

GOVERNMENT WORKS

The Official Publication of Davao de Oro



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Mt. Pandadagsaan(White Peak), New Bataan

PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS (2022-2025) DAVAO DE ORO PROVINCE

GOVERNOR: Hon. Dorothy M. Gonzaga

VICE GOVERNOR: Hon. Jayvee Tyron L. Uy

REPRESENTATIVES:

District 1: Hon. Maria Carmen S. Zamora

District 2: Hon. Ruwel Peter S. Gonzaga

SP MEMBER:

District 1:

Hon. Herv Martelle Zamora Apsay

Hon. Marie Jude M Fuentes Lopez

Hon. Willy C. Ang

Hon. Renato B. Basañes

Hon. Eutropio S Jayectin

District 2:

Hon. Ruwina S. Gonzaga

Hon. Kristine Mae T. Caballero-Rañon

Hon. Raul B. Caballero

Hon. Vivencia L. Secuya

Hon. Teodoro D. Arancon

IP MANDATORY REPRESENTATIVE

Hon. Albert P. Camana

PROVINCIAL COUNCILOR'S LEAGUE

Hon. Jammaila Villena Budac

ASSOCIATION OF BARANGAY CAPTAINS

Hon. Raul C. Timogtimog

SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN FEDERATION PRESIDENT

Hon. Charlemagne B. Bautista

SOLIDARITY RING

Vice Governor Jayvee Tyron L. Uy officially turned over to Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga the governance of the province on June 31, 2022.

The ceremony is an act required by the Department of Interior and Local Government as a manifestation of showing transparency, accountability and good faith.

Fast facts:

Two-toned ring (gold and silver)

1. 18 kgs. of gold finish, 308 grams of

99.9% silver in diamond-matte finish

5-inch interior diameter and 6-inch exterior

diameter

18 karat ring

(Excerpts from Provincial Ordinance No. 21-2013)



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'GRATEFUL', GOVERNOR DOROTHY MONTEJO-GONZAGA TAKES OATH

It's a dawn of a new beginning for the golden province in Davao Region as the first lady governor of the Davao de Oro province took oath on June 30, 2022, at the Nabunturan National Comprehensive High School Gymnasium, Poblacion Nabunturan, Davao de Oro.

Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga is the first lady governor-elect in Davao de Oro since its separation from Davao del Norte in the year 1998 as an independent province. During the oath-taking and thanksgiving ceremony, Dabawenyos from all-over the province converged at the NNCHS Gymnasium to witness the official ceremony of the new governor along with Congressman Ruwel Peter S. Gonzaga of District II, Vice Governor Tyron Uy, Sangguniang Panlalawigan Board Members, Department Heads and assistants, Municipal Mayors, National Government Agencies, Brgy. Captains and the people of Davao de Oro.

"ako gyung gihinay-hinay ug pronounce every word of the oath arun musil-sil sa atung alimpatakan ug sa akong huna-huna in the presence of everyone here nga mao gyud na ang buhaton namong mga bag-o ninyong gipili nga opisyaes," said Governor Gonzaga during the oath-taking ceremony reassuring commendable public service for the people of the province. The new governor took her oath before Judge Crescenciana DC-Cruz, the Executive Judge of the Regional Trial Court (RTC) 3.

"We will faithfully defend and promote the constitution at all times," added Gov. Gonzaga. Unwavering support filled the atmosphere of the whole gymnasium of NNCHS as the people applauded and cheered the new face of governance, a brand that makes government work for the welfare of the people.

A thanksgiving mass was offered first before the official oath-taking ceremony, and followed by a turn-over ceremony held at the Executive Building, Provincial Capitol of Davao de Oro. Vice Governor Jayvee Tyron L. Uy officially turned over the governance of the province to Governor Dorothy Montejo Gonzaga. (Jasteen Abella)





THANKSGIVING MASS

A Thanksgiving Mass officiated by Most Rev. Bishop Midel Aseo and Most Rev. Bishop-Emeritus Wilfredo Manlapaz, both from Diocese of Tagum was held first for the newly-elected Provincial Officials of Davao de Oro led by Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga at the Nabunturan National Comprehensive High School, Nabunturan, Davao de Oro.

Gracing the celebration are District II Representative Hon. Congressman Ruwel Peter Gonzaga, Vice-Governor Tyron Uy with the Sangguniang Panlalawigan Members of the 9th Sanggunian, Municipal Mayors, Brgy. Captains, National Government Agencies, and the people of Davao de Oro province.



OATH TAKING CEREMONY

Hon. Governor Dorothy Montejo Gonzaga took her oath as the new governor of the province of Davao de Oro officiated by Hon. Cresencia DC-Cruz, executive judge of the Regional Trial Court 3, at the Nabunturan National Comprehensive High School.

On June 13, 2022 Gov. Dorothy Gonzaga along with her husband Cong. Ruwel Peter Gonzaga and some mayors of Davao de Oro took oath in front of Former President Rodrigo Roa Duterte at the Malacanang Palace. Gov. Gonzaga is now the first female elected-governor of the province since its inception in 1998.



Hon. Jayvee Tyron Uy took oath as the Vice Governor of the province of Davao de Oro officiated by Hon. Cresencia DC-Cruz, executive judge of the Regional Trial Court 3, at the Nabunturan National Comprehensive High School.

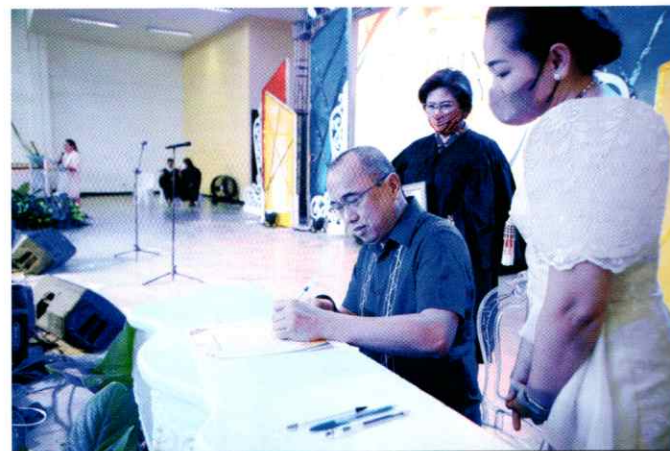
Last June 27, 2022 Vice Governor Uy took oath in front of the Indigenous People leaders in Sitio Bongloy, Brgy. Pagsabangan, New Bataan. During this time, Vice Governor Uy was also named as Datu Simbol'lan.



Hon. Ruwel Peter Gonzaga took oath for his third term as the representative of the 2nd Congressional District of Davao de Oro.



Officiating his oath in Hon. Cresemcia DC-Cruz, executive judge of the Regional Trial Court 3, at Nabunturan National Comprehensive High School.



On June 13, 2022 Cong. Gonzaga along with his wife Gov. Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga and some mayors of Davao de Oro took oath in front of the former President Rodrigo Roa Duterte at the Malacañang Palace.



SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN BOARD MEMBERS

Provincial Sangguniang Panlalawigan Board Members took their oath in front of the people of Davao de Oro on June 30, 2022 at the gymnasium of Nabunturan National Comprehensive High School. The officials took their oath before Hon. Regina F. Sison-Montiel, assisting judge of Regional Trial Court Branch 3.

Members of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan in the 1st District of Davao de Oro are:

1. **Hon. Herv Martelle Zamora Apsay**
2. **Hon. Marie Jude M. Fuentes-Lopez**
3. **Hon. Willy C. Ang**
4. **Hon. Renato B. Basañes**
5. **Hon. Eutropio S. Jayectin**

Members of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan in the 2nd District of Davao de Oro also took their oath on June 30, 2022 at the gymnasium of Nabunturan National Comprehensive High School officiated by Hon. Leah Garnet G. Solde-Annogul, presiding judge of 3rd Municipal Circuit Trial Court

Members of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan in the 2nd District of Davao de Oro are:

1. **Hon. Ruwina S. Gonzaga**
2. **Hon. Kristine Mae T. Caballero-Rañon**
3. **Hon. Vivencia L. Secuya**
4. **Hon. Raul B. Caballero**
5. **Hon. Teodoro D. Arancon**

Ceremonial turn-over for the transition of new governance in Davao de Oro

Vice Governor Tyron L. Uy, officially turned over to Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga the governance of the province right after the oath taking ceremony. The turn-over ceremony was held at the 4th Floor Executive Building, Provincial Capitol of Davao de Oro. The ceremony is an act required by the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) as a manifestation of showing transparency, accountability and good faith.





GOV DOROTHY MONTEJO-GONZAGA TO PRIORITIZE HEALTH CARE, EDUCATION, INFRA, AMONG OTHERS

A new face of governance officially sets Davao de Oro province on a trajectory of progress and development focusing on the welfare of the people of the whole province in terms of health care, education, infrastructure, and commendable public service.

On July 4, 2022, Governor Dorothy Montejo Gonzaga gave her message during the Monday convocation at the provincial capitol lobby before the whole workforce of the provincial government instilling them with three attributes for exemplary public service for the people: faith, hope, and love.

In the governor's message, the administration will prioritize adequate health care service to Dabawenyos in the four (4) provincial hospitals in the province: DdOPH Pantukan, DdOPH Montevista, DdOPH Maragusan, and DdOPH Laak.

The administration will also revisit the scholarship program of the provincial government and plans to maximize its resources thereby extending the scope of the program for the admission of more grantees, making equitable access and opportunity for tertiary education, *"Mas maayo gyud ug makapa-eskwela ta because when they're educated, their lives will really change."* said Gov. Gonzaga.

Moreover, the administration will also maximize the available resources of the PLGU, from the machinery to its budget, for the establishment of more infrastructure projects.



"I'm really thankful and proud seeing all of you (employees) in attendance today, kay mao ra gyud na ang kapital sa atung pag panerbisyom our love for the service," added Gov. Gonzaga.

Earlier, a flag-raising ceremony was held at the capitol park followed by a Holy Mass attended by the employees of the PLGU-DdO, Sangguniang Panlalawigan Board Members, and the Bureau of Fire Protection. (Jasteen Abella)

GOV GONZAGA TO SUPPORT THE IMPROVEMENT OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT MEASURES IN DDO



In celebration of National Disaster Resilience Month (NDRM) 2022 with the theme: "Sam-bayanang Pilipino, Nagkakaisa tungo sa Katatagan at Maunlad na Kinabukasan", the Provincial Government of Davao de Oro led by Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga will continue to support the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (PDRRMO), together with the Local Government Units (LGUs)-MDRRMOs, in improving the disaster management measures in the province.

"We Guarantee, we assure, the PDRRMO, nga kanunay magasuporta ang atong probinsya sa mga lakang ug inisyatibo nga inyung mahunahunaan, inyung planohan nga pagahitabon kay kining tanan para man sa kaayuhan sa atong mga taga Davao de Oro" said Gov. Gonzaga.

In line with the celebration, on July 12, 2022, one of the highlights in the province is the ceremonial blessing of the "Davao de Oro Andam Action Center Resilience Hub" project worth Php3M at DDOPH Pantukan, Townsite, Brgy. Kingking, Pantukan which will realize the PDRRMOs mission that aims to strengthen its disaster response with easy access and proximity of its services to the constituents particularly in the coastal areas of DdO and municipalities under District II.

In a statement of PDRRMO Head Joseph Randy Loy says " This hub is really envision to be not only of response but it will cater to the four thematic pillars of DRRM which is disaster prevention & mitigation, disaster preparedness, disaster response and disaster rehabilitation & recovery."

Governor Gonzaga also points out the importance of collaboration within the stakeholders since it is one of the key instruments in realizing the vision and mission of the project. She encourage building more hubs especially in remote areas that are in need of much attention especially when calamities arise.

"Pwede ang probinsya ug municipyu can support each other para maka put up ta the soonest time possible ug ingani didtu sa mga hilit nga mga lugar.Sa mga MDRRMOs, I'll also encourage you na mangulit mo sa inyung mayor, sa inyung mga tug budget, mga SP nga providan pud tag ingani didtu sa mga lugar nga makinahanglan gyud ug pagtagad." Gov. Gonzaga Said.

Meanwhile, during the ceremony, each of the MDRRMO of the 11 municipality received "radio base" with accessories comprising of handheld radio with antenna and cable which would help organize communications in times of catastrophes. Moreover, the activity were attended by District II congressman Ruwel Peter Gonzaga, Board Members Vinsay Secuya, Albert Camana, Ruwina Gonzaga, Mayor Loenel Ceniza of Pantukan, MDRRMOs, NGAs, Doctors from the provincial hospitals, together with the provincial employees and staffs.(Jaynus Fernandez)



HEALTH OFFICE TO LAUNCH FEEDING PROGRAMS IN LGUs

In Celebration of the nutrition month with the theme "New normal na nutrisyon, sama-samang gawan ng solusyon", The Provincial Government of Davao de Oro through the Provincial Health Office (PHO) will continue to strengthen its programs to counter malnutrition incidence in the province.

Recently, the Adopt-A-Child Program, an initiative spearheaded by the PHO rehabilitated a total of thirty-three (33) children beneficiaries formerly under the brink of malnutrition in Laak. The program successfully addressed barriers that impedes children to access a healthier life, and regulated the effects of malnutrition among the beneficiaries. During its operation, the program offers weekly supplies for every beneficiary funded by the different departments of the provincial government.

According to the PHO, community-based feeding program operations of the provincial government will continue to operate starting off in the municipality of Pantukan, with the second highest malnutrition incidence following Laak, this second week of July. The community-based feeding program will also cover the rest of the municipalities in the province.

On July 28, 2022, around seventy (70) children in Brgy. Magsaysay, Nabunturan received nutritious meals from the PLGU-Davao de Oro headed by Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga through the Provincial Health Office as part of the province's celebration of the Nutrition Month wherein nutrition-related activities were amplified by the provincial government.

According to PHO, children-beneficiaries including those at the borderline of malnutrition and with normal Body Mass Index (BMI) were included in the supplemental feeding program. Parents also participated in a cooking demonstration by PHO as a training for the preparation of a correct and sufficient meal for their children at home. *(Jasteen Abella)*



FRIENDS RESCUED IN DDO RECEIVE LIVELIHOOD GRANTS FROM DSWD

Ninety-nine friends rescued (FR) in Davao de Oro received a livelihood settlement grant (LSG) worth P20,000 each under the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in a turn-over ceremony on July 12, 2022, at the Capitol Building, Activity Hall. DSWD FO-XI Regional Director, Atty. Vanessa B. Goc-ong said that the grants help as capital on their [FR] proposed livelihood project to uplift their socio-economic well-being as they start anew.

"Ubos sa amoang ahensya, pasayun mi nga maningkamot nga mo serbisyo sa inyuha oh ihatag kaninyo ang angay og haon ng assistance nga inyung gikinahanglan. Kaning cash Assistance magsilbi kining capital ninyu aron magamit sa kung unsang livelihood project nga inyuhang mapili og perminte ninyung huna-hunaon nga ang DSWD will be you partner para sa kabag-ohan ug kalamboan", Goc-ong said.

Livelihoods such as sari-sari stores, vegetable gardening, vulcanizing, and hog raising were identified by the recipients, according to the DSWD. BGen Jesus P Durante III, 1001st Commander, thanks the friends rescued for turning themselves in and returning to the mainstream society where they can now avail the various benefits offered by the government. In addition, Governor Dorothy Gonzaga, represented by 2nd District Board Member Ruwina Gonzaga, expressed her gratitude to the various government agencies for providing sustainable livelihood assistance for the friends rescued to help them live a normal life together with their families.

"Ang probinsya sa Davao de Oro andam jud mo alagad of mo suporta kaninyo sa inyung pagabalik sa sabakan sa gobyerno. Abri ang kapitolyo kung kamo nanginahanglan ug tabang sama sa pagpaeskwela sa inyung mga anak, problema sa matang sa panlawas, ug uban pang assistance nga angay namong ikahatag sa inyuha", Gonzaga said.

She also underscored that the new administration assures to continue its support to the intervention programs and initiatives of the government forces in maintaining peace in the province of Davao de Oro. (Rheafe Hortizano)"





PLGU-DDO RECOGNIZES BAGANI LEADERS AS PARTNERS OF PEACE

Hundreds of Bagani leaders converged at the Laak Municipal Grounds, Monday, July 18, 2022 during the Araw ng Kapayapaan Celebration in Laak, Davao de Oro.

The Araw ng Kapayapaan recognizes each and every Bagani leaders in communities for their bravery and effort towards working hand-in-hand with the authorities to maintain the situation of peace and order in their respective communities.

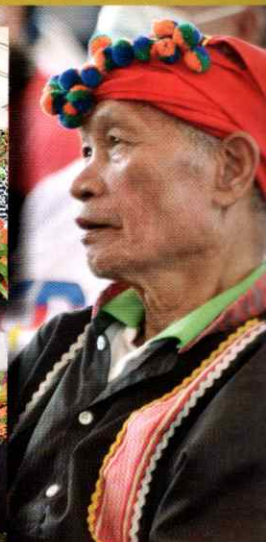
In a statement, Governor Dorothy Gonzaga, expressed gratitude and honors every Bagani leader for their contribution to peace and order as determinants of progress and development in the whole province of Davao de Oro.

Gov. Gonzaga mentioned that under her term as governor of the province, the administration will work closely with the Sangguniang Panlalawigan to grant the Bagani leaders with assistance coming from the provincial government aside from its LGU.

Gov. Gonzaga also plans to meet with the Philippine National Police and the Philippine Army to further capacitate the Bagani leaders with the additional skills needed to perform their roles as peace contributors in the province. Moreover, the provincial government through the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO) offered rice assistance and canned goods for the participating Bagani leaders.

District II Representative Congressman Ruwel Peter Gonzaga also graced the event along with Mayor Antonio Libuangan of Laak, Vice Mayor Mark Anthony Honeyboy Libuangan, MGen Nolasco A. Mempin of 10th Infantry Division, PBGEN-Benjamin H. Silo, Jr. Regional Director of PRO XI, Provincial NCIP Juluis Mabini, and other dignitaries.

PLGU-DdO under the leadership of Gov. Dorothy Gonzaga will strengthen government initiatives and livelihood programs for the marginalized sector, thereby prohibiting the presence of communist movement in the province. (Jasteen Abella)



DTI DDO RECOGNIZES MSMEs AS THE BACKBONE OF ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), in partnership with the Provincial Government of Davao de Oro through the PAO-Investment Division, continues its efforts to support and empower the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) by conducting business trade fairs, pitching, product expos, one-town one-product live selling, financing forums, and the like, as they are the backbone of the gradual economic recovery not only in the province but also in the entire country.

August 8–12, 2022 marks the 2022 MSME Week + Youth Entrepreneurship Program (YEP) Celebration in Davao de Oro with the theme "RISE MSMEs in the Digital Economy: Resilient, Innovative, Sustainable, and Empowered," which underpins MSMEs' resilience to continue their entrepreneurial journey, be innovative enough to cope with the drastic changes brought by the pandemic to sustain their small businesses and become empowered and successful entrepreneurs in the hardest of times.

During the week-long event, the local products of MSMEs, including innovative foods, textiles, arts and crafts, health, beauty, and wellness products of the province, were exhibited through a business trade fair at the Capitol Lobby as an act of support by the government, which allows them to promote their various products and later increase the reach of potential customers for their businesses.

In addition, a business pitching competition for the young entrepreneurs and students from DDOSC Compostela, DDOSC Montevista, DDOSC New Bataan, DDOSC Maragusan, Monkayo College of Arts, Sciences and Technology, and Assumption College of Nabunturan was also conducted at the Activity Hall, Executive Building, where they showcased their unique and innovative products. Moreover, a one-town one-product live selling on social media platforms such as Facebook was also conducted to further promote their products.

Meanwhile, DTI Ddo Provincial Director Atty. Lucky Siegfred M. Balleque presented some facts and figures that show the significant contribution of MSMEs to the growth and development of the economy. He said that it has always been the DTI's priority to assist the MSMEs to visualize and expand their businesses through programs, events, and activities to make the most of their ventures and would help them become large enterprises in the future.

"According to the 2020 MSME Statistics conducted by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), a total of 957,620 business enterprises are operating in the country. About 99.51% or 952,969 accounts for the MSMEs while the remaining 0.49% or 4,651 accounts for the large enterprises. These MSMEs created a total of 5,380,815 jobs, accounting for 62.66% of total employment in the country." said Balleque.

He also added that "recently the PSMED Council passed a resolution requesting Sangguniang Panlalawigan to enact an ordinance which would entitle eligible MSMEs to 10% of total procurement of goods and services supplied to the government. We will also request our LGUs to allocate the said budget for MSME development." Furthermore, Governor Dorothy Gonzaga underpinned her support for the said events and reiterated that if we support more of our MSMEs, we could guarantee a positive change in our economy.

"Sa atong mga leaders diri sa Davao de Oro, we are more than willing to give our all-out support para sa mga programa para kaninyu. After all, kamo ang mu-shape ug muhatag ug hitsura sa unsay hulagway diri sa Davao de Oro. Maningkamot mi ug unsa pa matabang nga mahatag na suporta sa kapitolyo sa inyu," Gov. Gonzaga said. (Jaynus Fernandez)





DAVAO DE ORO EXPEDITED VACCINATION THROUGH 'PINALAKAS CAMPAIGN

With over 800,000 jabs already done from its eleven (11) municipalities, the Provincial Government of Davao de Oro headed by Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga urged its constituents to get vaccinated with additional dose of Covid-19 vaccines for additional protection from the pandemic.

On August 2, 2022, the Provincial Health Office (PHO) partnered with LGU-Maragusan, and the Department of Health in launching the 'PinasLakas' campaign held at the Cultural Center of Maragusan. 'PinasLakas' is a nationwide campaign with the aim of increasing the number of vaccinated Filipinos who have been boosted with additional doses to sustain the country's immunity from the pandemic.

In a statement, Mayor Angelito J. Cabalquinto of Maragusan encouraged the Maragusanons to get their primary and booster doses, and not be misled with false information as it affects the government's campaign invalidating the vaccines' efficacy and reliability of the authorities.

During the campaign, Mayor Cabalquinto volunteered to get the ceremonial booster shot of Covid-19 vaccine. He also stressed that the government will never administer anything that could affect anyone injuriously.

In total, the campaign inoculated a total of six-hundred nine (609) individuals with ages 5 to 11, and 12 years old and above in a day, which exceeded its five-hundred (500) target jabs.

Gracing the campaign launch were DOH XI Regional Director Dr. Annabelle Yumang, Dr. Mary Cyrel Pasaol of PHO-DdO, Christopher R. Molina of LHIO Nabunturan, DILG Maragusan, and officials of the LGU-Maragusan.

In the recent vaccination report of PHO-DdO, all municipalities in the province already reached fifty percent (50%) to seventy percent (70%) vaccination rate and continue to campaign the national vaccination directives. *(Jasteen Abella).*



PLGU DdO TO STRENGTHEN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE LAW

The Provincial Government of Davao de Oro through the Provincial Health Office recently conducted an orientation about Universal Health Care (UHC) Law to the Local Chief Executives (LCEs) of the 11 municipalities held at Prosperity Hall, Nabunturan DdO on July 29, 2022, to see to it that the constituents receive the best health care possible that is equitable for all.

The UHC act, also known as R.A. 11223, was signed into law by Former President Rodrigo Duterte last February 20, 2019. One of the goals of this legislation was to make PhilHealth membership mandatory for all Filipinos which assures that everyone has the access to quality and affordable healthcare they require wherever or whenever they need it.

During the orientation, Governor Dorothy Gonzaga emphasized the importance of implementing the reforms that are embodied in the law, which would bring positive changes in the health care system in every municipality. She points out that LCEs must realize those reforms to ensure that every individual is protected from health risks, ensure equitable access to high-quality, low-cost healthcare as well as save them from financial risks.

She also encouraged all the LCEs to further improve the Rural Health Units (RHUs) or Health Centers (HCs) of the respective municipalities by getting accredited with PhilHealth and Department of Health (DOH) so that it could be an avenue for the constituents, especially the less fortunate individuals, indigenous peoples, and vulnerable populations, to easily claim such benefits when emergencies arise.

In a statement of Christopher Molina, the Local Health Insurance Head of PhilHealth Nabunturan, says that through the PhilHealth Point of Service under the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP), the patients identified as financially incapable by the National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction will get health subsidies from the national government. This indicates that they are also protected by the No Balance Billing Policy, which states that disadvantaged or indigent patients are not permitted to be charged any further fees beyond the package rates.

“Sa mga dili kabayad, naa ta mga social worker kada provicial hospital nga mag-assess kung Indigent or disadvantage. As long as mupasa siya sa social worker nga ‘incapacit’ gyud sya ug dili kabayad, automatic covered sya sa PhilHealth. Walay obligasyon ang LGUs sa Pagbayad kay ang mu-cover sa mga pasyente kay ang national government na through point og service,” Molina said.

Governor Gonzaga added that the Mandanas Ruling opens the door for Local Government Units (LGUs) to provide better service delivery to its constituents and through the collaborative efforts of LGUs in realizing the reforms and visions of the UHC law, the constituents will receive the best health care services in the province. (Jaynus Fernandez)





DdO's TOURISM WELLNESS LOOP REVISITED

Being one of the province's economic drivers that attracts a big number of tourist visits, Davao de Oro's tourism wellness loop bounces back from the unfavorable changes brought by the pandemic over the past two (2) years.

Recently, the Provincial Government of Davao de Oro through the PAO-Tourism Division headed by Senior Tourism Officer Christine Dompur, visited some of the tourism destinations of the province together with the Provincial Administrator Fatima Montejo. The team conducted a site inspection to assess and measure possible interventions from the provincial government to further intensify the service quality offered by the wellness loop.

The team visited ten (10) tourism facilities on Saturday (August 6, 2022): Bilawa Hot Waterfalls in Brgy. Mainit and Pagkokorowan Gaw Bukanan in Maco, Lake Leonard (Danao) Aqua Eco Park in Brgy. New Leyte, Maco, Tambo Viewdeck+Cafe, Tagbibinta Falls, Maragusan, Maragusan Eco Solid Waste Management Park, Pyalitan Falls, Maragusan, Mt. Patong Sea of Clouds, Angel Farm and Flower Garden, and De Oro Suites in Maragusan.

In Barangay Mainit, Maco, local officials led by Brgy. Captain Michelle Lim welcomed the provincial team led by PA Montejo. It is where the Bilawa Hot Spring is located and is one of the top earning and mostly visited Community-Based Ecotourism destinations with over 200 coop-members. Recently, the province was able to have its 10% share of revenue for its three (3) months of operation amounting to PhP600, 000.

These tourism destinations not only popularized Davao de Oro in the market, but it also served as a gateway for more job opportunities for the locals. Its revamp from the pandemic generated more income-generating revenues and established cooperatives with its local workforce such as farmers, fisherfolks, mountain and boat guides, and caterers.

The team also met with Mayor Angelito J. Cabalquinto of Maragusan, and discussed plans for infrastructure provisions and other necessities in some tourism sites in Maragusan.

Recently, the tourism division of the province in partnership with the provincial health office conducted a Covid-19 vaccination drive to various tourism facilities to further secure its operations amidst the pandemic.

(Jasteen Abella)



PLGU DDO TO INTENSIFY YOUTH SECTOR SUPPORT

The Provincial Government of Davao de Oro, under the administration of Governor Dorothy Gonzaga, plans to equip the youth with the necessary interventions that would help them empower to be responsible and accountable members of society.

On July 29, 2022, the Pag-asa Youth Association of the Philippines (PYAP) Davao de Oro Chapter, through the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office-Youth Development Division, joined the 48th Founding Anniversary of the association which is celebrated every year as mandated by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). A total of 146 youth participated in the celebration including the PYAP members from the 11 municipalities and Youth Service Providers under the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) of each municipality.

During the event, Governor Gonzaga recognized the youth for their collective efforts made in assisting the government in establishing a safer community, maintaining the bayanihan-spirit and resiliency amidst the pandemic. She emphasized that the association would give them the platform to show an impact not just only on the group but most importantly in their respective communities. She encouraged them to speak about their needs and be courageous enough to report any inappropriate deeds of the government that would gradually affect them.

She also reiterated that the administration would remain steadfast to support in any matter like conducting seminars about the drive against the use of illegal drugs and the like so that they could spread awareness on the negative effects of using it; thus, fulfill their part as role models of their communities. Moreover, the administration will address the concerns of the youth in terms of education and health through intensifying the scholarship program of the provincial local government and the zero balance billing policy of the provincial hospitals so that not only the underprivileged or indigent people can benefit but also everyone who needs it.

“Ug naa mo concerns nga interested kaayu ang mga kabatan-unan ayaw mo kaguol ug duol sa akua ug isumbong ang inyung gusto matubag nga mga problema kay kamong mga kabatan-unan mao ang atong ugma. If we have the best youth today, klaro kaayu ang atong ugma dili lang sa atong kumunidad ug labaw sa tanan sa tibuok kalibutan” Gov Gonzaga said.

The event were also graced by PNP Davao de Oro PSSG Marino V Ras, Board Member Charlemagne Bautista, PYAP Regional Focal Jerome Gumbao and PSWDO Department Head Josephine Frasco, together with officers and staff of the department. *(Jaynus Fernandez)*



BFP HOLDS ORIENTATION PROGRAM FOR THE NEW FIREFIGHTERS



A total of 137 newly recruited firefighter trainees for Fire Officer 1 (FO1) coming from the different provinces in the Davao Region will undergo a 45-day orientation program in Davao de Oro Fire Emergency and Disaster (DDO-FED) Training Center starting July 19, 2022.

SSUPT Richard V. Arbutante, Regional Director of BFP-XI, said that the orientation is generally considered the first glimpse of their 6-month-long training. The program is designed to prepare the trainees for the battle – the fire response.

“Wala tay pilion nga panahon, walay pilion nga emergencies as along as ther is life in danger, properties in danger, and all environment, we will stand. The concept of this orientation program and the rest of the training nga in-yung maagian will be focused on life-saving mao kana ang atoang responsibility”, Arbutante said.

Each trainee will undergo an aptitude test and a comprehensive exam to measure the level of understanding and learning gained from the orientation program. Arbutante also emphasized that in line with the provision of Executive Order No. 56 signed by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, the Bureau of Fire and Protection (BFP) is the lead agency in strengthening the conduct of various disaster resilient training.

The ceremony was graced by Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga together with CINSIP Donald R. Concepcion, Acting Provincial Fire Director, PLTCOL Jason L. Baria, Chief of Police Nabunturan Office, Municipal Fire Marshals, and Tactical Officers.

Governor Gonzaga congratulates and motivates the trainees for instilling in their hearts and minds the duties and responsibilities of firefighters embodied in the vision, mission, and goals of BFP.

She also expressed her full support for plans and programs in the development and improvement of Davao de Oro Fire Training Center and showed her grateful appreciation for all the significant accomplishments of BFP-DdO. (Rheafe Hortizano)



PLGU DAVAO DE ORO MAINTAINS ISO CERTIFICATION

Quality-service delivery, accountability, and proficiency in managing people's resources is among the top priority and goal of the provincial government of Davao de Oro headed by Governor Dorothy Montejo-Gonzaga.

In the recently concluded audit report by the certification body auditors or International Organization for Standardization (ISO) evaluators from TÜV SÜD PSB Philippines Inc., the provincial government maintained its certificate for international standardization after it passed the 1st Surveillance Audit of the ISO 9001:2015 Certification, which indicates that the institution continues its efforts not just to continually improve the efficiency of its systems and processes but also consistently provide the high-quality service delivery that the constituents deserve. Moreover, the Enterprise Feedback Management System (EFMS) plays a vital role in the Quality Management System (QMS) since it is a management tool for customer satisfaction and continual improvement.

The system was formulated by the Provincial Information and Technology Office (PICTO), headed by Joyzel Odi, and was commended by the ISO evaluators for its timely consolidation of external and internal feedback into a single, time-saving platform, increasing access to and simplifying the use of valuable client data across the entire institution.

"EFMS enables authoring of survey forms. Response collection is via paper forms (which are encoded to the system) or URL link or qrcode link (which are scanned by the raters). Department heads or admin officers are notified via email for every below satisfactory feedback. They manage responses by viewing complaints and indicating actions (which are emailed to the rater)", Odi said.

She also added that "Implementation status of the indicated actions are validated by the Internal Audit Office. The system data analytics thru tabulations, charts, and trends. It also identifies issues and sentiments". Furthermore, the Provincial Human Resource Mgt. & Development Office (PHRMDO) head Lara Kristy Bermejo expressed her appreciation to all department heads and process owners for their unwavering support in realizing the goals of QMS for the institution despite the challenges brought by the pandemic.

"To the ISO Core Team... thank you all so much! Seeing you all working silently but very diligently is truly heartwarming! I see in each one of you the true desire of making our institution improve consistently," Bermejo Said.

The success of the ISO audit was another milestone under the administration, which is one of the pillars of good governance in the province. Thus, achieving and maintaining the ISO certification yields many benefits, such as satisfied clients, management, and employees. (Jaynus Fernandez)



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