

WHEREAS, Section 2.b of Republic Act No. 8042, or the Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipino Act of 1995, stresses that “the State shall afford the full protection to labor, local and overseas, organized and unorganized and promote full employment and equality of employment opportunities for all. It shall likewise provide adequate and timely social, economic and legal services to Filipino migrant workers”;

WHEREAS, although the Philippines has the most developed migration system in Asia, with policies and programmes designed to address the needs of migrating Filipinos from the departure to the return stages, returning workers have been of less concern to the Government over the years. For the longest time, the Philippine reintegration services were the weakest component in the Government’s overseas employment program;

WHEREAS, the Local Government Code of 1991 devolved the direct implementation of social welfare services to Local Government Units ensuring that the programs and services are satisfactorily been delivered to the constituents;

WHEREAS, the City of General Santos upholds and adheres to the best interest of the Migrant Workers who are bonafide residents of this city;

NOW, THEREFORE, on motion of City Councilor \_\_\_\_\_, duly seconded by City Councilor \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ be it –

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to enact the following Ordinance:

**SPPO NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING A MECHANISM FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE DELIVERY OF REINTEGRATION SERVICES OF DEPORTEES, REPATRIATES, AND RETURNED IRREGULAR OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS WHO ARE BONAFIDE RESIDENTS OF GENERAL SANTOS CITY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

---

---

**Hon. Lourdes F. Casabuena-Author/Sponsor**

---

---

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.** – This Ordinance shall be known as the OFW Reintegration Program.

**Section 2. Definition of Terms.**- As defined in this Ordinance, the following terms shall mean:

- a. *Overseas Filipino Workers* –Filipino citizens who are legally engaged or had been legally engaged in a compensated activity in a foreign country for a prescribed period.
- b. *Deportees* – are persons who were sent back to the country of origin due to unlawful presence in another country and are being provided with psycho-social services
- c. *Repatriates* - are persons who had been sent back to their country of birth, citizenship or allegiance country and are being provided with psycho-social services by the Department of Labor and Employment
- d. *Social Welfare Attaché* – a social worker on a diplomatic capacity attached to an embassy posted by the Philippine Government in selected areas of Asia

where there is a large concentration of distressed OFWs. As a member of the One Country Team, he/she is assigned to look after the needs and welfare of migrant Filipinos through the delivery of core social welfare services and the establishment of linkages with the host countries Social Welfare and other relevant offices.

- e. *Trafficking in Person* – refers to the recruitment, transportation, transfer or harboring, or receipt of persons with or without the victim's consent or knowledge, within or across national borders by means of threat or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or position, and taking advantage of the vulnerability of the person. This also pertains to the giving and receiving of payments or benefits in exchange of person's consent for the purpose of prostitution or other form of sexual exploitation, forced labor servitude, slavery, or the removal or sale of organs.
- f. *Irregular Overseas Filipino Workers*- A Filipino citizen who, without valid documentations (i.e. invalid/expired visa, residence or work permits and the like) engaged or has been engaged in a compensated activity in a foreign country.
- g. *Poverty Threshold* – the minimum income/expenditure required for a family/individual to meet the basic food and non-food requirements.
- h. *Reintegration* – is a process focused on reuniting the deported irregular OFW with their family and community or integration in a new community. It includes package of measures towards restoring the victim's right, social status and health and help them regain their vital capacity for activities that were restricted due to some reasons. It includes measures on restoring/building friendly relations of the family, vocational training and employment, regaining the feeling of being full pledged members of society, feeling of self-respect and other ethnic personal interrelations
- i. *One stop Shop* – A specific place or area where all Filipino deportees, repatriates, and/or irregular OFW are provided with required services to expedite all documents necessary to facilitate their return to their families and communities.
- j. *Case Management* – is a procedure to plan, seek and monitors services from different social agencies and staff on behalf of the client. Usually one agency takes primary responsibility for the clients and assigns a case manager, who coordinates services advocates for the clients, and sometimes controls resources and purchase services for the clients.
- k. *Assistance to Individual Crisis Situation (AICS)* – this is a daily service/intervention of Emergency Assistance Program to be extended to a walk-in needy adult client who comes to the Office requesting for financial assistance for his/her immediate need such as food, medicines and transportation.

**SECTION 3. POLICY AND PURPOSE.** –It is hereby declared the policy of the City to institutionalize a mechanism that will implement the Comprehensive Delivery of Reintegration Program service for deportees, repatriates and irregular OFWs that shall enable the City and other stakeholders to provide a package of social and economic reintegration services for deportees, repatriates, and returned irregular Filipino workers who work overseas towards and improved quality of life. Towards this end it shall;

1. Increase the economic capacities of the deportees, repatriates and returned irregular OFWs through the provisions of livelihood and other support services.
2. Facilitate psychological healing and recovery and promote harmonious relationship among the family members through the provision of various

psychosocial services to deportees repatriates, and returned irregular OFWs and their families.

3. Promote Inter-agencies partnership for resource augmentation to respond to the needs of deportees, repatriates and irregular OFWs and their families through commitment setting, meetings and other related activities

**SECTION 4. SCOPE OF REINTEGRATION PROGRAM.** -The scope of Reintegration program includes the individual, family and the community.

**SECTION 5. COMPONENTS** .- The Reintegration program for deportees, repatriates, and irregular OFWs shall have the following components:

1. Advocacy and Social Preparation – involves the process of raising the awareness of the beneficiaries and the community of the services and information dissemination on the rights of migrant workers and on its illegal migration.
2. Technical Assistance and Capability Building of Implementers – involves conduct of training and continuous technical assistance for agency partners and service providers to ensure the effective delivery of services and the care and management of deportees, repatriates and irregular OFWs.
3. Networking and Resource Generation – involves tapping and maximizing local, national and international resources, linking with other agencies and organizations for resource mobilization and technical expertise.
4. Data Banking and Documentation- involves data banking and securing all pertinent information on migration, including the profile of the beneficiaries, services extended, GOs and NGOs involved.
5. Service Delivery-it involves the provision of psychosocial interventions, assistance, educational assistance and referral services in collaboration with other government and non-government agencies.
6. Monitoring and Evaluation –involves in the conduct of periodic monitoring and evaluation to ensure effectiveness of the strategy for the purpose of improving services delivery.

**SECTION 6. TARGET CLIENTELE.** – The target clientele of the Reintegration program shall be those who are bonafide residents of General Santos City:

1. Deportees
2. Repatriates
3. Irregular Overseas Filipino Workers all bonafide residents of General Santos City

**SECTION 7. MECHANISM THAT WILL IMPLEMENT THE COMPREHENSIVE DELIVERY OF REINTEGRATION SERVICES FOR DEPORTEES, REPATRIATES AND RETURNED IRREGULAR OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS** .- The City Social Welfare and Development Office of the City of General Santos shall be responsible for the implementation of the Reintegration program. The Social Workers will conduct assessment as well as clients' qualification for the appropriate services interventions based on case management to ensure efficient and effective delivery of quality services/project to our target clientele and shall have the following functions:

- a. Assist the client in the preparation of their resume for possible employment to be posted on the internet (e.g. Phil\_jobNet, jobsteet.com and others).
- b. Monitor status of the client's job applications and provide feedback to the client.

- c. Conduct assessment as to the client's eligibility for assistance and case management.
- d. Provide support services not limited to psychosocial interventions, AICS to clients based on assessed needs.
- e. Identify qualified deportees and irregular OFWs and facilitate referral to the clients based on assessed needs.
- f. Establish or designate a "One Stop Shop" where the LGUs can intensify awareness raising activities on the following : a) immigration laws and policies of different countries especially in countries with high cases of deportation/illegal migration; b) fate of many deportees over time to discourage people from migrating illegally; and c) efforts of the government to facilitate legalization of travel documents particularly on its role, processes adopted in legalizing travel documents, assistance provided to deportees, and applicants' role in the legalization process.
- g. Identify community/office work to be rendered by the beneficiaries and grantees of livelihood and scholarship assistance.
- h. Include in the annual investment plan for the implementation of the program.
- i. Attend inter-agency meetings.

**SECTION 8. OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS.-** The Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), Civil Society Organizations and other Service Providers are encouraged to coordinate and collaborate with the concerned national and local government agencies in the implementation of the Reintegration program for deportees, repatriates and returned irregular OFWs.

**SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION.-** The city government shall allocate funds to be under the City Social Welfare and Development Office for the implementation of this ordinance.

**SECTION 10. REPEALING CLAUSE.-** Any Ordinance which is inconsistent or contrary to the provisions of this Ordinance shall be deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

**SECTION 11. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.-** If for any reason a provision of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional, all other provisions hereof not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**SECTION 12. Effectivity.-** This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a local newspaper of general circulation in the city.

Prepared by: Annalyn F. Belonio  
LLSA III

Reviewed by: Rosalinda L. Mondido  
Division Chief, LSD

Approved by: Hon. Lourdes F. Casabuena  
Chairperson, Committee on Public Affairs and Information  
Chairperson, Committee on Labor and Overseas Employment