



Republic of the Philippines
CITY GOVERNMENT OF ALAMINOS
 San Jose Drive, Poblacion, City of Alaminos, Pangasinan

EXCERPT TAKEN FROM THE JOURNAL OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OF THE CITY OF ALAMINOS, PANGASINAN HELD ON MAY 16, 2023

PRESENT:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Vice Mayor Jan Marianne R. Fontelera | - Presiding Officer |
| Councilor Michelle S. Segundera | - Presiding Officer Pro-Tempore |
| Councilor Carolyn D. Sison | - Majority Floor Leader |
| Councilor Kelvin Theus O. Humilde | - Minority Floor Leader |
| Councilor Verna S. D. Rabago | - Assistant Majority Floor Leader |
| Councilor Arthur C. Celeste, Jr. | - Member |
| Councilor Apple Joy B. Tolentino | - Member |
| Councilor Joselito O. Fontelera | - Member |
| Councilor Raul B. Bacay | - Member |
| Councilor Dahlia M. de Leon | - Member |
| Councilor Oscar A. Boling, Sr. | - Member |
| LBP Salvador P. Dona | - Ex-Officio Member |
| PPSKP Lovely V. Bernabe | - Ex-Officio Member |

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ORDINANCE NO. 2023-19

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER DISASTERS AND OTHER EMERGENCY SITUATIONS PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10821, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY RELIEF AND PROTECTION ACT"

Sponsored by: Councilor Carolyn D. Sison

EXPLANATORY NOTE

WHEREAS, Article II Section 13 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides in part that, *"the State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. xxx"*

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Republic Act 10821, otherwise known as the "Children's Emergency Relief and Protection Act" provides that, *"It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect the fundamental rights of children before, during, and after disasters and other emergency situations when children are gravely threatened or endangered by circumstances that affect their survival and normal development. Guided by the principles on survival and development, on child participation, and consistent with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as the Children's Charter for Disaster Risk and Reduction, and the*

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minimum standards for children in humanitarian action, the State shall establish and implement a comprehensive and strategic program of action to provide the children and pregnant and lactating mothers affected by disasters and other emergency situations with utmost support and assistance necessary for their immediate recovery and protection against all forms of violence, cruelty, discrimination, neglect, abuse, exploitation and other acts prejudicial to their interest, survival, development and well-being."

WHEREAS, the Local Government Unit of the City of Alaminos, Pangasinan strongly adheres to the principles on survival and development, on child participation and the minimum standards for children in humanitarian action, intending to establish and implement a comprehensive and strategic emergency program for children in the city;

NOW, THEREFORE, on motion of Councilor Carolyn D. Sison, duly seconded by all members present

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD IN SESSION ASSEMBLED, that:

SECTION 1. TITLE. — This Ordinance shall be known as the "*Children's Comprehensive Emergency Program before, during, and after disasters and other emergency situations.*"

SECTION 2. DECLARATION POLICY. — It is hereby declared the policy of the Local Government Unit of the City of Alaminos, Pangasinan to protect the fundamental rights of children before, during, and after disasters and other emergency situations when children are gravely threatened or endangered by circumstances that affect their survival and normal development.

SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS. — For the purposes of this ordinance, the following shall refer to:

(a) *Child* – refers to a person below eighteen (18) years of age or those over but are unable to fully take care of themselves or protect themselves from abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation or discrimination because of a physical or mental disability or condition as defined in Republic Act No. 7610 or the Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act;

(b) *Child with Special Needs* – refers to a child with a developmental or physical disability as defined in Republic Act No. 10165 or the Foster Care Act of 2012;

(c) *Child-Friendly Spaces* – refer to spaces where communities create nurturing environments for children to engage in free and structured play, recreation, leisure and learning activities. The child-friendly space may provide health, nutrition, and psychosocial support, and other services or activities which will restore their normal functioning;

[Handwritten signatures of council members]



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(d) *Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)* – as defined in Republic Act No.10121 or the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010, refer to non-state actors whose aims are neither to generate profit nor to seek governing power such as nongovernment organizations (NGOs), professional associations, foundations, independent research institutes, community-based organizations (CBOs), faith-based organizations, people’s organizations, social movements, and labor unions which are organized based on ethical, cultural, scientific, religious or philanthropic considerations;

(e) *Disasters* – as defined in Republic Act No. 10121, refer to a serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society involving widespread human, material, economic, or environmental losses and impacts, which exceeds the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own resources. Disasters are often described as a result of the combination of: the exposure to a hazard; the conditions of vulnerability that are present; and insufficient capacity or measures to reduce or cope with the potential negative consequences. Disaster impacts may include loss of life, injury, disease and other negative effects on human, physical, mental and social well-being, together with damage to property, destruction of assets, loss of services, social and economic disruption, and environmental degradation;

(f) *Emergency* – refers to unforeseen or sudden occurrence, especially danger, demanding immediate action as defined in Republic Act No. 10121;

(g) *Family Tracing and Reunification* – refers to the process where disaster response teams reunite families separated by natural and human catastrophes by bringing together the child and family or previous care-provider for the purpose of establishing or reestablishing long-term care;

(h) *Hazard* – refers to a dangerous phenomenon, substance, human activity or condition that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, loss of livelihood and services, social and economic disruption, or environmental damage as defined in Republic Act No. 10121;

(i) *Orphans or Orphaned Children* – refer to children who do not have a family and relatives who can assume responsibility for their care;

(j) *Separated Children* – refer to children separated from both parents, or from their previous legal or usual primary caregiver, but not necessarily from other relatives. As a result, this may include children accompanied by other family members;

(k) *State of Calamity* – refers to a condition involving mass casualty and/or major damages to property, disruption of means of livelihoods, roads, and normal way of life of people in the affected areas as a result of occurrence of natural or human-induced hazard as defined in Republic Act No. 10121;

(l) *Transitional Shelter* – refers to structures temporarily constructed by the government intended for families affected by a disaster while awaiting transfer to permanent shelters; and

(m) *Unaccompanied Children* – refer to children who have been separated from both parents and other relatives, and who are not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom, is responsible for doing so.



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SECTION 4. COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN. —

To ensure the protection of children before, during and after disasters and other emergency situations, the City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO), in coordination with other concerned agencies, shall formulate a Comprehensive Emergency Program for Children, hereinafter referred to as the *Program*, taking into consideration humanitarian standards for their protection. The Program shall be used as the basis for handling disaster and other emergency situations taking paramount consideration for the protection of children, pregnant and lactating mothers, and support their immediate recovery. This shall be implemented immediately after the declaration of national or local state of calamity or occurrence of any other emergency situation.

The City Social Welfare and Development Office shall engage all relevant government agencies and stakeholders for the implementation of the Program.

The City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (CDRRMO) shall integrate the same in their development of Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (LDRRM) plans and budgets.

SECTION 5. TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP. — To ensure the strict implementation of the provisions of this ordinance, a Technical Working Group is hereby created composed of the following:

- Chairperson - City Social Welfare and Development Officer
- Vice Chairperson - Head of the City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office
- Members:
 - City Health Officer
 - Chief of the Alaminos City Police Station
 - Representative from the Department of Education (Schools Division Office)
 - Representative from the federated accredited CSOs in the city

SECTION 6. PROGRAM COMPONENTS. — The Program shall be gender-sensitive with the following components pursuant to Section 4 of Republic Act No. 10821:

- a. **Establishment of child-friendly spaces within the Evacuation Centers** - LGU of the City of Alaminos, Pangasinan shall identify and establish child-friendly spaces for children within the established evacuation centers of the city.
- b. **Establishment of Transitional Shelters for Orphaned, Separated, and Unaccompanied Children** - Transitional shelters shall be established and designed with the following considerations: gender-specific emergency latrines, bathing cubicles, and hand washing facilities specifically designed for children. It shall provide mother and child-friendly spaces and provisions for maternal and newborn and infant care rooms to protect, feed, provide personal care, and ensure the right to privacy.
- c. **Assurance for Immediate Delivery of Basic Necessities and Services** - The CSWDO shall facilitate and ensure immediate delivery of basic necessities and services specially required by the affected children in different stages of development.

(Handwritten signatures and initials)



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- d. **Strong Measures to Ensure the Safety and Security of Affected Children** - The Technical Working Group, herein created, shall monitor and ensure the safety and the security of the affected children in the areas declared under a state of calamity and shall protect them against all forms of abuse and exploitation.

The TWG shall monitor and strengthen the functionality of the barangay Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC) desks which shall serve as one of the key reporting and referral mechanism for cases of violence, abuse, trafficking and exploitation of children in the barangay during all phases of emergency response and recovery. Children shall be given priority during evacuation as a result of a disaster or other emergency situation.

The TWG shall tap existing Civil Society Organizations in the city to help look after the safety and well-being of children during evacuation operations. Measures shall be taken to ensure that children evacuated are accompanied by persons responsible for their safety and well-being.

- e. **Delivery of Health, Medical, and Nutrition Services** - Under the Program, the CSWDO, City Health Office (CHO) and volunteer CSOs in the community, shall provide health, medical, and nutritional needs of children under state of calamity, including psychosocial interventions for children in different stages of development.
- f. **Plan of Action for Prompt Resumption of Educational Services for Children** - The DepEd, in coordination with the CSWDO, and City Local Government Operations Officer (CLGOO) shall ensure the prompt resumption of educational services for children, including early childhood care and development for children aged below five (5) years old.
- g. **Promotion of Children's Rights.** - The Local Government Unit of the City of Alaminos, through its concerned departments/offices, shall:
- provide child-centered training for all responders;
 - ensure that children are provided with adequate access to age-appropriate information on their roles and responsibilities and those of government agencies before, during, and after disasters and other emergency situations;
 - provide an effective mechanism for trainings and meaningful participation of children in community disaster risk reduction program; and
 - consult with affected children on their needs and priorities for post-disaster relief and recovery.

SECTION 4. SCHOOLS/CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS AS EVACUATION CENTERS. — Only in the area where there is no other available place or structure which can be used as a general evacuation center, may a school or child development center be used as an evacuation center.



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When a school or child development center is used as an evacuation center, gymnasiums, learning and activity centers, auditoriums and other open spaces shall be utilized first. Classrooms shall only be used as a last resort. The use of the school premises shall be as brief as possible. If the use is predicted to exceed fifteen (15) days, the LGU-Alaminos City shall provide written documentation to the DepEd, thru the office of the Alaminos City Schools Division Superintendent, and the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) thru the Office of the CLGOO in the city the following:

- a. The name and location of school/s;
- b. All alternative sites and proposal for final site selection;
- c. Measures being implemented to prevent interference or disruption to the school and educational activities of children.

SECTION 5. TRAINING OF EMERGENCY RESPONDERS ON CHILD PROTECTION. — The City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office shall formulate and conduct a child-responsive training program for all responders in the city, such as community and barangay leaders, community members, school personnel and other rescuers. The training program shall include the following:

- a. Proper procedures and measures to assess the situation, safeguard and protect the affected children during and after emergencies and disasters; and
- b. Appropriate training on psychosocial interventions for children in different stages of development who are victims of calamities.

SECTION 6. APPROPRIATIONS. — The amount needed for the initial implementation the Program amounting to Two Hundred Thousand Pesos (PhP 200,000.00) shall be allocated from the Local Council for the Protection of Children Fund of the city.

SECTION 7. INTERPRETATION CLAUSE. — The provisions of this Ordinance shall be liberally construed in favor of the best interest of the child.

SECTION 8. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. — If any provision or part of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts of provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. REPEALING CLAUSE. — All legal issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with any provision of this Ordinance are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVITY. — This Ordinance shall take effect upon compliance with statutory requirements.

APPROVED.....



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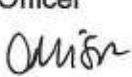
I **HEREBY CERTIFY** to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance consisting of seven (7) pages including this page.


LUZ B. VALE
 Secretary

ATTESTED:


JAN MARIONNE R. FONTELERA
 City Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer


MICHELLE S. SEGUNDERA
 Presiding Officer Pro-Tempore


CAROLYN D. SISON
 Majority Floor Leader


KELVIN THEUS O. HUMILDE
 Minority Floor Leader


VERNA S. D. RABAGO
 Assistant Majority Floor Leader


ARTHUR C. CELESTE, JR.
 Member


APPLE JOY B. TOLENTINO
 Member


JOSELITO O. FONTELERA
 Member


RAUL B. BACAY
 Member



DAHLIA M. DE LEON
 Member


OSCAR A. BOLING, SR.
 Member


SALVADOR P. DONA, LBP
 Ex-Officio Member


LOVERLY V. BERNABE, PPSKP
 Ex-Officio Member

APPROVED BY:


ARTH BRYAN C. CELESTE
 City Mayor

06/19/2023
 Date