



**ORDINANCE NO. 12824-2014**

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SAFE MOTHERHOOD POLICY AND REGULATIONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

*Whereas*, the Philippines is one of the 189 States that endorsed the Millennium Declaration Goals (MDG) which is designed to enhance accountability and stimulate quantitative and qualitative changes in the way countries and development partners monitor improvements;

*Whereas*, one of the key goals of the Millennium Declaration is the reduction of maternal mortality. In addition, the goal on the reduction of under-five mortality will require greater attention to the needs of the newborn if it is to be realized. Thus attention to both maternal and newborn health is central to the attainment of the MDGs;

*Whereas*, in the MDG framework, two indicators are proposed for monitoring progress towards the maternal health goal namely, the maternal mortality ratio and the proportion of deliveries with a skilled health care provider. The need for access to skilled health care for pregnancy, birth and the postnatal period has been central to World Health Organization's Making Pregnancy Safer initiative;

*Whereas*, under the WHO, UNFPA, Unicef and World Bank statement on reduction of maternal mortality, the term 'skilled attendant' refers exclusively to people with midwifery skills (midwives, doctors, nurses) who have been trained to proficiency in the skills necessary to manage normal deliveries and diagnose, manage or refer obstetric complications;

*Whereas*, Republic Act No. 2644 which allowed *hilots* trained under the Department of Health to practice was amended by the Midwifery Act of 1992 which required only registered midwives to attend to birth deliveries. However, with the shortage of midwives in some places, *hilots* (trained or untrained) continued to practice unsupervised and to function unregulated;

*Whereas*, since 2002, maternal and infant deaths steadily increased in Cagayan de Oro City. In 2009, the City has high maternal mortality ratio of 165/100,000 livebirths, the highest number of maternal deaths ever recorded in the City. Infant mortality rate was 17.5/1,000 livebirths. These records in the City lagged far behind in achieving the MDG by 2015. Considerable number of deaths happened at home assisted by *hilots* (trained or untrained). Yet, the City has Health Centers in every barangay with a team of Skilled Birth Attendants;

*Whereas*, it is imperative to address the high maternal and infant mortalities and to provide a safe and quality care for every pregnant mother;

*Now, Therefore:*

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council (Sangguniang Panlungsod) that:

**SECTION 1. Title** – This ordinance shall be known and cited as the Safe Motherhood Ordinance of Cagayan de Oro.

**SECTION 2. Definition of Terms** – Whenever used in this Ordinance, the following terms shall be construed, to wit:

- a. **Maternal Death** – Woman who dies from any cause related to or aggravated by pregnancy or its management (excluding accidental or incidental causes) during pregnancy and childbirth or



- within forty-two (42) days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and site of the pregnancy.
- b. Infant Death – Child who dies from any cause before reaching one (1) year old.
  - c. Facility-based Delivery – Birth delivery occurring at Health Center, licensed birthing home, lying-in clinic or hospital.
  - d. Skilled Birth Attendant – refers exclusively to people with midwifery skills who have been trained to proficiency in the skills necessary to manage normal deliveries and diagnose, manage or refer obstetric complications. It refers only to registered doctors, registered midwives and registered nurses.
  - e. Traditional Birth Attendant – refers to *hilots*, whether trained or untrained, attending birth deliveries.
  - f. Barangay Health Worker – refers to community health volunteer who provides assistance and support to the programs and services of barangay health center.
  - g. Antenatal Care – refers to prenatal care that provides focused goal directed antenatal services as recommended by WHO, consisting of the following:
    - a.) at least 4 prenatal visits (once in 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester; twice in 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester)
    - b.) Tetanus immunization
    - c.) Folic Acid, Iron and Vitamin A Supplementation
    - d.) Birth Plan
  - h. BEMONC – Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care
  - i. CEMONC – Comprehensive Obstetric and Newborn Care
  - j. Postpartum – refers to period after giving birth up to 42 days

### SECTION 3. – Regulations

- 3.A Every pregnant mother shall deliver in a health facility. Birth delivery at home is not allowed.
- 3.B Every birth delivery shall be attended by a skilled birth attendant.
- 3.C Every birth delivery should neither be attended nor assisted by a traditional birth attendant without a direct supervision of a skilled birth attendant. The skilled birth attendant shall be the primary attendant while the traditional birth attendant shall assist the primary attendant.
- 3.D Every family shall ensure that their pregnant mothers are seen by a skilled birth attendant. Members of the family shall provide support for the pregnant mother and shall refer the pregnant mother to the nearest facility or to her facility of choice for antenatal care, childbirth and postnatal care.
- 3.E In cases of imminent delivery, no birth delivery shall occur without being seen by either a barangay health worker or a skilled birth attendant. Any family members or Traditional Birth Attendant shall call immediately a barangay health worker for help in cases of imminent delivery. The family shall secure the safety of both the mother who recently gave birth and the baby by bringing them to nearest facility for proper assessment and management.
- 3.F Every complicated pregnancy shall be referred to either the J.R. Borja General Hospital as core hospital, or any higher level facility of choice by the patient.



#### **SECTION 4. – Responsibilities of Stakeholders**

##### **4.A Barangay Council**

- i. The Council shall provide transportation for any pregnant mothers who are in emergency situation that requires urgent referral to higher facility.
- ii. The Council shall serve as local police power in their community for implementation of this ordinance.
- iii. The Council shall establish a functional blood donation system.

##### **4.B City Health Office**

- i. The Office shall oversee the implementation of this Ordinance.
- ii. The Office shall provide adequate technical and logistic support in providing a safe and quality maternal and child health services.
- iii. The Office shall ensure adequate resources for health center to operate effectively and efficiently.
- iv. The Office shall establish a strategic BEMONC facility in every health district. The J.R. Borja General Hospital shall serve as CEMONC facility.

##### **4.C Barangay Health Center**

- i. The Center shall ensure that every pregnant mother in the community is seen by a skilled birth attendant. The Center shall install a pregnant tracking system.
- ii. The Center shall provide free and quality services for antenatal and postnatal care.
- iii. The Center shall provide an affordable, safe and quality care for normal birth delivery.

##### **4.D The Community**

- i. The Community shall participate in organizing a Women Health Team, in coordination with the Barangay Council and Barangay Health Center staff, to support pregnant mothers in the community. The Barangay Health Center shall be the lead agency.

#### **SECTION 5. Penalty – There shall be imposed penalties for the following acts:**

##### **5.A Traditional Birth Attendants caught in the act of performing birth deliveries without direct supervision of a skilled birth attendant will be meted with the following penalties:**

- i. For the First Offense – a fine of Two Thousand Pesos (₱2,000.00) or community service for eight (8) hours a day for three (3) days and another service work for eight (8) hours for two (2) days in the Barangay Health Center where the act was committed.
- ii. For the Second Offense – a fine of Five Thousand Pesos (₱5,000.00) or imprisonment of not less than five (5) days but not more than fifteen (15) days.
- iii. In the case of death or other complications, resulting from this act, liability shall be determined in legal proceedings by the Court.

##### **5.B All fines will be collected by the Barangay for which the same shall be used as funds for support of safe motherhood policy such as financial assistance for indigent mothers, transportation of obstetric emergency cases and activities of Women Health Team.**



Republic of the Philippines  
 CITY OF CAGAYAN DE ORO  
**OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL**  
 (088)857-4029; 857-4035; 857-2258; 857-4032



**SECTION 6. Effectivity** – This Ordinance shall take effect after 15 days following its publication in a local newspaper of general circulation.

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**Author:** - *Councilor Dante B. Pajo*

**Present:**

*1<sup>st</sup> District:* - Councilor Lourdes Candy R. Darimbang- Councilor Zaldy O. Ocon  
 - Councilor Annie Y. Daba - Councilor Edna M. Dahino  
 - Councilor Roger G. Abaday - Councilor Dante B. Pajo  
 - Councilor Alden D. Bacal - Councilor Adrian L. Barba

*2<sup>nd</sup> District:* - Councilor Teodulfo E. Lao, Jr. - Councilor Leon D. M. Gan, Jr.  
 - Councilor Dometilo C. Acenas, Jr. - Councilor Alexander S. Dacer

*Ex-Officio Member:* - Councilor Yan Lam Lim, *Liga Ng Mga Barangay President*

**Out of the Session Hall:** - Councilor President D. Elipe

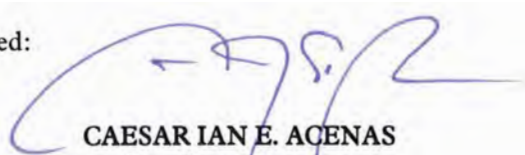
**Absent:** - Councilor Ramon G. Tabor - Councilor Nadya Emano- Elipe  
 - Councilor Enrico D. Salcedo

**ENACTED** this 11<sup>TH</sup> day of August 2014 in the City of Cagayan de Oro.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing Ordinance.

  
**ARTURO S. DE SAN MIGUEL**  
 CITY COUNCIL SECRETARY

Attested as duly enacted:

  
**CAESAR IAN E. ACENAS**  
 CITY VICE MAYOR  
 PRESIDING OFFICER

Approved:

  
**OSCAR S. MORENO**  
 CITY MAYOR

Attested:

  
**ATTY. ROY HILARIO P. RAAGAS**  
 CITY ADMINISTRATOR