

CHOOSE MANDAUE

e-Newsletter



SURVIVING THE PANDEMIC, THE MANDAUEHANONS' WAY

The battle of Mandaue City Government
against COVID-19

Mandaue City continues to combat the COVID-19 Pandemic for six months now since the first confirmed COVID-19 case was announced in the Philippines last 30 January 2020.

While the Philippine government mounted a multi-sectoral response, through the Interagency Task Force (IATF) on Emerging Infectious Diseases chaired by the Department of Health (DOH), the City Government of Mandaue also implemented various actions which were aimed at containing the spread of COVID-19 and mitigating its socioeconomic impact to the Mandauehanons.

Mayor Jonas Cortes immediately assembled and led the Mandaue City Covid-19 Crisis Management to develop the Community Quarantine Contingency Plans. This is in recognition that highly urbanized cities are indeed more susceptible to the contagion.

Mandaue City is the bridge of the Capital City to the rest of the province. We belong to the 3 highly urbanized Cities in Cebu, contiguous at that, which hosted the most number of COVID-19 cases.

Although, we are still on our way to flatten the curve, the Mandaue City Government has already established strategies to lessen the damage to our city. These strategies include the collaboration of the LGU with other government agencies, the business community, private sector, academe, medical experts and civil society organizations. These resulted to realistic and tailored-fit strategies for the City.

Heightened Surveillance and Contact Tracing

The Mandaue City Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office activated the Emergency Operation Center and Incident Management Team. Every Barangay was enlisted and briefed for monitoring of active cases and vehement contact tracing.

The Mandaue City Health Office partnered with the University of the Philippines Cebu in using CoVcheck. CoVcheck is a web-based application that allows the local government to collect data from its constituents about cases or potential cases of infection in order to respond to the community's needs as soon as it arises.

Recently, the City has established the Mandaue City Contact Tracing Operation Center with 37 newly hired and trained Mandaue City contact tracers and 143 barangay-based contact tracers.

This is to further address the need for aggressive contact tracing to counter the spread of COVID-19.



The first batch of contact tracers undergo a training handled by the Mandaue City Contact Tracing Team Leader, Atty. Julius Entise.



Mandaue City Contact Tracing Operations Center

Implementation of Health Protocols

Education campaign to the barangays has been done for everyone to comply with the COVID-19 safety and prevention measures. Aside from the traditional way of information dissemination, technology was also maximized such as the use of social media platforms to convince the Mandauehanons to stay at home, to observe physical distancing, to sanitize and wash hands always, and to wear face mask properly for the protection of one's self and others.

Mandaue City Mayor Jonas Cortes issued Executive Orders while the Mandaue City Council passed Ordinances supporting the implementation of safety and health protocols, the latest of these penalizes those who are not wearing face masks.

The Business Permits and Licensing Office (BPLO) also created a system of strict monitoring of businesses and other establishments in the City to ensure their compliance to health and safety protocols. Businesses are required to acquire a Special Permit to Operate from the BPLO before they can resume their business operations in the City during the quarantine period.

Aside from continuous disinfection in public places and communities with cases, Mandaue City has also established its own protocol on the disposal of infectious wastes.



The Mandaue City Legal Office - Enforcement Unit inspecting one of the malls in Mandaue City.



Personnel from the BPLO Enforcement and Inspection Team continue to verify compliances of businesses operating during this COVID-19 pandemic.

Mass Testing Procedure

In Partnership with the Office of the Presidential Adviser in the Visayas (OPAV), Mandaue City joined the Cities of Cebu and Lapu-Lapu in conducting a strategic rapid mass testing under the 'Project Balik Buhay' (PBB) program which was formulated in the hopes that Metro Cebu's three largest cities will all transition to a General Community Quarantine (GCQ) or to the so-called "new normal".



A photo taken by Cebu Daily News in one of the strategic mass testing done in Mandaue City.

Isolation and Clinical Care

Aside from the hospitals located in the City, both private and public, the Mandaue City Government ensured the accommodation of mild to asymptomatic COVID-19 patients in the DOH-approved isolation centers in each of the 27 barangays.

Lockdowns of households with COVID-19 patients and/or streets with a significant number of cases are also imposed to stop the spread of the virus. Stay-at-home kits and basic food provisions are distributed by the City for the families under lockdown.

Recently, the Mandaue City is among the first cities in the country to provide free flu and pneumonia vaccines for its residents during the pandemic.



Mandaue City Central Quarantine Facility in Mandaue City Central School.

stay-at-home kits provided by the City of Mandaue to the households under lockdown.

Mandaue City personnel delivering stay-at-home kits in Barangay Mantuyong.

Socio-Economic Support for Mandaue Residents

This pandemic has definitely affected our local economy and most importantly our means of living. Mayor Cortes and the rest of the Mandaue City Officials ensured that there is food on the table for every resident of the City. Food packs have been given to all households while the city government's partnership with the business community in Mandaue somehow gave security to the supply and accessibility of food products despite limited mobility.

The Mandaue Bayanihan Caravan, a partnership between the Mandaue City Government, spearheaded by Mandaue Investment Promotions Action Center (MIPAC), and the Mandaue Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) brought basic goods and necessities closer to the twenty-seven (27) barangays during the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ).

Feeding Programs in partnership with the City Government and the private sector which provided food to the City's poorest community during pandemic were also conducted.

Aside from assisting with the Social Amelioration Program of the National Government, cash assistance to our beloved senior citizens was also distributed by the City Treasurer's Office via house-to-house system to support the needs of our elderly. The 22,956 Mandauehanon senior citizens benefited from the City's cash assistance within March to April of this year.

Various donations for the front liners and the residents also poured in from groups, individuals and institutions. These are all properly distributed, tracked and recorded for efficiency and transparency.

The Mandaue City Agriculture Office encouraged food sufficiency through urban gardening. Numerous seeds and seedlings of crops and vegetables were made available and distributed for Mandauehanons to plant in the corner of their yards or in improvised garden containers with a little help from do-it-yourself (DIY) tutorials in the different social media platforms.



Personnel from the Traffic Enforcement Agency of Mandaue prepare the distribution of "stay at home" kits.



The Mandaue Bayanihan Caravan was implemented following the standard protocols to ensure safety and harmony among consumers and sellers.



The Mandaue City Government through the City Agriculture Office gives free seedlings to interested mandauehanons as a way to ensure food security thru urban vegetable gardening.

Logistical Support

Aside from facilitating the programs and assistance of the national government agencies for our workers and companies such as: COVID Adjustment Measurement Program (CAMP) and Tulong Pangkabuhayan Para sa Displaced Workers (TUPAD) etc. from DOLE and AKAP of OWWA, respectively, the City has continued its support for the local economic players in Mandaue.

Early on, different sectors of businesses in the City of Mandaue were consulted in a series of meetings conducted by the good Mayor himself. Problems, suggestions and queries were taken into consideration.

Transportation for essential employees, front liners and residents was ensured during the pandemic. Bus routes were developed in the absence of jeepneys and other traditional means of transportation. These also caters to the neighboring cities and municipalities.

Mandaue City is lauded for our fast action of establishing Bike Lanes to accommodate and ensure the safety of cyclists, mostly workers who used to commute via public transportation before the pandemic.

In reality, sizes of Mandaue roads cannot have a full loop of bike lanes just yet. Hence, the hard work and careful planning by the City Planning and Development Office (CPDO) with the Traffic Enforcement Agency of Mandaue (TEAM) and City Engineering Office led to the identification of three types of bike lanes in the city: the dedicated bike lanes, shared bike lanes and the limited access bike lanes. This achievement is hailed even more upon the installation of bicycle repair stations which can be used for free anytime.

In response to the congested cemetery in the city, the City purchased a Mortuary Containerized Freezer Van to help with the limited capacity of body storage in morgues. The use of this facility is free of charge for the funeral parlors and/or hospitals in the City.

The city government also turned over brand new 6-wheeler multipurpose dump trucks to each of the 27 barangays in the City. These dump trucks may be used by the barangay for relief operations, disaster preparedness, garbage disposal, hauling of equipment, and other necessary purposes.



Ceres Buses traverse the different bus routes, both intra and inter-city routes, to cater to the transportation needs.



The Traffic Enforcement Agency of Mandaue (TEAM) personnel worked overtime to install bike lanes along A. Del Rosario St., Barangay Guizo, Mandaue City.



Mandaue City's Bike Station which can be used by bikers anytime for free.



Mayor Jonas Cortes together with DOH personally inspect the mortuary van purchased by Mandaue City.



Every City in the world was shaken by this COVID-19 pandemic notwithstanding their preparedness and capacity. In spite of this, the Mandaue City Government has been cited and praised for its strategies and actions in managing this pandemic. The above mentioned notable actions are indications that the Mandaue City Government is open, transparent, collaborative and ready to adopt comprehensive responses. The City of Mandaue can confidently say that it has the right kind of leadership – leaders who can rapidly make decisive actions to mitigate the impacts of this crisis.

While it is still too early to declare with certainty, we are surely on our way to success in battling this pandemic because in Mandaue, “We heal as one” is not just a slogan. As Mandaue City Mayor Jonas Cortes always emphasizes, “Walay biyaay Mandaue, magkuyog tang tanan”.

Photo Credits: Mandaue City PIO and BPLO

COVID -19 STATISTICS

DATA AS OF AUGUST 18, 2020

BARANGAY	ACTIVE	RECOVERED	DEATH
Alang-alang	4	59	6
Bakilid	6	35	0
Banilad	12	74	2
Basak	11	31	1
Cabancalan	20	57	2
Cambaro	8	47	8
Canduman	19	52	4
Casili	3	18	1
Casuntingan	5	70	1
Centro	21	43	4
Cubacub	10	32	0
Guizo	12	25	4
Ibabao-Estancia	14	34	3
Jacobiao	24	34	3
Labogon	9	66	6
Looc	8	120	10
Maguikay	13	69	6
Mantuyong	3	38	1
Opao	3	54	6
Pagsabungan	7	51	0
Paknaan	16	67	2
Subangdaku	24	108	4
Tabok	13	66	3
Tawason	1	4	0
Tingub	6	12	0
Tipolo	21	63	3
Umapad	8	46	1
Mandaue City Jail	0	241	1
Non-Community	27	0	0
Tagged as Mandaue but not from Mandaue	8	1	0
TOTAL	336	1,617	82

Data source: Emergency Operations Center



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