



# *e-Balita*



COVID-19 Special Coverage

Volume 5, Issue No. 6 - April 29, 2020



## **DILG supports 'Balik Probinsiya' program after COVID 19 crisis is over**

Seeing decongestion as key to preventing a second wave of COVID-19 in the nation's capital, the DILG supports an administration senator's bid to relocate residents of Metro

Manila back to their province of origin through the ‘Balik Probinsiya’ program once the crisis is over.

DILG Secretary Eduardo M. Año says that COVID-19, being a highly contagious disease, spreads extensively in urbanized areas. He says that Senator Christopher Lawrence “Bong” Go’s ‘Balik Probinsiya’ program can be one of the long term solutions to congestion in Metro Manila.

Año says it is evident that NCR, as a densely populated area, is the hardest hit region of the Philippines due to its ballooning number of citizens with a population density of 20,785 persons based on the 2015 Census of Population.

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From Mashable Digital Media

## **DILG tells LGUs to focus on contact tracing**

Following IATF-MEID Resolution No. 25, the DILG is directing local government units (LGUs) nationwide to focus on contact tracing of possible carriers of coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19).

DILG Secretary Eduardo M. Año said that the main focus for LGUs shall be the DITR steps: to Detect, Isolate, Treat, and Reintegrate the carriers in accordance with the National Strategy to Defeat Covid-19 of the IATF and NTF Covid-19.

*“With the absence of the cure and the vaccine against Covid-19 for now, the fight against this virus is in contact tracing. It is urgent that LGUs identify the hosts or carriers of Covid-19 in every locality to prevent further spread of this deadly virus,”* he said Tuesday.

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## **DILG hails honest SAP beneficiaries who returned, waived financial aid**

DILG Secretary Eduardo M. Año today hailed some honest Social Amelioration Program (SAP) beneficiaries who opted to voluntarily waive and return their

excess financial assistance so that these may be given to other deserving recipients.

*“Their honesty and compassion for their fellowmen in the middle of this crisis show the inherent goodness of Filipinos that shines brighter in the darkest of circumstances like the COVID-19 pandemic kaya napakataas po ng respeto at paghanga ko sa kanila,”* Año says.

He said that despite delays in the distribution of the SAP, reports of beneficiaries returning or waiving their emergency subsidy for reasons such as duplication or disqualification or out of sheer kindness and generosity, continue to come in from various parts of the country.

[Read more](#)

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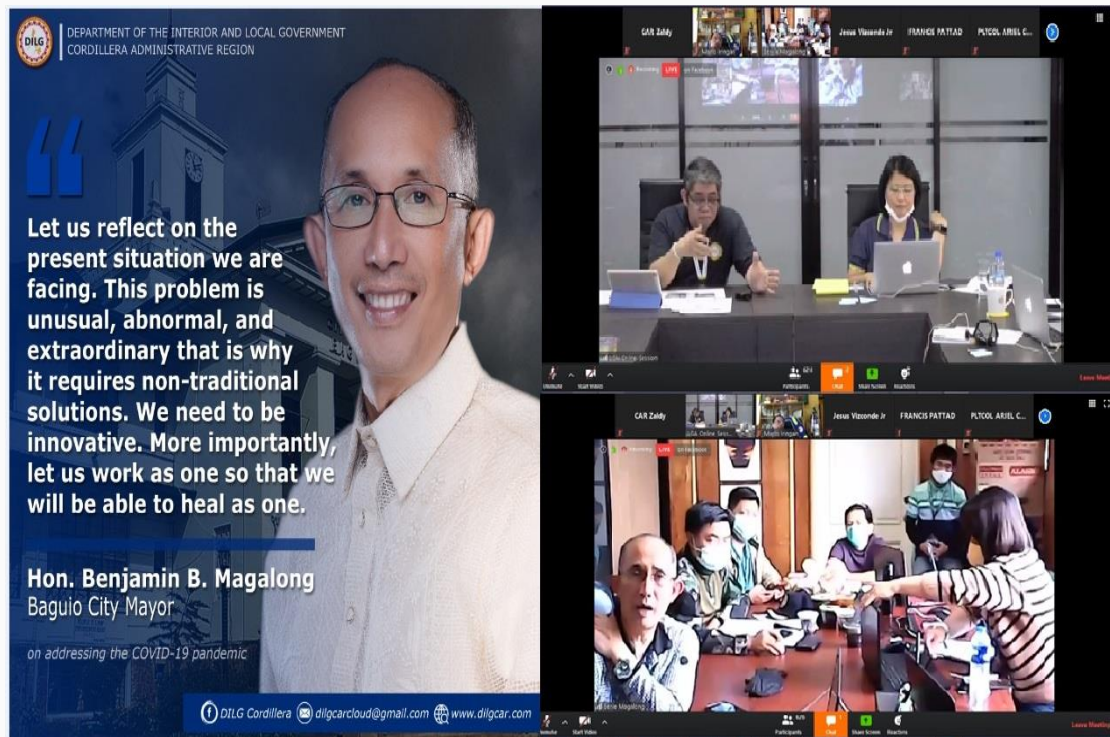
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## REGIONAL NEWS

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DILG-CAR Regional Director Engr. Marlo L. Iringan

## Baguio shares best COVID-19 practices to other LGUs

The DILG produces a series of video teleconference called L!STONG UGNAYAN with the following objectives -- raising public awareness about the pandemic, equipping its stakeholders and local counterparts with the right knowledge, capacitating local government units (LGUs) to better understand their roles and responsibilities, and sharing of best practices.

As the Resource Person, Baguio City Mayor Benjamin Magalong explained the basic principles they applied and continue to apply in addressing this crisis -- seamless collaboration between law enforcement, investigators, and health authorities; mass testing is critical to contact tracing; cognitive interviewing skill is the key to efficient collection of information; and use of technology (as analytical tools) is indispensable.

Mayor Magalong underscored the importance of technology and the organization of

contact tracing team (CTT), acknowledging that these play vital roles during the detection phase.

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Attendees sign the pledge in implementing the Disiplina Muna advocacy campaign.

## First batch of OFWs returns to Region XII

The flight was part of the repatriation operation meant to bring home OFWs and tourists who are residents of Region XII to their respective hometowns, as initiated by the DILG Director.

There were more than 30 stranded OFWs in Cebu, mainly from Lapulapu City, when their flights to Region XII were cancelled upon the declaration of a lockdown relative to the Covid-19 emergency.

*“All of these residents have gone through the mandatory 14-day quarantine upon their arrival and as the lockdown dragged on, they found themselves in a difficult situation, with most of them barely managing with their meals and other expenses,”* Director Leysa relates.

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## **DILG3 conducts contact tracing teams orientation via teleconference**

The DILG Region III through the Monitoring and Evaluation Division (MED) and the Department of Health - Regional Epidemiology Surveillance Unit (DOH-RESU) conducted the Conference on the Orientation of Contact Tracing Teams (CTTs) via Zoom on April 24, 2020.

There were 377 participants in the teleconference including the DILG Region 3 personnel from the regional office to the field offices, PNP personnel, Local Health Officers, Local DRRM Officers, and other members of the CTT.

DOH-RESU representative Rosana Rosell presented the roles and functions of the CTT members as well as the guidelines provided by DOH in contact tracing. Contact Tracing is defined in Public Health, accordingly, as the process of identification of persons who may have come into contact with an infected person (contacts) and subsequent collection of further information about these contacts.

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**NEWS FROM ATTACHED  
AGENCIES**

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## PNP leads support to poor families as Bayanihan Fund reached P208.1M

The “#Team PNP Bayanihan Fund Challenge” reached P208.1M exceeding the target of P200M to raise funds through voluntary contribution of PNP personnel from their salaries to help the majority of our homeliners, the poor Filipinos sustain strict lockdown measures which is the proven effective way to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the country.

*“This Bayanihan Fund Challenge also called the PNP’s version of “SAP” or Sariling Alay ng Pulis” para sa mahirap is a project of PNP Chief PGen Archie Francisco Gamboa implemented by PMGen Benigno B Durana Jr, the Director of PNP Directorate for Police Community Relations to raise P200 Million Aid to help feed the poorest of poor who are the most economically vulnerable as strict ECQ in Metro Manila and other places hardest hit by the Pandemic extends until May 15 and as well as GCQ measures begin in other parts of the country after April 30,” said Police Brigadier General Bernard Banac, PNP Spokesperson.*

This Bayanihan Fund Challenge is also conducted in consonance with another PNP personnel voluntary donation drive called “Kapwa Ko, Sagot Ko!” Adopt a Family Program as the 205,000 strong PNP led by Chief PNP, Police General Archie Francisco F Gamboa calls all police officers in the country to adopt an indigent family in their respective Areas of Responsibility by providing them food packs or grocery items and



financial assistance good for at least one week.

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## **BJMP expands mental health support to PDL and personnel through Telepsychology**

The BJMP continues to expand its telepsychology that provides the needed psychological support for personnel and persons deprived of liberty (PDL) after the declaration of nationwide jail lockdown last month.

Telepsychology is used to augment traditional in-person services being provided to BJMP personnel, rendering frontline services using telecommunication services to manage their stresses.

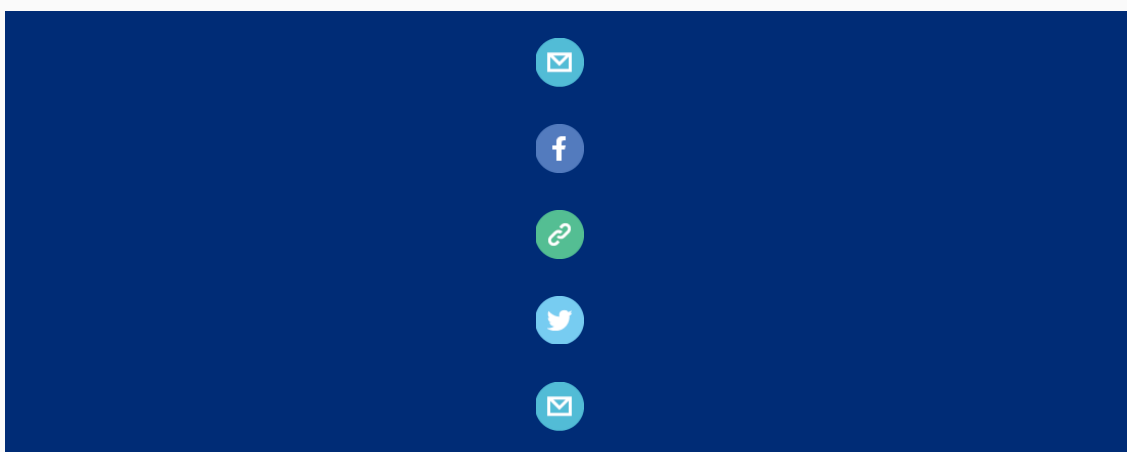
It is a psychological intervention program developed to help personnel release pent-up feelings and emotions, to have an enhanced capacity to cope with stress, enhanced tolerance and attain tranquility or peace of mind, and able to develop healthy coping skills.

For the PDL, the program allows them to develop a personal analysis of the impact of the COVID19 crisis, be able to regulate their own emotions to pay attention to others, reduce anxiety levels and improve sleep quality, be able to apply self-care management and maintain good psychological well-being.

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MATINO**



**Isay  
MAHUSAY**



**Ana  
MAAASAHAN**

**Matino, Mahusay at Maaasahang Kagawaran  
para sa Mapagkalinga at Maunlad na Pamahalaang Lokal**

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