

The digital newsletter is the commitment to continue the advocacies of KKK's Kalayaan newspaper, "Panata sa Kalayaan na May Puri at Kabanalan", a collaboration among The Freeman, Rizal-Blumentritt Pamanthalaan Academy, and DILG-7



DILG-7 holds Disiplina Muna webinar vs crime, violence

by Jean Marvette A. Demecillo

In celebration of the 26th National Crime Prevention Week, the Department of the Interior and Local Government-7 held a webinar on DILG's flagship campaign, "Disiplina Muna," on September 3, 2020.

DILG-7 Director Leocadio Trovela, in his welcome address, highlighted the need to rebuild the culture of discipline among Filipinos especially in the fight against crime and violence.

"This is our contribution for the celebration of National Crime Prevention Week which was launched on September 1," he told participants.

The webinar, with a theme "Advocating the Culture of Discipline in the Fight Against Crime and Violence", was attended by officials and personnel from National Police Commission, local government units in Central Visayas, DILG-7 sub-regional offices and field offices, and other DILG-7 attached offices.

These participants recited in unison the pledge of commitment to support the Disiplina Muna national advocacy campaign.

Dir. Trovela urged the attendees to take active participation in the national advocacy campaign especially the barangay officials who play a critical role in nation-building and maintenance of peace and order.

Further, he reminded local officials of their duties and responsibilities as stipulated in the Memorandum Circular No. 2020-116 entitled "Refocusing the Disiplina Muna National Advocacy Campaign Towards Defeating the COVID-19 Pandemic through the "BIDA ANG MAY DISIPLINA: SOLUSYON SA COVID-19" Program."



DILG-7 holds Disiplina Muna webinar vs crime, violence

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Dir. Trovela urged officials and employees of LGUs, especially at the barangay level, to continue their relentless efforts against coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

LGOO II Michael Vencynth Braga, regional information officer and Disiplina Muna focal regional person, explained the objectives and campaign pillars of the crime especially on prevention and fight against COVID-19.



Braga emphasized the Pillars of the DILG's Disiplina Muna campaign such as the Road Clearing, Disaster Preparedness and Resilience, Anti-Smoking, Ease of Doing Business, Liquor Ban, Environmental or Tourist Spots Cleanup, and Functionality of Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Councils (BADACs).

He also discussed the new national advocacy campaign dubbed as "BIDA ang may Disiplina: Solusyon sa COVID-19" amidst the pandemic.

With this, Braga encouraged all local government units to organize Disiplina Brigades in all barangays in the country to ensure obedience to health standards in the community.







DILG-7 hires contact tracers

by Grace Melanie I. Lacamiento and Jean Marvette A. Demecillo

The Department of the Interior and Local Government-7 will hire contact tracers to ramp up contact tracing efforts as it is seen effective in mitigating the spread of COVID-19.

DILG-7 Director Leocadio Trovela said these contact tracers, who are tasked to conduct case interviews, profiling, and perform an initial public health risk assessment of COVID-19 cases and their identified close contacts, will augment the existing teams of the local government units in Central Visayas.

Atty. Ian Kenneth Lucero, chief of the DILG-7 Local Government Monitoring and Evaluation Division, said hiring additional contact tracers will ensure accurate and timely conduct of contact tracing activities and reporting of COVID-19 surveillance data.

The applicant must have at least a bachelor's degree relevant to the job, preferably allied Medical Course or Criminology.

Preferred experience for a contact tracer include any of the following: must be skilled in data gathering and/or assisted in research and documentation; must be able to interview COVID-19 cases and close contacts in order to gather data on travel history and conduct health assessments; must possess the ability to advocate public health education messages; and must have investigative capability.

Interested applicants should submit a Letter of Intent, Personal Data Sheet, National Bureau of Investigation clearance, and drug test result and email them to concerned DILG Provincial/HUC Offices. Those who will be hired will get P18,784.00 monthly salary (SG-9).



DILG-7 execs discuss hiring of CTs

by Grace Melanie I. Lacamiento

DILG-7 Director Leocadio Trovela meets with DILG provincial and city directors in Central Visayas to discuss the status of hiring of contact tracers and supplemental guidelines in their hiring and selection.

DILG is hiring contact tracers to ramp up contact tracing efforts as it is seen effective in mitigating the spread of COVID-19.



DILG-7 AND PARTNERS HOLD "DAMBANA NG BAYAN" 4th ONLINE SERIES

by Jean Marvette A. Demecillo



Hundreds of national and local government workers and officials joined the "We Heal As One Pilipinas, Dambana ng Bayan" fourth online forum on September 8, 2020.

Other participants include Disiplina Muna focals, DILG-7 field offices, and members of the Knights of Rizal-Cebu Chapter, National Government agencies, advocates, and friends of the convenor.

Invited speakers were from the Rizal-Blumentritt Pamathalaan Academy, Development Bank of the Philippines, National Union of Career Executive Services Officers and University of the Philippines System.

They to share inspirational messages during the said forum in an effort to uplift the participants' spirits in these trying times.

Highlighting the forum was the discussion on the significant and heroic efforts of present and previous leaders and stakeholders from government and private sectors.

To recall, the Rizal-Blumentritt Pamathalaan Academy, in partnership with the Department of the Interior and Local Government-7, initiated a monthly online forum that took off last June 29, 2020 with an aim to cascade the relevant values of Dr. Jose Rizal, the DILG Disiplina Muna's official icon, and foster participatory governance amid public health issues that the country is facing nowadays.

During the previous fora, the partners launched the Kalayaan digital newsletter to provide a powerful channel towards achieving positive change through accurate reporting and information sharing, and conducted brief orientation on the Knights of Rizal organization as our new partner.



Cebu Press Freedom 2020

POOLED EDITORIAL - A different celebration

It can be difficult to celebrate occasions during the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) pandemic as government limits gatherings and health experts insist on safety protocols.

Cebu media leaders decided, however, on a special celebration of Cebu Press Freedom Week 2020 despite the Covid-19 concerns.

They stood firm on the holding of activities to highlight the important role of media in these trying times and to issue the call for the public to support a press that is free of pressure or censure.

The Cebu media industry celebrates press freedom week on the week where September 21, the anniversary of the 1972 declaration of martial law, falls, as a reminder to protect the freedoms lost during that dark period in our history.

This year's celebration is different as journalists abide by protocols against the transmission of the Sars-CoV-2 that causes Covid-19. No physical gatherings allowed. Forums, meetings, seminars and lunch dates will be held online. No meet-ups. None of the parties that media people look forward to every year. But Cebu Press Freedom Week will not skip a year because of Covid-19 or the financial difficulties faced by media companies.

Now is a good time to remind journalists of the important role they play in informing the public. In the rush to break Covid-related news, errors are committed and in-depth reporting relegated to the sidelines. The breaking-news mindset, complicated at times by government sources giving wrong and confusing information, opens journalists to cyber abuse and accusations of "fake news." With social media increasingly being used as information source, people get their news fast and they react to the news faster than before.

News organizations rushed their digital transformation to reach a wider audience, be relevant and to continue to inform the public despite work-from-home arrangements which are not ideal for news gathering and newsroom collaboration.

Then there's the matter of cutbacks and downsizing as news organizations go on survival mode in the face of drastically reduced advertising and circulation.

Advertising revenue went down. The number of newspaper copies was cut when people stayed home.

To cope with the slowdown but not stop operations, Cebu news companies implemented retrenchments, early retirement programs and newsroom downsizing.

These measures left newsrooms diminished in size and capability. Questions on financial sustainability continue to hound the industry.

Some of the community newspapers in Visayas stopped print operations.

The ABS-CBN shut down its Central Visayas offices, not as a casualty of the pandemic but after a House of Representatives committee rejected the network's application for franchise renewal.

From these, one can easily find reasons not to celebrate Cebu Press Freedom Week 2020. But these reasons are ironically the same ones making Cebu media resolute to go ahead and mark press week.

It is easy to succumb to fear in the face of uncertainty, but there is room for a bit of optimism. A wider reach online means different kinds of content that media can offer.

A highly critical social media audience encourages participation and discussion, albeit not always with positive results.

A lean-and-mean newsroom leads to better financial controls, flexibility and ease in adapting to change.

The determination to proceed with Cebu Press Freedom Week 2020 is the same resolve that is driving the Cebu media onward to a post-pandemic future.





DILG-7 joins 26th National Crime Prevention Week virtual kickoff

by Grace Melanie I. Lacamiento

Personnel of LGMED 7 and DILG-7 subregional offices namely DILG - Cebu City, DILG Negros Oriental, DILG R7 - Bohol Province, and DILG Siquijor join the virtual kickoff ceremony of the 26th National Crime Prevention Week by the National Police Commission via Zoom and Facebook livestreaming this morning.

Carrying the theme "Komunidad Pangalagaan nang Pandemya at Krimen ay Maiwasan", this year's celebration focuses on crime prevention strategies and measures that promote community safety, contribute to sustainable development and enhance the quality of life of all citizens during the pandemic.

It shall also extensively promote community partnership with both non-government and government organizations to emphasize the need for coordination, collaboration and cooperation of all sectors of society in preventing crime, victimization and COVID-19 infections.

Highlighting today's launch was the "Pito Tayo Laban sa Krimen".













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