

# 5

## **Annex M-4.2**

Sagada Municipal Reproductive Health Code

## ORDINANCE NO. 04-2007

### AN ORDINANCE ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH OF SAGADA, MOUNTAIN PROVINCE.

**Section 1. Title.** This shall be known as the REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAGADA.

**Section 2. Direction of Policy.** The municipal Government of Sagada shall adopt a comprehensive and integrated gender based program on reproductive health and population management that values the dignity of every human person and provides full protection of people's rights.

It is founded on the principle of upholding the right of every person, including the right to equality and equity, the right to development, the right to reproductive health, the right to education and the right to choose and make informed decisions on the number of children, spacing and timing of pregnancy in accordance with one's religious convictions, and cultural beliefs to meet the demand of responsible parenthood.

- (i) Provide access for affordable, safe and quality reproductive health care services to couples and individuals in the Municipality of Sagada, Mountain Province;
- (ii) Provide ready, accurate and complete information on reproductive health;
- (iii) Promote the involvement and participation of all sectors in the reproductive health and population management program;
- (iv) Strengthen the capacities of health facilities, regulatory agencies, and health service providers to ensure safe, high quality, accessible and affordable reproductive health services and commodities, and;
- (v) Ensure the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of appropriate and effective reproductive health care programs at the municipal and barangay levels;
- (vi) In particular, to provide:
  - a. maternal, infant and child health care and nutrition;
  - b. family planning information and services;
  - c. services for the prevention of abortion among women of reproductive ages and management of complication related to it;
  - d. adolescent and youth services, prevention and management of reproductive tract infections;

- e. services for the prevention of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmittable infectious diseases;
- f. services for the elimination of violence against women;
- g. education and counseling on sexuality and sexual health;
- h. services for the prevention, early detection and treatment of breast cancer, reproductive tract cancers and other gynecological conditions;
- i. services for male involvement in reproductive health, and;
- j. services for prevention and treatment of infertility and sexual dysfunction among men and women.

**Section 4. Definition of Terms:** For purposes of this ordinance, the following are defined as such:

- (i) Adolescent Sexuality – refers to the reproductive system, gender identity, values or beliefs, emotions, relationships and sexual behavior of young people as social beings. Adolescence refers to a life stage between the ages of 10-19;
- (ii) Family Planning – a program that enables couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children and to have information and means to carry out their decisions, and have informed choices and access to a full range of safe and effective family planning methods, techniques and devices, excluding abortion which is a crime;
- (iii) Gender Equality – the absence of discrimination on the basis of person’s sex, in opportunities, in the allocation of resources or benefits or in the access to services;
- (iv) Gender Equity – fairness and justice in the distribution of benefits and responsibilities between men and women, and often requires women-specific projects and programs to end existing inequalities;
- (v) Reproductive Health – the state of complete physical, mental and social well being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity in all matters relating to reproductive system and to its functions and process;
- (vi) Reproductive Health and Sexuality Education – is the process of acquiring complete, accurate and relevant information in all matters relating to reproductive system, its function and processes and human sexuality, and the forming of attitudes and beliefs about sex, sexual identity, interpersonal relationship, affection, intimacy and gender roles. It also includes developing the necessary skills to be able to distinguish between myth and facts of sex and sexuality, and critically

evaluate and discuss the moral, religious, social and cultural dimensions of related sensitive issues such as contraception and abortion;

- (vii) Reproductive Health Care – the access to and availability of a full range of methods, techniques and services that contributed to reproductive and sexual health and well-being by preventing and solving reproductive health related problems. It also includes sexual health, the purpose of which is the enhancement of life and personal relations. The elements of reproductive health care include:
  - a. Maternal, infant and child health and nutrition including breastfeeding;
  - b. Family planning information services;
  - c. Adolescent and youth health;
  - d. Prevention of abortion and management of post-abortion complications;
  - e. Prevention and management of Reproductive Tract Infections (RTI), HIV/AIDS and other Sexually-transmitted infections (STI)
  - f. Elimination of violence against women;
  - g. Education and counseling on Sexuality and sexual health;
  - h. Prevention, early detection and treatment of breast and reproductive tract cancers and other gynecological conditions;
  - i. Male involvement and participation in reproductive health; and
  - j. Prevention and treatment of infertility and sexual dysfunction.
- (viii) Reproductive Health Rights – the right of individuals and couples, subject to applicable laws, to decide freely and responsibly the number, spacing and timing of their children; to make other decisions concerning reproduction free of discrimination, coercion and violence; to have the information and means to do so, and attain the highest standard of sexual and reproductive health;
- (ix) Responsible Parenthood – the will, ability and commitment of parents to respond to the needs and aspirations of the family and children;
- (x) Reproductive Tract Infection (RTI) – refers to Sexually-transmitted infections, sexually-transmitted diseases and other types of infections affecting the reproductive system.

**Section 5. Reproductive Health Task Force** – There shall be created a Municipal Reproductive Health Task Force in Sagada, Mountain Province which shall be composed of the following:

- (i) Members: Representative from the following:
  - : Municipal Health Office – Convener
  - : Municipal Population Office Designate
  - : Municipal Social Welfare Office
  - : Department of Education
  - : Youth Representative
  - : Chairperson, Sanguniang Bayan, Committee on Health
  - : Women and Men representatives from religious organizations
  - : ARH Focal person
  - : Municipal Agriculture Office
  - : Youth Representative
  
- (ii) The task force shall set the direction and development efforts for reproductive health and responsible parenthood programs, with the following functions:
  - a. Draft and propose resolutions or ordinances that will facilitate and improve the delivery and quality of an integrated and comprehensive reproductive health programs and services.
  - b. Help in sourcing additional funds and logistics for reproductive health programs and services.
  - c. Coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of reproductive health programs and projects.
  - d. Perform such other functions as may be provided by law or competent authority
  
- (iii) The task force shall meet at least every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the 1<sup>st</sup> month of every quarter or as often as may be necessary

**Section 6. Strengthening the Technical Capability of the Municipal Health Office.** The Municipal Health Office (MHO) shall be the head agency in the implementation of the Reproductive Health Care and Family Planning Program of Sagada, Mountain Province and, as such, the technical capability of the Municipal Health Office shall be strengthened to function as the Reproductive Health Team with the following functions:

- (i) Formulate plans as well as devise strategies and systems for the effective implementation of a Reproductive Health Program in Sagada, Mountain Province, and adoption of measures to ensure the efficient and effective delivery of basic reproductive health care services;

- (ii) Monitor the implementation of the Reproductive Health Program and undertake research on pertinent health, population and sustainable human development issues that include but not limited to community population and reproductive health survey to pinpoint or identify families with family planning unmet needs;
- (iii) Conduct capability-building and education activities, recognize health service providers within the municipality, including professionals, Family health workers, Barangay Health Workers and other concerned individuals;
- (iv) Utilize various tools of media for publicity and promotion campaigns that aim to increase public awareness on reproductive health, population education and responsible parenthood. They shall also oversee the development of information, education and communication materials of the program;
- (v) Coordinate the full implementation of the reproductive health program with the provincial government and barangay LGUs and other agencies appropriate.

**Section 7. Deployment of Barangay Health Workers, Community Volunteer Health Workers.** To ensure effective implementation of the program up to the grass roots level. The barangay Health Workers (BHW) in all barangays shall be tapped to perform the following functions:

1. Assist in the implementation of reproductive health program in the barangays to include organizing, responding to reproductive health issues, counseling, health information campaigns, etc.;
2. Organize responsible parenthood classes and (special) counseling sessions.

**Section 8. Term of Service of the Community Volunteer Health Workers.** For effective and efficient delivery of service, the term of service of Barangay Health Workers shall be at the age fifty five (55).

**Section 9. To designate March 16 of every year as Community Volunteer Workers Day.**

**Section 10. Assistance-** The community Volunteer Health Workers who are recognized, trained and accredited by the Municipal Health Office for this Purpose shall be given an assistance from the municipal government to supplement the meager incentives being given by the barangay governments, considering the load of work they are performing. Subject to availability of fund, all CVHW shall be

automatically enrolled under the Indigency Program of the Local Government Unit, provided, they are not enrolled in any Philhealth Program.

**Section 11. Reproductive Health Education** – There shall be a Reproductive Health Education to all in-school and out-school youth of the mountain Province:

- (i) It is recommended that reproductive health education in an age-appropriate manner shall be taught by adequately-trained teachers.
- (ii) It is recommended that a common curriculum, both for public and private schools shall be formulated on the following subjects:
  - a. Reproductive Health;
  - b. Reproductive health care and services;
  - c. Attitudes, beliefs and values on sexual development, sexual behavior, sexuality and sexual health;
  - d. Responsible Parenthood/Birth spacing;
  - e. Family Planning
    - 1. Natural Family Planning
    - 2. Temporary artificial
    - 3. Permanent artificial
  - f. Abstinence before Marriage;
  - g. Prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS and other STDS;
- (iii) It is recommended that reproductive health education shall be provided to out-of-school youth by the municipal Reproductive Health Team, in coordination with the barangay council and the Sangguniang Kabataan concerned.
- (iv) It is recommended that peer counseling sessions addressing youth reproductive health problems shall be organize in every barangay, coordination with Sangguniang Kabataan and the municipal Task Force.

**Section 12. Responsible parenthood Counseling.** It is recommended for the following persons to undergo Responsible Parenthood Counseling:

- 1. Future spouses applying for marriage license;
- 2. Parents who intend to register their children; whether legitimate or illegitimate;
- 3. Parents who deliver their babies at home or any private or government health facility;
- 4. All officials and employees and personnel of the local and national government agencies whose offices are situated in Sagada, Mountain Province.

**Section 13. Appropriations-** The municipal government shall from time to time and when circumstances warrants appropriate funds necessary for the purpose.

**Section 14. Separability Clause.** If any part or provision of this ordinance is held invalid or unconstitutional, other provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

**Section 15. Repealing Clause.** All other ordinances, resolutions or local executive orders or rules and regulations contrary or inconsistent with the provision of this ordinance are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

**Section 16.** This ordinance shall take effect upon approval.

Sagada, Mountain Province, Philippines, this 30<sup>th</sup> day of July 2007.

(SGD.)  
**ALFREDO BATANE JR.**  
SB Member

(SGD.)  
**ALFREDO PADAWIL**  
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(SGD.)  
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**IRENIUS O. TAULI**  
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Attested:

(SGD.)  
**JERRY P. TICAG**  
Mun. Vice Mayor

Approved:

(SGD.)  
**EDUARDO T. LATAWAN JR.**  
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