

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Davao del Norte
City of Tagum

BEFORE THE 'SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD'

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 69th REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OF TAGUM, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL NORTE HELD AT THE SP SESSION HALL ON OCTOBER 30, 2002.

PRESENT:

Hon. Gerardo R. Racho, Jr.,	Vice Mayor (Presiding Officer)
Hon. Allan L. Rellon,	Member
Hon. Oscar M. Bermudez,	Member
Hon. Vicente C. Eliot, Sr.,	Member
Hon. Agripino G. Coquilla, Jr,	Member
Hon. Geterito T. Gementiza,	Member
Hon. Raymond Joey D. Millan,	Member
Hon. Antonio B. Vicada,	Member
Hon. Tristan Royce R. Aala,	Member
Hon. Robert L. So,	Member
Hon. Bryan Kim Samuel L. Angoy,	Member (SKF Representative)
Hon. Ernesto Y. Obero,	Member (ABC Representative)

ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS:

Hon. Berthelyn L. San Jose,	Member
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CITY ORDINANCE NO. 35, S-2002

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PRE-MARRIAGE COUNSELING PROGRAM OF THE CITY OF TAGUM, PROVIDING ITS POLICY, GUIDELINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

BE IT ENACTED by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Tagum in session assembled, that:

SECTION 1. STATEMENT OF POLICY. It is the policy of the City to ensure that a happy marriage life and responsible parenthood could be achieved through a sound and effective pre-marriage counseling program.

SECTION 2. OBJECTIVE. Ensure an effective and efficient delivery of pre-marriage counseling services to prospective couples/parents through an institutionalized PMC Program geared towards achieving a happy family life and responsible parenthood.

SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS.

- a) **PRE-MARRIAGE COUNSELING (PMC)** – is an official government program that is being required to all applicants for marriage license to receive instructions on family planning and responsible parenthood, it includes the dissemination of important and accurate information on marriage and relationships, human sexuality, maternal and child health, AIDS, and home management to prospective parents.
- b) **FAMILY PLANNING** – is a means to improve the quality of life of the Filipino. It involves regulating and spacing of childbirth, helping sub-fertile couples beget children and counseling parents and would be - parents on responsible parenthood as a way of life

- c) RESPONSIBLE PARENTHOOD – is the primary right and responsibility of parents to get actively involved in the promotion of their children well-being through the provision of adequate care, attention and affection.
- d) MARRIAGE – is the lifelong partnership of a man and a woman - a two different individuals who understand, respect and care for each other.
- e) HUMAN SEXUALITY – is a man’s or woman’s total personality, his/her way of thinking, acting, loving, reaching, approaching, and relating to God and other people. It is the totality of being the projection of maleness and femaleness. It encompasses the physical, biological, psychological, sociological and ethical of being human.
- f) MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH – is one of the program components of the family. It focuses on the special aspect on the preparation of a woman before giving birth and the child care from womb to tomb.
- g) AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) – is a disease caused by a virus called Human Immuno Virus (HIV). It is a disease which attacks and destroys the White Blood Cells (WBC), our body “soldiers” and the immune system as a whole. It is an incurable disease and that everyone should be careful not to be infected with it.
- h) HOME MANAGEMENT – the process of planning, controlling and evaluating family resources to achieve family goals. It is a decision making activity.

SECTION 4. For the efficient and effective delivery of pre-marriage counseling services of the City of Tagum, there shall be established a Pre-Marriage Counseling Team with its composition, qualifications and functions:

a) COMPOSITION

- TEAM LEADER : to be designated by the City Mayor from among the members
- MEMBERS : Counselor/Trained Representative from among the following agencies and organization:
1. City Health Office (CHO)
 2. City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO)
 3. City Agriculture Office (CAGRO)
 4. Community Affairs Office (CAO)
 5. City Civil Registrar’s Office (CCRO)
 6. Department of Education (preferably a Guidance Counselor)
 7. Non-Government Organization/Religious Group (two representative)

b) QUALIFICATION – to ensure quality of services, members of the PMC Team must be a trained PMC Counselor and at least one (1) member is a DSWD accredited marriage counselor for couples below 25 years old.

- c) FUNCTIONS** – the PMC Team is tasked to perform the following functions:
1. Install/operationalize mechanism for retrieval of applicants names from the CCRO.
 2. Strengthen the referral system from the CCRO to the PMC Team.
 3. Issue PMC Certificate to successful couple.
 4. Submit pertinent data/reports to the Office of the City Mayor or designated office in charge of the data bank.

5. Conduct PMC sessions/seminar.
 - 5.1 Identify lead facilitators who are trained PMC facilitator, preferably the PMC members for PMC session/seminar. This maybe rotated among the members.
 - 5.2 Post Schedule of PMC sessions/seminars in the CCRO and CSWDO or other conspicuous places in the city hall.
 - 5.3 Disseminate information on PMC matters through radio, community assemblies, barangay meetings, etc.
 - 5.4 Ensure that the session/seminar is convenient and conducive to learning, and the sharing promotes confidentiality.
 - 5.5 Prepare needed supplies/materials for the sessions/seminars.
 - 5.6 Allow no more than a maximum of 15 couples for each PMC session/seminar.

SECTION 5. HONORARIUM - Each member of the PMC Team shall receive an honorarium of P100.00 per session. Such honorarium shall be subject to the existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

SECTION 6. PMC SERVICE PROTOCOL-

- a.) Applicants for marriage licenses shall apply at the CCRO.
- b.) CCRO forwards referral to the PMC Team.
- c.) Applicants for marriage licenses shall apply for PMC session/seminar to PMC Secretariat Office. Accomplish the Marriage Expectation Inquiry Form to help PMC Team in assessing their needs so as to give the Team an idea on what to approach and focus during the counseling sessions/seminars.
- d.) Applicants shall be required to attend all sessions on time without exceptions.
- e.) PMC Team issues PMC certificate to couples who have completed the prescribed eight-hour counseling session/seminar. PMC sessions/seminars maybe conducted as a one-day activity or may be divided into two-hour sessions for two (2) days, as may be decided by the PMC Team.
- f.) Couples are referred back to the CCRO.

SECTION 7. PMC Session/Seminar Hall and Office-

- a.) There shall be established an official and permanent PMC session/seminar hall and office to be determined by the City Mayor where all the sessions/seminars and other transactions and services pertaining to pre-marriage counseling are undertaken.
- b.) Pending the establishment of the above-mentioned hall and office, the City Library shall serve as a temporary venue for the PMC sessions/seminars, and the Community Affairs Office (CAO) as the temporary office to be manned by the CAO representative who is a PMC member.

SECTION 8. PMC Application fee.

- a.) There shall be collected a PMC Application fee in the amount of P75.00 per couple. Such amount shall be paid to the City Treasurer's Office, which shall be treated as a special account/trust fund.
- b.) Applicants who are indigents as certified by the CSWDO shall be exempted in paying the application fee.

SECTION 9. Funding – The operational costs for the PMC Team will be sourced from the revenues collected under section 6 of this ordinance. The office of the City Mayor shall allocate funds in the amount of at least P200,000.00 annually for PMC program under its office to help sustain the PMC program. The budget may be increased anytime as the need arises by the City Mayor.

SECTION 10. The City Mayor upon recommendation by the PMC Team may issue a supplemental guidelines through an executive order for the effective and efficient implementation of this ordinance.

SECTION 11. Separability Clause. Should any provision of this ordinance be declared unconstitutional or illegal by any court of competent jurisdiction, those parts which are not declared shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 12. Repealing Clause. All ordinances, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with any provision of this ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 13. Effectivity Clause. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval.

CARRIED AND APPROVED.

ENACTED AND PASSED this 30th day of October, 2002.

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing.

(Sgd) **DIONITA N. DELA CRUZ**
Records Officer II
(Acting Secretary to the Sanggunian)

ATTESTED:

(Sgd) **GERARDO R. RACHO, JR.**
City Vice Mayor
(Presiding Officer)

APPROVED:

(Sgd) **GELACIO P. GEMENTIZA**
City Mayor