



reintegrate into society in a way that's going to cater them their rights and needs pursuant to the provisions of Presidential Decree No. 603, The Child and Youth Welfare Code.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Sangguniang Panlungsod to promulgate this Ordinance:

**CHAPTER 1**  
**TITLE, POLICY, AND DEFINITION OF TERMS**

**SECTION 1. TITLE AND SCOPE** - This shall be known as the "Enhanced Reintegration Mechanism for Children Ordinance of Naga City". This shall cover only the remedial/reintegration measures and initiatives concerning children offenders and in conflict with the law, as well as, abused, neglected, and abandoned children.

**SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY** - The policies stated herein should be observed at all times:

- (a) Accept that children are not mere creatures of the State. They are one part of the most important assets of the nation. Hence, just and enough effort and resources shall be expended to cultivate to the utmost their individual traits, aptitudes, values, and skills, as well as their opportunities for a life that's useful and happy;
- (b) Recognize children and youth's vital role in nation-building by promoting their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. Inculcate in them youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs;
- (c) Uphold the rights of children and youth alleged as, accused of, adjudged, or labeled as having infringed the penal law. Hence, these children and youth shall be treated in a manner consistent with their sense of dignity and worth;
  - (i) Protect the best interests of the children and youth through measures that are in line with the national and international standards and policies on child protection;
  - (ii) Make sure that they are not deprived of their right to fully express themselves in any proceedings and to encourage their participation in the program and policy formulation and implementation related to juvenile justice and welfare, given that this shall be overseen by the concerned department/agency;
  - (iii) Take into account their age and desirability of promoting their reintegration/reentry into society;
- (d) Accept the responsibility of providing assistance, care, nutrition, and special protection to children and youth to shy away all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty, exploitation, and other prejudicial and detrimental conditions that may be directed to them; and

*excuse*

- (e) Apply principles of restorative justice in all the laws, policies, decrees, and programs applicable to children in conflict with the law, abused, neglected, and abandoned.

**SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS** - The following terms used in this act shall be defined as follows:

- (a) "Abandoned Children" refers to children who have no proper parental care or guardianship, or whose parent(s) have deserted him/her for a period of at least three (3) continuous months, which includes a foundling;
- (b) "Abused Children" refers to children who are maltreated physically, sexually, and/or psychologically by a parent, a caregiver, or any other person from society;
- (c) "After-care Phase" refers to the period of time a child returns to the community;
- (d) "Children" refers to persons under the age of eighteen (18) years;
- (e) "Children in Conflict with the law" refers to children who are alleged as, accused of, or adjudged as, having committed an offense under Naga City and Philippine laws;
- (f) "Community-based Programs" refers to programs in a community setting designed for intervention, diversion, and rehabilitation, and reintegration of children in conflict with the law into their families and communities;
- (g) "Exit Programs" are initiatives, activities, and projects done by the concerned agencies/departments to prepare children and youthful offenders for their reintegration into society;
- (h) "Neglected Children" refers to children whose basic needs have been deliberately unattended or inadequately attended within a period of three (3) continuous months. Neglect may occur in two (2) ways:
  - (i) There is physical neglect when the child is malnourished, ill-clad, and without proper shelter. A child is unattended when left by himself/herself without proper provisions and/or without proper supervision;
  - (ii) There is emotional neglect when the child is maltreated, raped, seduced, exploited, overworked, or made to work under conditions not conducive to good health; or is made to beg in the streets or public places; or when children are in moral danger, or exposed to gambling, prostitution, and other vices;
- (i) "Offense" refers to any act or omission whether punishable under local and national laws;
- (j) "Placement Phase" refers to the time the children are in the secure care facility;
- (k) "Reentry/Reintegration" refers to the onset of children leaving child-care institutions and youth rehabilitation centers to face society after months of rehabilitation;

*Handwritten signature*

*Handwritten mark*

*Handwritten mark*

- (l) "Transitional Phase" refers to the actual act of leaving the facility and reentering the community, immediately before and immediately after the date of exit;
- (m) "Youth Rehabilitation Centers" refer to 24-hour residential care facilities managed by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), local government units (LGUs), and/or licensed and accredited nongovernment organizations (NGOs) which provides care, treatment, and rehabilitation services for children in conflict with the law.

**CHAPTER 2**

**STRUCTURES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENHANCED REINTEGRATION MECHANISM FOR CHILDREN IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW, ABUSED, NEGLECTED, AND ABANDONED**

**SECTION 4. CHILDREN REINTEGRATION BOARD** - A Children Reintegration Board (CRB) shall be created in the City of Naga to monitor the development and successful reentry of children in conflict with the law, abused, neglected, and abandoned, into society when they (1) become 18 years old - as such in the case of abandoned, neglected, and abused children currently staying in children's homes - and/or (2) go out of youth rehabilitation centers - as such in the case of juvenile delinquents.

**SECTION 4.1. COMPOSITION** - The Board shall be composed of the following:

Chairman: City Social Welfare and Development Officer  
Members: The Chairman, SP Committee on Children  
The Chairman, SP Committee on Youth  
The Chairman, SP Committee on Education  
Head, Children Affairs Office  
Liga ng mga Barangay President  
Head, Metro PESO  
Head, Education, Sports, and Scholarships Office  
Head, Naga City Children's Home  
Head, Naga City Women's Home  
Head, CEPPIO  
NGO Representative

**SECTION 4.2. DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS** - The CRB shall have the following duties and functions:

- (a) To oversee the implementation of this ordinance;
- (b) To mobilize a group of personnel who will be able to spearhead the activities relative to this ordinance. This group of personnel shall include but shall not be limited to:
  - (i) Personnel from private, government, and nongovernment agencies/organizations affiliated with this ordinance;
  - (ii) Psychological support personnel;
  - (iii) Personnel for child rights;

*Handwritten signature*

*Handwritten mark*

*Handwritten mark*

- (c) To assist other concerned agencies in the review and redrafting of policies/regulations included in this ordinance;
- (d) To formulate plan of actions and/or guidelines in coordination with concerned government agencies and/or affiliated organizations for the effectiveness of the implementation of this ordinance;
- (e) To coordinate with concerned private and government agencies, including barangays, in the implementation of the activities, as well as the monitoring of the reintegration of the children concerned;
- (f) To provide enough and just assistance to children in conflict with the law, abused, neglected, and abandoned, in terms of individual choices and decisions, morality, rights, and deterrence;
- (g) To constantly conduct analysis for the effectiveness of the ordinance, and identify problems that lead to its ineffectiveness, and act upon the identified loopholes;
- (h) To recommend and draft additional measures that will ensure the welfare and protection, especially of the rights of children in conflict with the law, abused, neglected, and abandoned, and
- (i) To conduct series of seminars/workshops/lectures/symposia/trainings regarding juvenile welfare and protection, as well as rehabilitation guidelines, to people who are tasked to handle the children of the matter.

**CHAPTER 3**  
**IMPLEMENTING PROVISIONS OF THE ENHANCED REINTEGRATION MECHANISM**  
**FOR CHILDREN IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW, ABUSED, NEGLECTED, AND**  
**ABANDONED**

*check*  
**SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTING PROVISIONS** - To improve the likelihood of success for the reentry of children into the community, the CRB, with partnerships from affiliated government and nongovernment agencies/departments/organizations, shall implement the following plans relative to this ordinance:

**SECTION 5.1. EXIT PROGRAMS** - These programs shall be done before the transitional phase of children and youthful offenders:

**SECTION 5.1.1. EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES AND PREPARATION** - Education programs have been proven to reduce recidivism and improve the way of living of children. Therefore, for the purposes of this Act, the CRB shall, before the transitional phase of the children and youthful offenders:

- (a) Provide high, quality, appropriate education in youth rehabilitation centers that parallels that of mainstream public schools to uphold the same academic standards;

- (b) Create a non-formal education curriculum that would cater to the individual choices and skills of the children involved. This shall include inculcating the children's competency and talent in the following but not limited to:
  - (i) Art
  - (ii) Business and/or Financial Literacy
  - (iii) Livelihood
  - (iv) Sports
- (c) Make sure that upon release, the children and the youth concerned shall be eligible to return to school with a preparation that would help them persist and succeed in a community setting.

**SECTION 5.1.2. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND PREPARATION** - As research consistently shows that individuals who have jobs are less likely to commit an offense, then as a form of deterrent, the scope of assistance being offered shall be broadened, as such, include employment assistance programs to of-age children in conflict with the law, abused, abandoned, and neglected, for their reintegration, broadening as well the role of Metro PESO.

Prior to the transition phase, affiliated agencies/departments tasked to look after the children concerned in youth rehabilitation centers and children's homes shall adopt the following initiatives:

- (a) Offer high-quality vocational training;
- (b) Provide helpful employment supports including broadening the knowledge and giving adequate information to children and youthful offenders about what to do during job interviews, how to behave properly in the workplace, and other job employment necessities;
- (c) Ensure that they are fit to apply in any employment program of the city; and
- (d) Supply sufficient details to children to make sure that in their transitional phase, they already have even an inkling of idea where to apply and how to be accepted for the job.

**SECTION 5.1.3. HEALTH SUPPORT** - Children and youthful offenders in youth rehabilitation centers shall be given adequate mental, psychological, and physical health assistance, with regular check-ups and consultations.

**SECTION 5.2. AFTER-CARE PROGRAMS** - These programs shall be regularly implemented and made available to children in conflict with the law, as well as, neglected,

crossing

7

abused, and/or abandoned children, after the transitional phase:

**SECTION 5.2.1. HEALTH SUPPORT** - To further ensure that the CICLs and abandoned, neglected, and abused children are still cared for after the transitional phase, there has to be the implementation of the following:

- (a) Children who are found out to be sick, physically, mentally, and/or others, upon transitional phase shall still be given assistance by the Body or the group of personnel that the Body created. They shall be referred to proper institutions that would help them recover fast and effectively; and
- (b) Reintegrated children shall still have the privilege to access health supports for free from the onset of the transitional phase until their 120th day in society, to account for possible physical and mental health issues that may arise upon reintegration, i.e. physical abuse and mental trauma.

**SECTION 5.2.2. UPHOLDING RIGHTS** - There shall be a monitoring and support mechanism for the enhanced protection and assurance of the rights of children and youth in conflict with the law who are already out into the society as they are more subjected to discrimination in employment and in school, as well as abuse, domestic and all other forms, in cooperation with CSWDO, CAO, and NCCWPC. This shall be pursuant to JJWC Resolution No. 2 and all such cases shall be referred to their rightful offices.

**SECTION 6. RESPECTING INDIVIDUAL CHOICES AND DECISIONS OF THE CHILD AND YOUTH** - The implementation of this ordinance would open a lot of opportunity to the children and youth concerned. Therefore, their dignity and right to choose whichever program/initiative/activity they choose to focus on, considering their skill set and life needs, shall be respected. Provided that, they shall have a consultation first with the implementing personnel, just to make sure that the observations of another party coincide with the choice of the children and the youth. The implementing personnel shall also give constructive suggestions and feedback to the decision but not, in any way, belittle and disregard them.

CRB

**SECTION 7. PERSONNEL TRAINING** - There shall be regular training for necessary personnel affiliated with the program, i.e. barangay tanods, for the proper handling of children, as well as for the referring and recording of child-related cases, especially those concerning children and youthful offenders. This training shall be led and organized by CRB with the help of other affiliated offices.

7.

**CHAPTER 4  
FINAL PROVISIONS**

**SECTION 8. APPROPRIATIONS** - The necessary amount to carry out the provision of this ordinance shall be included in the annual budget of the Naga City Children's Home, Naga City Women's Home and CSWD.

**SECTION 9. REPEALING CLAUSE** - Any ordinances, rules, or regulations found to be inconsistent with this shall be deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 10. EFFECTIVITY** - This ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.


ENACTED. May 31, 2022

Xxx

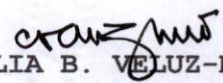
xxx

xxx

**WE HEREBY CERTIFY** to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.

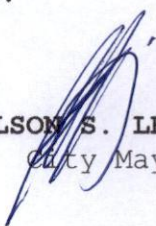
  
**JOSSELL C. ABIOG**  
Acting Secretary to the  
Sangguniang Panlungsod

**HANNAH MARIE B. VELASCO**  
City Youth Secretary to the  
Sangguniang Panlungsod

  
**CECILIA B. VELUZ-DE ASIS**  
City Vice Mayor  
& Presiding Officer

**LUISELLE ALLIANA G. HERNANDEZ**  
City Youth Vice Mayor  
& Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

  
**NELSON S. LEGACION**  
City Mayor

**JOSE PATRICIO B. CAMATO**  
City Youth Mayor