



Republic of the Philippines
Tanggapan ng Sangguniang Panlungsod
City of Naga



ORDINANCE NO. 2000-023

AN ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTING CARE FOR ABUSED CHILDREN PROGRAM:-

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Be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Naga, that:

SECTION 1. - This ordinance shall be known as the "Foster Care for Abused Children Ordinance" of the City of Naga.

SECTION 2. - DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES. - There is an increasing number of abused children in the City of Naga. One of the problems which the City Social Welfare and Development Office beset is where to house the abused children while appropriate placement is being worked out.

The aim of this program is to provide protection to the victim from the following:

- a. Repeated abused
- b. Waive the right of the minor to avail appropriate justice
- c. Creation of emotional disorder
- d. Creation of negative attitude and behavior

It is in this Foster Care Program where the victims desire to receive love and security of a home even away from his family.

SECTION 3. - DEFINITIONS OF TERMS. - As used in this ordinance:

- a. FOSTER FAMILY CARE - provision of a planned substitute parental care for child by a licensed foster family when his biological parents can not care for him.
- b. FOSTER FAMILY - identified family chosen and supervised by City Social Welfare Development Office who will give love, care, understanding, guidance, counseling, moral and material security
- c. ABUSED CHILD - persons below eighteen years of age who suffer from psychological, physical abuse, neglect, cruelty, sexual abuse and emotional maltreatment

SECTION 4. - SCOPE. - This ordinance covers child from infancy to seventeen years of age who is neglected, maltreated or abused or is in danger for further neglect or abused or is in danger of further neglect or abused by his/her parents or relatives.

SECTION 5. - FORMULATION OF THE PROGRAM. - There shall be a pool of foster families which will provide a temporary substitute family care for an abused child while

appropriate placement is being worked out to rescue them from the hands of the perpetrators. A criteria for the selection of foster parents shall be undertaken by the CSWDO and as well as the termination.

SECTION 6. - QUALIFICATIONS OF FOSTER FAMILY. - A foster family should have the following qualifications:

- a. have been legally married; although single persons may be considered under special circumstances
- b. sufficient income to meet the basic needs of the family
- c. a genuine interest in parenting a non related child
- d. capability in caring for and handling children with problems.
- e. healthy / harmonious relationship with each family member
- f. good physical and mental health
- g. ability to help the child return to his biological family or accept his new family

SECTION 7. - POLICIES AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: -

- a. The placement of a child to a foster family should be done when there is a potentially hazardous condition which is detrimental to the welfare of the child.
- b. Children below one year but not over eighteen years of age may be placed to a foster family.
- c. An adequate assessment shall be conducted by the Social Workers to the foster parents indicating the circumstances of the biological family before placement may be done.
- d. The foster family should be licensed by the DSWD upon approval by the City Mayor based on the recommendation by the CSWDO after thorough study / assessment.
- e. No child of a foster family should be at a disadvantage by the placement of a foster child.
- f. An alternative foster parents may also be tapped either an Aunt, Uncle or other relatives of the child, if possible.
- g. A traumatized child will not be handled by a Foster Care unless the particular foster parent has the expertise in handling such child.
- h. A foster care should not exceed seven months.
- i. A foster family should not use the fostering as a trial for placement for adoption or for guardianship.
- j. A foster family should not have more than five children.
- k. A foster family shall care not more than two children at a time.

SECTION 8. - SUPPORT. - A subsidy support may be provided when a licensed foster parent lacks the finances for he placed abused child on a case basis.

SECTION 9. - SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. - Should any portion or portions of this ordinance be declared unconstitutional or illegal by any court of competent jurisdiction the portion not so declared shall be in full force and effect.

SECTION 10. - REPEALING CLAUSE. - Any ordinance administrative regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provision of this ordinance are hereby repealed, amended and/or modified accordingly.

SECTION 12. – EFFECTIVITY. - This ordinance shall take effect upon its approval and after publication in a newspaper of local circulation.

ENACTED: June 14, 2000

WE HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.

J. ANTONIO A. AMPARADO
Secretary to the
Sangguniang Panlungsod

GABRIEL H. BORDADO, JR.
City Councilor & Acting Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

ESTEBAN R. ABONAL
Acting City Mayor