

Republic of the Philippines Province of Bulacan

MUNICIPALITY OF SANTA MARIA OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MAYOR



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 065 - 2024

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER ESTABLISHING AND IMPLEMENTING POLICIES ON VIOLENCE AND INJURY PREVENTION, INCLUDING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, AND VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN, PURSUANT TO EXISTING RELEVANT LAWS

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9262, otherwise known as the "Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004," seeks to protect women and their children from violence and abuse:

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7877, or the "Anti-Sexual Harassment Act of 1995," aims to prevent and penalize acts of sexual harassment in the workplace, educational, and training environments;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11313, also known as the "Safe Spaces Act" or "Bawal Bastos Law," provides measures to address gender-based sexual harassment in public spaces, workplaces, and online platforms;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7610, or the "Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation, and Discrimination Act," provides stronger deterrence and special protection measures for children against abuse, exploitation, and discrimination;

WHEREAS, Department of Health Administrative Order No. 1-B, series of 1997, and Administrative Order 2013-0011 provide guidelines on the establishment of Women and Children Protection Units (WCPUs) in hospitals and health facilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARTOLOME R. RAMOS, Municipal Mayor of Santa Maria, Bulacan, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the following:

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT AND FUNCTIONALITY OF VAWC/VAC/GBV DESKS. All barangays within the Municipality of Santa Maria shall ensure the establishment and functionality of Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC), Violence Against Children (VAC), and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Desks, in accordance with applicable laws and guidelines.

SECTION 2. IMPLEMENTATION OF EFFECTIVE ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGNS. The Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) shall lead the implementation of effective advocacy and communication campaigns to raise awareness on violence and injury prevention, with the active participation of barangays, schools, and civil society organizations.



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SECTION 3. FUNCTIONAL REPORTING MECHANISMS AND HOTLINES. All barangays shall establish and maintain active reporting mechanisms and dedicated hotlines for immediate reporting of VAWC, VAC, and GBV incidents. The MSWDO, in coordination with the Municipal Health Office and law enforcement agencies, shall ensure appropriate response and assistance.

SECTION 4. REFERRAL MECHANISM. A functional referral mechanism shall be established to ensure proper coordination and timely response from barangay-level responders to municipal-level service providers, including health facilities, legal support services, and protective custody facilities.

SECTION 5. WOMEN AND CHILDREN PROTECTION UNITS (WCPUs). The Municipal Health Office shall ensure the establishment and maintenance of Women and Children Protection Units (WCPUs) in municipal hospitals and health facilities, in compliance with DOH guidelines, to provide immediate medical, psychological, and legal support to victims of violence and abuse.

SECTION 6. MONITORING AND EVALUATION. Local Committee on Anti-Trafficking and Violence Against Women and their Children (LCAT-VAWC) shall oversee the effective implementation of this Executive Order. The LCAT-VAWC shall submit quarterly reports to the Office of the Municipal Mayor.

SECTION 7. FUNDING. The necessary funds for the implementation of this Executive Order shall be sourced from the Municipal Gender and Development (GAD) Fund and other available local resources.

SECTION 8. EFFECTIVITY. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon its issuance.

DONE this 18th day of November 2024, at the Municipal Hall of Santa Maria, Province of Bulacan.

BARTOLOME R. RAMOS Municipal Mayor

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