

## PRO IVA conducts SHInES for Local Chief Executives

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## Be champions of change.

his was the call to action for the local chief executives (LCEs) and their representatives who attended the Social Health Insurance Education Series (SHInES) in the Provinces of Laguna and Quezon.

Five LCEs attended, namely: Panukulan Mayor Alfred Rigor Mitra and Perez Mayor Charizze Marie Escalona from Quezon Province; while attendees from Laguna Province were Majayjay Mayor Romeo Amorado, Paete Mayor Ronald Cosico and Nagcarlan Mayor Elmor Vita together with other representatives of the different cities/ municipalities from the two provinces.

SHInES is a continuing campaign of PhilHealth to spread awareness on the benefits, programs, and services of the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP) among its members and stakeholders. This also intends to educate participants on their roles and responsibilities as catalysts of the NHIP and in the effective delivery of health services. The local chief executive attendees have expressed their commitment to PhilHealth programs with their heart-warming messages of support.

Majayjay Mayor Romeo Amorado emphasized in his message that as LCEs, they need to "encourage (our) constituents to enroll as PhilHealth member not with the intention to avail of their benefits but to help others in their hospitalization needs. Huwag na nating isipin na gamitin ang ating PhilHealth, bagkus ay nakakatulong ang ating premium na naibabayad sa mas nakararaming mas nangangailangan".

Meanwhile Paete Mayor Ronald Cosico championed health in his LGU as he wants to focus on health program during his term. "Panahon na para maging una at priority ang pondo para sa health. Nabigla tayo sa pandemya, hindi alam ang gagawin. Pero kung tayo ay handa at tututukan natin ito, hindi tayo matatakot. At sana'y ito ang binibigyan ng pansin ng ating mga kasamahang local chief executives."

Banner photo: SHINES for LCEs in Laguna at Palmeras Garden Resort, San Pablo City



Participants during the conduct of SHInES in Quezon

He expounded that when he was a councilor and then administrator of Paete LGU, they were getting capitation from PhilHealth which they used to sustain the medicines they were providing to their constituents. But with the PhilHealth Konsulta, Filipinos can be assured of preventive services in the accredited RHUs in Paete. He ended his message with a call on PhilHealth's support to help them explain the program to their constituents.

Likewise, Panukulan, Quezon Mayor Alfred Rigor Mitra stressed that health is a priority program in their LGU. He thanked PhilHealth for its program, underlining his hope for a healthy Quezon. He said, *"kapag maganda ang kalusugan, productive ang lahat"*.

Accredited PhilHealth Konsulta Providers with the highest number of first patient encounters were also recognized during the forum. Certificates of appreciation were awarded to Calamba City Health Office (Brgy Punta), Calamba City Health Office (Brgy 7) and Rural Health Unit Pagbilao (Sentrong Pangkalusugan) for their outstanding performance.

The SHInES for LCEs aims to educate and empower them about UHC, PhilHealth and the NHIP. This was also a chance to provide them with information on new and enhanced PhilHealth benefits, membership programs, PhilHealth Konsulta updates and benefits utilization per LGU. Likewise, a detailed presentation on health care financing and how PhilHealth shares in the financing of health services were provided. The



Registration of participants during the conduct of SHInES in Quezon

orientation also served as venue to emphasize the roles of the mayors in health service delivery.

The concept of PhilHealth SHInES came about as a response to the call for universal health care coverage towards making every Filipino an advocate of social health insurance (SHI). This is the first step towards inculcating awareness, appreciation and understanding of the role that SHI plays in the lives of Filipinos. ###



