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Republic of the Philippines
Quezon City
23rd SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. PO23CC-_____, S, 2026

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING AN ORGAN DONATION AWARENESS, REFERRAL, AND PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM IN QUEZON CITY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by **Councilor KRISTINE ALEXIA R. MATIAS, RN**

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7170, otherwise known as the **Organ Donation Act of 1991,** provides the legal framework for the donation of all or part of a human body after death for transplantation, therapy, research, education, or other lawful medical purposes;

WHEREAS, organ donation is a humanitarian and life-saving act that may give patients suffering from end-stage organ disease a chance for survival, improved health, and better quality of life;

WHEREAS, the shortage of organ donors remains a public health concern requiring stronger public education, ethical referral systems, hospital coordination, and partnerships with authorized institutions and organizations;

WHEREAS, Quezon City recognizes the need to strengthen awareness on organ donation and establish clear referral and coordination mechanisms among the Quezon City Government, city-owned public hospitals, health facilities, barangays, national government agencies, medical institutions, professional organizations, civil society organizations, and other partners;

WHEREAS, all organ donation-related activities must strictly comply with applicable laws, medical standards, ethical safeguards, consent requirements, confidentiality rules, and the prohibition against organ trafficking, sale, or commercialization;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OF QUEZON CITY IN SESSION ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. Short Title. This Ordinance shall be known as the **"Quezon City Organ Donation Awareness and Referral Ordinance."**

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby declared the policy of Quezon City to promote public health, uphold the dignity of human life, support lawful and ethical organ donation, and strengthen partnerships for organ donation awareness, referral, coordination, and support services.

SECTION 3. Establishment of the Program. There is hereby established the **Quezon City Organ Donation Awareness, Referral, and Partnership Program,** which shall promote public awareness, strengthen hospital and community referral mechanisms, and develop partnerships with authorized government and non-government institutions involved in lawful organ donation and transplantation.

SECTION 4. Objectives. The Program shall have the following objectives:

a. Increase public awareness on organ donation, transplantation, and the lawful donation process;
b. Promote the values of compassion, voluntariness, informed consent, and respect for the dignity of donors and their families;
c. Strengthen referral mechanisms for possible deceased organ donors in accordance with law and medical standards;

d. Establish hospital-based donor coordination mechanisms in city-owned public hospitals;
e. Build partnerships with authorized hospitals, national agencies, professional societies, civil society organizations, barangays, and other stakeholders;
f. Provide capacity-building for concerned health workers and hospital personnel; and
g. Ensure that all organ donation-related activities are ethical, lawful, confidential, and non-commercial.
h. Provide an optional mechanism for QCitizens to indicate their willingness to be organ donors through the QC ID system, subject to law, informed consent, and data privacy safeguards.

SECTION 5. Lead and Coordinating Offices. The **Quezon City Health Department**, in coordination with the **Local Health Board**, shall serve as the lead office for community health promotion, public awareness, policy coordination, and linkage with barangays and health centers.

The **Quezon City General Hospital, Novaliches District Hospital, Rosario Maclang Bautista General Hospital**, and other city-owned public hospitals, through their respective Medical Directors and appropriate hospital personnel, shall lead hospital-based identification, coordination, documentation, and referral of possible deceased organ donors, subject to applicable laws and hospital protocols.

SECTION 6. Program Components. The Program shall include the following:
a. **Public Awareness and Advocacy** – conduct of information campaigns on organ donation, transplantation, lawful consent, family participation, and the nobility of helping others live;
b. **Community Education** – integration of organ donation information in appropriate barangay, health center, and community-based health promotion activities;
c. **Hospital Donor Coordination** – creation or designation of a **Donor Coordination Committee** in each participating city-owned public hospital;
d. **Referral System** – establishment of a clear and lawful referral pathway for possible deceased organ donors to authorized organ procurement and transplant institutions;
e. **Capacity-Building** – training and orientation of doctors, nurses, social workers, medical records personnel, and other concerned staff on organ donation laws, ethical standards, referral protocols, documentation, and communication with families;
f. **Partnership Development** – strengthening of partnerships with authorized national government agencies, specialty hospitals, medical institutions, professional societies, academic institutions, civil society organizations, faith-based groups, and other relevant stakeholders;
g. **Data Collection and Reporting** – preparation of confidential and aggregate reports for monitoring, planning, and policy development; and
h. **Family Support and Referral Assistance** – provision of appropriate information, counseling, referral, and coordination support to families of possible donors, subject to available programs and applicable laws.
i. **QC ID Organ Donor Option** – development of an optional organ donor indication in the QC ID system, including procedures for informed consent, record updating, withdrawal, verification, and public education on the legal effect and limitations of such indication.

SECTION 7. Donor Coordination Committee. Each participating city-owned public hospital shall create or designate a **Donor Coordination Committee**, which shall:
a. Identify possible deceased organ donor cases in accordance with law and hospital protocols;
b. Coordinate with the attending physician and appropriate hospital personnel;
c. Facilitate communication with the family or legal next-of-kin, with due sensitivity and respect;
d. Refer appropriate cases to authorized organ procurement or transplant institutions;
e. Ensure that required certifications, documentation, and medical protocols are observed;
f. Coordinate with the hospital management on operational requirements; and
g. Submit confidential reports to the hospital management and appropriate city offices, as may be required.

SECTION 8. Legal and Ethical Safeguards. All organ donation-related activities under this Ordinance shall comply with Republic Act No. 7170, as amended, its implementing rules and regulations, and other applicable laws and medical standards.

No organ shall be removed unless death has been determined and certified in accordance with law by qualified physicians who are not members of the transplant team.

All donations shall be voluntary, informed, lawful, and free from coercion, fraud, undue influence, sale, trafficking, or commercialization.

SECTION 9. Right to Care and Family Participation. In appropriate cases, the Program may recognize the role of the legal next-of-kin, immediate family members, authorized representatives, or persons designated under applicable Quezon City policies, including the Right to Care framework, subject to national law, hospital policy, and medical protocols.

SECTION 10. Inclusion of Organ Donation Option in the QC ID. To further promote public awareness and encourage voluntary participation in lawful organ donation, the Quezon City Government shall include an **optional organ donor indication or marker** in the QC ID system, subject to applicable laws, rules, and data privacy safeguards.

The organ donation option shall be **strictly voluntary,** based on the express consent of the QCitizen, and may be made available during QC ID application, renewal, updating of records, or through other official registration mechanisms to be determined by the City Government.

The organ donor indication in the QC ID shall serve as a record of the holder's willingness to be considered as an organ donor, but shall not dispense with the requirements of national law, including proper medical determination of death, consent procedures, family coordination when required, and compliance with Republic Act No. 7170, as amended.

The Quezon City Government, in coordination with the QCHD, city-owned public hospitals, and authorized organ donation partners, shall develop the necessary procedures for registration, updating, withdrawal of consent, verification, and protection of personal and health-related information.

No person shall be denied the issuance or renewal of a QC ID by reason of refusal to register as an organ donor.

SECTION 11. Data Privacy and Confidentiality. All personal, medical, and sensitive personal information obtained under the Program shall be treated as confidential and processed in accordance with the **Data Privacy Act of 2012,** its Implementing Rules and Regulations, hospital protocols, and other applicable privacy rules.

Reports for policy and monitoring purposes shall use aggregate or de-identified data whenever possible.

SECTION 12. Partnerships and Non-Endorsement. The Quezon City Government may enter into agreements or partnerships with authorized government agencies, hospitals, medical institutions, professional organizations, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders for training, referral, technical assistance, awareness campaigns, and program support.

No partnership under this Ordinance shall be construed as an endorsement of any specific private entity, product, service, or commercial interest.

SECTION 13. Monitoring and Evaluation. The QCHD, in coordination with the Local Health Board and participating city-owned public hospitals, shall prepare an annual report containing the activities conducted, partnerships established, personnel trained, referrals made, issues encountered, and policy recommendations.

SECTION 14. Implementing Guidelines. Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Ordinance, the QCHD, in coordination with the Local Health Board, participating city-owned public

hospitals, and other concerned offices, shall issue the necessary implementing guidelines, referral protocols, reporting forms, data privacy safeguards, and monitoring tools.

SECTION 15. Appropriations. The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Ordinance shall be charged against available appropriations of the Quezon City Health Department, participating city-owned public hospitals, and other appropriate sources, subject to existing budgeting, accounting, auditing, procurement, and disbursement rules.

Thereafter, the funds necessary for the continued implementation of the Program shall be included in the annual budget of the Quezon City Government.

SECTION 16. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and effective.

SECTION 17. Repealing Clause. All ordinances, resolutions, rules, regulations, and issuances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 18. Effectivity. This Ordinance shall take effect after its publication in accordance with law.

ENACTED.

Submitted by:

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City Councilor, District VI