



ORDINANCE NO. 943

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING ALL BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS (BHWS) OF ZAMBOANGA CITY AS BARANGAY-LEVEL HEALTH EDUCATION AND PROMOTION OFFICERS (HEPOS), DEFINING THEIR SCOPE OF WORK IN HEALTH PROMOTION, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

SPONSORS:

**HON. HANNAH M. NUÑO
HON. BENJAMIN B. GUINGONA IV
HON. REY B. BAYOGING
HON. ELBERT C. ATILANO, SR.
HON. EL KING K. OMAGA
HON. MELCHOR REY K. SADAIN
HON. JOSELITO A. MACROHON
HON. DANTE S. VICENTE
HON. VLADIMIR T. JIMENEZ
HON. GIAN PAOLO U. ENRIQUEZ
HON. JIHAN EL R. EDDING
HON. KIMBERLY ANNE D. VILLAFLORES
HON. FREDERICK N. ATILANO
HON. CAROL JULIANNE F. DALIPE
HON. AIDA C. PANIOROTAN**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

WHEREAS, Section 30 of Republic Act No. 11223, or the Universal Health Care (UHC) Act, mandates the adoption of an integrated and comprehensive approach to ensure that all constituents are health literate and protected from hazards, by directing Local Government Units (LGUs) to issue and implement effective health promotion policies and programs in the City-wide Health Systems (CWHS);

WHEREAS, Section 17 of the UHC Act mandates the establishment of primary care networks to guarantee equitable access to quality and affordable health care goods and services. These primary care provider networks include BHWs who serve as community health workers and volunteers, delivering services, serving as initial contact, and guiding patients to appropriate care;



WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7883, or the Barangay Health Workers' Benefits and Incentives Act of 1995, first recognized the key role of BHWs as essential volunteer community health workers in primary care delivery;

WHEREAS, DOH Administrative Order No. 2020-0042 on the Health Promotion Framework Strategy in P/CWHS specifically designates the BHWs as barangay-level HEPOs for community-level implementation of health promotion policies, programs, and activities;

WHEREAS, DOH Administrative Order No. 2020-0037 on Guidelines for the Implementation of Local Health System Maturity Levels requires this official designation of BHWs as barangay-level HEPOs with defined terms of reference/scope of work as one of the key result areas for determining the integration maturity level of Zamboanga City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Zamboanga City, in session assembled, that:

SECTION 1. TITLE. This Ordinance shall be known as the "Zamboanga City Barangay Health Education and Promotion Officer (HEPO) Ordinance."

SECTION 2. DESIGNATION. All duly accredited Barangay Health Workers (BHWs) of the City of Zamboanga are hereby officially designated as barangay-level Health Education and Promotion Officers (HEPOs).

SECTION 3. SCOPE OF WORK. The BHWs, in their capacity as barangay-level HEPOs, shall collaboratively function with other members of the respective Primary Care Provider Networks (PCPN) to ensure the proactive and effective implementation of health promotion policies, programs, and activities in the community. Their responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to:

- a. Conducting community-level health education and information campaigns on priority health risk factors and disease prevention;
- b. Assisting in the monitoring and surveillance of community health status;
- c. Mobilizing community members for relevant health events and activities; and
- d. Serving as a link between the barangay constituents and the City Health Office for health promotion matters.

SECTION 4. GOVERNANCE AND OVERSIGHT. The technical and managerial oversight of the BHWs, with regard to the implementation of health promotion policies, programs, and activities at the community level, shall be the responsibility of the City Health Office (CHO), through the local Health Education and Promotion Officer (HEPO). The CHO shall ensure the

seamless and standardized implementation of health promotion strategies across the City-wide Health System.

SECTION 5. PROVISION OF INCENTIVES AND BENEFITS. The City Government of Zamboanga shall ensure the provision of just and commensurate honorarium and financial and/or non-financial incentives and benefits for the BHWs in recognition of their enhanced duties as barangay-level HEPOs.

SECTION 6. APPROPRIATIONS AND FUNDING. The City shall appropriate an initial amount of Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php2,500,000.00) necessary to mobilize BHWs, including operational expenditure, equipment, and/or training costs related to their function as HEPOs, which shall be sourced from the Special Health Fund and other available local budgetary sources of the City Government.

SECTION 7. REPEALING CLAUSE. All ordinances, rules, and regulations, or any part thereof, in conflict with or inconsistent with any provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed, modified, or amended.

SECTION 8. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If any provision of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in a newspaper of general circulation in Zamboanga City and its posting in at least three (3) conspicuous places in the City.

ENACTED. June 3, 2026.


HON. MARIA ISABELLE G. CLIMACO
Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:


ATTY. KENNETH VINCENT P. BELDUA
Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod

APPROVED:


HON. KHYMER ADAN T. OLASO
City Mayor

MJ/JD/EM

JUN 18 2026