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ECC partners with barangays in Pampanga for stronger ECP awareness campaign



The Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC) gathered 172 officials and personnel from 65 barangays in Pampanga for an Employees' Compensation Program (ECP) seminar and a town hall meeting on March 8 at the Bendix Hotel in San Fernando City to reinforce current partnerships and build new collaboration for increased awareness activities and cooperation in delivering equitable and suitable aid to the Filipino workforce.

ECC OIC-Executive Director Jose Maria Batino, thanked the officials and personnel who supported and joined the agency's first-ever town hall meeting.

He also acknowledged the significance of the barangay, a vital political pillar of the government, in the development of the nation.

Director Batino called on the assistance of the barangay officials and staff in ECC's advocacy efforts and commitment to serving our local communities.

"May you consider this forum as a beneficial platform for our barangays in Pampanga to gather together, share ideas, address common concerns regarding occupational safety and health, and suggest ways to strengthen the ECC's program for aiding our people in the event of a work-related contingency. Let us seize this window of opportunity to expand and extend our barangay participation in order to obtain a better understanding of our communities' needs and provide recommendations on how to improve our programs and services to fulfill the needs of our people," ED Batino added.

The ECC, through its regional Information Officer, Danica Lacson, provided participants with information on the Employees Compensation Program (ECP), raising their awareness of the ECC's roles in safeguarding Filipino workers

and delivering relevant and responsive compensation in the event of a work-related contingency.

To strengthen their respective constituencies' involvement in this endeavor and to empower their respective constituents, especially the workers, ECC and the barangay authorities and staff reviewed potential collaborations and ways to extend programs and services. Atty. Claire David-Lim, the punong barangay of Brgy. Jose Abad Santos in Guagua, Pampanga, pledged her support for ECC's initiatives and programs in the province. As many of their people are unaware of their rights and privileges as employees, Atty. Lim recognized their responsibility as barangay officials to inform and empower them.

The ECC hopes to expand this effort, which started with the Pampanga town hall meeting, to other parts of the Philippines in order to engage local residents and collaborate with the core government institution.

D. Lacson – REU 3

ECC awards livelihood assistance to 10 PWRDs in Davao Region

Davao City – The Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC) handed livelihood grants to 10 recipients of its Katulong at Gabay sa Manggagawang may Kapansanan (KaGabay) Program on November 24, 2022, at the ECC Regional Extension Unit XI (REU 11) in Davao City.

Regidor Cortez, John Mark Diazon, Jorge Castillo, Edmund Torevillas, Mervin Degayo, Kriskin Morano, Rhona Manumba, Shaul Alonsabe II, Ryan Jay Abordo, and Angienette Briones each received P20,000.00 worth of EC livelihood assistance.

Among the beneficiaries, five chose the sari-sari store business, and the rest selected businesses like loading stations, livestock raising, fashion bag, aircon repair, and eatery.

EC livelihood assistance reaffirms ECC's mandate to restore the dignity of Persons with Work-Related Disability (PWRDs) by

providing them means of livelihood so that they will be an active members of our society once again.

"ECC has renewed my hope to continue to provide for my family's needs despite my physical limitations. This livelihood package would greatly contribute to my children's continued schooling," said Regidor Cortez, a former seafarer, during the awarding of the livelihood kit.

ECC OIC-Executive Director Jose Maria S. Batino shared that the rehabilitative thrust of the Commission is intended to let disabled workers regain their economic sustainability. "This program has been in line with the National Government's drive on poverty reduction and uplifting the lives of Filipino, workers, particularly the PWRDs," he said.



Ten PWRDs pose with their EC livelihood assistance received from ECC-REU 11 in Davao City on November 24, 2022.

A. Bantan – REU11

Former employee who lost his leg receives new prosthesis from ECC



Joven Carelo (right) checks his thigh before fitting the above-the-knee prosthesis granted by the ECC in Tanza Cavite on January 06, 2023. The awarding of prosthesis is part of the ECC's Katulong at Gabay sa Manggagawang may Kapansanan (KaGabay) Program for workers who met work-related contingencies.

The Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC) awarded Joven Carelo, a former employee of Banbros Commercial Inc., a new above-the-knee prosthesis as part of the agency's Katulong at Gabay sa Manggagawang may Kapansanan (KaGabay) Program.

Carelo, whose right leg was amputated following a work-related motorcycle accident in June 2015, received a new above-the-knee prosthesis worth P80,000.00 on January 6, 2023, in Tanza, Cavite. This is a replacement of his worn out artificial leg, also provided by the ECC.

The grant is part of the ECC's assistance to persons with work-related disability (PWRD) under the KaGaBay Program. The awarding of the assistive device was facilitated by ECC doctor Marian Marquez with nurse Aniceta Misa, and ECC personnel - Eunice De Guzman and Joel Ardale.

Prior to the grant of prosthesis, ECC also provided Carelo with free physical therapy at ECC's partner hospital.

In 2015, Carelo also received EC disability benefits. Furthermore, he already finished his seminar on how to start a business, simple bookkeeping, and values formation, also granted by the Commission. To help Carelo become economically independent, the ECC will be granting him livelihood starter kit worth P20,000.

Despite his disability, Carelo remains in high spirits, he said, "Makakapag jogging na ako ulit. Salamat, ECC!" after receiving his new prosthesis.

"Malaking tulong po talaga ang ECC sa asawa ko, lalo na sa mental state niya at hindi na siya ma-depress sa nangyari," added Rosemarie, Carelo's wife.

The Employees' Compensation Commission is committed to helping Filipino workers regain their dignity, lessen their vulnerability, lead full, and active lives.

E. De Guzman – Central Office

Kontraktwal na empleyado, nabiyayaan ng benepisyo ng ECC

"Binigyan akong Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC) ng pag-asa sa gitna ng mga dinanas kong paghihirap sa buhay. Para sa akin at sa aking pamilya, ang ECC ay isang hindi inaasahang biyaya, isang liwanag sa dilim. Hindi sapat ang salitang 'salamat' sa mga natanggap kong benepisyo mula sa ECC," saad ng kontraktwal na empleyado sa Chanel Line Corporation.

Para sa pribadong sector, sakop ng EC Program ang lahat ng compulsory o mandatory members ng Social Security System (SSS) o yung tinatawag na may "employer-employee relationship". Kabilang din rito ang mga contractual employees, seafarers o sea-based OFWs, kasambahay, at self-employed (SE) members ng SSS.

Ang nasabing kontraktwal na empleyado ay dalawang buwan pa lang na kontraktwal opereytor ng makina nang maaksidente siya habang nagtatrabaho. Naipit ang kanang binti nito sa inaayos na makina. Dahil sa nangyari ay agad siyang sinugod sa pinakamalapit na ospital.

Sinagot ng employer ang mga gastusing medikal ng nasabing empleyado. Kalaunan siya ay na-regular na sa kanyang trabaho.

Dahil work-related ang kanyang pagkakabalda, siya ay nakakuha ng EC Permanent Partial Disability (EC PPD) benefit noong 2019 sa halagang P186,332.16. Sa kasalukuyan, meron pang natitirang 3 buwan na EC pensiyon ang nasabing empleyado.

Bukod dito ay nakatanggap din siya mula sa ECC sa pamamagitan ng Katulong at Gabay sa Manggagawang may Kapansanan (KaGabay) Program ng EC cash assistance na nagkakahalagang P10,000. Sumailalim rin ang nasabing person with work-related disability (PWRD) ng libreng physical therapy sessions sa Philippine General Hospital (PGH) at nakatanggap ng halagang P4,500.00 para sa transportation and meal allowance (TMA). Pinagkalooban din ng ECC ang PWRD ng prostetik na binti na nagkakahalagang P130,000.

"Ang KaGabay Program ay karagdagang benepisyo ng ECC na may layuning matulungan at mabigyan ng pagkakataon ang mga PWRDs na makabalik muli sa trabaho o makapagsimula ng sariling negosyo," saad ni OIC-Executive Director Engr. Jose Maria S. Batino, CESO IV.

Noong March 2021, sumailalim ang nasabing empleyado sa isang livelihood seminar na inorganisa ng ECC sa pakikipagtulungan ng Kagawaran ng Agham at Teknolohiya.

Dahil na rin dito, nakatanggap siya ng tulong pangkabuhayan na nagkakahalagang P20,000.00 bilang panimula sa kanyang magiging negosyo na sari-sari store.

Kalaunan, ginawaran na rin siya ng ECC ng P10,000.00 na complementary kit bilang pagkilala sa determinasyon at pagsisikap niya na mapalago ang kanyang negosyo.

"Nakakatuwang malaman na napapalago ng ating mga PWRDs ang negosyong ipinagkaloob sa kanila. Ang complementary kit na binibigay ng ECC ay nagsisilbing tulong upang mapalago ang kanilang pangkabuhayan," dagdag ni Director Batino. "Ang ECC ay handang tumulong sa mga PWRDs. Patuloy at magbibigay kami ng mga benepisyo at iba't-ibang serbisyo na tutugon sa mga pangangailangan nila."

J. Cañedo & GB Tee – Central Office

ECC brings back ECP advocacy seminar with TVIs in Pampanga

The Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC) has re-ignited the EC Program advocacy seminars, which commenced in Pampanga this year, in order to launch a stronger and more vigorous information dissemination campaign.

On March 08, 2023, the ECC convened 104 students and employees from the province's technical and vocational institutes (TVIs) at the Bendix Hotel in San Fernando City for the first advocacy seminar since the Covid19 outbreak began to discuss the ECP, particularly workers' rights and benefits under the program. Prior to the global health crisis, the ECC hosted at least ten advocacy seminars in ten different regions.

The seminar, which was held in partnership with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority's (TESDA) regional office in Central Luzon and its provincial office in Pampanga, provided 32 students from 16 schools and 72 employees of 49 TVIs with important information about the program to empower them as they play their crucial role in encouraging employment and decent work in the country and abroad.

OIC-Executive Director Jose Maria S. Batino highlighted this role in his message and commended the attendees for taking the step toward fostering awareness of the realities of workplace accidents and illnesses.

"This advocacy seminar provides an



opportunity to increase our efforts, strive to pivot our initiatives, and allow information interchange during this period of pandemic-induced workplace issues and as people expect and work toward a recovery that will lead to a robust, viable, and good future," Director Batino said.

ECC Information and Public Assistance Division Chief Maria Cecilia Maulion introduced the ECC and the Employees' Compensation Program to the participants, while Information Officer III Jayrezze Cañedo explained in details the instances of compensability and the benefits of the EC Program.

To cap the event, ECC Deputy Executive Director Evelyn Ramos led the pledge of commitment to promote a safe and healthy workplace and in bolstering the initiatives for information dissemination.

With renewed drives for an enhanced ECP orientation, the ECC is increasing its partnership with various sectors to reach more people, as part of the country's effort to develop a workforce of more informed citizens.

D. Lacson – REU3

ECC grieves with family of hit-and-run victim in Davao



ECC-REU 11 Information Officer Albert Bantan and Administration Officer Franschelline Orvette Loayon visit the wake of Anna Mae Talili and apprise the family of the benefits available under the EC Program for the work-related death of Talili on February 02, 2023 at Bagong Silang Newloon Tubok in Davao City.

Davao City – The Employees' Compensation Commission Regional Extension Unit XI (ECC-REU 11) condoled with the family of Anna Mae Talili, 22 years old, who died while on her way home from work on January 26, 2023.

Talili, a cashier of Balai Torrentina, was a backrider of a motorcycle owned by a co-employee when the same was hit from the back by a pickup truck causing her instantaneous death due to head injuries. The perpetrator only surrendered after former President Rodrigo R. Duterte offered a P500,000.00 reward for his capture.

Under PD 626, otherwise known as the Employees' Compensation and State Insurance Fund, employees suffering from accidents while going to or coming from work are entitled to the benefits under the EC Program. In Talili's case, the family is expected to receive a burial benefit of P30,000.00, a five-year EC pension for her surviving parents and an additional P15,000.00 EC Cash Assistance.

Ana Fe Talili, the deceased's sister, recounted the significant role of the victim in the survival of her family. "She helped our parents provide the daily needs of the family like the school necessities of our siblings and the medication of our mother," she said.

"As ECC recognized the various hazards employees faced day by day, it purposely sets forth various benefits to enable the surviving families regain their economic balance despite the loss of a breadwinner," OIC-Executive Director Jose Maria S. Batino remarked. He added that ECC remains steadfast in its resolve to spare employees from the fate of Talili by instilling the culture of safety not only at work but beyond the working premises as well.

A. Bantan - REU 11

ECC binigyan ng tulong pinansyal ang sundalong sugatan sa engkwentro



Ilocos Sur – Bilang pagkilala sa kabayanihan ng mga sundalong pumoprotekta sa kasarinlan ng bansa laban sa mga makakaliwang grupo, ang Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC) ay namigay kamakailan ng tulong pinansyal sa sundalong sugatan sa engkwentro sa pagitan ng Philippine Army (PA) at ng Kilusang Larangang Guerilla – South Ilocos Sur (KLG SIS).

"Ang mga uniformed personnel na sugatan at maging mga benepisyaryo ng mga nasawi sa engkwentro ay tatanggap ng nararapat na benepisyo sa ilalim ng EC Program. Maliban sa EC cash assistance na nagkakahalagang P10,000.00 para sa mga nagtamo ng sugat habang P15,000.00 naman para sa mga pamilya ng namatay maliban dito tatanggap rin sila ng funeral benefits sa halagang P30,000.00 at buwanang death pension mula sa ECC," paliwanag ni Information Officer Dexter Dupagan.

Ayon kay PFC Randolph Collado, residente ng Natividad, Pangasinan, nasabugan siya ng improvised explosive device (IED) nang kanilang makaengkwentro ang grupo ng NPA sa Barangay Dili, Sta Cruz, Ilocos Sur.

Sa kabila ng pagkahiwalay sa GSIS ng mga uniformed personnel gaya ng AFP, PNP, BFP at BJMP, sila ay sakop pa rin ng EC Program sa ilalim ng Presidential Decree 626 o Employees' Compensation and State Insurance Fund.

Una siyang dinala sa Candon City para sa paunang lunas bago inilipad sa Fort Magsaysay Hospital sa Nueva Ecija kasama ng iba pang sugatan. "Malaking tulong ito para sa aking maintenance. Masaya ako kahit paano dahil may tulong at may maibibigay rin ako sa aking misis," pahayag ni Collado nang kanyang tanggapin ang tseke ng EC cash assistance na nagkakahalaga ng P10,000.

Ang ECC ay isang ahensya ng gobyerno na nasailalim ng Kagawaran ng Paggawa at Empleo. Mandato nito na magbigay ng angkop at nararapat na benepisyo sa mga nagkasakit, o naaksidente nang dahil sa trabaho o sa benepisyaryo nito kung ang manggagawa ay namatay na may kaugnayan sa trabaho.

Ibinigay ang nasabing tulong pinansyal sa mismong tanggapan ng ECC sa pamamagitan ng mga kawani ng ECC Regional Extension Unit (REU) 1 sa San Fernando City, La Union.

D. Dupagan - REU 1

According to ECC OIC-Executive Director Jose Maria Batino, "The RTWAP goes beyond providing persons with work-related disability (PWRDs) with therapy services or assistive devices. It is also about disability management – the main essence of which is to reintegrate the PWRDs into the economic mainstream as empowered and productive individuals."

In presenting the RTWAP concept, Dr. Christine Marquez, OIC-Chief of the Work Contingency, Prevention and Rehabilitation Division, related that the manufacturing industry, a sector predominant in Region IV-A, has the highest occurrence of work-related injuries, hence the reason for piloting the program in the region.

Former ECC Executive Director Stella Banawis, who was the guest of honor at the event, highlighted the importance of timeliness or early intervention – one of the principles of RTWAP. In said reintegration process, it was emphasized that the lack of which reduces the chance of successfully returning the worker to employment.

The launch of the RTWAP is in furtherance of ECC's existing services for PWRDs, particularly the Katulong at Gabay sa Manggagawang may kapansanan (KaGabay) Program which addresses PWRDs rehabilitation needs in the form of physical restoration, provision of assistive devices, and livelihood assistance.

"Kahit na hindi pa siya [manggagawa] magaling na magaling, pwede na siyang bumalik sa trabaho dahil ang trabaho niya ay considered as part of the recovery process. Kaya importante itong Return to Work Program," added Banawis

The ECC is set to conduct a series of meetings with different stakeholders to onboard more with the program which it also projects to roll out nationwide.

J. Romasanta – REU 4A



General Santos City. Rey Billones (extreme left) and Nyka Shane Sara (extreme right), persons with work-related disabilities (PWRDs) in Region 12, underwent prosthesis measuring, skin matching, and casting by supplier SGG Orthocare on January 13, 2023, at ECC-REU 12 office in General Santos City. Through the ECC's Katulong at Gabay sa Manggagawang may Kapansanan (KaGabay) Program, Billones will receive a cosmetic finger prosthesis for his amputated fingers (left hand) while Sara will receive an above elbow prosthesis for her amputated right arm.

ECC launches Return to Work Assistance Program in Region IV-A



The Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC) launched the Return to Work Assistance Program (RTWAP) in Region IV-A at the Hotel Marciano, Calamba, Laguna on February 28, 2023.

The pilot program served to introduce the RTWAP to its stakeholders in the government and private sectors, hospitals, academe, as well as members of organizations for Persons with disabilities (PWD).

The RTWAP is an interdisciplinary approach to rehabilitation support that aims to facilitate employees who figured in work-related accidents' recovery as well as safe and timely return to employment. It is modeled after the Return to Work Program framework of the Social Security Organization of Malaysia which first introduced the concept in 2007.

ECC orders payment of disability benefits for miner's visual loss

The Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC) approved the grant of disability benefits under the Employees' Compensation Program (ECP) to a former miner for his work-related loss of vision.

Appellant's duties involved rendering of assistance to miners at Philex Mining Corporation from 1979 to 1985. In 1990, he worked as a mucker-trash collector at Itugon-Suyog Mines, Inc. and stayed there till 1996. His last employment was at the University of the Baguio, where he worked as a janitor from 2004 to 2016.

Records showed that in 1993, appellant met an accident when a rock hit his eye while working. The incident caused laceration on his left eye. Since then, his left eye started to deteriorate. He was initially treated at the company hospital but was soon referred to a government

hospital for further treatment. Because of this, he was granted sick leave by the company and disability benefit at the Social Security System (SSS).

In 2018, the former miner filed for EC disability benefits at the SSS Baguio City branch due to loss of vision, left eye. He was examined and it was confirmed that he was suffering from the said condition. The SSS denied the former miner's claim on the ground that the injury on his eye was not work-related and there was no causal relationship to the nature of his work. Thus, the former miner elevated the claim to the SSS main office for review. However, the SSS main office sustained the denial of SSS-Baguio City.

On appeal, the ECC granted the claim of the former miner.

The ECC ruled that appellant sustained

lacerated wound on his left eye while performing his duties in 1994.

Medical studies showed that vision loss from ocular trauma may result from mechanical injury or from post-traumatic complications. Thus, it cannot be denied that there was a reasonable connection between the former miner's job which caused the eye injury, which eventually progressed to his present vision loss. Hence, the ECC modified the initial decision and ordered the SSS to pay EC disability benefits to the former miner under PD 626, as amended.

The ECC, an attached agency of the Department of Labor and Employment, reviews appealed EC Claims denied by the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) or the SSS.

D. Lee - REU CAR

Bus drayber na naputulan ng binti, tumanggap ng libreng prosthesis mula sa ECC

"Masaya sa pakiramdam," ito ang sambit ni Alfredo Marquez na may kasamang matamis na ngiti nang maisuot niya ang kanyang libreng prosthesis handog ng Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC).

"Isa itong maagang regalo sa akin ngayong pasko," dagdag na pahayag ni Marquez. "Nagpapasalamat din ako sa ECC dahil makakahanap na muli ako ng trabaho."

Si Marquez ay isang bus drayber ng Pangasinan Solid North Transit at tubong San Nicolas, Pangasinan. Naputulan siya ng kaliwang binti nang maipit ito sa nangyaring karambola sa bahagi ng Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEX) noong Pebrero 18, 2019. Simulanon, hindi na siya nakapagtrabaho.

Noong Nobyembre 10, 2022, iginawad kay Marquez ang naturang prosthesis na nagkakahalaga ng P83,000.00 sa mismong tanggapan ng ECC-Regional Extension Unit 1 sa San Fernando City, La Union.

Lubos din ang pasasalamat ni Marquez sa mga natanggap niyang EC benefits gaya ng EC Sickness (initial) sa halagang P27,000.00. Nakatanggap din siya ng P20,000.00 bilang tulong pangkabuhayan sa ilalim ng Katulong at Gabay sa Manggagawang may Kapansanan (KaGabay) Program para sa negosyo niyang kambingan.

Ayon kay ECC Officer-in-Charge Executive Director Jose Maria S. Batino, "Ang sinumang manggagawa na naaksidente nang dahil sa trabaho ay may nakalaang benepisyo sa ilalim ng EC Program. Ang tulad ng aksidente na nangyari kay Marquez kung saan siya ay naaksidente nang dahil sa trabaho ay compensable basta walang naging kapabayaan ang empleyado."

"Kahit na may ECC, iba pa rin ang maging maingat tayo dahil ang kaligtasan at kalusugan ng ating mga manggagawa ang ating prayoridad," dagdag pa ni Director Batino.



Ang Employees' Compensation Commission ay isang ahensiya ng gobyerno na nagbibigay ng benepisyo sa mga manggagawang nagkasakit, naaksidente o namatay nang dahil sa trabaho. Inihahain ang aplikasyon ng EC benefits sa Social Security System (SSS) para sa mga pribadong sektor at Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) para naman sa mga nasa pampublikong sektor.

D. Dupagan - REU 1