



Republic of the Philippines  
**PROVINCE OF LEYTE**  
 Provincial Capitol  
 Tacloban City

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**PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE**

Item No.: 29

Date: 07 2026 JUL

RECEIVED  
 By: [Signature]  
 Date: 6-26-26 Time: 1:20

Sangguniang Panlalawigan  
 Province of Leyte  
**RECEIVED**

Date: JUN 26 2026  
 By: [Signature]

**2<sup>nd</sup> INDORSEMENT**  
 June 3, 2026

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through the SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 7 of the Sangguniang Bayan of Merida, Leyte.

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

- Ordinance No. 7 entitled: “Merida Mental Health Ordinance .”

**REVIEW/RECOMMENDATION/LEGAL OPINION:**

This office is of the opinion that the subject Ordinance is generally in accordance with its power under Section 447(a)(1)<sup>1</sup> of the Local Government Code of 1991 (R.A 7160). Hence, we recommend for 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* }

<sup>1</sup> (a) The sangguniang bayan, as the legislative body of the municipality, shall enact ordinances, approve resolutions and appropriate funds for the general welfare of the municipality and its inhabitants pursuant to Section 16 of this Code and in the proper exercise of the corporate powers of the municipality as provided for under Section 22 of this Code

Republic of the Philippines  
PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
Palo, Leyte  
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**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN**

**1<sup>ST</sup> INDORSEMENT**  
29 May 2026

PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
LEGAL OFFICE  
**RECEIVED**  
By:   
Date: 6.01.26 Time: 9:24

The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein enclosed **Municipal Ordinance No. 07, series of 2026 of the Municipality of Merida, Leyte**, entitled: **An Ordinance establishing a Comprehensive Mental Health Program in the Municipality of Merida, Leyte, creating the Municipal Mental Health Council, establishing a psycho-social room, designating a municipal mental health focal person, providing financial support for barangay programs and establishing a Mental Health Hotline.**

  
**FLORINDA JILL S. UYVICO**  
Secretary to the Sanggunian

December 16, 2025



Republic of the Philippines  
Province of Leyte  
MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

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28 MAY 2026

THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF LEYTE  
CAPITOL BUILDING  
PALO LEYTE



DEAR HONORABLE MEMBERS;

I have the honor to submit to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte copies of **MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 07, SERIES OF 2026 "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA, LEYTE, CREATING THE MUNICIPAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNCIL, ESTABLISHING A PSYCHO-SOCIAL ROOM, DESIGNATING A MUNICIPAL MENTAL HEALTH FOCAL PERSON, PROVIDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR BARANGAY PROGRAMS AND ESTABLISHING A MENTAL HEALTH HOTLINE"** enacted by the 19<sup>th</sup> Council of this Municipality, for review and consideration.

Hoping everything is in order.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

  
JOSELITO T. DE LOS ANGELES  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan



**RECEIVED**

Date: MAY 29 2026  
By: \_\_\_\_\_

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 33<sup>RD</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE  
SANGGUNIANG BAYAN (19<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL), MERIDA, LEYTE, HELD ON APRIL 22, 2026  
AT THE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING SESSION HALL.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true and accurate copy of the resolution duly adopted by the Sangguniang Bayan of Merida, Leyte on APRIL 22, 2026.

  
JOSELITO T. DELOS ANGELES  
SB Secretary

SANGGUNIANG BAYAN MEMBERS:

  
HON. ATTY. CHRISTIAN Q. SALTA  
SB Member

  
HON. BENJAMIN A. TRAVERERO JR.  
SB Member

  
HON. JESUS ANTONIO R. MARTINEZ  
SB Member

HON. CHENIL C. CALDERON  
SB Member (Sick Leave)

  
HON. MELQUIADES D. GUIO-GUIO  
SB Member

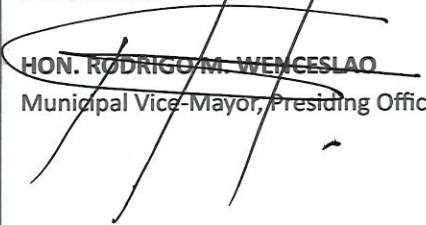
HON. BRENDA T. ADOLFO  
SB Member

  
HON. ROGEN G. WENCESLAO  
SB Member

  
HON. OLIVER R. LIMOSNERO  
SB Member

HON. RONILLO O. LABANG  
LNB President (Forced Leave)

  
HON. ASHLEY NOREEN J. DIAZ  
SK Federation President

  
HON. RODRIGO M. WENCESLAO  
Municipal Vice-Mayor, Presiding Officer

-RESOLUTION NO. 19-26-086-

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 07, SERIES OF 2026 "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA, LEYTE, CREATING THE MUNICIPAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNCIL, ESTABLISHING A PSYCHO-SOCIAL ROOM, DESIGNATING A MUNICIPAL MENTAL HEALTH FOCAL PERSON, PROVIDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR BARANGAY PROGRAMS and ESTABLISHING A MENTAL HEALTH HOTLINE."

WHEREAS, Section 15, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11036 recognizes mental health as a fundamental component of overall health and mandates integration of mental health services in community and primary health care systems;

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization recognizes mental health as essential to well-being and encourages governments to develop community-based mental health programs;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health promotes establishment of local mental health programs to address mental health concerns, reduce stigma, and provide accessible services;

WHEREAS, recent reports from the Municipal Health Office of Merida indicate increasing cases of depression, anxiety, and substance use affecting productivity and social well-being;

WHEREAS, stigma and lack of awareness prevent timely care, leading to untreated mental health conditions and preventable crises;

WHEREAS, early intervention, psychosocial support, and community-based programs reduce prevalence of disorders and improve community resilience;

WHEREAS, the Municipality recognizes mental health as integral to general health and is committed to promoting psychological well-being, ensuring access to services, and protecting the rights of all individuals experiencing mental health conditions;

NOW, WHEREFORE, ON MOTION OF Hon. Brenda T. Adolfo Chairman Committee on Health duly seconded by MASS, BE IT RESOLVED TO ENACT;

-MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 07-  
Series of 2026

INTRODUCED/AUTHORED BY:  
HON. BRENDA T. ADOLFO

SECTION 1. Title- This Ordinance shall be known as the "Merida Mental Health Ordinance of 2026."

**SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy**

It is the policy of the Municipality of Merida to:

1. Promote mental health awareness and well-being among constituents.
2. Provide accessible, affordable, and community-based mental health services.
3. Integrate mental health care into primary health care systems.
4. Reduce stigma and discrimination against persons with mental health conditions.
5. Protect the rights and dignity of individuals experiencing mental health concerns.

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THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
 PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
**SANGGUNIANG BAYAN NG MERIDA (19<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL)**



(CONTINUATION OF MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 07, SERIES OF 2026, DATED APRIL 22, 2026. . . . . //PAGE 02)

**SECTION 3. Definition of Terms**

- **Mental Health** – state of well-being in which individuals realize abilities, cope with stresses, and contribute to the community.
- **Mental Health Condition** – any disorder affecting mood, thinking, or behavior.
- **Psychosocial Support Services** – interventions promoting psychological well-being and coping mechanisms.
- **Community-Based Mental Health Services** – services delivered in the community such as counseling, support groups, and outreach.

**SECTION 4. Establishment of the Municipal Mental Health Program of Merida**

The **Municipal Health Office (MHO)** shall establish and implement a **Municipal Mental Health Program** to provide preventive, promotive, curative, and rehabilitative services.

**SECTION 5. Creation of the Municipal Mental Health Council**

A **Municipal Mental Health Council (MMHC)** is hereby created.

**Composition:**

- Chairperson: Municipal Mayor
- Vice Chairperson: Municipal Health Officer

**Members:**

- Chairperson, SB Committee on Health
- Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer
- Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officer
- Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator
- DepEd District Supervisor
- Philippine National Police Chief
- Sangguniang Kabataan Federation President
- Liga ng mga Barangay President
- Representative from Civil Society Organizations
- Local Youth Development Officer

**Secretariat:** Municipal Health Office

**SECTION 6. Powers and Functions of the Council**

1. Formulate policies and strategies for mental health promotion.
2. Develop a **Municipal Mental Health Strategic Plan**.
3. Coordinate with barangays, schools, and institutions.
4. Conduct advocacy and awareness campaigns.
5. Establish referral systems for mental health services.
6. Monitor and evaluate implementation.

**SECTION 7. Mental Health Services**

1. Consultation and counseling at the RHU.
2. Psychological first aid during disasters.
3. Awareness campaigns in schools and barangays.
4. Crisis intervention and suicide prevention programs.
5. Referral system for specialized treatment and psychiatric care.

**SECTION 8. Barangay Mental Health Program**

1. Each barangay shall designate a **Mental Health Focal Person**.
2. Conduct community awareness activities and psychosocial support.
3. Assist in identifying individuals needing mental health services.
4. Support municipal programs.

**Barangay Mental Health Committee Structure:**

- Chairperson: Barangay Captain
- Vice-Chairperson: Barangay Health Worker
- Members: Barangay Tanod Rep, SK Rep, Senior Citizen Rep, NGO Rep, Volunteer Health Advocates

**Functions:** Conduct awareness, identify residents needing help, coordinate referrals, report to MHO.

**SECTION 9. School-Based Mental Health Programs**

1. Integrate mental health awareness into school programs.
2. Provide counseling and psychosocial support to students.
3. Conduct anti-bullying and stress management programs.

-OVER-

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**LAND OF MERRY AND DASHING PEOPLE**

LGU Merida, Barangay Poblacion, Greenheights District,  
Merida, Leyte 6540 The

Philippines

Email:

[sangguniangbayanofmeridaleYTE@gmail.com](mailto:sangguniangbayanofmeridaleYTE@gmail.com)

FB Page: SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

MERIDA LEYTE





THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
 PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
**SANGGUNIANG BAYAN NG MERIDA (19<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL)**



(CONTINUATION OF MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 07, SERIES OF 2026, DATED APRIL 22, 2026. .... //PAGE 04)

**B. Barangay-Level:**

1. Barangay Focal Person coordination
2. Community counseling sessions and support groups
3. Mental health awareness campaigns and home visits
4. Referral system for crises, including immediate coordination with MHO
5. Monthly reporting to MMHC

**C. Integration:** All workplace and barangay programs shall be integrated into the **Municipal Mental Health Program**.

**SECTION 20. FINANCIAL ALLOCATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS ACTIVITIES**

1. The Local Government Unit shall allocate a minimum **₱100,000 annually** and P20,000 annually per barangay from their Health and Development Funds in the Annual Budgets.
2. Funds may be used for seminars, workshops, printed materials, community activities, and volunteer support.
3. Supplementary LGU funding may be provided to active barangays.
4. Monthly documentation and reporting to MHO required.

**SECTION 21. PSYCHO-SOCIAL SUPPORT FOR TEENAGERS AND CONSTITUENTS**

1. Programs targeting teenagers, including counseling, peer support, stress management, suicide prevention, and substance abuse prevention.
2. Inclusive programs for all constituents, especially vulnerable groups.
3. Parental, teacher, and community engagement to identify and support residents.

**SECTION 22. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE**

If any provision is declared unconstitutional, the rest shall remain in full force.

**SECTION 23. REPEALING CLAUSE**

All ordinances, resolutions, or parts inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed or modified.

**SECTION 24. EFFECTIVITY**

This ordinance shall take effect upon approval and after compliance with publication or posting under **Republic Act No. 7160**.

**ENACTED: 22 APRIL 2026**

**APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**SANGGUNIANG BAYAN MEMBERS**

*[Signature]*  
**ATTY. CHRISTIAN Q. SALTA, EnP**  
 Municipal Councilor  
 Majority Floor Leader

*[Signature]*  
**BENJAMIN A. TRAVERO, JR.**  
 Municipal Councilor

*[Signature]*  
**CHENIL C. CALDERON**  
 Municipal Councilor  
*(Sick Leave)*

*[Signature]*  
**JESUS ANTONIO R. MARTINEZ**  
 Municipal Councilor

*[Signature]*  
**BRENDA T. ADOLFO**  
 Municipal Councilor

*[Signature]*  
**MELQUIADES D. GUIO-GUIO**  
 Municipal Councilor

*[Signature]*  
**ROGEN G. WENCESLAO**  
 Municipal Councilor

*[Signature]*  
**OLIVER R. LIMOSNERO**  
 Municipal Councilor

*[Signature]*  
**RONILLO O. LABANG**  
 Ex-Officio (LnB President)  
*(Forced Leave)*

*[Signature]*  
**ASHLEY NOREEN J. DIAZ**  
 Ex-Officio (Mun. SK Fed. President)

-OVER-

**LAND OF MERRY AND DASHING PEOPLE**

LGU Merida, Barangay Poblacion, Greenheights District,  
 Merida, Leyte 6540 The

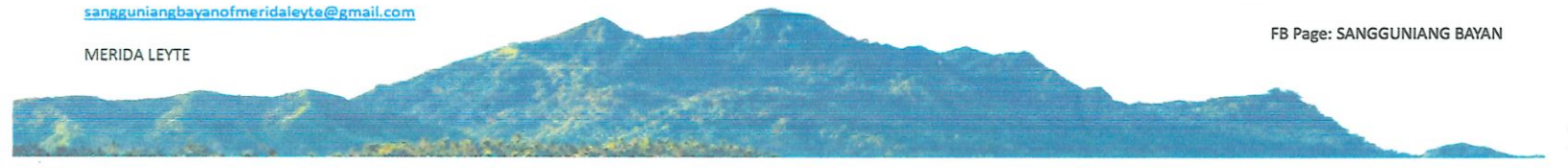
Philippines

Email:

[sangguniangbayanofmeridaleyte@gmail.com](mailto:sangguniangbayanofmeridaleyte@gmail.com)

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MERIDA LEYTE





THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
SANGGUNIANG BAYAN NG MERIDA (19<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL)



(CONTINUATION OF MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 07, SERIES OF 2026, DATED APRIL 22, 2026. .... //PAGE 05)

APPROVED BY HIS HONOR, THE MUNICIPAL MAYOR ON April 28, 2026.

CONFORME:

ENGR. ROLANDO M. VILLASENCIO  
Municipal Mayor

CERTIFIED BY:

~~RODRIGO M. WENCESLAO~~  
Municipal Vice Mayor / Presiding Officer

ATTESTED BY:

JOSELITO T. DELOS ANGELES  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

LAND OF MERRY AND DASHING PEOPLE

LGU Merida, Barangay Poblacion, Greenheights District,  
Merida, Leyte 6540 The

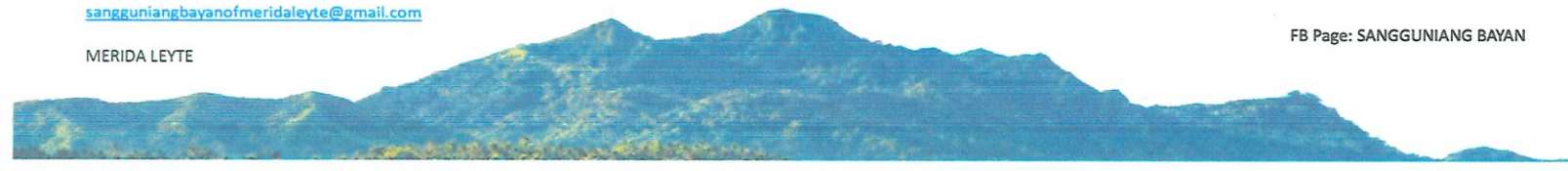
Philippines

Email:

[sangguniangbayanofmeridaleyte@gmail.com](mailto:sangguniangbayanofmeridaleyte@gmail.com)

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MERIDA LEYTE





Republic of the Philippines  
Province of Leyte  
MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA

## OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

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### CERTIFICATION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 07, SERIES OF 2026 – “AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA, LEYTE, CREATING THE MUNICIPAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNCIL, ESTABLISHING A PSYCHO-SOCIAL ROOM, DESIGNATING A MUNICIPAL MENTAL HEALTH FOCAL PERSON, PROVIDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR BARANGAY PROGRAMS AND ESTABLISHING A MENTAL HEALTH HOTLINE” had been posted in three (3) conspicuous places in the locality within three (3) consecutive weeks from APRIL 29, 2026 TO MAY 20, 2026.

THIS CERTIFICATION has been issued in compliance to Section 511 (1), Title One, book IV of RA 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991.

DONE AND ISSUED this 28<sup>TH</sup> day of MAY 2026 at Merida, Leyte, Philippines.

  
JOSELITO T. DELOS ANGELES  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan