

TITLE: TAGAMASID NG PASIG: NAGMAMALASAKIT, NAGBABANTAY, UMAAKSYON

PROFILE OF PASIG CITY

Pasig is one of the oldest towns in the Philippines. The Augustinians created it in 1572. In June 1901, Act no. 137 of the Philippine Commission incorporated Pasig in the newly created Province of Rizal. It became the provincial capital of Rizal until 1975 when the Metro Manila Commission was created under the Presidential Decree no. 824. On July 26, 1994, the Senate and the House of Representatives enacted Republic Act no. 7829 converting the Municipality of Pasig into a highly urbanized city. Then, on December 8, 1994, President Fidel V. Ramos signed it into law. The people of Pasig ratified this through a plebiscite on January 21, 1995.

Pasig lies approximately on the southeastern end of the Pasig River. It is bounded by Quezon City and Marikina on the north, the municipalities of Cainta and Taytay on the east, the city of Mandaluyong on the west, and the municipalities of Taguig and Pateros and the city of Makati on the south.

A city with a land area of 34.32 sq km, Pasig City is the tenth largest city in Metro Manila. It is the fourth most populated city in the National Capital Region, with a population of 505,058. It has one congressional district, ranks fourth among the highest income-earning cities of Metro Manila, and is classified as a highly urbanized city.

SUMMARY

Concerned citizens, binding together, can make their voices heard and help to create a wave of community pressure for change. Whether the action is aimed at cleaning up one small area, such as ridding a community of drug peddlers or ensuring that an entire country is no longer a haven for traffickers, the more actively involved citizens become, the more responsive their government and its agencies will be.

As the basic political unit in the society, the barangays are, therefore, a very vital element in the city's effort to achieve a drug-free society.

Vigilance in the barangay level is no doubt the most effective means of apprehending the traffickers and identifying the users and abusers in their own turf.

Drug addiction and trafficking are among the major causes of the rise in criminality in the Philippines and other parts of the world. In the Philippines, heinous crimes such as

pedophilia, incestuous rape, robbery with murder, and even massacres have been attributed to users of shabu and other illegal substances. It has been a menace to the society.

Efforts to combat the illegal drug menace in Pasig City got a shot in the arm following the launch by the city government, through the Anti-Drug Abuse Council of Pasig (ADCOP), of a project meant to encourage the people to participate in the drive against pushers and drug users.

Dubbed “Tagamasid ng Pasig,” the city government through its Public Information Office (PIO), aims to encourage residents to take action against the activities of both drug pushers and users by providing a platform for concerned individuals to share information while protecting their safety, ensuring their anonymity, and providing them with an appropriate reward for their help in the local government’s campaign.

The city government regards the project as very important considering the vital role of the community in the fight against illegal drugs.

Thus, the Pasig City ADCOP conducted a series of programs geared toward increasing public awareness against illegal substances.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION



Project Tagamasid was launched in 2010 under the helm of City Mayor Robert C. Eusebio. The City Council passed Ordinance no. 11, series of 2010, “Establishing the ‘Tagamasidng Pasig’ Project as an important part of the Anti-Illegal Drugs Campaign of the City, Defining the Components and Rewards System and Providing Funds Thereof.”

The project aims to address the escalation of the drug dilemma that has been proving to be a menace and a grave social problem, victimizing not only the youth but people from all ages and economic classes.

The Tagamasid or informant is/are person/s who have information on people, laboratories, drug den farms, or storage areas that deal with illegal drugs and their components, derivatives and products, and are willing to report such information to the Tagamasid ng Pasig Project (TPP).

The pushers, drug dens, farms, storage, and laboratories to be reported must be within the territorial jurisdiction of Pasig City.

A system of rewards to be granted to the Tagamasid consists of a schedule of rewards based on the type and quantity/capacity of confiscated drugs or dismantled laboratories. The following specifies the rewards:

(City Ordinance no. 11, s. 2010)

A. Confiscated/Recovered Shabu/Cocaine/Heroine

Less than 0.5 grams	PHP1,000
0.5 - 0.9 grams	PHP1,500 + PHP100/0.1g in excess of 0.5g
1.0 - 1.4 grams	PHP2,000 + PHP200/0.1g in excess of 1.0g
1.5 - 499grams	PHP2,500 +100/g in excess of 1.5g
500 - 999grams	PHP52,500 + PHP100/g in excess of 500g
1kg - 2 kgs	PHP102,400 + PHP50/g in excess of 1k
2.1kgs - 5kgs	PHP152,500 + PHP40/g in excess of 2.1kgs
5.1kgs - 10kgs	PHP268,700 + PHP30g/g in excess of 5.1kgs
10.1kgs - 20kgs	PHP415,800 + PHP20/g in excess of 10.1 kgs
20.1kgs - 50kgs	P613,900 + P10/g in excess of 20.1kgs
50.1kgs -100kgs	PHP913,000 + PHP5/g in excess of 50.1kgs
More than 100kgs	P1..2M + P2,500/g in excess of 100 kgs

B. Confiscated/Recovered Ecstasy Tablets

Less than 13 tablets	PHP80/tablet
13-250 tablets	PHP100/tablet
251-650 tablets	PHP25,100 + PHP60/tablet in excess of 251 tablets
651-1,350 tablets	PHP49,100 + PHP50/tablet in excess of 651 tablets
1,351-2,500 tablets	PHP99,100 + PHP40/tablet in excess of 1,351 tablets
2,501-6,700 tabs	PHP145,100 + PHP30/tablet in excess of 2,501 tablets
6,701-25,000 tabs	PHP271,100 + PHP20/tablet in excess of 6,701 tablets
25,001-67,500 tabs	PHP638,000 + PHP10/tablet n excess of 25,001 tablets

67,501-135,000 tabs tablets	PHP1,063,850 + PHP5/tablet in excess of 67,501
135,001-275,000 tabs excess of 135,001	PHP1,400,500 + PHP2,500/1,350 tabs in tablets
275,001-650,000 tabs excess of 276,001	PHP1,659,800 + PHP2,000/1,350 tabs in tablets
More than 651,000 tabs	PHP2.2M

C. Confiscated/Recovered Marijuana Hashish, Seeds

Ten percent of the value of the confiscated or recovered crops and its derivatives up to a maximum of PHP500,000 shall be given to the Tagamasid/informants who gave information, provided that the cultivator/planter is arrested.

D. Confiscated/Recovered Diverted Products

Ten percent of the current local market value as determined by the Dangerous Drugs Board up to a maximum of PHP500,000 shall be given as reward when Ephedrine, Acethylantranilic Acid, Ergometrine, Laosofrole, Lysergic Acid, 3-4 methelenedioxyphenil-2propanone, 1-phenyl-2-propane, Piperonal, and Safrole are confiscated, provided the owner/peddler of the chemicals is arrested.

E. Dismantling of Clandestine Laboratories

For purposes of this project, clandestine laboratories are classified according to size of production as follows and as certified by the Dangerous Drugs Board-assigned crime laboratory for the purpose:

1. Small Laboratory (with production capacity of less than 10 kgs/batch)
PHP500,000 + computed rewards under RA 9165, section 11, parasa,b,c
2. Medium laboratory (with production capacity of 10–50 kgs/batch)
PHP1,000,000 + computed reward under RA 9165, section 11 parasa,b,c
3. Large laboratory (with production capacity of more than 50 kgs/batch)
PHP1,500,000 + computed reward under RA 9165, section 11, parasa,b,c

Anyone (except members of PDEA, DDB, PNP, NBI, or any government agency exercising enforcement, including their relatives up to the fourth degree of consanguinity and affinity) who can provide information that shall result in the confiscation, recovery, or destruction of dangerous drugs, precursor chemicals, clandestine laboratories for illegal drugs, and marijuana plantations, including the arrest of pushers are eligible to become

informants or Tagamasid in this project. They are entitled to receive commensurate rewards in accordance to the Schedule of Rewards.

The image shows a sample of the Information Report Form (IRF) for Tagamasid ng Pasig. The form is titled "Information Report Form (IRF)" and "Tagamasid ng Pasig". It includes fields for "AND & BROT", "LUGAR", and "KALAMAG PANGAYON". The form also features the Pasig City logo, the text "Maramat sa Maramat", and contact information for "Labanan sa DRUGS" with a hotline number 09088621142.

A potential Tagamasid/Informant shall fill up an Information Reporting Form (IRF), which he/she will submit (through fax, e-mail, or in person) to the person-in-charge at the Anti-Drugs Abuse Council of Pasig (ADCOP), who in turn, will give him/her a code name for the purpose of the project. Follow-up on action made and results concerning the submitted reports can be made through phone, fax, e-mail, or in person using the Tagamasid/informant's assigned code name.

Rewards are given upon confirmation of the confiscation/recovery or destruction of the illegal drugs, etc. and a case has been filed against the pusher, planter, or owner. The filing of the city prosecutor or any appropriate legal officer of the proper case in the trial court shall authorize the grant of the reward.

Information Report Forms are widely disseminated within the city together with announcement flyers for the Tagamasid ng Pasig Project.

The ADCOP under the Office of the Mayor serves as the secretariat of the project, assisted by the Legal Office and the Finance Unit of the Pasig City government.

The ADCOP submits regular quarterly reports on the performance and accomplishments of the project to the Office of the City Mayor and the Sangguniang Panlungsod through the Committee on Minors and Drug Prevention.

Health Treatment and Rehabilitation

By virtue of section 74 and 75 of RA 9165, the city government agreed to oblige on the following agreements with the Department of Health Treatment and Rehabilitation Center:

- Through the ADCOP, and/or any authorized representative thereof, the city may issue a letter of recommendation/endorsement in favor of the patient, but only after the latter has complied with the necessary requirements;
- Receive documents, such as court orders, drug dependency evaluation reports (DDEs), medical laboratory diagnostic results, and letters of recommendation/endorsement, from applicants and forward copies thereof to the DOH;
- Evaluate applications of patients who wish to avail of the program/s;
- Pay in full the corresponding Cost Sharing Fee of qualified indigent patients to cover their admission, treatment, and rehabilitation expenses, amounting to PHP4,500 per

patient upon entry, and the basic monthly dues amounting to PHP750 for a maximum of eight months, subject to adjustment of fees should it be deemed necessary for indigent second- timer patients only, based on Section 58 of RA 9165; and

- Furnish the DOH-TRC with the Waiver of Commitment signed by the patient or by his/her family. The waiver shall be proof that patient has voluntarily submitted himself/herself to treatment and rehabilitation.

The city government also initiated the SAGIP (Sumuko Ako sa Gabay Iwas-droga/Sumuko, Di Dapat Sukuan) Program, which provides holistic intervention for the transformation of drug abusers who voluntarily surrendered themselves for treatment and rehabilitation.

The program consists of the following interventions:

- Individual Group Counseling
- Family Enrichment/Enhancement
- Community Support System
- Moral and Spiritual Intervention
- Skills Training/Livelihood/Job Placement Program

Future Program: Establishment/construction of drug rehabilitation facilities to make the anti-illegal drug campaign more effective and sustainable.

Other Activities:

- Campus tour for kids dubbed as “Batang MAE Talino, Hindi Papatalo sa Droga,” which targeted 26 elementary schools (with 150 students, both from public and private)
- “Barkada Kontra Droga,” which targeted 22 secondary public and private schools
- Forum on Heightened Citywide Anti-Illegal Drugs Campaign in 30 barangays (divided in six quadrants)

Programs and Activities for the Surrenderers

I. Physical Activities

- a. Zumba
- b. Takbo Laban sa Droga
- c. Palarong Pinoy Laban sa Droga

II. Community Services

- a. Urban gardening
- b. Tree planting
- c. Declogging of drainages
- d. Street painting
- e. Clean-up drive

III. Value-Enhancement Activities

- a. Transformation Seminar
- b. Lectures on identity crisis
- c. Testimonials from former DD
- e. Attending Mass
 - f. Cruzada Against DRUGs
 - g. Retreat

IV. Skills and Livelihood Training

V. Family Integration and Counseling

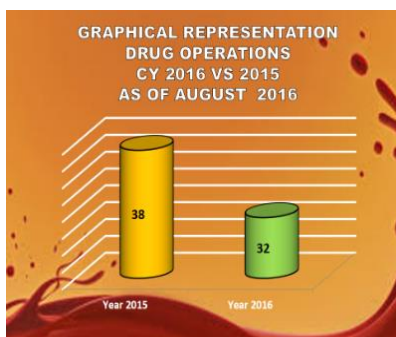
VI. Medical Evaluation/Treatment Services and Referral

DILG CONTRIBUTIONS

- Advocacy/information to barangay officials to support the project and cooperate with the city government through the ADCOP and the DILG Pasig City Field Office.
- Provided technical assistance in policymaking and in the conduct of activities.
- Advised barangays, specifically the BADAC, to use the Tagamasid Hotline Number as a means of reporting drug-related activities.

PROJECT RESULT/IMPACT

According to the local Philippine National Police, human sources are vitally important in the fight against illegal drugs. Informants could provide critical intelligence and information they cannot obtain by other means.



As shown in the graphical presentation, for this year, anti-drug operations heightened due to the positive response of the community to the project. More surrenderers have been identified because the public have shown strong cooperation and concern by informing proper authorities on drug users/pushers and their illegal drug-related activities. More residents are now aware of the consequences of the use of illegal drugs.

Also, the establishment of a hotline proved to be a very effective means to report drug-related activities. At present, the city government, through the Management Information System (MIS), in coordination with the ADCOP, PNP, and DDB, is establishing a database of all identified drug surrenderers/personalities in the 30 barangays, stating therein their personal information and drug-related activities.

LESSONS LEARNED

Drug abuse or the use of anti-illegal drugs is one of the major problems facing the Philippines.

The health and social consequences of drug abuse is a cause of great concern to the government, as it affects not only the individual who abuses, but also family and friends, as well as the wider community and society.

Legislative action through the passage of an ordinance proved that the city government is serious in the fight against illegal drugs. The ordinance is a clinch to the continuity of the project to meet its desired objectives.

The Tagamasid Project is one very real example of what cooperation between the government and the community can produce. Considering what the people in the grassroots can do benefits the community and makes the city a better, safer, and more peaceful and orderly place.

I find the Tagamasid Project a necessary call to the young people to pursue their dreams and live a good life, but also an appropriate response to those whose lives have been wasted for so many years because of their captivity in the use of illegal drugs.

MAGMASID

