

Item No.: 27
Date: 16 2025 SEP



Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte

RECEIVED

Date: SEP 03 2025
By: [Signature]

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Provincial Capitol
Tacloban City

-oOo-

PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE



2nd INDORSEMENT
August 20, 2025

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 01 S. 2025 of the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Baybay City, Leyte.

Issues/concerns for review/recommendation/legal opinion is/are as follows:

- Ordinance No. 01 S. 2025 entitled: "Women and Children Crisis Center in the City of Baybay."

REVIEW/RECOMMENDATION/LEGAL OPINION:

This office is of the opinion that the subject Ordinance is generally in accordance with its power under Section 458(a)(5)(xiv)¹ of the Local Government Code of 1991 (R.A 7160) pursuant to RA 9262². Hence, we recommend the declaration of its validity.

We hope to have assisted you with this request. Please note that the opinion rendered by this Office are based on the facts available and may vary or change when additional facts and documents are presented or changed. This opinion is likewise without prejudice to the opinions rendered by higher and competent authorities and/or the courts.

ATTY. JOSE RAYMUND A. ACOL

Provincial Legal Officer 

¹ (xiv) 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 said needy and disadvantaged persons;

² Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Palo, Leyte
-oOo-

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN

1ST INDORSEMENT
18 August 2025

Province of Leyte
Legal Office
Palo, Leyte
8-18-25

The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein enclosed **City Ordinance No. 01, S. 2025 of the City of Baybay, Leyte**, entitled: **An Ordinance establishing the Baybay City Women and Children Crisis Center for Victims and Survivors of Violence and Abuse, and for such other purposes.**


FLORINDA JILES UYVICO
Secretary to the Sanggunian



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
CITY OF BAYBAY
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OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

3rd Floor City Hall, Diversion Road, Brgy. Gaas, Baybay City, Leyte 6521 * panlungsodsangguniang@gmail.com

August 15, 2025

The Sangguniang Panlalawigan
 Province of Leyte
 Tacloban City

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
 Province of Leyte
RECEIVED
 Date: AUG 15 2025
 By: Nisena

Sir/Madam

I am pleased to transmit herewith the Hard copies of City Ordinance No. 01, S. 2025 of the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Baybay City:

It is hoped that said Ordinance is in order and therefore, merits your kind consideration.

Thank you very much.


 ATTY. VIVIAN E. VIDALLON
 SP Secretary

Incl.: as stated



Republic of the Philippines
 PROVINCE OF LEYTE
CITY OF BAYBAY
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OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

3rd Floor City Hall, Diversion Road, Brgy. Gaas, Baybay City, Leyte 6521 * spbaybaycity.616@gmail.com

7TH SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

CITY ORDINANCE NO. 01, S. 2025
 5TH Regular Session

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
 Province of Leyte
RECEIVED
 Date: AUG 15 2025
 By: N/A

"AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE BAYBAY CITY WOMEN AND CHILDREN CRISIS CENTER FOR VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF VIOLENCE AND ABUSE, AND FOR SUCH OTHER PURPOSES".

Sponsored by: Hon. JOSE ROMMEL A. PEÑARANDA

PREFATORY STATEMENTS

WHEREAS, cases of violence against women and children in the country is increasing every year, where based on the data from the Child Protection Network Foundation Inc, in 2024, a total of 12,930 violence against children and 5,742 violence against women were recorded and reported;

WHEREAS, all forms of gender-based abuse and violence must, at least, be reduced or completely eradicated since they are inconsistent with people's inherent worth and dignity. Gender-based violence is a symptom of sexism that perpetuates human rights abuses including putting people's lives and health in jeopardy. Women, children and other genders who are victims of gender-based violence require specific protection and care, including adequate medical, psychological, and legal safeguards against all forms of abuse;

WHEREAS, Section 40 of Republic Act No. 9262 or otherwise known as the Anti-Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC) Act, mandates that the State shall provide temporary shelters, counseling, psycho-social services and/or recovery, rehabilitation programs and livelihood assistance;

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Republic Act No. 7610 or the Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act, mandates the rehabilitation of children gravely threatened or endangered by circumstances which affect or will affect their survival and normal development, and over which they have no control;

WHEREAS, Section 3 of Republic Act No. 8505 or the Rape Victim Assistance and Protection Act, commands the establishment in every province and city a Rape Crisis Center located in a government hospital, health clinic or any suitable place that will provide psychological counseling, medical and health services with medico-legal examination, free legal assistance, privacy and safety for victims, and other related laws;

[Signature]
 CARMEN L. CARI
 SP Member

[Signature]
 ROMULO B. ALCALA
 SP Member

[Signature]
 EDGARDO R. OMPLOY
 SP Member

[Signature]
 FULTON IKE C. ARRADAZA
 SP Member

[Signature]
 SIMOUNE X. ASTORGA
 SP Member

[Signature]
 DOMINIC JUNIE F. MURILLO
 SP Member

[Signature]
 JOSE L. BACUSMO
 SP Member

[Signature]
 RAMON RONALD J. VELOSO
 SP Member

[Signature]
 ATTY. JOSE ROMMEL A. PEÑARANDA
 SP Member

[Signature]
 EDUARDO R. GUINOCOR
 SP Member

[Signature]
 JULES LUDAS C. CARI
 President, LIGANG mga Barangay
 Ex-Officio SPM

[Signature]
 KYLA SHANNEN T. VIL...
 SK Chair, City Federation
 Ex-Officio SPM

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Republic Act No. 8353 or the Anti-Rape Law of 1997 cited possibility that Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus (HIV) Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) or any other sexually transmissible diseases and viruses may be transmitted to the victim and thus the need for medical examination should be carried out in a private examination room;


CARMEN L. CARI
SP Member


JOSE L. BACUSMO
SP Member

WHEREAS, Section 30 of Republic Act No. 9710, otherwise known as the Magna Carta of Women Act, defines Women in Especially Difficult Circumstances (WEDC) as those victims and survivors of sexual and physical abuse, illegal recruitment, prostitution, trafficking, armed conflict, women in detention, victims and survivors of rape and incest, and such other related circumstances which have incapacitated them functionally. Local government units are therefore mandated to deliver the necessary services and interventions to WEDC under their respective jurisdictions;


ROMULO B. ALCALA
SP Member


RAMON RONALD J. VELOSO
SP Member

WHEREAS, Section 31 of Republic Act 9710 further provides that WEDC shall be provided with services and interventions as necessary such as, but not limited to, the temporary and protective custody; medical and dental services; psychological evaluation; counselling: (e) psychiatric evaluation; (f) legal services; and (g) productivity skills capability building.


EDGARDO F. OMPOX
SP Member


ATTY. JOSE ROMMEL A. PEÑARANDA
SP Member

WHEREAS, Section 458 (5) (XIV) of the Local Government Code of 1991 (LGC) provides that *Sangguniang Panlungsod* shall enact ordinances that provide for the care of disabled persons, paupers, the sick, persons of unsound mind, abandoned minors, juvenile delinquents, drug dependents, abused children, and other needy and disadvantaged persons particularly the 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 said needy and disadvantage persons;


FULTON IKE C. ARRADAZA
SP Member


EDUARDO R. GUINOCOR
SP Member

WHEREAS, Section 16 of the LGC provides that every local government unit shall exercise the powers expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental for its efficient and effective governance, and those which are essential to the promotion of the general welfare;


SIMOUNEL ASTORGA
SP Member


JULES LIVAS C. CARI
President, LIGAng mga Barangay
Ex-Oficio SPM

WHEREAS, there is a need to establish a crisis center for abused women and children in the City of Baybay in order to provide temporary shelter, medical, legal and psychosocial interventions to victims of abuses thereby protecting them from further abuse, rehabilitating them from a traumatic experience, and ensuring their normal integration to the society;


DOMINIC ROMINA Y. MORILLO
SP Member

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, as it is hereby ordained by the 7th *Sangguniang Panlungsod* of the City of Baybay, Province of Leyte, in its 5th Regular Session duly assembled that:

SECTION 1. TITLE. This Ordinance shall be known as the "Women and Children Crisis Center in the City of Baybay".


KYLA SHARMEN T. VIDAL
SK Chair, City Federation
Ex-Oficio SPM

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. The City is mandated by law to protect everyone's dignity, uphold human rights, and ensure that everyone is treated equally in all material respects. In order to protect victims and survivors of gender-based violence and other types of violence, the City Government must establish programs and infrastructures to pursue this purpose. These services must include counselling, medical, legal, psychological, temporary shelter, after-care supports such as livelihood assistance, and a holistic and all encompassing family approach to case management.

Through community or school advocacy and networking, the City Government must also endeavor to lessen or prevent the occurrence of violence against women, children, lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgender people, intersex people, and queers. The City Government shall adopt and pursue an integrated system of policy direction, implementation, and enforcement of anti-gender-based violence policies, programs, and activities in order to achieve this purpose.

SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS. As used in this Ordinance, the following terms shall be constructed to mean as follows:

- a. Child - refers to a person below eighteen (18) years of age or over but is unable to fully take care of himself/herself or protect himself/herself from abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation or discrimination because of a physical or mental disability or condition.
- b. Child Abuse -refers to a child's abuse, whether it is routine or not, which includes any of the following:
 - i. Abuse of any kind, whether mental or physical, neglect, sexual abuse, and emotional maltreatment;
 - ii. Any behavior of words or deeds that diminishes a child's inherent value and dignity as a human being;
 - iii. He/she was being deprived of his/her fundamental needs, such as food and shelter, in an unreasonable manner; and
 - iv. Failure to immediately give medical treatment to an injured child resulting in serious impairment of his/her growth and development or in his/her permanent incapacity or death
- c. Violence Against Women - refers to violence that targets women or disproportionately affects women which includes acts that cause physical, mental, or sexual harm and suffering, threats of such acts, coercion, and other deprivations of liberty, as well as discrimination, and other violations of women's fundamental rights and freedoms protected by general international law or human rights conventions.
- d. Violence Against Children - all sorts of sexual abuse, as well as physical or mental abuse, neglect, as well as mistreatment or negligence. Intentional use of physical force or authority, whether threatened or used, against a child by an individual or group that has a significant likelihood of harming the child's health, welfare, development, or dignity is also included in this definition.

SECTION 4. BAYBAY CITY WOMEN AND CHILDREN CRISIS CENTER. The City Government shall establish the Baybay City Women and Children Crisis Center which shall provide temporary shelter and


CARMEN L. CARI
SP Member


ROMULO B. ALCALA
SP Member


EDGARDO R. DIMPOY
SP Member


FULTON IKE C. ARRADAZA
SP Member


SIMONE E. ASTORGA
SP Member


DOMINIC JUNIE F. MURILLO
SP Member


JOSE L. BACUSMO
SP Member


RAMON RONALD J. VELOSO
SP Member


ATTY. JOSE ROMMEL A. PENARANDA
SP Member


EDUARDO ROMEL R. GUINOCOR
SP Member


JULIUS LUCAS C. CARI
President, LIGA ng mga Barangay
Ex-Oficio SPM


KYLA SHANNAN T. VIDAL
SK Chair, CIO Federation
Ex-Oficio SPM

protection for victims and survivors of violence against women and children. The center aims to rebuild the lives of women, children and other gender in crisis by providing temporary shelter, care, and rehabilitation assistance to victims in the hope of recovery from their traumatic experiences as victims of violence as well as nurturing and developing them into self-sufficient and self-fulfilled individuals.

The Center shall provide the following, as may be appropriate:

- a. A temporary house for victims of gender-based violence to women, girls and children and other gender;
- b. Comprehensive intervention and protection services, including medical and police support, legal, and psychological services to abused victims and their families;
- c. Safeguard the victim's and survivor's security and safety;
- d. Help victims and survivors with referrals to permanent shelters;
- e. Providing case management for offenders' rehabilitation and referral services for those who commit acts of violence, abuse, and exploitation;
- f. Psychological interventions are also provided through regular counseling, music therapy, and sessions on anger management. If necessary, recommendation are given to seek professional help from psychologists/ psychiatrists;
- g. Health services are provided such as regular medical and dental checkup and laboratory test, as well as special dietary care when necessary;
- h. Training on daily living skills, personality development/ self enhancement skills. Life skills lessons in cooking, washing, and in maintaining the up-keep and cleanliness of the Center will be provided; and
- i. Livelihood and job training services may also be provided for them to be productive.

The Center shall, as much as possible, shall have a (a) Reception area; (b) Counseling/psychotherapy room; (c) Medical/examination room; (d) Interview/ investigation room; (e) Record/database room; (f) Nursery/ infirmary room; (g) Kitchen and Dining room; (h) Sleeping quarters; (i) Case Management Conference Room; and (j) Activity Corner.

SECTION 5. CENTER MANAGEMENT AND MANAGER. The Center shall be under the management and supervision of the City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO). A full-time Center Manager who is qualified to handle delicate situations shall be assigned to manage the Center and determine appropriate actions and referrals on all cases received by the Center.

SECTION 6. CRISIS CENTER MANUAL OF OPERATIONS. The CSWDO shall formulate and adopt a Manual of Operations for the Center taking into account the purposes for which the Center is established.

SECTION 7. FACTORS TO CONSIDER IN COUNSELING. Counseling of victims or clients should consider the following important factors.

- a. Counseling approach should be based on client's needs and preferences;
- b. Counselors at the center should receive regular training on counseling strategies and methods including identifying the typical mental health problems that victims of violence experience;

CARMEL L. CARI
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ROMULO B. ALCALA
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FULTON KE C. ARRADAZA
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SIMOUNEL ASTORGA
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DOMINIC JUNE F. MURILLO
SP Member

JOSUE ACUSIMO
SP Member

RAMON RONALD J. VELOSO
SP Member

ATTY. JOSE RUMMEL A. PENARANDA
SP Member

EDUARDO MARQUE R. GUINOCOR
SP Member

JULIUS LINDAS C. CARI
President, LIGA ng mga Barangay
Ex-Oficio SPM

KYLA SHANNEN T. VIDAL
SK Chair, City Federation
Ex-Oficio SPM

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- c. When providing care for someone healing from an incident of rape or sexual abuse, counselors must have a compassionate attitude and a non-judgmental manner; and
- d. Pre and post-test counseling are provided for medical tests for respiratory tract infections (RTIs), sexually transmitted infections (STIs), unintended pregnancy, and HIV-AIDS. Regardless of the outcome, counseling should be provided after an HIV test, if one is conducted. Counselors must recommend patients to medical and psychological services if their test results are positive.

SECTION 8. CONFIDENTIALITY. All documents and information in the Center relative to the victims and survivors of violence and abuse must be kept private and all persons are required to respect the victim's rights to privacy. Without the victim's or member's consent, anybody who publishes or causes to be published in any format the victim's name, address, phone number, schools, business address, employer, or any other identifying information is subject to the court's contempt powers. The City Government may initiate legal action to protect the identity of the victims and the integrity of all confidential documents.

SECTION 9. FUNDING. Budget allocations must cover the Center's expenses and shall be charged against the existing account under the CSWDO.

SECTION 10. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If any part or provision of this Ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

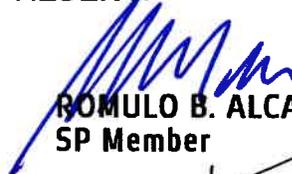
SECTION 11. REPEALING CLAUSE. All executive orders, memorandum orders, memorandum circulars, administrative orders, ordinances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 12. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. This Ordinance shall take effect 15 days upon its approval by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan and after due compliance with all the requirements provided under R.A. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991.

Enacted: July 31, 2025
Baybay City, Leyte, Philippines.

CARRIED BY ALL OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT:


CARMEN L. CARI
SP Member

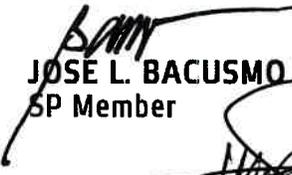

ROMULO B. ALCALA
SP Member


EDGARDO R. OMPOY
SP Member


DR. FULTON IKE C. ARRADAZA
SP Member


SIMOUNE L. ASTORGA
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DOMINIC JUNIE F. MURILLO
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SP Member


JULES LUCAS C. CARI
President, LIGA Ng Mga Barangay
Ex-Officio SPM


KYLA SHANNEN T. VIDAL
SK Chair, City Federation
Ex-Officio SPM

RESOLVED FURTHER, that certified copies of this ORDINANCE be furnished to the City Mayor Honorable Jose Carlos L. Cari, City Administrator Florante Cayunda Jr.; City Legal Officer, Atty. Avito C. Cahig, Jr.; City Budget Officer, Raul Mabini; City Accountant Jay Ryan Austero; City Treasurer Alberta A. Manatad, CLGOO Juvy C. Pedrera, and to all other offices/agencies/entities concerned for their information, guidance and appropriate action.

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing Ordinance.


ATTY. VIVIAN C. ENARIO-VIDALLON
Secretary to the Sanggunian

**ATTESTED & CERTIFIED
TO BE DULY ADOPTED**

CONFORME:


ATTY. ERNESTO M. BUTAWAN
City Vice Mayor / Presiding Officer


ENGR. JOSE CARLOS L. CARI
City Mayor *8/13/25*



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
CITY OF BAYBAY
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OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

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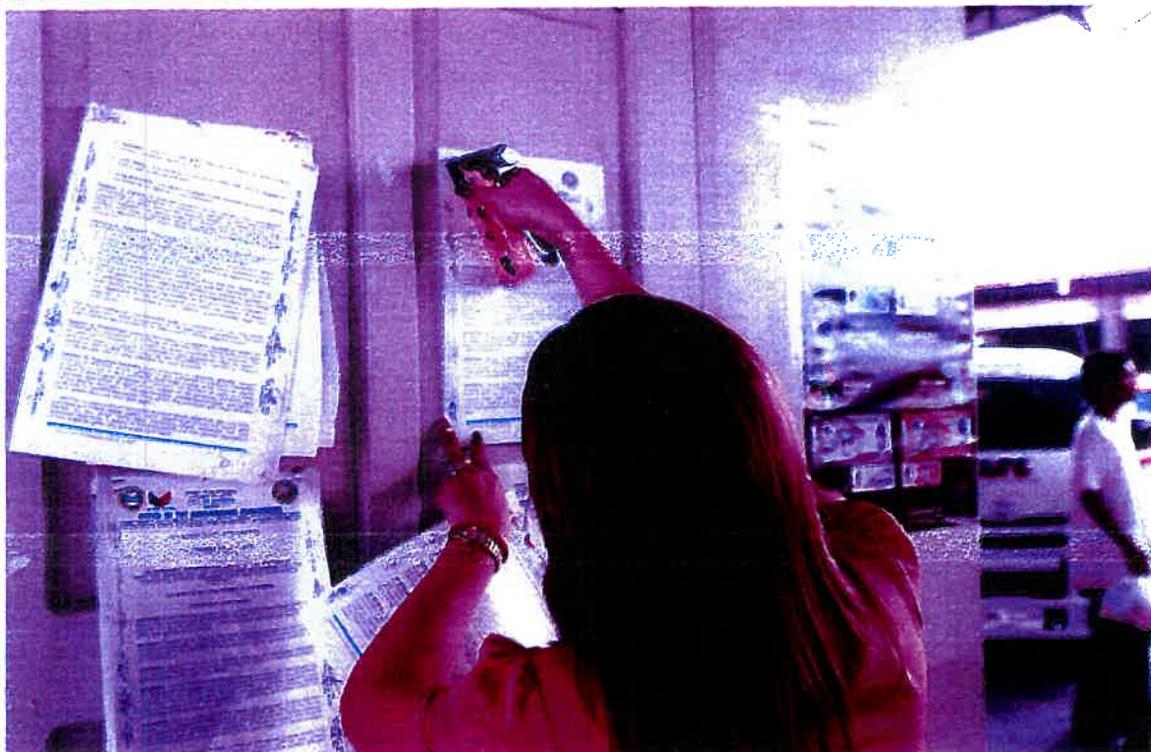
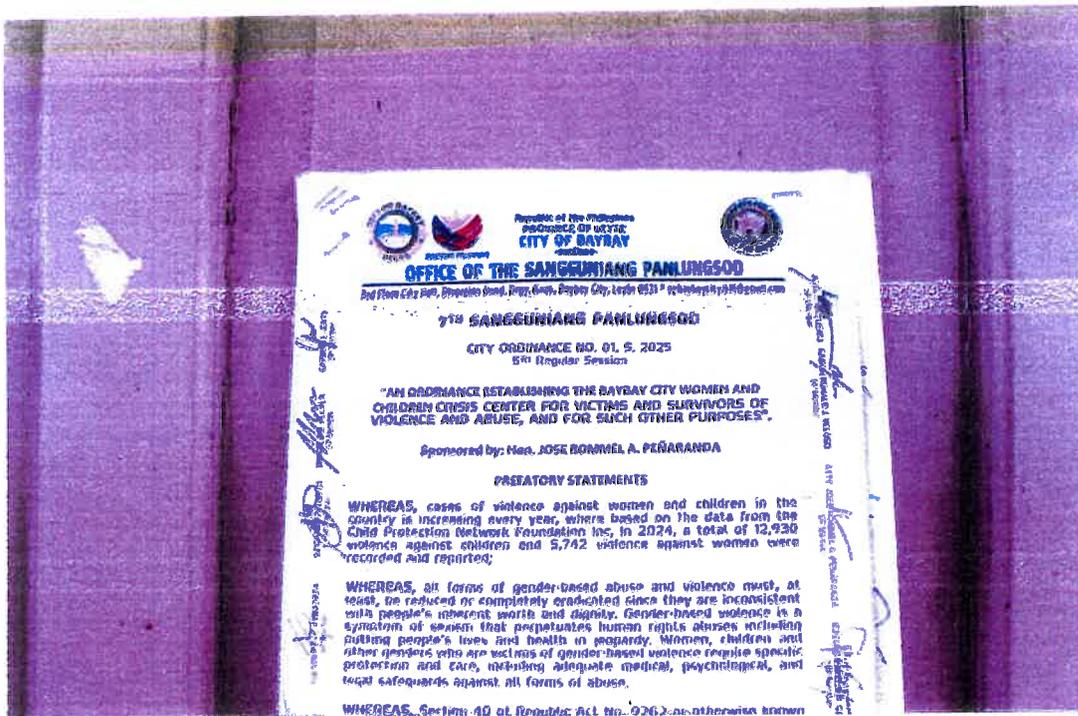
C E R T I F I C A T I O N

TO WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the City Ordinance No. 01 s. 2025 "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE BAYBAY CITY WOMEN AND CHILDREN CRISIS CENTER FOR VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF VIOLENCE AND ABUSE, AND FOR SUCH OTHER PURPOSES" was posted in the bulletin board at Legislative Department, New City Hall, Diversion Road, the public market and Baybay City Bus and Terminal immediately upon approval thereof.

Issued this 15th day of August 2025, at Baybay City, Leyte.


ATTY. VIVIAN E. VIDALLON
SP Secretary



Baybay City Bus Terminal