



Republic of the Philippines
QUEZON CITY COUNCIL
Quezon City
21st City Council

PO21CC-047

11th Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP- **2869**, S-2019

AN ORDINANCE ORGANIZING AND ESTABLISHING THE QUEZON CITY SOLO PARENTS AFFAIRS OFFICE SUBJECT TO ALL LEGAL AND EXISTING LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Introduced by Councilors LENA MARIE P. JUICO, PATRICK MICHAEL VARGAS and KATE GALANG-COSETENG.

Co-Introduced by Councilors Bernard R. Herrera, Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D., Tany Joe "TJ" L. Calalay, Nicole Ella V. Crisologo, Victor V. Ferrer, Jr., Winston "Winnie" T. Castelo, Atty. Bong Liban, Ramon P. Medalla, Mikey F. Belmonte, Estrella C. Valmocina, Franz S. Pumaren, Matias John T. Defensor, Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay, Jorge L. Banal, Sr., Peachy V. De Leon, Imee A. Rillo, Marra C. Suntay, Irene R. Belmonte, Resty B. Malañgen, Ivy L. Lagman, Hero M. Bautista, Karl Castelo, Shaira L. Liban, Ram V. Medalla, Allan Butch T. Francisco, Marivic Co Pilar, Melencio "Bobby" T. Castelo, Jr., Rogelio "Roger" P. Juan, Diorella Maria G. Sotto-Antonio, Donato "Donny" C. Matias, Eric Z. Medina, Freddy S. Roxas and Noe Dela Fuente.

WHEREAS, Section 12, Article II of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State recognizes the sanctity of family life and shall protect the family as a basic autonomous social institution, shall equally protect the life of the mother and the life of the unborn from conception, and the natural and primary right and duty of parents in the rearing of the youth for civic efficiency and the development of moral character shall receive the support of the Government;

WHEREAS, Section 1, Article XV of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State recognizes the Filipino family as the foundation of the nation, and shall strengthen its solidarity and actively promote its total development;

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WHEREAS, Section 458 (5)(xiv) Local Government Code of 1991 mandates each local government unit, through their respective Sanggunian, to approve Ordinances to provide for the care of disabled persons, paupers, the aged, the sick, persons of unsound mind, abandoned minors, juvenile delinquents, drug dependents, abused children and other needy and disadvantaged persons, particularly children and youth below eighteen (18) years of age; and subject to availability of funds, establish and provide for the operation of centers and facilities for the said needy and disadvantaged persons;

WHEREAS, many Solo Parents remain uninformed about the rights and privileges they are entitled to and as a result, the provisions of Republic Act No. 8972, otherwise known as the "Solo Parents Welfare Act" remain unimplemented since its enactment in 2000 due to the lack of a strong institution capable of ensuring the execution of the laws and ordinances in favor of Solo Parents;

WHEREAS, the localization of Republic Act No. 8972 could pave the way for integrating Solo Parents into society's fold and removing the stigma revolving around single parents by making available a viable body to represent and advocate for Solo Parents, to effectively address their concerns, and to ensure that they are not being deprived of the rights and privileges they are entitled to under the law;

WHEREAS, the number of registered Solo Parent is continuously increasing in Quezon City. In 2018 alone, a total of 5,641 registered Solo Parent was registered under the Social Services Development Department with the average increase of approximately 40% for the past 5 years.

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1. TITLE. - This Ordinance shall be known and cited as the "Solo Parents Affairs Office Ordinance of Quezon City" or, for brevity, the "QC-SPAO Ordinance."

SECTION 2. ESTABLISHMENT. - It is hereby created, organized and established a QC-Solo Parents Affairs Office (QC-SPAO) under the direct supervision of the City Mayor.

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SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS. – Whenever used in this Ordinance, the following terms shall mean as follows:

a. “Solo parent” - any individual who falls under any of the following categories:

1. A woman who gives birth as a result of rape and other crimes against chastity even without a final conviction of the offender: Provided, That the mother keeps and raises the child.

2. Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood due to death of spouse.

3. Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood while the spouse is detained or is serving sentence for a criminal conviction for at least one (1) year.

4. Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood due to physical and/or mental incapacity of spouse as certified by a public medical practitioner.

5. Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood due to legal separation or de facto separation from spouse for at least one (1) year, as long as he/she is entrusted with the custody of the children.

6. Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood due to declaration of nullity or annulment of marriage as decreed by a court or by a church as long as he/she is entrusted with the custody of the children.

7. Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood due to abandonment of spouse for at least one (1) year.

8. Unmarried mother/father who has preferred to keep and rear her/his child/children instead of having others care for them or give them up to a welfare institution.

9. Any other person who solely provides parental care and support to a child or children.

10. Any family member who assumes the responsibility of head of family as a result of the death, abandonment, disappearance or prolonged absence of the parents or solo parent.

A change in the status or circumstance of the parent claiming benefits under this Ordinance, such that he/she is no longer left alone with the responsibility of parenthood, shall terminate his/her eligibility for these benefits.

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b. "Children or dependents" – refer to those living with and dependent upon the solo parent for support who are unmarried, unemployed and no more than eighteen (18) years of age, or even over eighteen (18) years but are incapable of self-support because of mental and/or physical defect/disability.

SECTION 4. QC-SPAO AND ITS FUNCTIONS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES. – The QC-SPAO shall carry out the following functions:

a. Formulate, implement, and monitor programs in pursuance of the objectives of the Solo Parents Welfare Act and this Ordinance, and other relevant ordinances, such as, but not limited to, Ordinance No. SP-2374, S-2014, laws, decrees, executive orders and other regulations in coordination with the Social Services Development Department (SSDD) and other national and local government agencies.

b. Serve as a general information and liaison center for the needs of the solo parents and their children.

c. Gather and regularly update relevant data on Solo Parents, and submit reports to the Office of the Mayor regarding the implementation of programs and services for Solo Parents and their children.

d. Organize the solo parent association and strengthen the existing association in every barangay in Quezon City.

e. Report any individual, establishment, institution, or agency found violating the provisions of this Ordinance.

f. Ensure the implementation of the provisions of Republic Act No. 8972, and other laws and implementing rules and regulations relevant to the welfare of Solo Parents and their children.

g. Assist solo parents and their children in filing complaints or charges against any person, natural or judicial; establishment, institution, or agency found violating R.A. No. 8972 and its Rules.

h. Perform such other functions as may be necessary for the promotion and protection of the welfare of Solo Parents.

SECTION 5. COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE. – The composition of the QC-SPAO shall be in accordance with the following schedule:

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1	(Case manager/ worker) Administrative Assistant II (Clerk IV)	8
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The Social Welfare Officer V (Supervising Social Worker) shall be the Head of the Office.

The other employees of the QC-SPAO, subject to eligibility, preference shall be given to registered solo parents.

SECTION 6. REGISTRATION OF SOLO PARENTS.

a. The Social Services and Development Department (SSDD) shall turnover the Master List of the Solo Parents in Quezon City compiled in accordance with Ordinance No. SP-1807, S-2007 and Ordinance No. SP-2374, S-2014 to the SPAO within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Ordinance.

b. The SPAO shall conduct a comprehensive survey of Quezon City with the assistance of the Barangay and Community Relations Department (BCRD) and each barangay local government to update the existing Master List. The SSDD shall provide necessary technical support for the completion of the survey.

c. The SPAO shall determine the implementing rules and regulations for the conduct of the survey within thirty (30) days from the receipt of the Master List from the SSDD.

d. Upon completion of the survey, which shall be accomplished within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Ordinance, the SPAO shall cause the distribution of a copy of the Master List to the barangays of Quezon City through their respective Punong Barangays.

e. The SPAO shall conduct a similar survey with the assistance of the BCRD and the barangay local government every three (3) years after the completion of the first survey to update the Master List of Solo Parents regularly and accurately.

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SECTION 7. PRODUCTION AND ISSUANCE OF IDENTIFICATION CARDS TO SOLO PARENTS. - The QC-SPAO shall issue Identification Card to Solo Parent upon submission of application and proof of residency and a favorable evaluation of a social worker, within 30 days of filing.

SECTION 8. THE QC SOLO PARENT IDENTIFICATION CARD.

a. The QC-SPAO Identification Cards shall be made in a manner that would minimize cost, reduce the period of production and maximize the durability of each card. Each card must indicate the full name, address, date of birth of the holder, and a control number to be assigned by the QC-SPAO and must be manufactured in a manner that would ensure authenticity. The QC-SPAO Identification Cards shall not be transferrable and shall have a space on which the Solo Parent may sign his or her name on the card. No PWD shall be changed any fee to be issued a WQC-SPAO Identification Card.

b. The QC-SPAO shall ensure that QC-SPAO Identification Card holders shall be allowed to avail of the privileges attached to each card.

The Solo Parent Identification Card shall be issued within thirty (30) days from application thereof and shall be valid for one (1) year upon issuance subject to renewal.

SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION. - The annual budget of the City starting on fiscal year 2020 shall provide funds for the salaries of the QC-SPAO personnel, operations and maintenance of the office, subject to the budgetary limitations under the Local Government Code, Republic Act No. 8972 and other pertinent laws. The budget allocation of the QC-SPAO may not be decreased at any time, except by ordinance duly enacted by the City Council.

SECTION 10. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. - Within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Ordinance, the Office of the City Mayor and Social Services Development Department shall issue implementing rules, regulations and guidelines for proper implementation of this Ordinance.

SECTION 11. PENAL CLAUSE. - Any person who violates any provision of this Ordinance shall be subjected to administrative sanctions that may be imposed by the City Government as recommended by the City Mayor.

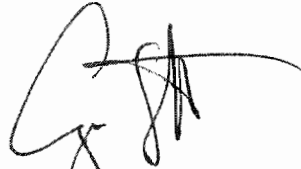


SECTION 12. REPEALING CLAUSE. – All existing ordinances, resolutions, local executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed and superseded or modified accordingly.

SECTION 13. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – Should any provision of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 14. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. – This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

ENACTED: September 24, 2019.




GIAN G. SOTTO
City Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:



Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III
City Government Dept. Head III

APPROVED: 09 OCT 2019


MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE
City Mayor

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Ordinance was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on September 24, 2019 and was PASSED on Third/Final Reading on September 30, 2019.


Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III
City Government Dept. Head III

