



Office of the Governor

Province of Negros Occidental
Philippines

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-09
Series of 2020

CREATION OF A PROVINCIAL NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (NCOV) TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, World Health Organization declared the outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus a "public health emergency of international concern which killed hundreds of people and infected more than 17,200 globally, as it continues to spread beyond China including the Philippines.

WHEREAS, the Department of Interior and Local Government issued Memorandum Circular 2020-018 which advised all local government units (LGUs) to create their respective NOVEL CORONAVIRUS TASK FORCES to help contain the spread of the disease in the country now that health authorities have confirmed two cases of Novel Coronavirus (2019 nCov) entry in the Philippines.

WHEREAS, with the declaration of the World Health Organization of a World Health Emergency, all LGUs are all advised to be on a state of preparedness and take all proactive steps to stop the spread of this disease.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 15, Article 2 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution and Section 16 of the General Welfare Clause of the Local Government Code, local government units are charged with the promotion of health and safety within their jurisdictions.

WHEREAS, the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental shall create a provincial Novel Coronavirus task force to respond to the growing concern over the outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus wherein the Philippines is now among the countries with probable Novel Coronavirus Persons Under Investigation (PUI).

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EUGENIO JOSE V. LACSON, Provincial Governor of the Province of Negros Occidental, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. PROVINCIAL NOVEL CORONAVIRUS TASK FORCE - Hereby creating a "PROVINCIAL NOVEL CORONAVIRUS TASK FORCE" composed of the following:

- Chairperson - Gov. Eugenio Jose V. Lacson
Provincial Governor of the Province of
Negros Occidental
- Co-Chairperson - Dr. Ernell Tumimbang
Provincial Health Officer
- Vice Chairperson - Leo Eusebio
Hospital Operations Department

Members - Atty. Rayfrando Diaz II
Provincial Administrator

Board Member Araceli Somosa
Chairperson on Health and Social
Services

Board Member Juvy Pepello
Liga ng mga Barangay

Charina Magallanes-Tan
PIO

Merle L. Garcia
OIC, Provincial Social Welfare and
Development

Atty. Danilo Amisola
PEMO

PCol. Romeo Baleros
Negros Occidental Police Office
Director

All of Chiefs of Hospitals under the
Provincial Government of Negros
Occidental

Dr. Ma. Girlie H. Pinongan
Cadiz District Hospital

Dr. Jose Mari Salvador
Calatrava Municipal Hospital

Dr. George Salvador M. Parreno
Don Salvador Benedicto Memorial
Hospital

Dr. Carmelo Arguelles
Vicente Gustilo District Hospital

Dr. Ma. Lalaine Teorima
Ignacio Arroyo Memorial District
Hospital

Dr. Myre Parda
Valladolid District Hospital

Dr. Ma. Estrella Ledesma
Teresita Jalandoni Provincial Hospital

Dr. Jiji Lucil Felicitas D. Verzosa
Eleuario Decena Memorial Hospital

Dr. Glicerio Javellana
Valeriano Gatuslao Memorial Hospital

Dr. Leonilo M. Del Carmen
Mereceditas Montilla District Hospital

Dr. Claudelia Josefa S. Pabillo
Lorenzo Zayco District Hospital

Zeaphard Caelian
Provincial DRRMO

SECTION 2. Powers and Functions. – The PROVINCIAL NOVEL CORONAVIRUS TASK FORCE shall have among others, the following functions:

A. As mandated by the DILG Memorandum Circular 2020-018, the Local Chief Executive shall assume and perform roles as (1) Anti-Coronavirus Information Manager, (2) Local Crisis Manager, and (3) Environmental Health Manager.

I. As Anti-Coronavirus Information Manager, the Provincial Governor with the assistance of the Provincial Health Officer and Public Information Officer shall:

- a. Consult Local Health Offices on the guidelines and protocol relative to the safety measures, prevention and control of the Coronavirus in their respective localities;
- b. Disseminate information materials i.e., flyers, brochures, posters, billboards against Coronavirus;
- c. Tap the local media in communication what Coronavirus is, what Coronavirus is not, and the measures to prevent Coronavirus;
- d. Conduct public dialogues with health authorities, police authorities, business community, civil society, and the general public on Coronavirus prevention and control; and
- e. Dispel rumors and claim down the people when hysteria and panic grip the community because of false and misleading information about Coronavirus.

II. As Local Crisis Manager, the Provincial Governor with the assistance of the Provincial Health Officer and the members concerned shall:

- a. Organize a Barangay Health Emergency Response Team (BHERTs) to help manage Coronavirus PUI and their contacts;
- b. Provide, when necessary, protective gadgets such as masks, goggles, gowns, gloves etc., to each member of BHERT and other local health personnel;
- c. In coordination with health and police authorities, cause the referral and transport of a Coronavirus PUI to the DOH designates Coronavirus-referral center or hospital;
- d. In coordination with health and police authorities, cause the establishment of check points, as need arises;
- e. In coordination with health and police authorities, see the protection from unnecessary harm of a Coronavirus PUI, the next of kin and contact(s); and

f. As Head of the Local Price Coordinating Council, monitor prices of medicines and preventive gadgets; and file charges against hoarding or overpricing.

III. As Environmental Health Manager, the Provincial Governor with the assistance of the Provincial Health Officer and Provincial Environment Management Office and the members concerned shall:

4.1.3.1 Ensure the garbage is properly disposed;

4.1.3.2 Ensure that public places and areas such as offices, malls, theaters, enclosed recreational areas, restaurants, public markets, schools, churches, public toilets, etc., are disinfected and maintained of their cleanliness;

4.1.3.3 Esteros and canals are cleaned regularly; and

4.1.3.4 An ordinance on health, sanitation and cleanliness is enacted and/or enforced.

Section 3. Other Specific Functions of the TASK FORCE on Containment and Control and on Prevention:

A. On Containment and Control

a. Receive copy of record from the BI and other sources on persons arriving from a Coronavirus-affected country bound to and residents of municipal and component cities of the province;

b. After receiving copy of such records, monitor the measures and actions taken by the Component City Mayor or Municipal Mayor in connection with the required 14-day home confinement of persons arriving from a Coronavirus-affected country;

c. Refer, and transport, in coordination with the Component City or Municipal Mayor, a Coronavirus PUI to the DOH-designated Coronavirus referral center or hospital, in the event the concerned city or municipality does not have the capability or fails to transport such Coronavirus PUI;

d. Provide logistical assistance to the Component City or Municipal Mayors in managing Coronavirus PUI; and

e. Ensure that the mayors under the Provincial Government's jurisdiction fulfill their Anti-Coronavirus roles and responsibilities

B. On Prevention

a. In coordination with DOH, train Provincial Health Workers especially those hospital personnel in handling and managing Coronavirus PUI;

b. In coordination with the DOH Provincial Health Office, and Component City and Municipal Mayors, conduct a province-wide information campaign on Coronavirus prevention, containment and control;

c. In coordination with the DOH Provincial Health Office, Component City and Municipal Mayors, conduct a province-wide clean-up campaign; and

d. Monitor measures and actions taken by the City or Municipal Mayors in the fight against Coronavirus.

Section 4. Designation of Quarantine Rooms – In relation to Section 3.A of this Executive Order, the Task Force shall establish quarantine rooms in four (4) NCOV Task Force-designated hospitals all over Negros Occidental, namely:

- a. San Carlos City Hospital, San Carlos City
- b. Cadiz District Hospital, Cadiz City
- c. Teresita L. Jalandoni Provincial Hospital, Silay City
- d. Valladolid District Hospital, Valladolid
- e. Lorenzo D. Zayco District Hospital, Kabankalan City

Section 5. Procedure for Handling of Coronavirus Cases from Barangay to LGU to Hospital – The Provincial NCOV Task Force shall ensure the creation of BHERTs in all barangays with a minimum of one (1) BHERT for every 5,000 population. Each BHERT shall be composed of one (1) Executive Officer, a Barangay Tanod, and two (2) Barangay Health Workers, one of whom is preferably a nurse or midwife, and where all are appointed by the Punong Barangay.

Step 1: The Barangay Health Response Team shall monitor the arrival of person(s) from NCOV affected places.

Step 2: Gather information:

- A. From various sources in the community upon the arrival of the person(s);
- B. Through innovative strategies such as Barangay Assemblies and community/barangay announcement posters, etc.;
- C. Conduct home visit and interview the person whether he or she came NCOV-affected area. Check travel and other pertinent documents (e.g., passport, visa, residence certificate, and, medical certificate, if available) to verify whether or not the person came from a NCOV-affected area.

Sep 3: Upon verification that the person came from a NCOV-affected area, and ensuring that all precautionary measures have been undertaken to prevent infection, the BHERT member shall check and record the temperature daily, in the morning and in the afternoon, for a duration of fourteen (14) day home confinement period. Advise the arriving resident to watch out for any other symptoms of NCOV like cough, colds, difficulty in breathing.

If found to be positive of symptoms of NCOV, proceed to Steps 4 and 5. If not, move on to Steps 6 to 7.

Step 4: If symptoms of NCOV are observed, immediately isolate and confine the arriving resident, now a NCOV PUI, to a room away from the members of the household prior to his immediate transport to a DOH- designated NCOV referral center or hospital as designated in this Executive Order. The BHERT must inform the City or Municipal Health Officer immediately and require the NCOV PUI to wear a surgical mask. It shall place the rest of the household under 14-day home confinement. Repeat the process for the household, including contact tracing. If no symptoms are manifest, report to the City or Municipal Health Officer for lifting of home confinement. The City or Municipal Health Officer shall take charge of indorsing the NCOV case to the NCOV Task Force-designated hospital.

Step 5: the BHERT Team, in coordination with city or municipal government officials, as well as health and police officers, shall ensure the safety and security of the NCOV case, and make arrangements for his/her transport to the NCOV Task Force-designated hospital.

Step 6: If the person does not have fever nor shows any symptoms of NCOV like cough, difficulty in breathing or shortness of breath, the BHERT member will require him or her to undergo home confinement for a period of fourteen (14) days.

Step 7: BHERT member monitors compliance with the home confinement procedure and checks on the condition of the person, e.g. if he or she develops high fever, respiratory problems and other symptoms of the disease.

Section 6. Training of Personnel to Respond and Transport NCOV PUI - The Provincial Health Office shall undertake to train the Hospital Operations Department Personnel and the City Disaster Risk and Reduction Management Offices of San Carlos City, Cadiz City, Silay City, Valladolid, and Kabankalan City in the proper handling, treatment, and transport of NCOV PUI.

Section 7. NCOV Positive Emergency Response Team (NCOVPERT) – In case of a confirmed case of NCOV in the Province of Negros Occidental, there shall be an NCOV Positive Emergency Response Team which shall be composed of the Provincial Governor, the Provincial Health Officer, the Hospital Operations Department Head, Municipal or City Mayor of the residence of the patient with the confirmed NCOV case, Chief of Hospital and staff of the NCOV Task Force designated hospital where the patient with the confirmed NCOV case was quarantined, the representative from the Department of Health, and the Public Information Officer. Such team shall immediately convene to ensure proper handling and treatment of the patient and shall have the duty to make official statements regarding the status of the patient.

SECTION 8. Support of Agencies – The Task Force may enlist the support of other agencies such as the Department of Health, Philippine National Police, Bureau of Immigration, Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines, Philippine Ports Authority, Philippine Coast Guard, Department of Interior and Local Government, and Non-government organizations.

SECTION 9. Secretariat – The Provincial Health Office and the Hospital Operations Department shall jointly provide technical and administrative support to the **PROVINCIAL NOVEL CORONAVIRUS TASK FORCE**.

SECTION 10. Repealing Clause – All executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. Effectivity – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Issued this 04 FEB 2020 day of January 2020. :


EUGENIO JOSE V. LACSON
Provincial Governor