

FIRST QUARTER NATIONWIDE SIMULTANEOUS

EARTHQUAKE DRILL



10 MARCH 2022, 8:00A.M.
(START OF THE PROGRAM)

#NSED2022 #BidaAngHanda #ResiliencePH

PhilHealth Offices in Region I join the 1st Quarter Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill

by Joseph Manuel

The loud sound of the sirens at exactly 9 in the morning of March 10, 2022 signaled the start of the First Quarter Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill (NSED). PhilHealth Regional Office I (PRO I), together with its Local Health Insurance Offices (LHIOs) from Ilocos Norte to Pangasinan joined the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) in the online Ceremonial Pressing of the Button to jumpstart the event. This drill tested PRO I's readiness and responsiveness, and promoted earthquake preparedness and disaster resilience among employees in the workplace.

PhilHealth employees including their clients who are within the office premises during NSED throughout the region also participated and performed the Duck, Cover, and Hold.



"Apart from providing excellent public service, PhilHealth ensures the safety and security of all our clients within our office premises. It is but a great challenge for all of us, the fact that Philippines, due to its geographical location, is situated in the so called "Ring of Fire". Thus, the regular conduct of a simultaneous earthquake drill is very important," Shierna Christy C. Martinez, frontliner of PhilHealth Central Pangasinan LHIO in Dagupan City, said.



Martinez is also grateful and is looking forward to the next earthquake drill, emphasizing that their level of confidence increases with every drill conducted.

The activity was led by PRO I's Disaster Control Group (DCG) who is in charge of ensuring safety and security of the office in times of disruptive events due to disasters or various emergencies. The DCG is a component of the PRO I Public Service Continuity Plan (PSCP) and part of its responsibilities is to recommend the activation and deactivation of the PSCP.

Pedro Butch S. Soria IV, DCG Chairperson, said the activity highlights the vital roles of each member of the team and the importance of acting in congruence especially during an actual earthquake situation. This is to minimize the impact and reduce casualties brought by a disaster.



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