



## Labor Secretary lauds ECC for enhancing workers' benefits under the ECP

(First of a series)

Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz commended the Employees' Compensation Commission for continuously improving the benefits of Filipino workers under the Employees' Compensation Program.

"I am very much pleased to know that for the past four years the ECC has worked hard to improve its ECP benefits," Baldoz announced.

Baldoz referred to the recent increase in ECP benefits such as the approval by President Aquino of the ECC proposal to increase the EC funeral benefits for both the public and private sector from P10,000 to P20,000 and the 10% across the board increase in EC pension for the private sector.

The President also approved in April 2013 ECC's proposal to increase the maximum daily income benefit for temporary total disability for public sector employees from P90/day to P200/day

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ECC Deputy Executive Director Jonathan T. Villasoto (inset, extreme left) and ECC Medical Officer III Dr. Raymond Bañaga (inset, 2nd from left) answer questions from PNP Director PCSupt. Alejandro B. Advincula (inset, extreme right), and Deputy Director PSSupt. Teresita Q. Dumlaog (inset, 3rd from left) of PNP Health Service and other hospital staff during the consultation meeting on ECC-Hospital Partnership Program at the PNP Health Service, Camp Crame, Quezon City on July 2, 2014.



Edson Indonilla, a construction worker whose left leg was amputated due to an accident while working at a construction site, shows his newly installed prosthetic leg to ECC Executive Director Stella Z. Banawis (2nd from left) during a visit at the ECC on July 7, 2014. Also in the picture are ECC Work Contingency Prevention and Rehabilitation Division Chief Dr. Melba Y. Sacro (extreme left) and ECC Nurse Ann Misa (3rd from left).

## ECC lends hand to a pastor, mall maintenance worker

The Employees' Compensation Commission, through its Katulong at Gabay sa Manggagawang may Kapansanan Program (KaGabay), recently extended aid to two occupationally disabled workers, providing them with the necessary livelihood tools for their integration into the economic mainstream, making them productive members of the community, even more productive than their pre-work related injuries or sicknesses.

Alejandro Padriquel, a pastor and a former employee of Southern Mindanao Mission in General Santos City, met a vehicular accident while on his way to an assigned chapel. When informed of the incident, the ECC Quick Response Team in Region 12, immediately assisted him and facilitated his claim for EC benefits. He

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Participants attentively listen to ECC Information Officer IV Alice S. Borres during the Employees' Compensation Program (ECP) advocacy seminar in Dipolog City held at Ariana Hotel in Dipolog City on July 10, 2014. (Inset) ECC Deputy Executive Director Jonathan T. Villasoto and Labor Employment Officer III Lyra R. Paulino of DOLE Regional Office 9 answer questions from the media practitioners in Dipolog City during a press conference on July 8, 2014.

## Employees' Compensation Commission gives free seminar in Dipolog City

The Employees' Compensation Commission visited Dipolog City last July 8-10, 2014 to conduct an advocacy seminar for free at Ariana Hotel in Airport Road, Dipolog City.

ECC invited about 200 HR officers, union representatives and employers from different industries, representatives of various government agencies including uniformed personnel from Armed Forces of the Philippines, Philippine National Police, Bureau of Fire Protection and Bureau of Jail Management and Penology to attend the free admission seminar.

The advocacy seminar was scheduled on July 10, Thursday and registration started at 8:00am.

ECC discussed the importance of accident prevention and safety in the workplace, compensation benefits and rehabilitation services for workers who met work-related injuries or sickness.

The advocacy seminar was headed by the ECC OIC-Deputy Executive Director Atty. Jonathan Villasoto and joined by Information and Public Assistance Division Chief Ma. Cecilia Maulion, Work Contingency Prevention and Rehabilitation Division Chief Dr. Melba Sacro, and Information Officer IV Alicia Borres as resource

speakers.

On July 9, ECC had a consultation meeting with its administering agencies, the Social Security System and the Government Service Insurance System, to discuss effective implementation of the Employees' Compensation Program and the issues of workers concerning the processing of EC claims.

Department of Labor and Employment Field Office officials in Dipolog City joined ECC and discussed DOLE programs and services.

### ECC lends hand to a...from front page

was granted an EC disability benefit. In addition, he also availed of the free physical therapy sessions from the ECC partner hospital under the KaGabay Program.

Padriquel will also be able to take advantage of an ECC training grant at Marbel School of Science & Technology for bread and pastry making. The training will commence in July.

Meanwhile, Richard Victoriano, a maintenance worker of a mall in Marbel, South Cotabato, suffered an accident while cleaning a machine inside the mall, which resulted to the amputation of his right arm. ECC-QRP urgently coordinated with the company's human resource officer for the needed documents in filing an

EC claim. Victoriano was also able to avail of the physical therapy services through a KaGabay-partner hospital. With the intervention of the ECC, he is now back working for the same company.

Both ODWs were also granted, on top of the above mentioned benefits, transportation and meal allowances, to enable them to attend the therapy sessions and to make the livelihood trainings more convenient and expense-free. During one of the visits of ECC to both ODWs, they quipped that "hindi hadlang ang kapansanan sa magandang buhay", a testament to ECC's tagline and mandate.

### Labor Secretary lauds...from front page

to make it at par with the private sector. The public sector employees with work-related PPDs and PTD now also enjoy carer's allowance of P575/month as a supplemental benefit.

In the same period, the professional fee for physicians for public sector was also increased to equalize it with the private sector. For first visit with general practitioners, the fee of P60 was raised to P100, and for follow up check-ups, from P50 to P80. If the patient will seek the services of a specialist, the fee for the first visit was increased from P60 to P150 and for follow-up check-ups, the rate was raised from P50 to P100.

Earlier in 2010, ECC also worked on the increase in the meal and transportation allowance of occupationally-disabled workers in the private sector who underwent skills and entrepreneurial trainings from P1,800 to P2,500.

"We are happy to know that the Labor Secretary appreciates our efforts in enhancing the EC programs and benefits for our workforce," ECC Executive Director Stella Zipagan-Banawis expressed.

"Rest assured that ECC is committed to continue reviewing and formulating new programs and policies for our stakeholders", Banawis stated.

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