

“Radiating positivity, creating connectivity”

CEBU BUSINESS WEEK

April 3, 2020

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SPECIAL EDITION

3 MONTHS OF HOME STAY?

Wear face masks, social distancing, wash hands: Alegado

The community quarantine might last three months as Consolacion Mayor Joannes “Joyjoy” Pepito Alegado urged Cebuanos to stay at home and follow the health protocol so we could survive in these trying times.

“We are undergoing an abnormal time in human history. We can even call it a desperate time because of the pandemic, affecting several countries worldwide. Thousands of people have died worldwide, and Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) is now in the Philippines,” Alegado said.

According to the mayor, the DOH confirmed 21 COVID-19 cases in Cebu City, two in Mandaue City, two in Lapu-Lapu City, one in Cordova and one in Consolacion. The virus transmission is rapid. One patient can transmit virus to two or four people in a few seconds especially in close contact.

“While it is true that

there is 80-90 percent recovery but the most pitiful are those most vulnerable, the people who have existing illness, senior citizens and children. If you are young and have contracted COVID-19 and survive, you will still suffer because you will not go back to your normal life as your lung has already collapsed. You cannot breathe normally, and you cannot run anymore as fast as you can,” Alegado said.

He also urged people to refrain from taking COVID-19 for granted by putting and posting jokes on social media. This is not a joke anymore.

Alegado, who is a doctor by profession, said it is now mandatory for everybody to wear face mask, wash hands, and observe social distancing and cleanliness at home.

The mayor said the Department of Health (DOH) projected that measures to eradicate Corona Virus Disease



MAYOR ALEGADO

(COVID-19) will last for at least three months. However, if everybody will cooperate, perhaps the problem can be solved within one to two months from now.

“The religiosity of the Filipinos plus following the measures set by DOH and the government to fight COVID-19 and the

solidarity and unity of all can easily guide us to survive and stand again,” Alegado said.

“This is now survival of humanity. If in the past, we saw animals in massive death because of animal plague, that is the situation that the people feel today. We feel like we are the smallest creature in this world. We are helpless without God. We will not survive if we will not work together,” Alegado said.

He said that the only person who was confirmed to be positive of COVID-19 in Consolacion is now recovering with the help of Regional Infection Surveillance Unit (RISU) of DOH.

On the social amelioration of P5,000 to P8,000 each from the National Government, Alegado said they will immediately coordinate with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

He said they have guidelines for it. Those who will qualify are

the displaced workers, indigent people, Persons with Disability (PWDs) and senior citizens among others.

“The government fund is not enough for all people so that we are practicing equity instead of equality. We have to prioritize those who are really in need. Those who can still afford to sustain their daily needs should understand if they will not be included,” Alegado said.

He said the amount of P200 billion is so small if applied to the entire Philippines. In fact, it is not a guarantee and all the names submitted by the Municipal Government will be accommodated.

“The National Government is asking us for the list. The Consolacion Municipal Government is now printing the forms to be distributed to the qualified people, then submit to DSWD. We have to do it rapidly,” Alegado said. *ELIAS BAQUERO*