

Republic of the Philippines

SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD City Government of Naga

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-023

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE NAGA CITY BANTAY FAMILIA AS THE CITY'S PROTECTION CENTER FOR GENDER-BASED VICTIM/SURVIVORS OF ABUSE, CREATING A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF:-

Author: Hon. Gilda Gayle R. Abonal-Gomez

Co-authors: Hon. Melvin Ramon G. Buenafe

Hon. Jefson Romeo B. Felix

Hon. Jose C. Rañola

Hon. Ghiel G. Rosales

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Violence among women and children, though declining in number, still remains to be a pervasive social concern in the country today. The 2022 National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) conducted by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) reported that 17.5% of Filipino women aged 15-49 have experienced any form of physical, sexual and emotional violence from their intimate partners. As of 2021, there were 8,399 reported cases of physical violence, 1,791 on rape and 1,505 on acts of lasciviousness.

These forms of violence are closely linked with the unequal power relation between men and women or otherwise known as "genderbased violence." Its impact can be long and lasting. It affects the personhood of women and limits their social development. Largely, violence in any community, whether committed against adults or children regardless of gender, is an issue of governance where effective remedies must be available to eliminate violence in homes, communities and the entire state. Republic Act 9710 or the Magna Carta of Women provides for the equality of all individuals regardless of their gender and sexual orientation. It further defines comprehensively women's human rights and mandates to eliminate discrimination through the recognition, protection, fulfillment and promotion of the rights of Filipino women, especially those belonging to the marginalized parts of our society. Similarly, Republic Act 7610 seeks for the protection of children from all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation and discrimination, while Ordinance No.2019-024 establishes a comprehensive anti-discrimination policy on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity and expression (SOGIE) in support of international human rights laws/treaties which protects persons with diverse SOGIE.

CAN CAN CAN



While several mechanisms have already been established by the national government to address gender-based violence (GBV), the cases draw their roots from the community. Thus, the local government unit is considered as the frontline service provider for cases of gender-based violence. It should therefore strengthen its policies and protection mechanisms to prevent and respond to such cases. The challenges of GBV are difficult to overcome. LGUs should therefore implement a multi-sectoral response to GBV working with health, police, judicial and social service providers. A network of services ensures the continuity of efforts for victim-survivors.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-023 Series of 2 0 2 4

Page - 2 -

In Naga, the Naga City Bantay Familia was established in January 16, 1999 to put up a mechanism for responding to the increasing number of cases of abuse among women and girls. Initially, it began by providing a referral system to connect victims of abuse to appropriate agencies such as the Philippine National Police, Public Attorney's Office, National Bureau of Investigation, etc. It assisted victims in assessing the needed services such as reporting to the police, filing of cases, providing medical assistance/medico legal, etc. Until such time that direct services were in place through legal and psychological consultations. Over the years, the Naga City Bantay Familia has pooled in community volunteers to assist in the delivery of its services. Trained volunteers assisted in the conduct of paralegal interventions, counseling, family dialogues and psychological first aid, in their respective barangays. Long before, the Naga City Bantay Familia has already utilized the multi-sectoral approach prescribed to address cases of GBV in the community.

Therefore, because of its capacity to provide a continuum of care and support to victim-survivors of gender-based violence alongside the City's direction to prevent and respond to such cases, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod ng Naga, that:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Ordinance shall be known as the "NAGA CITY BANTAY FAMILIA PROTECTION CENTER."

SECTION 2. PURPOSE. This ordinance is proposed to establish a multi-sectoral response to gender-based violence and to advocate towards its prevention and elimination.

SECTION 3. - DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES. The City Government of Naga hereby declares as its policy the value for the dignity of its constituents and ensures full respect of human rights. It recognizes the need to protect its people from violence and threats to their personal safety and security. It should, therefore, exert efforts to address gender-based violence.

SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS. The following terms shall mean as follows:



- a) Gender-based violence is any form of violence inflicted on the basis of their sex and will include, but not limited, to the following:
 - a.1) physical, sexual, psychological and economic violence happening within the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household, marital rape and other traditional practices harmful to women, non-spousal violence, and violence related to exploitation;
 - a.2) physical, sexual and psychological violence happening within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment, intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere, trafficking of women and prostitution; and
 - a.3) physical, sexual and psychological violence, perpetrated and condoned by the State, wherever it



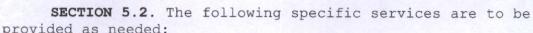
Page - 3 -

occurs.

- b) Violence against women violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately, including acts that inflict physical, mental and sexual harm and suffering, threats of such acts, coercion and other deprivations of liberty that impairs or nullifies the enjoyment by women of human rights and fundamental freedoms.
- c) Violence against children refers to all forms of physical or mental violence, injury and abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse. It also pertains to the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against a child, by an individua or group that either result in or has a high likelihood of resulting in actual or potential harm to the child's health, survival, development or dignity.
- d) Violence against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer - violence committed against LGBTQ due to their sexual orientation and gender identity which includes acts causing physical, mental or sexual harm and suffering, threats of such acts, coercion, and other deprivations of liberty, violence, harassment, discrimination, exclusion, stigmatization and prejudice directed against persons because of sexual orientation or gender identity.

SECTION 5. PROTECTION CENTER FOR VICTIMS/SURVIVORS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND ABUSE

SECTION 5.1. The Naga City Bantay Familia now known as the City's crisis center for abused women and children shall now be established as the protection center for victims and survivors of gender-based violence and abuse of the city. It be a division under the City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO). The main function is to provide assistance to clients through gender-fair and child-friendly approaches.



- provided as needed:
 - 5.2.1. complete intervention and protection services to clients and their families including, medical and police assistance, legal and psychological services.
 - 5.2.2 ensure the safety and security of the clients
 - 5.2.3 provide referral to private or other government agencies for other services based on assessed needs of the clients
 - 5.2.4 provide referral for case management and rehabilitation of offenders and perpetrators
 - 5.2.5 serve as resource center on information and data pertaining to gender-based violence in the city.



Page - 4 -

SECTION 5.3. The Center shall have the following facilities:

- a. reception area
- interview/investigation room equipped with one-way mirror, audio recorder, etc
- c. medical examination room
- d. counseling/therapy room
- e. records/database room
- f. play/rest area

SECTION 6. CREATION OF UNITS - The protection center will be composed of different units with respective functions:

- a) Administrative Support Unit This unit shall manage the operations and personnel concerns of the center. It will also take charge of advocacy by developing programs, partnering with other stakeholders and providing capacity-building.
- b) Case Management Unit This unit shall take charge of coordinating the clients' admission, case management, and after care services to be given by the service providers.
- c) Medical Support Unit This unit shall be composed of medical professionals to conduct medical examination, medicolegal, prescribe necessary medication, and administer treatment to clients of the center.
- d) Psychosocial Support Unit This shall be involved in providing the social work and psychological care needed by clients of the center, including performing case intake, psychological counseling and initial assessment.
- e) Legal and Security Unit This unit shall assist the clients through legal consultations, assistance in the judicial process and provision of safety and risk assessments.

SECTION 7. PERSONNEL AND STAFF REQUISITES. The center shall be composed of these personnel, with the following qualifications and functions:

- 1) Executive Director shall serve as the head of the Center, with Bachelor's degree preferably related to Social Work, Psychology; has two (2) years supervisory experience, knowledgeable of Gender and Development (GAD) or related programs, advocacies and services; Career Service Professional eligible and with compensation not lower than Salary Grade (SG) 18.
- 2) Administrative Officer II shall attend to the management of the center including its personnel and staff concerns, and leads its advocacy initiatives, with Bachelor's Degree relevant to the job, preferably with one (1) year work experience in GAD or other related programs and advocacies, Career Service Professional Eligible (Second Level), with compensation not lower than Salary Grade (SG) -11.





Page - 5 -

- 3) Social Welfare Officer I shall take charge of case management procedures such as coordination of clients' admission, ongoing interventions, and aftercare, with Bachelor's Degree in Social Work, should be a Registered Social Worker, at least one (1) year work GAD or other related programs and advocacies, with compensation not lower than Salary Grade (SG) 11.
- 4) Administrative Aide VI (Clerk III) to assist the units in the operations of the center, should have at least completed two (2) years studies in College, Career Service Subprofessional Eligible (First Level), with compensation not lower than Salary Grade (SG) 6.
- 5) Administrative Aide III (Clerk II) to assist the Administrative Aide VI (Clerk III) in the operations of the center, should have at least completed two (2) years studies in College, Career Service Subprofessional Eligible (First Level), with compensation not lower than Salary Grade (SG) 3.

The following professionals and consultants will be detailed to provide the services at the center:

- 1) Medical Officer to handle the initial physical care needed by the client as well as forensic medico-legal, should be a Doctor of Medicine, with one year experience/practice in medico-legal.
- 2) Legal Officer to handle legal consultations, assist in the judicial process and other and ensure the safety of clients, should be a member of the Bar, with relevant experience in gender-based violence and abuse cases.
- 3) Police Officer to conduct investigation of the complaints and refer the case to necessary agencies such as the prosecutor, etc, to be detailed and recommended by the Naga City Police Office.
- county my
- 4) Psychologist to handle the counseling/psychotherapy services needed by the client and supervise the Psychologistin-Training, should be a Registered Psychologist, with one (1) year relevant experience in providing interventions for victims of violence and abuse and delivery of psychological services, with eight (8) hours of relevant training on the delivery of psychological services included psychological interventions, psychological assessment, and psychological programs, must have at least two (2) year work experience in Gender and Development or other related programs and advocacies, with compensation not lower than Salary Grade (SG) 15.
- 5) Psychometrician/Psychologist-in-Training to handle the intake interview and conduct initial assessment of the clients, should be a Registered Psychometrician with master's degree units and relevant experience.
- **SECTION 8. MANUAL OF OPERATIONS** After the enactment of this ordinance, a manual of operations shall be developed following the approval of this ordinance to establish the specific operations



Page - 6 -

of the center

SECTION 9. OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE - To ensure the efficient delivery of services, an Oversight Committee shall be created with the following compositions:

- a) The City Mayor as the Chairperson
- b) Sangguniang Panlungsod Committee Chairperson on Women and Gender Development
- c) Sangguniang Panlungsod Committee Chairperson on Children
- d) Sangguniang Panlungsod Committee Chairperson on Health and Nutrition
- e) Sangguniang Panlungsod Committee Chairperson on Human Rights
- f) Department Head or representative, City Health Office
- g) Department Head or representative, City Social Welfare and Development Office
- h) Department Head or representative, City Legal Office
- i) President, Liga ng mga Barangay
- j) President, Sangguniang Kabataan Federation
- k) Chairperson, Naga City People's Council
- 1) President, Naga City Council for Women
- m) Chief, Naga City Police Office

SECTION 10. FUNDING. The local government shall provide additional and necessary funding and other necessary assistance for the effective implementation of this ordinance.

SECTION 11. REPEALING CLAUSE. All ordinances, resolutions, memorandum circulars, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 12. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If for any reason any section or provision of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 13. EFFECTIVITY. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

ENACTED: March 19, 2024.

XXX

XXX

XXX

WE HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.

GIL A. DE LA TORRE

Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod

NELSON

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

Craw Tun

APPROVED:

LEGACION Mayor 3 4 4