EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 25
Series of 2016

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BALIWAG PAGBABAGO REFORMATION CENTER

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the State to protect its citizens from hazardous products, promote their right to health and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, Republic Act 9165 otherwise known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Act of 2002 reaffirms the policy of the State to safeguard the integrity of its territory and the well-being of its citizenry particularly the youth, from the harmful effects of dangerous drugs on their physical and mental well-being, and to defend the same against acts or omissions detrimental to their development and preservation;

WHEREAS, the same republic act mandates the provision of effective measures to reintegrate into society individuals who have fallen victims to drug abuse or dangerous drug dependence through sustainable programs of treatment and rehabilitation;

WHEREAS, there is an intensifying plea for a concrete and sustainable program that shall address the pressing concerns of substance abuse in the Municipality and to eradicate such as health implications, family dysfunctions, unemployment and drug-related crimes;

NOW THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND V. ESTRELLA, Mayor of the Municipality of Baliwag, Bulacan, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do order:

SECTION 1. There shall be in the Municipality of Baliwag, Bulacan, established Baliwag Pagbabago Reformation Center which shall be the center point of activities designed to prevent initiation of substance abuse, and for those who have already fallen victim, detoxify and prevent substance abuse relapse and re-initiation.
SECTION 2. Administration and Management. The Office of the Municipal Mayor shall create a Steering Committee chaired by the Municipal Administrator. The Steering Committee shall appoint Chairpersons of the different committees deemed necessary in the exigency of service. Further, the Municipal Administrator shall appoint a Program Manager under its direct supervision, and shall be the lead agency in the establishment and operations of the Baliwag Pagbabago Reformation Center. Supporting agencies will be, but not limited to: DILG, PNP, Municipal Health Office, Municipal Social Welfare and Development, Community Affairs Office, Municipal Agriculture Office, Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator, Municipal Budget Office, Municipal Nutrition Office, Public Employment Service Office and Baliwag Polytechnic College.

SECTION 3. Screening and Admissions Criteria. Each Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Council shall recommend known substance abusers who willingly submit themselves to the Municipal Health Office for screening and identification of treatment needs. Only those evaluated to be of low or medium risk for drug dependency shall be eligible to be admitted to the Reformation Center, pending individual family and community profiles which will be accomplished by the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office. Those identified to be high risk for drug dependence shall be referred to the nearest Rehabilitation and Treatment Center, while those evaluated to have substance-induced mental illness shall be referred to the nearest Mental Hospital, with written recommendation by the Municipal Anti-Drug Abuse Council. No person shall be admitted to the Reformation Center without his written informed consent, signed waiver and willingness to abide by the rules of the Center.

SECTION 4. Activities. The Baliwag Pagbabago Reformation Center shall give due respect to individual rights and shall not in any way encourage social stigma nor participate in shame campaigns against substance abusers. It shall, however, conduct its war against substance abuse through prevention of initial use, and reduction of negative health and social consequences, through activities such as, but not limited to:
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a) **Information, education and public awareness** via conduct of regular lectures, assemblies or awareness programs on the negative effects of drug abuse, led by the Community Affairs Office, Municipal Health Office, PNP and Baliwag Polytechnic College.

b) **Early intervention** through the creation and coordination with HelpLines, with which substance abusers who wish to remain anonymous and not yet ready for open admission may avail of free counselling services through phone that are non-judgmental and non-obligatory. This will be spearheaded by the Municipal Social Welfare and Development.

c) **Sustainable community involvement** through organization and regular meetings of Convenors which will be a multi-sectoral group composed of youth organizations, the academe (private and public), religious groups, Community-Based Organizations and Civic Society Organizations. They will be partners of the Municipality of Baliwag in its fight against substance abuse.

d) **Treatment and reformation** through Detoxification and Relapse Prevention Programs to residents of the Reformation Center, mainly operated by the Office of the Municipal Mayor through structured activities led by the PNP, counselling led by the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office and religious groups, and regular health assessments by the Municipal Health Office. Each batch of residents shall stay at the Baliwag Pag-asa Reformation Center for at least two months, after which they shall be referred to the Aftercare Program.

e) **Social Reintegration** through an Aftercare Program which will last for at least eighteen months. This community-based program will entail regular scheduled reporting of those who completed their stay at the Reformation Center to their respective PNP officers and Barangay Captains. During the 18-month long program, participants shall be given a choice of skills development trainings provided by PESO and Convenors based on the participant's own interests and therefore would be more likely for them to be of use for future employment or business creation. By the end of the 18th month, the reformists shall be given a "starter kit" or its equivalent as incentive to help them with their social reintegration.

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SECTION 6. Unscheduled Release or Discontinuation of the Treatment Program. If for any reason the resident is unable to continue his prescribed stay at the Reformation Center, he shall personally write his desire to discontinue the program including his reasons for doing so, witnessed by at least one family member and a staff of the Reformation Center. He shall then be included in the PNP drug watch list and shall be subjected to regular PNP watch and random drug testing to ensure that he remains drug-free. After being drug-free for two months, including his stay at the Reformation Center, and as documented by PNP reports and random drug test results, he shall still be eligible to join the Aftercare Program in order to avail of the trainings and starter kit incentive.

SECTION 7. Confidentiality. As provided by Section 60 of RA 9165, all judicial and medical records shall be confidential and shall not be used against the resident of the Baliwag Pag-asa Reformation Center for any purpose, except to determine how many times, by himself or through his parent, spouse, guardian or relative within the fourth degree of consanguinity or affinity, the resident has voluntarily submitted himself for confinement, treatment and reformation under this program. However, the records of a substance abuser who did not remain drug-free during his stay with the program or who escaped shall be forwarded to the court and their use shall be determined by the court, taking into consideration public interest and the welfare of the drug user.

SECTION 8. Reporting and Monitoring. The Program Manager under the Office of the Municipal Mayor shall be responsible of creating monthly reports on the progress and activities of the residents, especially on key areas such as maintenance of a drug-free environment, ability of residents to make sound judgements, acquisition of social and life skills, and compatibility and relevance of the program regimen. Complaints and suggestions from the residents shall also be heard and given due attention by the Program Manager, to be presented to and reviewed by the MADAC. The MADAC shall then give its recommendations and next course of actions based on the reports made by the Program Manager.
SECTION 9. REPEALING CLAUSE. All orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Order are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVITY. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the Municipality of Baliwag, Bulacan this 23\textsuperscript{rd} day of September, 2016.

FERDINAND V. ESTRELLA
Municipal Mayor

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