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de Oro
City of Golden Friendship



Republic of the Philippines
CITY OF CAGAYAN DE ORO
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
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ORDINANCE NO. 15070-2025

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE BARANGAY MENTAL WELL BEING CORNER AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Whereas, mental wellbeing issues have become a significant global concern, affecting individuals of all ages, backgrounds, and socioeconomic statuses;

Whereas, access to professional mental wellbeing services remains limited, particularly in underserved areas, leading to a lack of early intervention and appropriate support for individuals in distress;

Whereas, community involvement and support play a pivotal role in fostering resilience and promoting mental well-being among individuals and families;

Whereas, recognizing the need for accessible mental wellbeing services at the grassroots level, it is essential to establish a Mental Wellbeing Corner in each barangay, providing a safe and non-judgmental space for individuals to seek guidance, information, and support;

Whereas, by institutionalizing the Mental Wellbeing Corner within barangays, the City Government of Cagayan de Oro aims to address the mental wellbeing crisis proactively, promote early intervention, and build a stronger, more supportive community that values mental wellbeing as an integral part of overall well-being;

Whereas, the existing Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner initiated by the Psychosocial Unit of CSWD gained recognition in the 2021 Galing Pook Award on Health which the City won for the innovation made and training conducted for the Barangay mental wellbeing programs;

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED by the 20th City Council (*Sangguniang Panlungsod*) of Cagayan de Oro in session duly assembled that:

SECTION 1. Title – This Ordinance shall be known as the “**Ordinance Institutionalizing the Cagayan de Oro Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner and for Other Purposes**”.

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy – Recognizing the significance of mental wellbeing and the right to accessible healthcare, this ordinance aims to establish a Mental Wellbeing Corner per Barangay. In line with the provisions of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, particularly Article II, Section 15, and Article XIII, Section 11, it seeks to promote the well-being and protection of every individual's mental wellbeing, ensuring equal access to necessary services and support.

SECTION 3. Objectives – The following are the objectives of this ordinance:

- (1) **Provide Accessible Mental Wellbeing Support in the Barangay.** The primary objective of this ordinance is to ensure accessible mental wellbeing support for individuals within each barangay, bridging the gap between the community and professional mental wellbeing services. The Mental Wellbeing Corner will serve as a local resource for individuals seeking guidance, information, and assistance related to mental wellbeing concerns.
- (2) **Promote Early Intervention and Prevention.** By establishing a Mental Wellbeing Corner in each barangay, the ordinance aims to promote early intervention and prevention of mental wellbeing issues. Timely access to support and resources will enable individuals to address mental wellbeing concerns at their early stages, minimizing the risk of escalation and fostering overall well-being.
- (3) **Foster Community Empowerment and Resilience.** The ordinance seeks to empower



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the community by encouraging active participation in mental wellbeing promotion and support. The Mental Wellbeing Corner will provide opportunities for community members to engage in awareness campaigns, education programs, psychological first aid, and support group initiatives. This objective aims to build community resilience and create a supportive environment for mental wellbeing within each barangay.

- (4) **Ensure Confidentiality and Non-Discrimination.** An important objective of this ordinance is to ensure that the Mental Wellbeing Corner operates with the utmost respect for privacy, confidentiality, and non-discrimination. Individuals seeking assistance will be treated with dignity, and their personal information will be safeguarded in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.
- (5) **Establish Collaboration and Referral Networks.** The ordinance aims to establish collaboration and referral networks between the Mental Wellbeing Corner and the City mental wellbeing Services as prescribed under Ordinance No. 14297-2022, mental wellbeing professionals, organizations, and institutions. By facilitating seamless transitions and coordinated care, individuals seeking help can be efficiently connected to appropriate resources, services, and treatment options. This objective promotes a holistic approach to mental wellbeing care within the community.

SECTION 4. Establishment of the Barangay Mental Corner – A Mental Wellbeing Corner shall be established in every Barangay in Cagayan de Oro City. The Corner shall be strategically located in a central and easily accessible area found within or around the vicinity of the barangay hall, ensuring convenience and minimizing barriers to those seeking mental wellbeing support.

The establishment and operation of the Mental Wellbeing Corner shall be the responsibility of the concerned Barangay under the direct supervision of the Cagayan de Oro Mental Health Board (COMHB).

The designated location of the Mental Wellbeing Corner shall be planned and implemented by the concerned Barangay.

SECTION 5. Composition of the Barangay Mental Well-Being Corner –

- (1) The Mental Wellbeing Corner in each barangay shall be staffed by Mental Health Workers (MHW) who may be are Barangay Health Workers, Barangay Nutrition Scholars (BNS), Day Care Workers (DCW), Barangay VAWC Desk Workers, volunteers or such other mental well-being advocates in the Barangay trained in mental wellbeing and with the necessary qualifications and commitment to providing comprehensive mental wellbeing support in the Barangay.
- (2) Each Barangay may have at least one MHWs.
- (3) The qualifications of the MHW will be laid down in the Implementing Rules and Regulations of this ordinance.
- (4) The Punong Barangay may appoint the MHW which shall receive a monthly honoraria of not less than Two Thousand Pesos (₱2,000.00) coming from the Barangay funds. The City Government may provide its own counterpart which should not be less than One Thousand Pesos (₱1,000.00) per month per MHW.
- (5) The Barangay Mental Health Workers (MHW) shall be under the direct supervision of the Barangay Mental Wellbeing Focal Person (Focal Person) to be appointed by the Punong Barangay either from among the members of the Sangguniang Barangay who is the Chairman on the Committee on Health in the Barangay or by a Barangay Nurse or Midwife stationed in the Barangay Health Center.
- (6) The subject Barangay shall ensure that the selection and appointment of the Barangay Mental Health Workers (MHW) shall undergo rigorous screening processes to ensure their competence, integrity, and suitability for the role. Whenever feasible, the Barangay may appoint psychologists, social workers and other mental wellbeing professionals as Barangay mental Health Workers



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- (7) The MHW shall possess excellent communication and interpersonal skills, demonstrating empathy, active listening, and cultural sensitivity when interacting with individuals seeking assistance.
- (8) In addition to the Barangay Mental Health Workers (MHW), the Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner may also include trained volunteers or peer support workers who have received appropriate mental wellbeing training and supervision. The Barangay shall ensure that the Barangay Mental Health Workers (MHW) shall receive regular supervision, support, and opportunities for professional growth to enhance their effectiveness in providing mental wellbeing support services.
- (9) The specific roles and responsibilities of the MHW shall be defined and documented, outlining their duties in providing information, guidance, crisis intervention, referrals, and maintaining the confidentiality and privacy of individuals seeking assistance.
- (10) The Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corners shall actively engage in the development and integration of community-based mental health care, specifically focusing on capacity building at the Barangay level through the mental health service development program, collaborating with local health workers, teachers, and diverse sectors, while promoting Mental Health education, trainings, and regional mental health system development in coordination with various stakeholders and the City Mental Health Board.

SECTION 6. TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING –

- (1) The Barangay must equip the Barangay Mental Health Workers (MHW) with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively address the mental wellbeing needs in the Barangay in coordination with the Cagayan de Oro City mental wellbeing Board (COMHB). Training programs shall be established to ensure their continuous professional development.
- (2) The training requirements for MHW shall include, but not be limited to, mental wellbeing literacy, crisis intervention techniques, active listening skills, empathy building, cultural sensitivity, confidentiality protocols, and effective communication strategies.
- (3) The Barangay may allocate resources to provide comprehensive training programs for the Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner which can be charged in their Annual or Supplemental Budgets.
- (4) The resources intended for the Mental Wellbeing in the Barangay may include funding for trainers, training materials, workshops, seminars, and online learning platforms. Partnerships shall be established with relevant government agencies, mental wellbeing organizations, educational institutions, and professional associations to enhance the training programs. Collaboration with mental wellbeing professionals and institutions will ensure the incorporation of evidence-based practices and the latest developments in the field of mental wellbeing.
- (5) MHWs shall be encouraged to actively participate in capacity-building activities, such as workshops, conferences, and seminars, to enhance their knowledge and skills. The Barangay shall support staff members in attending such events by providing necessary resources and time allowances.
- (6) Continuous professional development shall be emphasized to keep the MHW updated with emerging trends, best practices, and innovations in mental wellbeing care. Opportunities for ongoing training, supervision, and mentorship shall be provided to ensure their growth and competency in providing quality mental wellbeing support services.
- (7) The Barangay may establish mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the training programs and capacity-building initiatives. Feedback from staff members, service users, and stakeholders shall be solicited to identify areas of improvement and make necessary adjustments to the training programs. Regular assessments of the MHW's performance and competencies shall be conducted to identify individual training needs and provide targeted support for their professional development.



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SECTION 7. Mental Wellbeing Services in the Barangay - The Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner in each barangay shall provide a range of services and support to individuals seeking help, with the aim of promoting mental well-being, early intervention, and access to appropriate resources. These services shall be provided by the MHWs in a confidential, non-discriminatory, and culturally sensitive manner.

The services offered by the Corner shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (a) **Crisis Intervention** - MHWs shall offer immediate assistance and support to individuals experiencing mental wellbeing crises, such as severe distress, suicidal ideation, or emotional instability. They shall employ appropriate techniques to de-escalate crises and ensure the safety and well-being of the individuals involved.
- (b) **Information Provision** - MHWs shall provide accurate and reliable information about mental wellbeing, common mental wellbeing conditions, available treatment options, and local support services. They shall address inquiries and concerns related to mental wellbeing, promoting mental wellbeing literacy and informed decision-making.
- (c) **Referrals** - MHW shall facilitate referrals to appropriate mental wellbeing professionals, services, and organizations based on the individual's specific needs and preferences as accredited by the Cagayan de Oro Mental Health Board (COMHB). They shall maintain a network of trusted and qualified providers and ensure an efficient transition for individuals seeking specialized care.
- (d) **Emotional Support and Active Listening** - MHW shall offer empathetic listening and emotional support to individuals sharing their mental wellbeing or mental wellbeing concerns. They shall create a safe, nurturing and non-judgmental environment, allowing individuals to express themselves freely and feel heard and understood.
- (e) **Community Education and Awareness** - MHW shall engage in Barangay education initiatives, workshops, and awareness campaigns to promote mental wellbeing, destigmatize mental illness, and encourage help-seeking behavior. They shall collaborate with local organizations and institutions to raise awareness about mental well-being and the importance of early intervention.

The services provided by the Mental Wellbeing Corner shall be strictly confidential. MHW shall ensure the privacy and confidentiality of individuals seeking assistance, adhering to applicable laws and regulations regarding the protection of personal information. The Corner services shall be accessible to all individuals regardless of their gender, age, ethnicity, religion, socioeconomic status, or any other characteristic. MHW shall provide support in a non-discriminatory manner, promoting inclusivity, respect, and cultural sensitivity.

SECTION 8. Roles, Duties and Functions of Mental Health Workers - In operating the Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner, the MHWs shall:

- (1) Provide immediate assistance and support for individuals in mental wellbeing crises, including de-escalation of distressing situations.
- (2) Offer accurate and reliable information about mental wellbeing, common conditions, treatment options, and local support services.
- (3) Facilitate referrals to appropriate mental wellbeing professionals, services, and organizations based on individual needs and preferences.
- (4) Listen empathetically and provide emotional support to individuals sharing their mental wellbeing concerns.
- (5) Create a safe and non-judgmental environment for individuals to express themselves freely.
- (6) Provide immediate intervention for emergent community concerns, which involve



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- imminent harm to individuals or the community, such as suicide attempts and violent threats, coordinating with relevant departments and authorities, ensuring safety before referring to mental health or allied professionals for emergency care and psychological first-aid.
- (7) Facilitate the reintegration process, collaborating with relevant agencies for successful intervention and community reintegration, ensuring continuous monitoring and support to meet the service user's well-being and other health needs, emphasizing collaborative planning among stakeholders.
 - (8) Conduct community education initiatives, workshops, and awareness campaigns to promote mental wellbeing.
 - (9) Collaborate with local organizations and institutions to raise awareness about mental wellbeing.
 - (10) Ensure strict confidentiality in all services provided.
 - (11) Uphold privacy and confidentiality, adhering to relevant laws and regulations.
 - (12) Make services accessible to individuals of all genders, ages, ethnicities, religions, and socioeconomic backgrounds.
 - (13) Provide support in a non-discriminatory manner, promoting inclusivity and respect.
 - (14) Maintain a network of trusted and qualified mental health service providers.
 - (15) Ensure efficient transitions for individuals seeking specialized care.
 - (16) Address inquiries and concerns related to mental wellbeing, promoting informed decision-making.
 - (17) Collaborate with relevant agencies and institutions to promote mental health awareness and education, prevent mental conditions, including suicide, and reduce social stigma, ensuring timely intervention and effective reintegration.
 - (18) Engage in early intervention efforts to destigmatize mental illness and encourage help-seeking behavior.
 - (19) Submit monthly accomplishment reports to COMHB copy furnished the City Health Offices on the number of services, clients, interventions and such other necessary data in operating the Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner.
 - (20) Ensure that Mental Health Education is incorporated into the mandatory educational curriculum of all public and private educational institutions within their Barangay, monitoring compliance and taking appropriate action for any violations.
 - (21) Such other functions, roles and duties as may be provided by law or ordinance.

SECTION 9. Collaboration with Mental Health Professionals and Organization –

- (1) The Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner in each barangay shall, in collaboration with the COMHB, coordinate with mental health professionals and organizations to enhance the quality and effectiveness of mental wellbeing support services provided to the Barangay. It shall encourage and facilitate partnerships between the MHW and mental health professionals, such as medical doctor, psychologist, nurse, social worker or any other appropriately-trained and qualified person with specific skills relevant to the provision of mental health services preferably operating within the barangay or nearby areas.
- (2) Mechanisms shall be established to ensure effective and efficient referral and coordination of mental wellbeing care between the Corner and mental health professionals. Clear guidelines and protocols shall be formulated by the COMHB to facilitate the appropriate and timely transfer of individuals seeking specialized care.
- (3) The Barangay MHW shall maintain a network of trusted mental health professionals, organizations, and institutions. Regular communication and collaboration shall take place to exchange information, discuss best practices, and ensure a holistic approach to mental wellbeing care in their Barangay.



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- (4) Partnerships with community organizations shall be initiated to promote mental wellbeing programs within the barangay. Collaborative efforts shall include organizing educational campaigns, workshops, and awareness events to address mental wellbeing issues specific to the needs of the Barangay.
- (5) The Barangay MHW shall actively engage with local schools, religious institutions, non-governmental organizations, and other community-based organizations to establish a comprehensive support network for mental wellbeing. These partnerships shall aim to create a cohesive nurturing system of care, ensuring individuals have access to a wide range of resources and services for their mental wellbeing.
- (6) Regular meetings, workshops, and conferences shall be organized to promote knowledge sharing, professional development, and networking opportunities for the MHW and mental health professionals. These collaborative platforms shall enhance the exchange of ideas, initiate interdisciplinary approaches, and improve the overall quality of mental wellbeing care within the barangay.

SECTION 10. Public Awareness and Outreach –

- (1) The Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner shall provide services recognizing the significance of public awareness and outreach in promoting the utilization of the Corner and destigmatizing mental wellbeing issues within the barangay. Strategies shall be developed to raise public awareness about the availability and purpose of the Mental Wellbeing Corner. These strategies may include public announcements, community meetings, dissemination of informational materials, social media campaigns, and collaborations with local media outlets.
- (2) Emphasis shall be placed on destigmatizing mental wellbeing and promoting help-seeking behavior. Public Awareness, outreach and education initiatives shall aim to increase understanding, empathy, and acceptance of individuals with mental wellbeing concerns, ensuring a supportive and inclusive community environment.
- (3) Community outreach programs shall be organized to reach diverse populations within the barangay. These programs may include workshops, seminars, and interactive sessions on mental wellbeing topics, providing information, tools, and resources for individuals, families, and community groups.
- (4) Education campaigns shall be launched to enhance mental wellbeing literacy and promote early intervention. These campaigns shall focus on increasing awareness about common mental wellbeing conditions, signs and symptoms, available resources, and the importance of seeking help.
- (5) Collaboration with schools, workplaces, religious institutions, and other community organizations shall be encouraged to integrate mental wellbeing education into existing programs and activities. This collaboration shall foster a multi-sectoral approach and ensure the dissemination of mental wellbeing information to a wide audience by conducting town hall meetings, assemblies, meetings, delivering presentations, engaging in panel discussions, and providing expert advice to community members.
- (6) The Barangay shall establish a communication plan to sustain public awareness and outreach activities over time. This plan shall include regular updates on the services and activities of the Mental Wellbeing Corner, highlighting success stories, testimonials, and community engagement.

SECTION 11. Reporting and Evaluation –

- (1) The Cagayan de Oro Mental Health Board (COMHB) shall establish a reporting mechanism to monitor the effectiveness of the Mental Wellbeing Corner in each barangay. Monthly regular reports shall be required to assess the Corner's performance, including the number of individuals assisted, types of services provided, and any emerging trends or challenges, which shall be submitted to the COMHB.
- (2) The monthly reports of the MHW in operating the Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner shall



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be submitted to the COMHB with copy furnished to the City Health Office and the Sangguniang Barangay through its Punong Barangay.

- (3) COMHB shall formulate evaluation criteria and indicators defining and measuring the impact of the Corner in addressing the mental wellbeing needs in the Barangay. These criteria may include accessibility, responsiveness, client satisfaction, successful referrals made, and improvements in mental wellbeing outcomes.
- (4) The MHW shall actively participate in the reporting and evaluation processes especially in their timely submission of their reports for the overall assessment of the Corner's performance. Continuous monitoring and evaluation shall promote transparency, accountability, and evidence-based decision-making in the provision of mental wellbeing services at the barangay level. The Barangay shall ensure that reporting and evaluation mechanisms are aligned with existing laws and regulations governing data privacy and confidentiality to protect the rights and well-being of individuals seeking help at the Mental Wellbeing Corner.

SECTION 12. Annual Search For The Best Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner - There shall be an annual gathering of all Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corners with their Barangay Mental Health Workers, which shall be conducted in October to coincide with the World Mental Health Celebration, in addition to establishing a recognition program for the "Best Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner" Award, referring to a desk corner evaluated by the COMHB based on guidelines encompassing creativity, effectiveness, impact, community engagement, sustainability, and ongoing activities, while those Mental Wellbeing Corners with the most successful reintegration of service users into their community or families on a yearly basis shall receive incentives in the form of goods or financial support, with individual recognition for all members, accompanied by a certificate of accomplishment and report submission to the City Health Officer and City Mayor, with stakeholder and partner recognition during the World Mental Health Day Celebration.

SECTION 13. Appropriation for Mental Wellbeing Corner - The Barangay may include in the Annual or Supplemental Budgets an appropriation for a functioning Mental Wellbeing Corner including the maintenance and operating expenses for the same, the conduct of trainings, seminar and other capacity building, and the payment for the honoraria of the Mental Health Worker.

SECTION 14. Implementing Rules - Within 90 days after the enactment of this ordinance, the Cagayan de Oro Mental Health Board (COMHB) and the City Social Welfare and Development Department shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of this Ordinance. The IRR shall provide procedures and guidelines for the establishment, operation of the Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner, ensuring adherence to the objectives and principles set forth in this ordinance. The IRR shall be developed in consultation with relevant stakeholders and approved by the Cagayan de Oro mental wellbeing Board.

SECTION 15. Repealing Clause - All provisions of local ordinances, orders, resolutions inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed and/or modified accordingly.

SECTION 16. Separability Clause - If for any reason any part of this ordinance shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 17. Effectivity - This ordinance shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in a local newspaper of general circulation and posting in conspicuous public places in the City of Cagayan de Oro.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

AUTHOR: VICE MAYOR JOCELYN B. RODRIGUEZ
CO-AUTHOR: COUNCILOR MARIA LOURDES S. GAANE

<u>Present:</u>	1 st District:	- Councilor Agapito Eriberto G. Suan	- Councilor Jay R. Pascual
		- Councilor Roger G. Abaday	- Councilor Jose Pepe S. Abbu, Jr.
		- Councilor Imee Rose P. Moreno	- Councilor Malvern A. Esparcia



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|---------------------------|--|--|
| 2 nd District: | - Councilor Yevonna Yacine B. Emano | - Councilor Joyleen Mercedes L. Balaba |
| | - Councilor Ian Mark Q. Nacaya | - Councilor James K. Judith II |
| | - Councilor Edgar S. Cabanlas | - Councilor Christian Rustico M. Achas |
| | - Councilor Suzette G. Magtajas-Daba | |
| Ex-Officio: | - Councilor Yan Lam S. Lim | - Councilor Kenneth John D. Sacala |
| | - Councilor Datu Roberto P. Cabaring | |
| | - Vice Mayor Jocelyn B. Rodriguez | |
| <u>Absent:</u> | - Councilor George S. Goking (<i>Indisposed</i>) | - Councilor Maria Lourdes S. Gaane (<i>Indisposed</i>) |

ENACTED this 17th day of March 2025 in the City of Cagayan de Oro.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing Ordinance.

ARTURO S. DE SAN MIGUEL
CITY COUNCIL SECRETARY

Attested as duly enacted.

ROMEO V. CALIZO
CITY COUNCILOR
PRESIDING OFFICER PRO TEMPORE

Approved:

ROLANDO A. UY
CITY MAYOR

Attested:

ATTY. ROY HILARIO P. RAAGAS
CITY ADMINISTRATOR



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TRANSMITTAL SHEET

May 7, 2025

Sirs/Mesdames:

Enclosed is a copy of **Ordinance No. 15070-2025**, current series, passed by the City Council, this City, during its Regular Session on the **17th day of March 2025**, to wit:

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE BARANGAY MENTAL WELL BEING CORNER AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

for your information.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

KATHRINA RAIZA A. MACADAGDAG
Information Technology I
Chief, Legislative Management Information System & Records Section
By authority of MR. ARTURO S. DE SAN MIGUEL
City Secretary

Office	Receiver Name	Signature	Date
City Mayor's Office	Jorana P.		5-7-25
City Administrator's Office	P. B. M. D.		5-7-25
City Treasurer's Office	Joy Ylani		5-7-25
City Budget Office	Assistant		5-7-25
City Accounting Office	M. Boly		5-7-25
City Legal Office	Bantras		5-7-2025
City Auditor's Office	Gamas		5-7-25
CSWD	Felix		5-7-25
ABC President's Office			

MINDANAO PHILIPPINES SUNDAY JOURNAL

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Republic of the Philippines)
City of Cagayan de Oro)

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

I, BERNARDITA GADOT- BASAY, Publisher/Business Manager of MINDANAO PHILIPPINES SUNDAY JOURNAL, a weekly newspaper of general circulation un Cagayan de Oro City, Province of Misamis Oriental and in Mindanao, Philippines, after having duly sworn in accordance with law, hereby certify that;

Publication of:

Ordinance No. 15070-2025

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE BARANGAY MENTAL WELL BEING CORNER AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

A printed copy of which is hereby attached, has been published in MINDANAO PHILIPPINES SUNDAY JOURNAL issue/issues 2nd wk of April, 2025

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 21st day of April, 2025 Cagayan de Oro City.


BERNARDITA GADOT-BASAY
Affiant
TIN NO. – 940-768-487

SUBSCRIBED and sworn to before me this 21st day of April, 2025 in Cagayan de Oro City, affiant exhibiting his Senior Citizen ID No, 67035 issued at Cagayan de Oro City

Doc. No. 734
Page No. 07
Book No. 25
Series of 2025


ERNESTO B. NERI
Notary Public
UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2026
Tiano-Gomez Sts., Cagayan de Oro City
MCLE COMPLIANCE No. VIII-0000586
PTR 6163809 A 12-03-24 CDO
IBP 472344 10-19-24 MIS. CR.
TIN 473-819-463; NC 2025-25
ROLL NO. 66879 05-23-17



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Principal Author, Vice Mayor Jocelyn B. Rodriguez
Co-Author City Councilor, Dr. Maria Lourdes S. Gaane

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BEING CORNER AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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11 concern, affecting individuals of all ages, backgrounds, and socioeconomic
12 statuses;

13 **WHEREAS**, access to professional mental wellbeing services remains
14 limited, particularly in underserved areas, leading to a lack of early
15 intervention and appropriate support for individuals in distress;

16 **WHEREAS**, community involvement and support play a pivotal role in
17 fostering resilience and promoting mental well-being among individuals and
18 families;

19 **WHEREAS**, recognizing the need for accessible mental wellbeing
20 services at the grassroots level, it is essential to establish a Mental Wellbeing
21 Corner in each barangay, providing a safe and non-judgmental space for
22 individuals to seek guidance, information, and support;

23 **WHEREAS**, by institutionalizing the Mental Wellbeing Corner within
24 barangays, the City Government of Cagayan de Oro aims to address the
25 mental wellbeing crisis proactively, promote early intervention, and build a
26 stronger, more supportive community that values mental wellbeing as an
27 integral part of overall well-being;

28 **WHEREAS**, the existing Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner initiated
29 by the Psychosocial Unit of CSWD gained recognition in the 2021 Galing
30 Pook Award on Health which the City won for the innovation made and
31 training conducted for the Barangay mental wellbeing programs;

32 **WHEREFORE**, On motion of Member Jocelyn B. Rodriguez and duly
33 seconded, it was,

34 **RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the following
35 provisions be enacted to establish a Mental Wellbeing Corner per Barangay,
36 ensuring accessible mental wellbeing support and fostering community
37 well-being.

38

39 *Be it enacted by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Cagayan de Oro City in*
40 *session.*

41 **Section 1. TITLE** – This Ordinance shall be known as the
42 **“ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE CAGAYAN DE ORO BARANGAY**
43 **MENTAL WELLBEING CORNER AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”.**

44 **Section 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY** – Recognizing the significance
45 of mental wellbeing and the right to accessible healthcare, this ordinance
46 aims to establish a Mental Wellbeing Corner per Barangay. In line with the
47 provisions of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, particularly Article II, Section
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49 protection of every individual's mental wellbeing, ensuring equal access to
50 necessary services and support.

51
52 **Section 3. OBJECTIVES** – The following are the objectives of this
53 ordinance:

54 1. **Provide Accessible Mental Wellbeing Support in the**
55 **Barangay.** The primary objective of this ordinance is to ensure accessible
56 mental wellbeing support for individuals within each barangay, bridging the
57 gap between the community and professional mental wellbeing services. The
58 Mental Wellbeing Corner will serve as a local resource for individuals
59 seeking guidance, information, and assistance related to mental wellbeing
60 concerns.

61 2. **Promote Early Intervention and Prevention.** By establishing
62 a Mental Wellbeing Corner in each barangay, the ordinance aims to promote
63 early intervention and prevention of mental wellbeing issues. Timely access
64 to support and resources will enable individuals to address mental wellbeing
65 concerns at their early stages, minimizing the risk of escalation and
66 fostering overall well-being.

67 3. **Foster Community Empowerment and Resilience.** The
68 ordinance seeks to empower the community by encouraging active
69 participation in mental wellbeing promotion and support. The Mental
70 Wellbeing Corner will provide opportunities for community members to
71 engage in awareness campaigns, education programs, psychological first
72 aid, and support group initiatives. This objective aims to build community
73 resilience and create a supportive environment for mental wellbeing within
74 each barangay.

75
76 4. **Ensure Confidentiality and Non-Discrimination.** An
77 important objective of this ordinance is to ensure that the Mental Wellbeing
78 Corner operates with the utmost respect for privacy, confidentiality, and
79 non-discrimination. Individuals seeking assistance will be treated with
80 dignity, and their personal information will be safeguarded in accordance
81 with applicable laws and regulations.

82

83 **5. Establish Collaboration and Referral Networks.** The
84 ordinance aims to establish collaboration and referral networks between the
85 Mental Wellbeing Corner and the City mental wellbeing Services as
86 prescribed under Ordinance No. 14297-2022, mental wellbeing
87 professionals, organizations, and institutions. By facilitating seamless
88 transitions and coordinated care, individuals seeking help can be efficiently
89 connected to appropriate resources, services, and treatment options. This
90 objective promotes a holistic approach to mental wellbeing care within the
91 community.

92 **Section 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BARANGAY MENTAL**
93 **CORNER** – A Mental Wellbeing Corner shall be established in every
94 Barangay in Cagayan de Oro. The Corner shall be strategically located in a
95 central and easily accessible area found within or around the vicinity of the
96 barangay hall, ensuring convenience and minimizing barriers to those
97 seeking mental wellbeing support.

98 The establishment and operation of the Mental Wellbeing Corner shall
99 be the responsibility of the concerned Barangay under the direct supervision
100 of the Cagayan de Oro Mental Health Board (COMHB).

101 The designated location of the Mental Wellbeing Corner shall be
102 planned and implemented by the concerned Barangay.

103 **Section 5. COMPOSITION OF THE BARANGAY MENTAL**
104 **WELLBEING CORNER** – (1) The Mental Wellbeing Corner in each barangay
105 shall be staffed by Mental Health Workers (MHW) who may be are Barangay
106 Health Workers, Barangay Nutrition Scholars (BNS), Day Care Workers
107 (DCW), Barangay VAWC Desk Workers, volunteers or such other mental
108 well-being advocates in the Barangay trained in mental wellbeing and with
109 the necessary qualifications and commitment to providing comprehensive
110 mental wellbeing support in the Barangay.

111 (2) Each Barangay may have at least one MHWs.

112 (3) The qualifications of the MHW will be laid down in the
113 Implementing Rules and Regulations of this ordinance.

114 (4) The Punong Barangay may appoint the MHW which shall receive a
115 monthly honoraria of not less than two thousand (2,000) pesos coming from
116 the Barangay funds. The City Government may provide its own counterpart
117 which should not be less than one thousand (1,000) pesos per month per
118 MHW.

119 (5) The Barangay Mental Health Workers (MHW) shall be under the
120 direct supervision of the Barangay Mental Wellbeing Focal Person (Focal
121 Person) to be appointed by the Punong Barangay either from among the
122 members of the Sangguniang Pambarangay who is the Chairman on the
123 Committee on Health in the Barangay or by a Barangay Nurse or Midwife

124 stationed in the Barangay Health Center.

125 (6) The subject Barangay shall ensure that the selection and
126 appointment of the Barangay Mental Health Workers (MHW) shall undergo
127 rigorous screening processes to ensure their competence, integrity, and
128 suitability for the role. Whenever feasible, the Barangay may appoint
129 psychologists, social workers and other mental wellbeing professionals as
130 Barangay mental Health Workers

131 (7) The MHW shall possess excellent communication and
132 interpersonal skills, demonstrating empathy, active listening, and cultural
133 sensitivity when interacting with individuals seeking assistance.

134 (8) In addition to the Barangay Mental Health Workers (MHW), the
135 Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner may also include trained volunteers or
136 peer support workers who have received appropriate mental wellbeing
137 training and supervision. The Barangay shall ensure that the Barangay
138 Mental Health Workers (MHW) shall receive regular supervision, support,
139 and opportunities for professional growth to enhance their effectiveness in
140 providing mental wellbeing support services.

141 (9) The specific roles and responsibilities of the MHW shall be defined
142 and documented, outlining their duties in providing information, guidance,
143 crisis intervention, referrals, and maintaining the confidentiality and privacy
144 of individuals seeking assistance.

145 (10) The Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corners shall actively engage in
146 the development and integration of community-based mental health care,
147 specifically focusing on capacity building at the Barangay level through the
148 mental health service development program, collaborating with local health
149 workers, teachers, and diverse sectors, while promoting Mental Health
150 education, trainings, and regional mental health system development in
151 coordination with various stakeholders and the City Mental Health Board.

152 **Section 6. TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING** - (1) The Barangay
153 must equip the Barangay Mental Health Workers (MHW) with the necessary
154 knowledge and skills to effectively address the mental wellbeing needs in the
155 Barangay in coordination with the Cagayan de Oro City mental wellbeing
156 Board (COMHB). Training programs shall be established to ensure their
157 continuous professional development.

158 (2) The training requirements for MHW shall include, but not be
159 limited to, mental wellbeing literacy, crisis intervention techniques, active
160 listening skills, empathy building, cultural sensitivity, confidentiality
161 protocols, and effective communication strategies.

162 (3) The Barangay may allocate resources to provide comprehensive
163 training programs for the Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner which can be
164 charged in their Annual or Supplemental Budgets.

165 (4) The resources intended for the Mental Wellbeing in the Barangay
166 may include funding for trainers, training materials, workshops, seminars,
167 and online learning platforms. Partnerships shall be established with
168 relevant government agencies, mental wellbeing organizations, educational
169 institutions, and professional associations to enhance the training
170 programs. Collaboration with mental wellbeing professionals and
171 institutions will ensure the incorporation of evidence-based practices and
172 the latest developments in the field of mental wellbeing.

173 (5) MHWs shall be encouraged to actively participate in
174 capacity-building activities, such as workshops, conferences, and seminars,
175 to enhance their knowledge and skills. The Barangay shall support staff
176 members in attending such events by providing necessary resources and
177 time allowances.

178 (6) Continuous professional development shall be emphasized to keep
179 the MHW updated with emerging trends, best practices, and innovations in
180 mental wellbeing care. Opportunities for ongoing training, supervision, and
181 mentorship shall be provided to ensure their growth and competency in
182 providing quality mental wellbeing support services.

183 (7) The Barangay may establish mechanisms for monitoring and
184 evaluating the effectiveness of the training programs and capacity-building
185 initiatives. Feedback from staff members, service users, and stakeholders
186 shall be solicited to identify areas of improvement and make necessary
187 adjustments to the training programs. Regular assessments of the MHW's
188 performance and competencies shall be conducted to identify individual
189 training needs and provide targeted support for their professional
190 development.

191 **Section 7. MENTAL WELLBEING SERVICES IN THE BARANGAY -**
192 The Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner in each barangay shall provide a
193 range of services and support to individuals seeking help, with the aim of
194 promoting mental well-being, early intervention, and access to appropriate
195 resources. These services shall be provided by the MHWs in a confidential,
196 non-discriminatory, and culturally sensitive manner.

197 The services offered by the Corner shall include, but not be limited to,
198 the following:

199 **a. Crisis Intervention** - MHWs shall offer immediate assistance
200 and support to individuals experiencing mental wellbeing crises, such as
201 severe distress, suicidal ideation, or emotional instability. They shall employ
202 appropriate techniques to de-escalate crises and ensure the safety and
203 well-being of the individuals involved.

204 **b. Information Provision** - MHWs shall provide accurate and
205 reliable information about mental wellbeing, common mental wellbeing
206 conditions, available treatment options, and local support services. They
207 shall address inquiries and concerns related to mental wellbeing, promoting

208 mental wellbeing literacy and informed decision-making.

209 **c. Referrals** - MHW shall facilitate referrals to appropriate mental
210 wellbeing professionals, services, and organizations based on the
211 individual's specific needs and preferences as accredited by the Cagayan de
212 Oro Mental Health Board (COMHB). They shall maintain a network of
213 trusted and qualified providers and ensure an efficient transition for
214 individuals seeking specialized care.

215 **d. Emotional Support and Active Listening** - MHW shall offer
216 empathetic listening and emotional support to individuals sharing their
217 mental wellbeing or mental wellbeing concerns. They shall create a safe,
218 nurturing and non-judgmental environment, allowing individuals to express
219 themselves freely and feel heard and understood.

220 **e. Community Education and Awareness** - MHW shall engage in
221 Barangay education initiatives, workshops, and awareness campaigns to
222 promote mental wellbeing, destigmatize mental illness, and encourage
223 help-seeking behavior. They shall collaborate with local organizations and
224 institutions to raise awareness about mental well-being and the importance
225 of early intervention.

226 The services provided by the Mental Wellbeing Corner shall be strictly
227 confidential. MHW shall ensure the privacy and confidentiality of
228 individuals seeking assistance, adhering to applicable laws and regulations
229 regarding the protection of personal information. The Corner services shall
230 be accessible to all individuals regardless of their gender, age, ethnicity,
231 religion, socioeconomic status, or any other characteristic. MHW shall
232 provide support in a non-discriminatory manner, promoting inclusivity,
233 respect, and cultural sensitivity.

234

235 **Section 8. ROLES, DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF MENTAL HEALTH**
236 **WORKERS** - In operating the Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner, the
237 MHWs shall:

238

239 1. Provide immediate assistance and support for individuals in
240 mental wellbeing crises, including de-escalation of distressing situations.

241

242 2. Offer accurate and reliable information about mental wellbeing,
243 common conditions, treatment options, and local support services.

244

245 3. Facilitate referrals to appropriate mental wellbeing professionals,
246 services, and organizations based on individual needs and preferences.

247

248 4. Listen empathetically and provide emotional support to
249 individuals sharing their mental wellbeing concerns.

250

251 5. Create a safe and non-judgmental environment for individuals to
252 express themselves freely.

253

254 6. Provide immediate intervention for emergent community
255 concerns, which involve imminent harm to individuals or the community,

256 such as suicide attempts and violent threats, coordinating with relevant
257 departments and authorities, ensuring safety before referring to mental
258 health or allied professionals for emergency care and psychological first-aid.

259

260 7. Facilitate the reintegration process, collaborating with relevant
261 agencies for successful intervention and community reintegration, ensuring
262 continuous monitoring and support to meet the service user's well-being
263 and other health needs, emphasizing collaborative planning among
264 stakeholders.

265

266 8. Conduct community education initiatives, workshops, and
267 awareness campaigns to promote mental wellbeing.

268

269 9. Collaborate with local organizations and institutions to raise
270 awareness about mental wellbeing.

271

272 10. Ensure strict confidentiality in all services provided.

273

274 11. Uphold privacy and confidentiality, adhering to relevant laws and
275 regulations.

276

277 12. Make services accessible to individuals of all genders, ages,
278 ethnicities, religions, and socioeconomic backgrounds.

279

280 13. Provide support in a non-discriminatory manner, promoting
281 inclusivity and respect.

282

283 14. Maintain a network of trusted and qualified mental health
284 service providers.

285

286 15. Ensure efficient transitions for individuals seeking specialized
287 care.

288

289 16. Address inquiries and concerns related to mental wellbeing,
290 promoting informed decision-making.

291

292 17. Collaborate with relevant agencies and institutions to promote
293 mental health awareness and education, prevent mental conditions,
294 including suicide, and reduce social stigma, ensuring timely intervention
295 and effective reintegration.

296

297 18. Engage in early intervention efforts to destigmatize mental illness
298 and encourage help-seeking behavior.

299

300 19. Submit monthly accomplishment reports to COMHB copy
301 furnished the City Health Offices on the number of services, clients,
302 interventions and such other necessary data in operating the Barangay
303 Mental Wellbeing Corner.

304

305 20. Ensure that Mental Health Education is incorporated into the
306 mandatory educational curriculum of all public and private educational

307 institutions within their Barangay, monitoring compliance and taking
308 appropriate action for any violations.

309

310 21. Such other functions, roles and duties as may be provided by
311 law or ordinance.

312

313

314 **Section 9. COLLABORATION WITH MENTAL HEALTH**
315 **PROFESSIONALS AND ORGANIZATION** - (1) The Barangay Mental

316 Wellbeing Corner in each barangay shall, in collaboration with the COMHB,
317 coordinate with mental health professionals and organizations to enhance
318 the quality and effectiveness of mental wellbeing support services provided
319 to the Barangay. It shall encourage and facilitate partnerships between the
320 MHW and mental health professionals, such as medical doctor,
321 psychologist, nurse, social worker or any other appropriately -trained and
322 qualified person with specific skills relevant to the provision of mental
323 health services preferably operating within the barangay or nearby areas.

324

325 (2) Mechanisms shall be established to ensure effective and efficient
326 referral and coordination of mental wellbeing care between the Corner and
327 mental health professionals. Clear guidelines and protocols shall be
328 formulated by the COMHB to facilitate the appropriate and timely transfer
329 of individuals seeking specialized care.

330

331 (3) The Barangay MHW shall maintain a network of trusted mental
332 health professionals, organizations, and institutions. Regular
333 communication and collaboration shall take place to exchange information,
334 discuss best practices, and ensure a holistic approach to mental wellbeing
335 care in their Barangay.

336

337 (4) Partnerships with community organizations shall be initiated to
338 promote mental wellbeing programs within the barangay. Collaborative
339 efforts shall include organizing educational campaigns, workshops, and
340 awareness events to address mental wellbeing issues specific to the needs of
341 the Barangay.

342

343 (5) The Barangay MHW shall actively engage with local schools,
344 religious institutions, non-governmental organizations, and other
345 community-based organizations to establish a comprehensive support
346 network for mental wellbeing. These partnerships shall aim to create a
347 cohesive nurturing system of care, ensuring individuals have access to a
348 wide range of resources and services for their mental wellbeing.

349

350 (6) Regular meetings, workshops, and conferences shall be organized
351 to promote knowledge sharing, professional development, and networking
352 opportunities for the MHW and mental health professionals. These
353 collaborative platforms shall enhance the exchange of ideas, initiate
354 interdisciplinary approaches, and improve the overall quality of mental
355 wellbeing care within the barangay.

356

357

358 **Section 10. PUBLIC AWARENESS AND OUTREACH** - (1) The
359 Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner shall provide services recognizing the
360 significance of public awareness and outreach in promoting the utilization of
361 the Corner and destigmatizing mental wellbeing issues within the barangay.
362 Strategies shall be developed to raise public awareness about the availability
363 and purpose of the Mental Wellbeing Corner. These strategies may include
364 public announcements, community meetings, dissemination of
365 informational materials, social media campaigns, and collaborations with
366 local media outlets.

367

368 (2) Emphasis shall be placed on destigmatizing mental wellbeing and
369 promoting help-seeking behavior. Public Awareness, outreach and education
370 initiatives shall aim to increase understanding, empathy, and acceptance of
371 individuals with mental wellbeing concerns, ensuring a supportive and
372 inclusive community environment.

373

374 (3) Community outreach programs shall be organized to reach diverse
375 populations within the barangay. These programs may include workshops,
376 seminars, and interactive sessions on mental wellbeing topics, providing
377 information, tools, and resources for individuals, families, and community
378 groups.

379

380 (4) Education campaigns shall be launched to enhance mental
381 wellbeing literacy and promote early intervention. These campaigns shall
382 focus on increasing awareness about common mental wellbeing conditions,
383 signs and symptoms, available resources, and the importance of seeking
384 help.

385

386 (5) Collaboration with schools, workplaces, religious institutions, and
387 other community organizations shall be encouraged to integrate mental
388 wellbeing education into existing programs and activities. This collaboration
389 shall foster a multi-sectoral approach and ensure the dissemination of
390 mental wellbeing information to a wide audience by conducting town hall
391 meetings, assemblies, meetings, delivering presentations, engaging in panel
392 discussions, and providing expert advice to community members.

393

394 (6) The Barangay shall establish a communication plan to sustain
395 public awareness and outreach activities over time. This plan shall include
396 regular updates on the services and activities of the Mental Wellbeing
397 Corner, highlighting success stories, testimonials, and community
398 engagement.

399

400 **Section 11. REPORTING AND EVALUATION** - (1) The Cagayan de
401 Oro Mental Health Board (COMHB) shall establish a reporting mechanism to
402 monitor the effectiveness of the Mental Wellbeing Corner in each barangay.
403 Monthly regular reports shall be required to assess the Corner's
404 performance, including the number of individuals assisted, types of services
405 provided, and any emerging trends or challenges, which shall be submitted
406 to the COMHB.

407

408 (2) The monthly reports of the MHW in operating the Barangay Mental

409 Wellbeing Corner shall be submitted to the COMHB with copy furnished to
410 the City Health Office and the Sangguniang Pambarangay through its
411 Punong Barangay.

412

413 (3) COMHB shall formulate evaluation criteria and indicators defining
414 and measuring the impact of the Corner in addressing the mental wellbeing
415 needs in the Barangay. These criteria may include accessibility,
416 responsiveness, client satisfaction, successful referrals made, and
417 improvements in mental wellbeing outcomes.

418

419 (4) The MHW shall actively participate in the reporting and evaluation
420 processes especially in their timely submission of their reports for the
421 overall assessment of the Corner's performance. Continuous monitoring and
422 evaluation shall promote transparency, accountability, and evidence-based
423 decision-making in the provision of mental wellbeing services at the
424 barangay level. The Barangay shall ensure that reporting and evaluation
425 mechanisms are aligned with existing laws and regulations governing data
426 privacy and confidentiality to protect the rights and well-being of individuals
427 seeking help at the Mental Wellbeing Corner.

428

429 **Section 12. ANNUAL SEARCH FOR THE BEST BARANGAY**

430 **MENTAL WELLBEING CORNER** - There shall be an annual gathering of all

431 Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corners with their Barangay Mental Health
432 Workers, which shall be conducted in October to coincide with the World
433 Mental Health Celebration, in addition to establishing a recognition program
434 for the "Best Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner" Award, referring to a desk
435 corner evaluated by the COMHB based on guidelines encompassing
436 creativity, effectiveness, impact, community engagement, sustainability, and
437 ongoing activities, while those Mental Wellbeing Corners with the most
438 successful reintegration of service users into their community or families on
439 a yearly basis shall receive incentives in the form of goods or financial
440 support, with individual recognition for all members, accompanied by a
441 certificate of accomplishment and report submission to the City Health
442 Officer and City Mayor, with stakeholder and partner recognition during the
443 World Mental Health Day Celebration.

444

445 **Section 13. APPROPRIATION FOR MENTAL WELLBEING CORNER**

446 - The Barangay may include in the Annual or Supplemental Budgets an
447 appropriation for a functioning Mental Wellbeing Corner including the
448 maintenance and operating expenses for the same, the conduct of trainings,
449 seminar and other capacity building, and the payment for the honoraria of
450 the Mental Health Worker.

451

452 **Section 14. IMPLEMENTING RULES** - Within 90 days after the

453 enactment of this ordinance, the Cagayan de Oro Mental Health Board
454 (COMHB) and the City Social Welfare and Development Department shall
455 formulate the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of this Ordinance.
456 The IRR shall provide procedures and guidelines for the establishment,
457 operation of the Barangay Mental Wellbeing Corner, ensuring adherence to
458 the objectives and principles set forth in this ordinance. The IRR shall be
459 developed in consultation with relevant stakeholders and approved by the

460 Cagayan de Oro mental wellbeing Board.

461

462 **Section 15. REPEALING CLAUSE** - All provisions of local
463 ordinances, orders, resolutions inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed
464 and/or modified accordingly.

465

466 **Section 16. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE** – If for any reason any part of
467 this ordinance shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts hereof
468 which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

469

470 **Section 17. EFFECTIVITY** – This ordinance shall take effect upon
471 approval of the City Mayor and publication in a newspaper of general
472 circulation in the City of Cagayan de Oro.

473

474

475

476

477 **Vice Mayor Jocelyn B. Rodriguez** **Councilor Maria Lourdes S. Gaane**

478 Principal Author

Co-Author

479