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HONTIVEROS URGES MEASURES PENALIZING DISCRIMINATION OF COVID-19 HEALTH WORKERS, FRONTLINERS

In commemoration of World Health Day, Senator Risa Hontiveros



Senator Risa Hontiveros

(cont. p.4)

DEPED ONLINE EDUCATION PLATFORM OPENS TO PRIVATE LEARNERS

Department of Education (DepEd) has made its online learning delivery platform DepEd Commons more inclusive as it expanded its features to cater to private school students. Starting as an

(cont. p.7)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO CITY MAYOR LANI MERCADO

WISHING YOU A MANY MORE BIRTHDAYS TO COME. GOD BLESS PO!!! MABUHAY AND MORE POWER...
Greetings from : Office of Vice Mayor Office Staff



OSBIN SUPORTADO SA PPE- Makikitang kompleto na ang mga front liners sa kanilang panlaban sa nakahahawang sakit na Covid 19 na sa kanila



ay ipinagkaloob, kayat pasalamat ng mga nanunungkulan, mga front liners at Health Workers ng Ospital ng Biñan ang ipinaabot sa walang sawang pag suporta sa kanila, ng mga namumuno sa nasabing lungsod. Napakalak- ing tulong umano para sa kanila ang ginawa nina Cong Len Alonte-Naguiat, Vice-Mayor Gel Alonte, Ms. Winnie Chua Go, Mr. Willin Chan, Mr. Michael Leyva at Ms. Patty Ang, sa mga gamit para sa kanilang serbisyo sa hospital upang gampanan ang kanilang tungkulin. (PIO BINAN/ ROMMEL MADRIGAL)

Cavite to start mass testing program

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HAPPY 4TH BIRTHDAY KIM LAICA

April 13, 2020

Greetings from Papa Allan, Mama Flor & Lumas Family

Cavite to start mass testing program

Governor Jonvic Remulla on Sunday morning announced plans of conducting province-wide mass testing for targeted segments including factory workers, frontliners, students, teachers, grocery staff, and public utility vehicle drivers.

In his post on Facebook, the governor said that an infrastructure

has been set to handle the program. He also revealed that a budget of PHP 300 million is allocated for the testing of over 2 million Cavite residents.

To prevent the virus from coming in from outside the province, the mass testing program is seen to help the provincial government monitor the cargoes going in and out of Cavite.

"Para pumasok

lalawigan ay magiging requirement ang certificate of no Covid mula sa DOH. Kailangan magpa test muna sila bago makapasok at mangalakal sa Cavite," Remulla said.

This is by and large not a perfect plan. We are only 1 out of 81 provinces. I think that if we do it right here than maybe others will follow our lead," he added.

(gocavite)



Ipinamahagi ni Mayor Arlene Arcillas ang ayudang pinansyal ng Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Santa Rosa sa mga Pedicab Operators and Drivers' Association (PODA) bilang bahagi ng tulong sa kanilang sektor sa panahon ng Enhanced Community Quarantine.

May kabuuang 1,056 miyembro ng PODA ang makatatanggap ng ayuda. Tinanggap ito ng president at treasurer ng bawat PODA.

Naroon din si Konsehal Jun Tuzon sa pamamahaging naganap kahapon, 08 Abril 2020. Magpapatuloy ang pamamahagi sa susunod na Lunes para sa mga natitirang PODA.

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Office Add: Blk. 2 Lot 1 Justinville 2, Palico I, Imus City
Mobile No. 0908-229-6651/
0927-207-5522/
0923-4468762
• Tel No. (046) 686-0275
E-mail Add: southernsparklenews@yahoo.com

MILAGROS BAGAPORO

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Mayor Junio Dualan recovers from Covid-19

Mrs. Florian Dualan, the wife of Mayor Jun Dualan, in a statement posted on Tuesday morning, announced that the Naic mayor is already cleared of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19). He had tested positive for the disease on March 24.

"We would like to thank each one of you, to the Town People of Naic, Cavite who have prayed and continuously praying for my husband's fast recovery. I have never felt so humbled and fortunate to be part of your lives and this amazing community. May God bless us and keep us all in his care," said Mrs. Dualan. (gocavite)



DTI 4-A's SSF for Garments Production manufactures PPE coveralls for healthcare workers

The Department of Trade and Industry Region 4-A through its Shared Service Facilities for Garments Production op-

erated by the Reliance Producers Cooperative in Carmona, Cavite is manufacturing laboratory gowns, jump suits, and face masks for the country's healthcare

workers. This is in response to the call of the Department of Health to work closely with the DTI, industry associations, and private firms to produce personal protective equipment (PPEs) locally.

Established on April 4, 2017, the Reliance Producers Cooperative is a member of the Confederation of Wearables Exporters of the Philippines (CONWEP), which has been tapped by the DOH to produce 10,000 PPE coveralls daily. The Cooperative is the first and only Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) Registered Cooperative that is authorized to engage in garment manufacturing and exporting in the Philippines. It has 2,300 member-workers, catering to a wide range of products of international customers of distinguished brands.

Since April 8, 2020, the Cooperative is manufacturing 600 lab gowns, 500 jump suits, and 1,000 face masks per day with 300 member-workers. Upon the arrival of additional raw materials, they are targeting 5,000 pieces of PPE per day with added workforce.



The DTI 4-A provided ten units of single needle-lock stitch needle feed machine, ten units of single needle-direct drive lock stitch machine, six units of over lock five-threads machine, six units of cover stitch machine, four units of buttonhole machine, and four units of bar tack machine to the Cooperative on

June 1, 2016. Presently, these machines are being used to manufacture the PPEs, using raw materials that have met international standards for waterproofing and resistance to contaminants.

"In this very difficult time, it is vital that we have enough PPEs for our healthcare workers to ensure their safe-

ty in this fight against COVID-19, and we are happy with the support that we are getting from different sectors. The use of our SSFs to produce more PPEs is our way of helping and protecting the healthcare workers and other frontliners since they are the ones who are most exposed to dangers," said DTI CALABARZON Director Marilou Q. Toledo.

The Shared Service Facilities (SSF) Project is a major component of the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise (MSME) Development programs to improve and develop competitiveness of the MSMEs by giving them access to energy efficient technologies and more sophisticated equipment. Beneficiaries of the project are the actual and potential users of the SSF, which should be predominantly cooperatives, associations, or groups of MSMEs including MSMEs or individual entrepreneurs who may not be members of cooperatives, associations, corporations, or organizations.

(MIA CORTEZ)

Happy birthday! Miss Abiqueen Gillaco

*Greetings from: Southern Sparkle News
Management and staff*



Vegetable seeds to be distributed throughout CALABARZON

Calamba City - A total of 14,427.4 kilograms of vegetable seeds worth over P34.8 million were already delivered at all five agricultural program coordinating offices (APCOs) of the Department of Agriculture Region IV-CALABARZON.

Pechay, mustasa, kangkong, lettuce, cucumber, cabbage, snap beans, radish, and "pinakbet" vegetable seeds were among those delivered and these will be distributed in different cities and municipalities throughout the region beginning next week.

According to Engr. Redelliza Gruezo, Field

Operations Division Chief and Regional High Value Crops Development Program Coordinator of DA CALABARZON, this production support service is in line with the DA's Plant, Plant Program, an initiative to ensure and sustain food production and availability, and food accessibility and affordability amid the threats of COVID-19.

"We are doing our best to help prevent shortages and keep local food production going," Gruezo said.

The distribution of this intervention will be done through the assistance of the city and municipal agriculture offices.

(Roselle Aquino)



Binuksan na noong April 13, 2020, ang COVID-19 Testing Booth sa Dasmariñas City, Cavite. Pinangunahan ni Gov. Jonvic Remulla at Mayor Jenny Barzaga ang pagbubukang ng kauna-unahang COVID19 Testing Booth sa munisipalidad. Isa pa lamang ang naturang Testing Booth sa mga planong buksan sa Lalawigan ng Cavite.

Soldiers Preempt NPA Landmining in Quezon, Discovers Grenade Cache in Mindoro

CAMP CAPINPIN, Tanay, Rizal - The Army's 2nd Infantry Division foiled what would have been the NPA's third ceasefire violation in less than a week in Quezon Province.

Two suspected NPAs left behind two anti-personnel mines and four blasting caps when they evaded soldiers belonging to the 1st Infantry Battalion who were implementing Real, Quezon's curfew policy.

Lt Col Jesus Dioc-ton, Commanding Officer of 1IB, said that "the incident took place at Barangay Llavac where a Quarantine Control Point in relation to COVID-19 is established."

He added that his soldiers were in the area "to protect the people from threats of NPA terrorists and serve as frontliners in containing the spread of corona virus."

Per the military's records, this is the NPA's fourth ceasefire-related violation in Region 4A, with the first incident recorded in Brgy Puray of Rodriguez, Rizal on March 28.

Coll Alex Rillera, Commander of the 202nd Brigade which has operational jurisdiction over the area, said that his soldiers manning the QCPs has taken a proactive and vigilant stance against possible offensive actions by the terrorists following the directive issued by Maj Gen Arnulfo Marcelo Burgos Jr, the Commander of 2ID.

He condemned "the communist terrorists' desperate act of resorting to the use of landmines, an internationally unacceptable tool in warfare, just to inflict harm upon our soldiers and save face after a series of failed offensive

posturings which resulted to multiple casualties on their side."

Rillera ended his statement by saying that the few remaining NPA terrorists' recent actions are "reflections of the growing frustration within their ranks brought about by mistrust, hardship, hunger, leadership vacuum and the reality of a fast-eroding mass base support which they do not want to accept."

It can be recalled that the first three ceasefire violations of the NPAs ended in armed encounters against the government's security forces after concerned civilians reported the enemies-of-the-state's presence in the periphery of their villages.

The military earlier emphasized that soldiers are constitutionally mandated to act on reports coming from concerned citizens particularly if it involves imminent threat towards the community, even during these trying times brought about by the corona virus pandemic.

On Sunday, Burgos issued a directive reminding his Community Support Program Teams to remain focused in their task of providing solid community defense to safeguard the people against extortion activities and harassment. The directive also orders the soldiers to be vigilant against the NPA's treacherous nature as well as the strict observance of health-related protocols to ensure that military camps will remain COVID-19 free.

In a statement, Burgos expressed his disappointment over the communist terrorists' actions, saying that "instead of practicing solidarity with our people, they are wasting this

once in a lifetime opportunity for them to be bigger than themselves, walk the talk and join the entire Filipino nation in controlling the spread of this deadly virus."

"Today, more than ever, the government and the communist NPA terrorists are in a position to work together to fight a common enemy", added Burgos while calling upon the rebels to "set aside our differences and let us work together not only for the survival of our generation but also for peace, prosperity and development which the future generation of Filipinos truly deserve."

He ended his statement by assuring the public that "as Filipino soldiers, we will never waver in our mandate to quash any clear and present danger to our constituents over every inch of Philippine territory whenever, wherever, whoever or whatever the threat maybe be."

Relatedly, soldiers assigned in Barangay Biga, Pola, Oriental Mindoro discovered a Grenade Cache containing six grenade rifles and one smoke grenade.

Intelligence units believe that the explosives were prepositioned by NPAs operating in the area as part of their planned offensives against government forces performing COVID-related missions.

Such assessment is being validated through their agents embedded upon the terrorists' ranks. Troops are scouring the area to locate more war materiel which they believe are hidden in the vicinity of the village.

As of the moment, 2ID has 3,022 personnel manning 340 Quarantine Control Points across Southern Tagalog. **(Roselle Aquino)**



SILANG MAYOR CORIE POBLETE TO GIVE HER 1-YEAR SALARY AMID COVID-19

Mayor Socorro Rosario "Corie" Poblete of Silang town vowed to give her full-year salary to provide additional food packs to more than 85,000 households in the municipality.

HONTIVEROS... from p. 1

on Tuesday urged local government officials to pass and implement measures to better protect health workers and other frontliners from discrimination.

"There is no health without health workers. They and other frontliners are heroes and should be treated with respect and compassion, not hate and suspicion," the Senator said during the third week of the Luzon-wide enhanced community quarantine to contain the spread of the novel coronavirus disease or COVID-19.

"Hindi katanggap-tanggap na ang ating mga frontliners na lubos na nagsakripisyo para iligtas ang buhay ng ating mga kababayan ay nagiging biktima pa ng diskriminasyon mula mismo sa kanilang mga komunidad," Hontiveros said as she recommended that local government units (LGUs) pass ordinances against the incidence of health workers being denied entry into their communities or places of residence by neighbors, dormitory or apartment owners, and even barangay officials.

"An anti-discrimination ordinance for the protection of health workers and other frontliners in the time of COVID-19 should establish clear mechanisms for the reporting and redress of grievances," the Senator urged.

"This measure should also penalize acts of discrimination in order to fully support our health workers and other frontliners in the conduct of their duty," she remarked.

Anti-discrimination ordinances for health workers are already being implemented in Manila, Parañaque, and Iloilo City, while similar ordinances are being deliberated by other LGUs. The Senator maintained that ordinances will be one of the most effective and expedient ways to address the problem. "Mabilis na tugon at may pangil ang ordnansa para matigil ang problemang ito," Hontiveros said.

But the Senator committed that she will file a bill penalizing acts of violence and discrimination against health workers and frontliners, once the Senate session resumes in May. She will file the measure as an amendment to the Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Concern Act or Republic Act No. 11332.

Hontiveros also expressed concern about the recent spate of violent acts against health workers due to COVID-related fears, including that of an ambulance driver who was shot in Quezon province, and a health worker who was attacked in Sultan Kudarat.

"It's alarming and unacceptable. We should work towards eliminating future violent incidents against health workers," Hontiveros said. "All levels of government should work together to ensure that our frontliners can perform their noble duties, free from violence or discrimination by misinformed or hysterical individuals," she added.

Hontiveros also urged the Department of Health to invest in information campaigns that will dispel rumors and fake news regarding COVID-19, especially those that put the safety of health workers at risk. She likewise encouraged LGUs to follow recommendations set by the Department of Interior and Local Government to better protect frontliners, such as deploying more law enforcement agents in the vicinity of hospitals, providing free transport to health workers, and keeping streets leading to medical facilities well-lit.

"Hindi sapat ang ating pasasalamat sa ating mga frontliners kung hahayaan lang natin silang masaktan o maabuso. Let us repay the hard work and selflessness of Filipinos fighting the COVID-19 pandemic by ensuring that they are safe and welcome in our communities," she concluded. ###

COVID-19 UPDATES & MEASURES
by the Municipal Government of *Carmona*



Carmona IATF on COVID-19 holds meeting on updates and assessments of existing measures. The members of the Carmona Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on coronavirus disease (COVID-19) headed by Mayor Roy Loyola conducted a meeting on April 11, 2020 to discuss the updates and assessments of the local government's ongoing programs on COVID-19.



Carmona LGU delivers situation reports through drone shots. In line with the local government's mitigation efforts to prevent coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in the community, drone shots situation reports at the Carmona Public Market were released on April 11, 2020 for strict monitoring of the implementation of the local government's social distancing measures.

Carmona continues to receive donations from NGOs and companies. On April 11, 2020, non-government organizations and companies continue to help residents and frontliners in Carmona through various donations such as food packs, rice packs, and medical supplies.



CONG. PIDI BARZAGA

MAYOR JENNY BARZAGA

HEALTH WORKERS, BAGONG BAYANI. HUWAG NATIN SILANG KAMUHIAN, PANDIRIHAN, AT IPAGTABUYAN. KILALANIN NATIN ANG KANILANG KABAYANIHAN. SILA ANG ATING PAG-ASA!

Ang aming tanggapan ay nakatatanggap ng mga hinaing at reklamo mula sa mga kawani ng Pagamutan ng Dasmariñas at iba pang health workers. Sila ay dumaraing sapagkat pinagtatabuyan na umano sila sa kani-kanilang komunidad, lalo iyong mga nakatira sa subdibisyon. Ayon sa kanila, tila pinandirihan na sila ng kanilang mga kapitbahay dahil sa kalikasan ng kanilang trabaho kung saan may mataas na exposure sa mga Persons Under Monitoring (PUMs), Persons Under Investigation (PUIs) at maging sa mga mismong pasyente na positibo sa Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

Nakalulungkot isipin na sa halip na kilalanin natin ang kabayanihan at sakripisyo ng ating mga health workers na matapang na humaharap sa panganib ng COVID-19, sila ay nagagawa pang pandirihan at ipagtabuyan ng ilan nating kababayan. Kung mawawalan tayo ng mga barangay health workers, mga kawani sa ating pampublikong ospital, at sa mga pribadong health facilities, tayo din ang mahihirapan.

Ang sinumang LALABAG sa karapatan ng ating mga health workers na umuwi at patuloy na manirahan ng mapayapa sa kani-kanilang tahanan ay sasampahan ng kaukulang demanda ng ating Pamahalaang Lungsod.

CONG. PIDI AT MAYOR JENNY BARZAGA

BARANGAY CHAIRMAN HACKED OVER QUARANTINE PASS IN LAGUNA

Camp Vicente Lim, Laguna - A Barangay Chairman was killed after he was hacked in San Pablo City Tuesday.

Laguna Provincial Director Col Serafin Petalio identified the victim as Larry Rosales Chairman of Barangay Sta Ana, San Pablo City.

Petalio also identified the suspect as Pablito Her-

andez of said barangay.

Petalio said that based on initial investigation, suspect asked the victim to issue him a quarantine pass.

The suspect suddenly drew a bolo kept inside his hand bag and without any provocation, hacked the victim hitting his neck and head.

Victim was brought by his family to San Pab-

lo City Mesical Hospital for treatment but succumbed to death.

SWAT team responded at the scene which resulted to neutralization of the suspect.

He was brought to hospital for treatment and was on stable condition. Suspect will be subjected for inquest while confined at hospital.

Roselle Aquino

DOST-LSPU's IDD Lab Develops Safety Gadgets to serve as PPEs for Frontliners

The Department of Science and Technology-CALABARZON together with the Laguna State Polytechnic University (LSPU) San Pablo through their Ideation, Design, and Development (IDD) Laboratory have joined forces to help in the battle against COVID-19. The DOST-LSPU IDD Lab is currently operational and targets to produce 10 ventilator valve prototypes (in close coordination with the Department of Health), 400 gown suites, 40 aerosol boxes, and 400 face shields. These products aim to serve hospitals and frontliners in the province of Laguna. Primary target beneficiaries are seven hospitals in San Pablo City

and three hospitals in the municipality of Los Baños.

This April 8, 75 pieces of bent acrylic faceshields were already turned over to the Los Baños Municipal Health Office and Healthserv Los Baños Medical Center. On the other hand, gown suites are to be turned over by April 17 while other materials are already under production stage. The two agencies are also accepting information or donations from suppliers within San Pablo or nearby areas who can provide or contribute primary materials as there has been a difficulty accessing them. Needed materials are acrylic with 3mm thickness, adhesive, one inch garter and Tafetta SBL. For any information, please

do not hesitate to contact DOST-CALABARZON through dost4a.ord@gmail.com / dostpstclaguna@gmail.com or LSPU San Pablo through their Facebook Page, www.facebook.com/lspu.sp.

The DOST-LSPU IDD Lab is a special laboratory which makes use of 3D printers to facilitate product development, design, and prototype. Originally intended for local designers and potential technopreneurs, the DOST-LSPU IDD lab has now ventured into serving a different customer- answering the call of service in these trying times. **(Demee Angelica S. Ludia/ DOSTIVA PARCU)**



National Task Force COVID-19 Checks Makeshift Hospital at Rizal Coliseum, PICC and World Trade



Top officials of the National Task Force COVID-19 conducted inspection on Holy Monday, April 6, 2020 of the three (3) quarantine sites for corona virus (COVID-19) disease patients.

Secretary Carlito G. Galvez, chief implementer of the National Action Plan (NAP) against COVID-19 together with Health Secretary Francisco T. Duque III, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana, Presidential Adviser for Flagship Programs and Projects

Vince Dizon, and DPWH Undersecretary Emil K. Sadain inspected on Monday, April 6, 2020 the Ninoy Aquino Stadium at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex, World Trade Center and Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) Tent Forum converted into a quarantine facility for mild and asymptomatic COVID-19 patients by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) with support from the Vista Land Group, EEI Construction, Ayala Land, Makati Develop-

ment Corporation and Razon Group.

In the final stages of cleaning and disinfection, Ninoy Aquino Stadium will soon receive patients with mild symptoms of corona virus disease with the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) medical corps managing the facility.

Meanwhile, the DPWH Task Force on Augmentation of Healthcare Facilities formed by Secretary Mark A. Villar also provided briefing to the national task force on the progress of work

at PICC and World Trade Center.

The health facility at PICC Forum Tent will be delivered to completion by Wednesday, April 8, 2020 or six (6) days since activities for the transformation of spacious site for significant events and shows into a makeshift hospital was started. On the other hand, the facility at World Trade Center will be completed within this week.

The facility at PICC will be operated by the Philippine National Police (PNP) Medical Core.



Secretary Villar with the DPWH Task Force has been working for the conversion of other public buildings, evacuation centers and available

spaces into quarantine hubs as hospitals and health care centers particularly in Metro Manila struggle to house more COVID-19 patients.

DepEd online... from p. 1

online educational platform supporting alternative learning modalities amid enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) period, DepEd Commons expanded its availability to all schools offering basic education starting this month.

"Though the country is facing an unprecedented situation, we in DepEd are focused to fulfill our primary mandate of instilling quality basic education to our Fili-

pino learners. We are eager to push boundaries and explore new paths so that education can still continue at the confines of our homes," Secretary Lenor Magtolis Briones said.

Briones said welcoming private school learners to DepEd Commons is a good example of the constitutional provision on the complementarity of public and private education.

Undersecretary

for Curriculum and Instruction Diosdado San Antonio echoed the DepEd chief, citing that the expansion of the platform to Alternative Learning System (ALS) and private school learners is a significant step in making sure that learning is not hampered by any sorts of emergencies and ensuring continuity of education.

"We look forward to this platform being utilized for an expand-

ed Alternative Delivery Mode (ADM) implementation in this era of the new normal," San Antonio said.

Aside from learners in the formal education system, DepEd Commons has populated its content with relevant lessons for the ALS program.

Currently, the Open Educational Resources (OER) and teacher-made enrichment activities on the online educational platform has reached to 3,513,442 unique users, under the watch of Undersecre-

tary for Administration Alain Del Pascua.

With this initiative, Pascua hopes private schools can also contribute to the development of OERs, which can be used as supplementary instructional tools that are accessible either online or downloaded for availability offline.

"As we had overwhelming support from learners, teachers and parents, we urge the private schools to do their share in transforming our platform by contributing meaningful learning expe-

riences to all kinds of learners. With your help, our ICT Service will continue to innovate and improve this exciting project," Pascua said.

DepEd highly encourages the use of DepEd Commons during Covid-19 crisis where face-to-face instruction is impossible although the online platform is given as an option only for those who have access to internet and equipment such as smartphones, tablets, laptops, and desktop computers. (PNA)

DPWH Continues to Help in Fight Vs. COVID-19



The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) will once again turn over health commodities such as surgical face masks donated by Chinese contractors to hospitals and other service frontliners.

About 18,000 pieces of surgical face masks, 1,000 pieces N95 masks, and 90 pieces personal protective equipment (PPE) were received from two (2) Chinese construction groups on Holy Monday, April 6, 2020 by DPWH, as donation to help in the Philippine government's effort to halt the spread of the coronavirus.

The contractor of the BGC to Ortigas Center Road Link Project, Sino Road and Bridges

Group Co. Ltd. through its General Manager Li Hui donated 6,000 pieces face mask and 40 pieces PPE.

On the otherhand, China Road and Bridge Corporation General Manager Ren Xiaopeng handed 12,000 pieces surgical face masks, 1,000 pieces N95 masks, and 50 pieces PPE. China Road and Bridge Corporation presently undertakes the construction of the Binondo-Intramuros bridge in Manila, and the Estrella-Pantaleon bridge between Makati and Mandaluyong under implementation of DPWH Unified Project Management Office-Roads Management Cluster 1.

Secretary Mark A. Villar instructed Undersecretary Emil Sadain to turn-over these do-

nations to the following hospitals and DPWH service frontliners dealing in the campaign against COVID-19: Philippine General Hospital 4,000 pcs, Lung Center of the Philippines 4,000 pcs, Philippine Heart Center 2,000 pcs, Manila Doctors Hospital 2,000 pcs, Veterans Memorial Hospital 2,000 pcs, National Kidney and Transplant Institute 2,000, and Fabella Hospital 2,000.

Meanwhile, the DPWH acting on the request of the Lung Center of the Philippines, will facilitate the installation of electrical / cable wiring of CCTV and patient monitors in the new hospital wards.

Secretary Villar said that all skilled workers will be wearing the donated personal protective equipment to



prevent getting direct exposure to Lung Center patients and hospital environment.

Living up the spirit of "Bayanihan to Heal as One", North Star Construction President Mr. Al Tengco has volun-

teered to DPWH their service by assigning 30 workers to handle the job at Lung Center anytime once all sensitive preparation including disinfection are completed by the hospital management.

Secretary Villar acknowledged the support on their personal capacities given by various construction industry partners of the Department in respond to COVID-19 pandemic. (www.dpwh.gov.ph)

DOST-PCAARRD provides IEC materials in support of the Bayanihan Act



IEC materials on vegetable production guide turned over to DA-BPI (Image credit: Marita A. Carlos, Applied Communication Division (ACD), PCAARRD)

The Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST-PCAARRD) recently turned over its stock of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials on vegetable production to the Department of Agriculture-Bureau of Plant Industry (DA-BPI).



PCAARRD-Applied Communication Division (ACD) staff members assisting in packaging the IEC materials (Image credit: Marita A. Carlos, ACD, PCAARRD)

This is in support of DA's Plant, Plant, Plant Program's Urban Agriculture Project, which aims to disperse vegetable seeds to households nationwide.

A total of 1,000 copies of production guide IEC flyers of pole sitao, patola, tomato, ampalaya, and

cucumber were shared to DA-BPI. These flyers will be distributed together with the vegetable seeds to households and other recipients.

Aside from these flyers, DOST-PCAARRD will be sending electronic copies of its IEC materials to DA-BPI for dispersal and greater reach.

"Through these IEC materials, we hope that Filipinos will have a better appreciation of urban agriculture and have the skills and knowledge on growing their own food," said Dr. Reynaldo V. Ebor, PCAARRD Executive Director.

DA's Urban Agriculture Project aims to secure safe food for families in the urban areas especially while strict quarantine is being implemented due to COVID-19.

PCAARRD is one of the sectoral councils of the DOST, which is mandated to formulate policies, plans, and programs for science and technology-based R&D in the different sectors under its concern. It coordinates, evaluates, and monitors the national R&D efforts in the agriculture, aquatic, and natural resources (AANR) sector. It also allocates government and external funds for R&D and generates resources to support its program (Rose Anne M. Aya, DOST-PCAARRD S&T Media Services).

BAYANIHAN the SM APPLIANCE CENTER WAY



Cool comfort. SM Appliance Center donated Asahi stand fans to the Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital's (Tala Hospital).



SM Appliance Center's donation of Imarflex insect killers to the Philippine Children's Medical Center will help keep their rooms free from harmful insects.



These 3D Insect Killers received by the National Kidney and Transplant Institute from SM Appliance Center will help to alleviate their situation within their COVID-19 complex tents. It uses ultra-violet light tubes to effectively kill flying insects anytime and anywhere.



SM Appliance Center and Whirlpool donated inverter front load washers to support health workers with superior wash results to the San Juan De Dios Hospital.

The Bayanihan Spirit was alive and well when SM Appliance Center and its brand partners recently brought positivity, hope and inspiration to the frontliners and patients of the hospitals in the Philippines with donations of electric fans, mosquito zappers, and washing machines.

With summer days ahead electric fans from Imarflex, Asahi and 3D will bring cool comfort to frontliners and patients. These were donated to the Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital's (Tala Hospital), Philippine General

Hospital, National Kidney and Transplant Institute, Philippine Children's Medical Center and Mary Chiles Hospital.

SM Appliance Center also provided environmentally friendly mosquito zappers from Daimaru to keep hospitals safe and free from harmful insects and flies. Insect killers from Imarflex and 3D brands were also given for further protection and assistance.

In order to help hospitals with their heavy wash load, SM Appliance Center partnered with Whirlpool

to donate inverter front load washing machines. The MegaTransport Logistics Corporation delivered these to the Rizal Medical Center, Las Piñas General Hospital, Jose Rodriguez Memorial Hospital, San Juan De Dios Hospital, Ospital ng Maynila, San Lazaro Hospital, Mary Chiles Hospital and Jose Reyes Medical Center.

Tysons Global Exchange Inc. also joined in SM Appliance Center's initiatives with donations of Speed Queen heavy duty washers for the Lung Center of the Philippines and Amang Rodriguez Memorial



The bayanihan spirit was alive and well when SM Appliance Center and Whirlpool donated washing machines to the Rizal Medical Center. These were delivered by MegaTransport Logistics Corporation.



The National Kidney and Transplant Institute received additional assistance from SM Appliance Center with innovative mosquito zappers from Daimaru Neutron Industries Inc.

Medical Center. For more updates on SM Appliance Center and its CSR initiatives,

you may want to visit our SM Appliance Center website at HYPERLINK "http://www.smappli-

ance.com" www.smappliance.com or like us at facebook.com/smappliance. (KCHT)