



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Bohol
MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

ORDINANCE NO. 36
Series of 2006

**ORDINANCE PROVIDING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE CODE
OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN, BOHOL.**

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“WHEREAS, Philippine Laws compel Local Governments to promote the advance sovereign commitments to human rights, health, women’s empowerment, youth well being, and responsible parenthood;

“WHEREAS, the right to reproductive health is a human right of all women and men, young and old, whose observance directly bears on the welfare and well being of families and communities;

“WHEREAS, Local Governments are further mandated to provide efficient and effective basic services and facilities that will upgrade the quality of community life that includes health and social welfare programs and project in primary health care, maternal, and child care, child and youth welfare, family and community welfare, women’s welfare, welfare of the elderly and disabled persons, nutrition services, and reproductive health and family planning services;

“WHEREAS, in keeping with its duties and commitments to uphold the rights and well being of its constituents, it is necessary and appropriate for the Municipal Government of Carmen, Bohol to adopt measures that address these gaps in reproductive health care;

“NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained as it is hereby ordained by the Sangguniang Bayan of Carmen, Bohol in session duly assembled that:

SECTION 1. Title

This Ordinance shall be known as “The Reproductive Health Care Code” of the Municipality of Carmen, Bohol.

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy

The Municipal Government of Carmen, Bohol shall adopt as integrated and comprehensive policy on reproductive health care in line with its pursuit of sustainable human development that values human

dignity and efforts full protection to people's rights, especially of women, children, youth and families.

The policy is anchored on the common belief and united to resolve and uphold the human rights of all 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 decisions for themselves in accordance with their religious convictions, cultural beliefs and the demands of responsible parenthood.

Consistent with these principles, the Municipal Government of Carmen, Bohol shall guarantee the access to information and education, and universal access to safe, affordable and quality reproductive health care services.

SECTION 3. Statement of Purpose and Objectives

This code specifically aims to:

- (i) Provide the people of Carmen with timely, complete and accurate information and education on reproductive health;
- (ii) Provide couples and individuals access to safe, affordable and quality reproductive health care services;
- (iii) Ensure the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of appropriate and effective reproductive health care programs at the Municipal and Barangay levels including maternal, prenatal, infant and child health care, family planning information and services; services for the prevention of abortion and management of post abortion and complication; adolescent and youth health services, prevention and management of reproductive tract infections, HIV/AIDS and other transmittable infections (STIs); elimination of violence against women; education and counseling on sexuality and sexual health; treatment of breast, reproductive tract cancers and other gynecological conditions; male involvement in reproductive health and prevention and treatment of infertility and sexual dysfunctions.

SECTION 4. Definition of Terms

For purposes of this ordinance, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

- (i) **Reproductive Health** - the state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease of infinity in all matters relating to the reproductive system and to its functions and processes.

- (ii) **Reproductive 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 reproductive free of discrimination, coercion and violence; to have the information and means to do so, and to attain the highest standard of sexual and reproductive health.
- (iii) **Gender Equality** - the absence of discrimination on the basis of a person's sex, in opportunities, in the allocation of resources of benefits or in access to services.
- (iv) **Gender Equity** - fairness and justice in the distribution of benefits and responsibilities between women and men, and often requires women specific projects and programs to end existing inequalities.
- (v) **Reproductive Health Care** - the access to a full range of methods, techniques and services that contribute to reproductive health and well being by preventing and solving reproductive health-related problems. It also includes sexual health, the purpose of which the enhancement of life and personal relations. The elements of reproductive health care include:
 - a. Maternal, infant and child health and nutrition;
 - b. Family planning information and services;
 - c. Adolescent and youth health;
 - d. Prevention of abortion and management of post-abortion complication;
 - e. Prevention and management of reproductive tract infections (RTIs), HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmittable infections (STIs);
 - f. Elimination of violence against women.
 - g. Education and counseling on sexuality and sexual health;
 - h. Treatment of breast and reproductive tract cancers and other gynecological conditions;
 - i. Male involvement and participation in reproductive health; and
 - j. Prevention and the treatment of infertility and sexual dysfunction.
- (vi) **Responsible Parenthood** - the will and the ability to respond to the need and aspirations of the family and children.
- (vii) **Family Planning** - program that enables couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children and to have the information and means to do so and to have informed choice and access to a

full range of safe and effective family planning methods provided that abortion is not included as a family planning method.

- (viii) **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 and pertains to people ages between 10-19.
- (ix) **Reproductive Health and Sexuality Education** - is the process of acquiring complete, accurate and relevant information in all matters relating to the reproductive system, its functions and process and human sexuality, and forming attitudes and beliefs about sex, sexual identity, interpersonal relationship, affection, intimacy and gender roles. It includes developing the necessary skills to be able to distinguish between facts and myths on sex and sexuality; and critically evaluate and discuss the moral, religious, social and cultural dimensions of related sensitive issues such as contraceptive and abortion,
- (x) **Reproductive Tract Infection (RTI)** - includes sexually transmitted infections, sexually transmitted disease and other types of infections affecting the reproductive system.

SECTION 5. Creation of the Reproductive Health and Population Management Council

The Carmen, Bohol Reproductive Health and Population Management Council (CBRHPMC) is hereby created to coordinate the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of Reproductive Health Care Program. The CBRHPMC shall be composed as follows:

- (i) Chairperson Municipal Mayor
- (ii) Members *Municipal Health Officer*
Chairperson, Sangguniang Bayan
Committee on Health
Chairperson, Sangguniang Bayan
Committee on Women & Family Affairs
Chairperson, Sangguniang Bayan
Committee on Youth
District Supervisor, Dep.Ed.
School Principals
(High School and Elementary)
Representative from LGU Accredited
NGO's

SECTION 6. Functions of the CBRHPMC

The CBRHPMC shall function as the central advisory, planning and policy-making body for the comprehensive and integrated implementation of the Municipal Reproductive Health Care Program. It shall have the following responsibilities:

- (i) Formulate an integrated policy and program on reproductive health care that shall be implemented in all government and private health and educational institutions such as hospitals, rural health unit, barangay health stations, school and other health and educational facilities, managed by the private sector, non-government organizations, church and other civil society organizations in the province;
- (ii) Recommended the enactment of legislation and adoption of measures that will facilitate the comprehensive and integrated implementation of the reproductive health care programs;
- (iii) Strengthen the capacities of health facilities, regulatory agencies, health service providers to ensure safe, high quality, accessible and affordable reproductive health services and commodities;
- (iv) Promote the involvement and participation of, and provide actual policy, program and financial support to NGOs in reproductive health care and service delivery, and in the production, distribution and delivery of high quality reproductive health and family planning supplies and commodities to make them accessible and affordable to ordinary citizens;
- (v) Coordinate the full implementation of the Reproductive Health Care Program with the following components:
 - a. Maternal, pre-natal and post education, care and services;
 - b. Immunization and nutrition programs and services;
 - c. Reproductive and sexual health education for women, men and youth;
 - d. Responsible Parenthood Counseling services that include but is not limited to education on legal and medically-safe family planning methods;
 - e. Promotion of male involvement and services addressing the reproductive need of the poor senior citizens, women in prostitution, differently-abled persons, and women and children in crisis situations.
- (vi) Perform other functions necessary to attain the purpose of this ordinance.

SECTION 7. Strengthening the Technical Capability of the Municipal Health Office

The Technical Capability of the Municipal Health Office be strengthened through the establishment of Reproductive Health Care Session-under its Technical Health Division. The Reproductive Health Care Section of the Municipal Health Office shall have the following functions and responsibilities:

- (i) Formulate specific plans and programs as well as devise strategies and systems for the effective implementation of the Carmen, Bohol Reproductive Health Care Program, adopt measures to ensure the efficient and effective delivery of basic reproductive health care services and provision of adequate facilities;
- (ii) Monitor implementation of the Reproductive Health Care Program and undertake research on pertinent health, population and sustainable human development issues that includes:
 - a. Community population and reproductive health survey to pinpoint or identify families with family planning unmet needs;
 - b. Master listing of couple that has attended pre-marriage counseling session (Responsible Parenthood Counseling Session).
- (iii) Conduct capability building and education activities for health professionals and service provider, including Family Health Workers, Barangay Health Workers and other concerned individual;
- (iv) Utilize various tools of media (print and radio) for publicity and promotional 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 (IEC) materials on these matters.

SECTION 8. Developing of Barangay Health Workers and Functions Barangay Health Workers (BHWs) shall be Deployed in Communities to Perform the following functions:

- (i) Provide health information regarding the different family planning methods;
- (ii) Organize responsible parenthood classes and special counseling sessions;

- (iii) Encourage parents to use all modern family planning methods such as natural family planning methods, artificial spacing method and permanent method.

SECTION 9. Reproductive Health and Sexuality Education

Mandatory Reproductive Health and Sexuality Education shall be provided to all in-school and out-of-school youths in Carmen, Bohol.

- (i) Reproductive and sexuality education in an age appropriate manner shall be taught by adequately trained teachers starting from the Grade 5 up to College and shall commence at the start of the school year immediately following the affectivity of this ordinance.

The Council shall coordinate the formulation of the sexuality education curriculum, which shall be common to both public and private schools, based on the following subjects and standards:

- a. Reproductive health;
 - b. Reproductive health care and services;
 - c. Attitudes, beliefs and values on sexual development, sexual behavior and sexual health;
 - d. Family planning and the number and spacing of children;
 - e. Natural/traditional methods to prevent unwanted, unplanned and mistimed pregnancy;
 - f. Use of modern contraceptives devices;
 - g. Abstinence before marriage;
 - h. Prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS and other STDs
- (ii) The Council shall coordination with the municipal chapters of the Sangguniang Kabataan in organizing and providing Reproductive Health and Sexuality Education classes for out-of-school youth.
 - (iii) The Council, in coordination with the Sangguniang Kabataan and the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officers shall likewise provide training and funding for the operation of Peer Counseling services addressing the reproductive health problems of the youth.

SECTION 10. Responsible Parenthood Counseling

It is mandatory for the following persons to undergo Responsible Parenthood Counseling:

- a. Future spouse;
- b. Unwed/single parents, live-in partners of common law spouses who intend to register their illegitimate child;

- c. All municipal government officials or employees and personnel of national government agencies whose offices are situated in the Municipality of Carmen, Bohol.
- d. Couple whose spouse is detained in the Carmen District Jail.

The following procedures will be observed in availing of Responsible Parenthood Counseling services:

For couples applying marriage licenses:

- (i) Couples apply for a marriage license at the Municipal Civil Registrar's Office;
- (ii) The Civil Registrar's Office refers couples applicants to the Reproductive Health Care Section of the Municipal Health Office or its municipal counterpart. Couple applicants personally register for Responsible Parenthood Counseling and accomplish Marriage Expectation Inquiry Form (MEIF);
- (iii) The MHO-Reproductive Health Care Section (MHO-RHCS) or its municipal counterpart shall review/study accomplished MEIF to access the needs of couple applicants and determine the focus of the counseling sections;
- (iv) The MHO-RHCS or its municipal counterpart shall recommend all modern methods such as Natural Family Planning Methods, Artificial Spacing Methods and Permanent Methods;
- (v) Couples applicants, without exemption, should attend all sessions on time based on schedules as may be decided by the MHO-RHCS or its municipal counterpart;
- (vi) MHO-RHCS or its municipal counterpart issues Responsible Parenthood Certificate to the couple who complied with the prescribed eight-hour counseling session;
- (vii) The Responsible Parenthood Certificate should be signed by the head of the MHO-RHCS or its municipal counterpart;
- (viii) Couples are then referred back to the Civil Registrar's Office for the issuance of marriage license after applying with responsible parenthood counseling requirements.

For unwed/single parents and common law spouses

- (i) Barangay Health Workers shall conduct a door-to-door survey to determine the unwed/single parent and common law spouses in various communities whom they shall organize for Responsible Parenthood Counseling at the MHO-RHCS or in their respective municipalities;

- (ii) The MHO-RHCS or its municipal counterpart shall utilize a values-oriented approach and focus in the counseling sessions with the view of encouraging unwed parent and common law spouses to legitimize their union through marriage;
- (iii) The MHO-RHCS or its municipal counterpart shall recommend all modern family planning methods such as Natural Family Planning Methods, Artificial Spacing Methods and Permanent Methods.

SECTION 11. Implementing Rules and Regulations

The Municipal Health Board in coordination with other concerned Officers, shall promulgate rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this ordinance and shall ensure no discrimination to the public.

SECTION 12. Funding and Appropriation

To carry out the provisions of this ordinance, the budget shall be taken from the Reproductive Health Advocacy Appropriations.

SECTION 13. Separability Clause

If any part section or provision of this ordinance is held invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 14. Repealing Clause

All other ordinances, resolutions or local executive orders or rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 15. Effectivity

This Ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.

APPROVED: December 29, 2006.

A F F I R M A T I V E

HON. RAMONITO A. TORREFRANCA
SB Member

HON. RUFINO G. ADLAON
SB Member

HON. GUILLERMO B. ESPEJO
SB Member

HON. TITO R. MONTAJES
SB Member

HON. NATHANIEL O. BINLOD
SB Member

HON. MARILOU G. TAMARRA
SB Member

A F F I R M A T I V E
(continuation)

HON. CARLITO B. TORREFRANCA
Ex- Officio Member
(Pres., Liga ng mga Barangay)

N E G A T I V E
None

HON. TEODULO S. GUIRITAN, JR.
SB Member
(Sick Leave)

HON. RONALD E. DISPO
Ex- Officio Member
(Pres., PPSK)
On Official Business

I HERBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the above-quoted Ordinance.

HON. MARIO M. SORIA
SB Member
(Acting Presiding Officer)

NOTED:

HON. JOSIL E. TRABAJO
Municipal Vice Mayor

ATTESTED:

For and in the absence of :
CAROL PAINAGAN-MADAJE
Municipal Secretary
(Secretary to the SB)

JOEPED L. TORRES
Clerk III

APPROVED:

HON. PEDRO E. BUDIONGAN, JR.
Municipal Mayor