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# PhilHealth-Olongapo Provides Holistic Services to Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)

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**H**ealth is wealth. It is the fountain of life and happiness. It is the basic need of men. When it comes to good health it is everybody's responsibility, we all have our roles to play. Persons With Disabilities (PWDs) are members of our society and covered by the Universal Health Care (UHC), hence through inter-agency efforts, giving full support to the improvement of their total well-being and integrating them in the mainstream can be realized.

On August 30 to September 01, 2022, the Persons with Disabilities Affairs Office (PDAO), PhilHealth Local Health Insurance Office (LHIO)-Olongapo and the City Health Office (CHO) have joined hands in an activity dubbed as **"Citywide PhilHealth Orientation, Registration and Konsulta (Medical Consultation) for Persons**



**with Disabilities"**. During the three-day event, the participants were educated about PhilHealth benefits, access to quality health care, and primary care services. The event, which materialized through the support of PhilHealth Regional Office III Acting Vice President Edgardo F. Faustino and Acting Branch-A Manager Dr. Rowena Zabat-San Mateo, also highlighted the strengthened collaboration between PhilHealth and partner agencies.



PDAO Chief Rizalino M. Jose and his team facilitated the registration of 381 new members in the DOH Philippine Registry of Persons with Disabilities (PRPWD). They belong to a group with different long-term physical, mental, intellectual, and sensory disabilities or impairments. Their registration to the PRPWD will provide them with wider access to government support and services for PWDs.

Simultaneously, LHIO Olongapo Head Leny D. Fajardo and her team also gave an orientation on the National Health Insurance Program and PhilHealth Konsultasyong Sulit at Tama (Konsulta) Package, processed membership registration and updating of members' records to include qualified dependents, among others. Overall, a total of 390 members received their Member Data Records and IDs during the event.

On the other hand, the Olongapo CHO led by Dr. Rodrick Bustamante, with full support of deployed doctors, nurses and barangay health workers (BHWs), provided the health screening and assessment after the registration to PDAO and PhilHealth. All 1,094 PWDs were assigned to

their preferred health centers that are accredited as Konsulta Providers in Banicain, Barretto, East Tapinac, West Bajac-Bajac, Gordon Heights, New Cabalan, Sta. Rita, and Pag-Asa. Under the Konsulta, the beneficiaries can avail themselves of primary care services such as medical check-ups, selective laboratory/ diagnostic examinations, and even medicines for certain conditions.

Truly, when it comes to good health, the holistic approach is deemed essential and must start with primary care services. These concerted efforts of PDAO, PhilHealth, and CHO are just the beginning of several actions to address barriers and improve access to quality health care for the PWDs. As one mantra says: "The community's good health is everybody's responsibility". ###