitate the immediate implementation of the community-based response, there is hereby created a Core Group to be composed of the following:

Representatives from the Mayor's Office
The Business Permit and Licensing Officer
The Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer
The Rural Health Physician
Representative from the Local PNP particularly the officer in charge on anti-illegal drugs operations
Representative from the religious sector or inter-faith organization
Representative from a duly accredited CSO/NGO

(b) There is also hereby created a secretariat to provide administrative support to the Core Group which shall be composed of three (3) personnel from the MSWDO.

Section 6. Duties and Functions. The Core Group shall perform the following duties and functions:

1. Perform coordinated and collaborative functions on preventive information, education and awareness campaign that shall include the family as the basic unit of society, the schools, the out of school youths, POs/NGOs/CSOs including transport groups, the barangays through their respective BADACs and the communities. In line with this, the core group shall be responsible in

the design, printing or publication, reproduction and distribution of IEC materials on substance addiction, classification and its adverse effects to human, the family and the society as well.

2. Spearhead the establishment of a community-based response scheme that will include home-based treatment/rehabilitation, after care, moral recovery and social reintegration activities with the participation of public, NGO, and church-based institutions, government instrumentalities, private sector, volunteers and community groups. Along with this, the Core Group, in coordination with the local PNP, government and/or non-government institutions shall conduct profiling for purposes of risk and needs assessment to determine who among these drug or related substance users are experimental, occasional, or heavy compulsive users or dependents as basis for recommending whether they may qualify to undergo a home treatment program, community-based program or center-based treatment/rehabilitation program.
3. Link services between the commitment facility and the community to ensure smooth transition of services upon the offender's return to the community.
4. Shall coordinate with TESDA, DSWD, DOLE and other agencies for the provision of skills training, livelihood assistance and employment opportunities during reintegration phase.
5. Determine the feasibility of establishing a community-based treatment center and make the necessary recommendations to the Municipal Anti-Drug Abuse Council through the Local Chief Executive.
6. Shall undergo orientation and trainings relative to the management and proper handling of cases on substance abuse and addiction.
7. Shall perform other duties and functions as may be directed by the Local Chief Executive or by the Municipal Anti-Drug Abuse Council.

Section 7. Creation of Sub-committees Under the MADAC. The LCE through subsequent issuance, shall create three (3) sub-committees or clusters under the Municipal Anti-Drug Abuse Council, with each committee or cluster focusing on any of the three areas of intervention as provided in section 4 hereof. Provided however, that pending the creation thereof, the Core Group, in coordination with the PNP, NGO and church-based institutions, concerned public and private agencies, volunteers and other stakeholders, shall be initially responsible for the implementation of the intervention programs..

Section 8. Repealing Clause. All Executive Orders or issuances inconsistent herewith or parts hereof are deemed repealed accordingly.

Section 9. Effectivity. This Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE this 20th day of **September, 2016** at Itogon, Benguet.


ATTY. VICTORIO T. PALANGDAN
Municipal Mayor