



Republic of the Philippines  
**QUEZON CITY COUNCIL**  
Quezon City  
22<sup>nd</sup> City Council

PO22CC-197

47<sup>th</sup> Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP- 3224, S-2023

AN ORDINANCE STRENGTHENING THE BARANGAY NUTRITION PROGRAM BY PROVIDING AT LEAST ONE (1) BARANGAY NUTRITION SCHOLAR (BNS) PER BARANGAY, PROVIDING BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER RELATED PURPOSES

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Introduced by Councilors BERNARD R. HERRERA, DOROTHY A. DELARMENTE, M.D., JOSEPH P. JUICO and KRISTINE ALEXIA R. MATIAS

Co-Introduced by Councilors Tany Joe "TJ" L. Calalay, Nikki V. Crisologo, Charm M. Ferrer, Fernando Miguel "Mikey" F. Belmonte, Candy A. Medina, Aly Medalla, Dave C. Valmocina, Tatay Rannie Z. Ludovica, Godofredo T. Liban II, Kate Galang-Coseteng, Geleen "Dok G" G. Lumbad, Albert Alvin "Chuckie" L. Antonio III, Don S. De Leon, Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay, Atty. Anton L. Reyes, Edgar "Egay" G. Yap, Imee A. Rillo, Raquel S. Malañgen, Irene R. Belmonte, Nanette Castelo-Daza, Marra C. Suntay, Joseph Joe Visaya, Alfred Vargas, MPA, Ram V. Medalla, Shaira "Shay" L. Liban, Aiko S. Melendez, Mutya Castelo, Maria Eleanor "Doc Ellie" R. Juan, O.D., Eric Z. Medina, Emmanuel Banjo A. Pilar, Vito Sotto Generoso, Victor "Vic" Bernardo, Alfredo "Freddy" Roxas and Julian Marcus D. Trono

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WHEREAS, Section 15, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the State shall preserve and promote the people's right to health and create health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, Presidential Decree No. 491 or the Nutrition Act of the Philippines states that nutrition should be a priority of the government to be implemented by all branches of the government in an integrated fashion;

WHEREAS, Presidential Decree No. 1569 mandated the deployment of Barangay Nutrition Scholars (BNS) in each barangay and the strengthening of the Barangay Nutrition Program in the implementation of nutrition specific interventions and nutrition sensitive interventions in the community;

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WHEREAS, Letter of Instruction 441 of 1976 instructs various departments of government to address malnutrition. It authorizes the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) formerly the Department of Local Government and Community Development, to establish functioning nutrition committees at different administrative levels including the barangay;

WHEREAS, the Local Government Code of 1991 (Republic Act No. 7160) mandates Local Government Units (LGUs) to exercise their powers and discharge their functions as are necessary and appropriate for the effective provision of basic services including child welfare and nutrition services;

WHEREAS, the Kalusugan at Nutrisyon ng Mag-Nanay Act – First 1000 Days Law (Republic Act No. 11148) mandates the national agencies, LGUs, civil societies and other stakeholders to develop and implement a comprehensive and sustainable strategy for the first 1,000 days of life to address the health, nutrition, and developmental problems affecting infants, young children, adolescent females, and pregnant and lactating women;

WHEREAS, the BNS Program is one of the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition's human resource development strategies. In order to further strengthen the BNS Program in the City, it is appropriate and timely to promulgate a comprehensive local policy through legislation beneficial to Barangay Nutrition Scholars in order to motivate them to sustain and, if necessary, improve their valuable performances and services in implementing the Quezon City Nutrition Action Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. TITLE. – This Ordinance shall be known as "Barangay Nutrition Scholars (BNS) Ordinance of Quezon City".

SECTION 2. DEFINITION OF TERMS. – As used in this Act, the term:

- a. **Barangay Nutrition Action Officer (BNAO)** – he/she leads the planning group of the BNC, initiate nutrition action planning, coordinates and manages the implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the City Nutrition program;

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- b. **Barangay Nutrition Action Plan (BNAP)** – it is a three-year plan that contains the objectives to address the priority nutrition issue prevalent in the barangay;
- c. **Barangay Nutrition Committee (BNC)** – it is composed of various organizations that were established with the goal of improving nutritional outcomes through developing a favorable policy on health and nutrition;
- d. **Barangay Nutrition Scholar (BNS)** – he/she is a barangay-based volunteer worker who provides basic nutrition and associated health services and connects communities with nutrition and related service providers. The BNS is also a trained community worker who provides linkage between the community and partner organizations for the implementation of nutrition and other health-related activities;
- e. **Civil society organization** – refers to non-State actors whose aims are neither to generate profits nor to seek governing power, such as Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), professional associations, foundations, independent research institutes, Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), faith-based organizations, people's organizations, social movements, networks, coalitions, which are organized based on ethical, cultural, scientific, religious or philanthropic considerations;
- f. **First 1000 days of life** – it refers to the period of a persons' life, from conception to the first twenty-four (24) months of life. This is considered to be the critical window of opportunity to promote health and development and prevent malnutrition and its life-long consequences;
- g. **Food security** – it refers to the state at which people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life;
- h. **Malnutrition** – it refers to deficiencies, excesses or imbalances in a person's intake of protein, energy (carbohydrates and fats) and/or nutrients covering both undernutrition which includes suboptimal breastfeeding, stunting, wasting or thinness, underweight and micronutrient deficiencies (Vitamin A Deficiency, Iodine Deficiency, Iron Deficiency Anemia) as well as overnutrition, which includes overweight and obesity;

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- i. **Nutrition-sensitive programs and projects** – they refer to interventions or programs that address the underlying determinants of maternal, fetal, infant and child nutrition and development, such as those pertaining to food security, social protection, adequate caregiving resources at the maternal, household and community levels and access to health services and a safe and hygienic environment and incorporate specific nutrition goals and actions. Nutrition-sensitive programs can serve as delivery platforms for nutrition-specific interventions, potentially increasing their scale, coverage, and effectiveness;
- j. **Nutrition-specific interventions** – they refer to interventions or programs that address the immediate determinants of maternal, fetal, infant and child nutrition and development, adequate food and nutrient intake, feeding, caregiving and parenting practices, and low burden of infectious diseases; and
- k. **Stunting** – is defined as the state/condition where children aged zero (0) to fifty-nine months (59) is below minus two (-2) SD (moderate stunting) and minus three (-3) SD (severe stunting) from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards. It results from chronic undernutrition during the most critical periods of growth and development in early life.

**SECTION 3. QUALIFICATIONS AND RECRUITMENT STANDARDS.** – The Barangay Nutrition Scholars shall possess the following qualifications:

- a. Bonafide resident of the barangay for at least four (4) years, with ability to speak the dialect. Provided that, if such appointment is not possible, the BNS should be a resident of the next contiguous barangay for at least four (4) years, with ability to speak the dialect;
- b. Possess leadership potential and the initiative and willingness to serve the barangay for at least one (1) year;
- c. Willingness to learn, and to teach what he/she has learned to the people of the barangay;
- d. At least high school graduate;
- e. Physically and mentally fit;
- f. At least eighteen (18) but not more than 65 years old; and
- g. Willing to report to the health center for the agreed upon number of hours.

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*Upon meeting the above qualifications, the BNS shall undergo all the modules of the BNS Basic Course and Practicum Program as provided for by the National Nutrition Council, and as managed by the local training team led by the City Nutrition Action Officer. A Certificate of Completion shall be issued by the City Health Department.*

*Pursuant to the Local Government Code of 1991, the appointment of the BNS shall be co-terminus with the Punong Barangay unless the Punong Barangay issues a re-appointment with the concurrence of the Sangguniang Barangay. Removal shall only be done with cause according to the health, physical, and mental capacity to perform the services and internal discipline of the organization.*

*SECTION 4. THE ROLE OF BARANGAYS. – All barangays are encouraged to support the institutionalization and implementation of this Ordinance through the implementation of the Barangay Nutrition Program, organization and strengthening of the Barangay Nutrition Committees, strengthening the Barangay Nutrition Scholar Program and compliance to the formulation of Barangay Nutrition Action Plan, among others.*

*SECTION 5. BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES. – Pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 1569, the barangay nutrition scholar shall be granted a civil service eligibility equivalent to second grade after the completion of at least two years of continuous and satisfactory service in the barangay. The City Health Department shall certify and issue a certification stating the completion of at least two years of continuous and satisfactory service in the barangay.*

*The BNS shall also be entitled to a training stipend, kit and travel allowance, and in addition thereto, such other allowances that the barangay and the City may grant upon approval of the City Mayor, subject to availability of funds.*

*SECTION 6. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. – The Quezon City Health Department (QCHD), in coordination with the Liga ng Barangay, and the Barangay and Community Relations Department (BCRD), shall be responsible for issuing the guidelines and policies necessary for the implementation of this Ordinance. Provided that, other provisions of this Ordinance not requiring additional implementing guidelines or policies shall take effect immediately.*

*SECTION 7. REPEALING CLAUSE. – All ordinances, resolutions, local issuances, or rules inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.*

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*SECTION 8. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – If for any reason, any provision of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full legal force and effect.*

*SECTION 9. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. – This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval.*

*ENACTED: October 16, 2023.*

  
JOSEPH P. JUICO  
City Councilor  
Acting Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:


  
ATTY. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS, III  
City Government Department Head III  
(City Council Secretary)

APPROVED: NOV 17 2023

  
MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE  
City Mayor

**CERTIFICATION**

*This is to certify that this Ordinance was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on October 16, 2023 and was PASSED on Third/Final Reading under Suspended Rules on the same date.*

  
ATTY. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS, III  
City Government Department Head III  
(City Council Secretary)

