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DOLE secretary hands over benefits to EC beneficiaries



Members of the Regional Tripartite Industry Peace Council (RTIPC) witnessed the handover of Cash Assistance to the EC beneficiaries whose employment was adversely affected due to their work-related contingency. The extended Cash Assistance was in addition to the other benefits previously granted under the EC Program through the SSS and GSIS.

"Despite the disabling condition I got, I am grateful for the interventions of ECC for me to remain economically productive," Corrine R. Godin, one of the ECC beneficiaries, said during the event. She elaborated on how significant the financial assistance is to her family as it helps her make the family's ends meet.

In his speech, Secretary Laguesma emphasized that the Government programs should trickle down to those who need them the most in view of the current administration's whole-of-nation approach.

In light of the long-standing mandate of providing invaluable service for work-related contingencies, ECC was able to disburse 1.91 billion pesos for 316,640 EC claims in CY 2022, 105.84 million pesos of which was for EC Cash Assistance

Davao City – Labor and Employment Secretary Bienvenido E. Laguesma, along with other DOLE officials, handed cash assistance checks to 42 EC beneficiaries of Davao Region during the Labor Relations Summit at Acacia Hotel, Davao City on April 13, 2023.

A. Bantan – REU 11

ECC gains momentum in RTWP, inks agreement with eighteen hospitals for provision of rehabilitation services

To step-up the services of its Katulong at Gabay sa Manggagawang may Kapansanan (KaGabay) Program, the Employees Compensation Commission (ECC) has inked agreements with different partner hospitals all over the Philippines to ensure the continuous delivery of rehabilitation services for its return to work program (RTWP), especially catered to persons with work-related disability (PWRDs).

Workers who have acquired work-related diseases or injuries may avail of loss of income benefits, medical benefits, carer's allowance, and all other benefits under the EC Program. On top of these monetary benefits, PWRDs may likewise avail of rehabilitation services through physical restoration and rehabilitation with ECC accredited hospitals.

Currently, the ECC has active partnerships with eighteen hospitals all over the Philippines which include the Philippine

General Hospital (PGH), the University of the East Ramon Magsaysay (UERM) Memorial Medical Center, Lorma Medical Center, Mother Theresa of Calcutta Medical Center (MTCMC), Central Luzon Doctor's Hospital, Calamba Medical Center (CMC) Inc., University of Perpetual Help-Dr. Jose Tamayo Medical University Foundation (UPH- DJGTMU), Inc., Mary Mediatrix Medical Center, Laguna Doctor's Hospital, Estevez Memorial Hospital, Inc., West Visayas State University Medical Center, Southwestern University (SWU) Medical Center, Zamboanga City Medical Center (ZCMC), Northern Mindanao Medical Center (NMMC), Mindanao Orthopedic Sports and Rehabilitation Center, Inc., St. Elizabeth Hospital, Dr. Arturo Pingoy Medical Center and Saint Louis University-Sacred Heart Medical Center (SLU SHMC).

"The ECC has always pursued the end goal of providing a comprehensive insurance program to workers with work-related

illnesses and injuries. As we try to provide better monetary benefits through landmark policies, the Commission also aims to assist workers who have suffered from work-related contingencies on their way back to recovery in the hope of reintegrating them back to the economic mainstream through a dynamic Return-to-Work Program," ECC OIC-Executive Director Jose Maria S. Batino said.

"As the ECC refocuses its efforts on the Return-to-Work Program, we truly appreciate our partner hospitals for their continued assistance. The enduring support of our partners, as well as our stakeholder, has played a crucial role in the enhancement and expansion of many of our programs. In the ensuing months, we do hope to strengthen our linkages and gain more partners in streamlining the services under the EC Program as we recalibrate our targets for 2023," ED Batino added.

M. Basal – REU 8



ECC BAGS GAWAD LIO 2023. Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC) receives the Gantimpala sa Adbokasiyang Wasto at Angkop ng DOLE Labor Information Officers (GAWAD LIO 2023) trophy and plaque for its program “#ECCWorkRelated sa Special on Saturday (SOS)” and “ECC O-PA (Online Public assistance)”. ECC has been recognized for exemplifying the hallmarks of a sustainable, cost-efficient, innovative, and mass media-based DOLE public awareness program. DOLE Secretary Bienvenido E. Laguesma led the awarding proper along with other DOLE officials including Undersecretary Ciriaco A. Lagunzad III, Assistant Secretary Warren M. Micalat, Assistant Secretary Dominique Rubia-Tutay, DOLE CALABARZON Regional Director Atty. Roy L. Buenafe and DOLE-IPS OIC-Director Gerry S. Rubio at Hotel Casiana, Tagaytay City on May 23, 2023.

Office staff receives free physical therapy services from ECC

The Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC), through its extension office in Region 12, gives free physical therapy services to Sharon Braza who met a work-related accident.

Braza is working as a regional general service officer in a microfinance office in General Santos City. In May 2020, she was driving her motorcycle on her way to work when suddenly the front wheel of a vehicle following her, exploded. The said vehicle then swerved towards her and as a result, Braza sustained displaced pelvic fracture, cerebral concussion, and abrasions.

In 2021, Braza filed an EC claim at the Social Security System (SSS), General Santos City branch and was granted an EC sickness benefit for a total amount of P29,700.00. In addition, she also received an EC cash assistance of P10,000.

Aside from the monetary benefits she received from the ECC, Braza also underwent a total of three (3)

free consultations and 14 free physical therapy sessions at St. Elizabeth Hospital Incorporated, ECC's partner hospital in General Santos.

Braza had already recuperated and resumed her job as a regional general service officer in the same company.

"I would like to thank ECC for the benefits I acquired. The free rehab (PT) check-up and cash assistance. [I am] willing to inform other [workers] about this. Thank you also for the workforce behind this. God bless you!" said Braza.

The physical restoration, as one of the components of the Katulong at Gabay sa Manggagawang may Kapansanan (KaGabay) Program, includes the provision of physical/occupational therapy sessions and assistive devices that help facilitate the reintegration of persons with work-related Disability (PWRDs) into

the economic mainstream.

The Employees' Compensation Commission is a government corporation attached to the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) for policy coordination and guidance. The ECC is mandated to provide meaningful and appropriate compensation benefits to workers and their dependents in the event of work-related sickness, injury, disability, or death. "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.

K. Daga - REU 12

ECC conducts seminar on Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders

The Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC) has conducted a seminar on Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders (WRMSDs) at the ECC Main Office Multi-purpose Hall, Makati City on March 23, 2023.

The hybrid seminar was attended by 139 employees from ECC Central and Regional Offices, including on-the job trainees and utility service workers. It aimed to educate all personnel of ECC on the prevention and management of WRMSDs through interactive activities.

Dr. Marian Michelle M. Marquez, Medical Officer III of the ECC served as the resource speaker where participants learned about what are considered work-connected musculoskeletal disorders, the causes and risk factors of WRMSDs, as well as practical strategies for preventing and managing

these conditions. An interactive workshops, on the other hand, provided attendees with hands-on experience in ergonomics, proper posture, and safe work practices.

OIC-Executive Director Jose Maria Batino said that, "We are thrilled with the success of our WRMSD seminar and grateful for the support of our personnel and expert speaker. Worthy to note, that musculoskeletal disorders are considered work-related diseases. Thus, it is compensable under the Employees' Compensation Program."

"The prevention and management of WRMSDs are critical to reduce the burden of these disorders on workers and employers. Prevention efforts should focus on identifying and addressing workplace hazards through ergonomics, which involves designing workspaces, tools, and equipment to fit the worker," added Director Batino.

To cap the event, Director Batino finally said that, "Training and education for workers and supervisors on ergonomic principles, proper posture, and safe work practices can also help to prevent WRMSDs. By working together to address these issues, we can create safer and healthier workplaces for everyone."three (3)

S. Barredo - REU 6





ECC releases P 5.2M cash assistance for NorthMin workers

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY – The Employees' Compensation Commission-Regional Extension Unit X (ECC-REU 10) awarded a total of P5,260,000.00 in cash assistance to 514 private and public sector workers in Northern Mindanao and neighboring provinces under the Employees' Compensation (EC) Program in 2022.

Among the 514 claimants, 136 are private sector employees and 378 are public sector employees. Majority of the beneficiaries are medical workers. 86% of claims were Covid19 related, such as work injuries, occupational diseases, and uniformed personnel wounded or killed in action. 490 of them were able to receive P10,000.00 cash assistance, while the remaining 24 applicants, who received P15,000.00 each, are qualified beneficiaries of an employee or uniformed personnel who died in the line of duty.

ECC currently only accepts cash assistance applications for non-Covid19 cases as it is still processing the remaining 2021 batch of Covid19 claims.

The EC Program provides benefits to private and public sector workers and/or their families in the event of work-connected sickness, injury, or death. The additional cash assistance amounting to P10,000.00 – P15,000.00 is a special project of ECC's Quick Response Program (QRP) which aims to provide additional financial support to qualified workers and/or their families. This is in addition to the EC initial benefits, particularly EC sickness, disability, and death benefits, that are filed and claimed at the Social Security System (SSS) and in the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), ECC's administering agencies in the private and public sector, respectively.

S. Obice - REU 10



EC BENEFICIARY IN CAVITE CITY RECEIVES LIVELIHOOD STARTER KIT. Ernesto Leong (middle) receives a livelihood starter kit from the Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC) amounting P20,000.00 for his business on May 10, 2023, in Puregold, Noveleta, Cavite. The awarding of starter kit was facilitated by Lawrence Gipson (extreme right), Social Welfare Officer II of ECC.

ECC, NCMB, Industrial Peace Advocates in Eastern Visayas join hands for ECP Advocacy

The Employees' Compensation Commission Regional Extension Unit XIII (ECC-REU 8) has recently partnered with the Eastern Visayas Industrial Peace Advocates (EVIPA) and the National Conciliation Mediation Board for expanded awareness on the EC Program during the EVIPA Convention at Hotel Alejandro Tacloban City. In attendance were mostly labor union officers and human resource officers and managers, representing the management side. The activity aimed to invigorate and bolster employee-management relations.

During the convention, ECC-REU 8 Information Officer Atty. Michelle Basal shared the landmark policies that ECC has been implementing in relation to ECC's response to the Covid19 pandemic.

Under the EC Program, workers who suffer from work-related illnesses, injuries, or death may avail of loss of income benefits, medical benefits, carer's allowance, and rehabilitation services.

"The Employees' Compensation Commission is always looking to foster its partnerships with stakeholders, most especially labor organizations," ECC OIC-Executive Director Jose Maria S. Batino shared. "Our regional extension unit officers are working tirelessly to solidify our engagements with labor and workers' organization in an effort to enhance awareness of the Employees' Compensation Program. As the frontrunners in granting social protection to workers, the ECC will always see to it that our programs readily address the concerns of the everyday working man when it comes to work-related contingencies and their corresponding benefits."

M. Basal - REU 8

DATING ENGINEERING MECHANICAL TECHNICIAN NA NAAKSIDENTE NANG DAHIL SA TRABAHO, NAKATANGGAP NG BENEPISYO SA ECC

“ Nagpapasalamat ako sa ECC sa suportang binigay nila sa akin at sa aking pamilya. Tunay po na malaki ang naitulong ng mga benepisyo mula sa ECC sa aming pang araw-araw na gastusin at pati na rin sa pag-aaral ng aking mga anak. Aking palalaguin ang negosyong iyong kaloob. Nawa ay lumawak pa ang saklaw ng programa, nang sa gayon ay marami pa kayong matulungan na kagaya ko.

JUNE VALDEZ
Yokohama Philippines Inc.
EC KaGabay Beneficiary



ECP orientation in Dagupan City. ECC-REU 1 Information Officer Dexter Dupagan conducts an Employees' Compensation Program (ECP) orientation to Dagupan Doctor Vilalflor Memorial Hospital employees and top officials (who joined virtually) in Dagupan City on March 31, 2023. Dupagan highlighted the recently launched Return to Work Program (RTWP) by the Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC).



ECC renews partnership with Northern Mindanao hospitals

The Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC) has renewed its partnership with Northern Mindanao Medical Center (NMMC) in Cagayan de Oro City and Mercy Community Hospital, Inc. (MCHI) in Iligan City, Lanao del Norte for their physical rehabilitation services this year.

One of the services provided by the ECC's Katulong at Gabay sa Manggagawang may Kapansanan (KaGabay) Program is free physical therapy for workers who have suffered work-related sickness or accidents that require therapy sessions to improve their physical condition. Thus, ECC began its collaboration with NMMC in 2012 and with MCHI in 2014. Due to Covid pandemic, the hospitals' Memorandums of Agreement (MOA) expired in 2019, which forced the Rehabilitation Department of the said hospitals to temporarily halt operations.

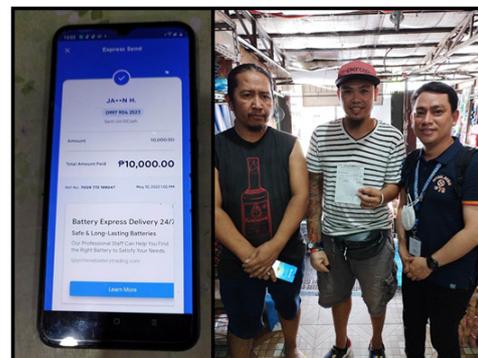
As operations slowly return to normal, ECC decided to renew its MOA with both hospitals in order to better serve its clients in Northern Mindanao, particularly in Cagayan de Oro City, Iligan City, and the provinces of Misamis Oriental and Lanao del Norte. Thus, workers who suffered from work-related sickness or injury which

resulted to disability will be able to receive not only monetary benefits under the EC Program, but also free consultation with a rehabilitation doctor, free physical therapy sessions, and transportation and meal allowance (TMA).

"Working together with these medical institutions will help us better reach our workers in Northern Mindanao who can avail ECC services and will also accomplish our mission which is to promptly provide workers and/or their dependents with adequate benefits, rehabilitation and other related services in the event of work-connected injury, illness, and death," said ECC OIC-Executive Director Jose Maria Batino.

The KaGabay Program of ECC aims to facilitate the integration of persons with work-related disabilities into the economic mainstream through physical restoration, training for reemployment or self-entrepreneurship and also provide them with equal access to livelihood opportunities and assist them in setting up their own self-managed microenterprises or home-based business.

S. Obice - REU 10



COMPLEMENTARY KIT FOR PWRD. Jason Hermoso (right photo, middle), a person with a work-related disability (PWRD), shows his complementary kit worth P10,000.00 for his e-loading business granted by the Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC) on May 10, 2023, in Dasmariñas, Cavite. The ECC complementary kit is an additional benefit given to PWRDs when they sustained their livelihood starter kit under the KaGabay Program.



EC LIVELIHOOD STARTER KIT FOR PWRD. Carlos Magallon, a person with work-related disability (PWRD), shows his EC livelihood starter kit worth P20,000.00, comprising of goods, tools, and equipment for his barbecue business, at Commonwealth, Quezon City on May 9, 2023.

ECC, Kinesis-360 Physical Therapy Clinic ink rehab agreement

Mati, Davao Oriental – The Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC) has entered into the very first rehabilitation services partnership in Mati City, Davao Oriental by forging an agreement with Kinesis-360 Physical Therapy Clinic on April 18, 2023.

The tie-up between ECC Regional Extension Unit 11 and Kinesis-360 is intended to bring the physical restoration services under the ECC Katulong at Gabay sa Manggagawang may Kapansanan (KaGabay) Program closer to EC beneficiaries with physical disabilities in Davao Oriental. EC beneficiaries used to go to the partner hospital of ECC in Panabo City, Davao del Norte to undergo

physical rehabilitation which entails grueling travel of almost 5 hours.

"This is a welcomed development in the EC Program. It will certainly provide prompt rehabilitation services to persons with work-related disabilities (PWRD)." Rodolfo Castro, Provincial Head of the DOLE Oriental, said during the ceremonial signing of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). He emphasized that the proximity of rehabilitative interventions for the PWRDs would yield efficient and cost-effective physical restoration.

"The EC Program holistically address looming concerns of PWRDs, not only their economic concerns by providing PWRDs livelihood kits but also improve their physical condition

by providing them immediate physical restoration services," ECC Executive Director Jose Maria S. Batino said.

A. Bantan - REU 11

