PRESENT:

HON. EDWIN G. GAWARAN ............................... Councilor/Acting Presiding Officer
HON. AVELINO B. SOLIS .................................... Councilor
HON. REYNALDO M. FABIAN ................................ Councilor
HON. VENUS D. DE CASTRO ................................. Councilor
HON. JANAIRO C. SAN MIGUEL ............................. Councilor
HON. REYNALDO D. PALABRICA .......................... Councilor
HON. JAIME A. SAPANGHILA ............................... Councilor
HON. BAYANI M. DE LEON ................................. Councilor
HON. CATHERINE S. EVARISTO ........................... Councilor
(HBC-Pres.)
HON. MA. ELIZA H. BAUTISTA ............................ Councilor
(SKF-Pres.)

ON LEAVE:

HON. ROSETTE M. FERNANDO .............................. City Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

By unanimous vote of the members present in regular session assembled acting with a quorum throughout, the following City Ordinance was enacted:

CITY ORDINANCE NO. 35
Series of 2012

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE POVERTY ALLEVIATION PROGRAM OF THE CITY OF BACOOR AND PROVIDING FUNDS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF VARIOUS ANTI-POVERTY PROGRAMS.

Sponsored by: Hon. Catherine Sarino-Evaristo and Hon. Ma. Eliza H. Bautista

WHEREAS, local government units, through their local development councils, are mandated under Republic Act No. 8425 (also known as the “Social Reform and Poverty Alleviation Act”) to formulate, implement, monitor and evaluate the National Anti-Poverty Agenda in their respective jurisdictions;

WHEREAS, DILG Memorandum Circular Nos. 2001-109 enjoins all Local Chief Executives (LCEs) to undertake local programs on poverty reduction and local transformation while Memorandum Circular No. 2001- 172 specified guidelines on poverty reduction program for local governments.

WHEREAS, the City Government has a legal and moral obligation to

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2012 Anti-Poverty Ordinance of Bacoor City
identify its poverty-stricken constituents and design programs that will alleviate their situation in life;

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod that:

Section 1. Short Title. — This Ordinance shall also be known as the “2012 Anti-Poverty Ordinance of Bacoor City.”

Section 2. Definition of Terms. — As used in this Ordinance, the following terms shall mean:

(a) “Absolute poverty” — Refers to the condition of the household below the food threshold level;

(b) “Artisanal fisherfolk” — Refers to municipal, small scale or subsistence fishermen who use fishing gear which do not require boats or which only require boats below three (3) tons;

(c) “Basic sectors” — Refer to the disadvantaged sectors of Philippine society, namely: farmer-peasant, artisanal fisherfolk, workers in the formal sector and migrant workers, workers in the informal sector, indigenous peoples and cultural communities, women, differently-abled persons, senior citizens, victims of calamities and disasters, youth and students, children, and urban poor;

(d) "Capability building" — Refers to the process of enhancing the viability and sustainability of microfinance institutions through activities that include training in microfinance technologies, upgrading of accounting and auditing systems, technical assistance for the installation or improvement of management information systems, monitoring of loans and other related activities. The term capability building shall in no way refer to the provision of equity investments, seed funding, partnership’s seed funds, equity participation, start-up funds or any such activity that connotes the infusion of capital or funds from the government or from the people’s development trust fund to microfinance institution as defined in this Act. Capability building precludes the grant of any loan or equity funds to the microfinance institution;

(e) "Collateral-free arrangement" — A financial arrangement wherein a loan is contracted by the debtor without the conventional loan security of a real estate or chattel mortgage in favor of the creditor. In lieu of these conventional securities, alternative arrangements to secure the loans and ensure repayment are offered and accepted;

(f) “Cooperative” — Refers to a duly registered association of at least fifteen (15) persons, majority of which are poor, having a common bond of interest, who voluntarily join together to achieve a lawful common social and economic end. It is organized by the members who equitably contribute the required share capital and accept a fair share of the risks and benefits of their undertaking in accordance with the universally accepted corporate principles and practices;

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(g) "Group character loan" — A loan contracted by a member and guaranteed by a group of persons for its repayment. The creditor can collect from any of the members of the group which guaranteed the said loan, without prejudice to the right of reimbursement of the member or members of the group who had advanced the payment in favor of the actual debtor;

(h) "Human development index" — Refers to the measure of how well a country has performed, based on social indicators of people’s ability to lead a long and healthy life, to acquire knowledge and skills, and to have access to the resources needed to afford a decent standard of living. This index looks at a minimum of three outcomes of development: the state of health (measured by life expectancy at birth), the level of knowledge and skill (measured by a weighted average of adult literacy and enrollment rates), and the level of real income per capita, adjusted for poverty considerations;

(i) "Indigenous cultural communities/ indigenous peoples" — As defined in Republic Act No. 8371, otherwise known as "The Indigenous Peoples Rights Act of 1997";

(j) "Micro-enterprise" — Any economic enterprise with a capital of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Pesos (P150,000.00) and below. This amount is subject to periodic determination of the Department of Trade and Industry to reflect economic changes;

(k) "Microfinance" — A credit and savings mobilization program exclusively for the poor to improve the asset base of households and expand the access to savings of the poor. It involves the use of viable alternative credit schemes and savings programs including the extension of small loans, simplified loan application procedures, group character loans, collateral-free arrangements, alternative loan repayments, minimum requirements for savings, and small denominations savers' instruments;

(l) "Migrant workers" — As defined in Republic Act No. 8042, otherwise known as the "Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipino Act of 1995";

(m) "Minimum basic needs" — Refers to the needs of a Filipino family pertaining to survival (food and nutrition; health; water and sanitation; clothing), security (shelter; peace and order; public safety; income and livelihood) and enabling (basic education and literacy; participation in community development; family and psycho-social care);

(n) "Non-government organizations" — Refers to duly registered non-stock, non-profit organizations focusing on the upliftment of the basic or disadvantaged sectors of society by providing advocacy, training, community organizing, research, access to resources, and other similar activities;

(o) "People's organization" — Refers to a self-help group belonging to the
basic sectors and/or disadvantaged groups composed of members having a common bond of interest who voluntarily join together to achieve a lawful common social or economic end;

(p) "Poor" – Refers to individuals and families whose income fall below the poverty threshold as defined by the National Economic and Development Authority and/or cannot afford in a sustained manner to provide their minimum basic needs of food, health, education, housing and other essential amenities of life;

(q) "Poverty alleviation" – Refers to the reduction of absolute poverty and relative poverty;

(r) "Relative poverty" – Refers to the gap between the rich and the poor;

(s) "Small Savers Instrument (SSI)" – Refers to an evidence of indebtedness of the Government of the Republic of the Philippines which shall be in small denominations and sold at a discount from its redemption value, payable to bearer and redeemable on demand according to a schedule printed on the instrument, with a discount lower than the full stated rate if not held to maturity. The resources generated under this scheme shall be used primarily for micro-credit for the poor. SSIs are not eligible as legal reserve of banks and legal reserves prescribed of insurance companies operating in the Philippines;

(t) "Social reform" – Refers to the continuing process of addressing the basic inequities in Filipino society through a systematic, unified and coordinated delivery of socioeconomic programs or packages;

(u) "Urban poor" – Refers to individuals or families residing in urban centers and urbanizing areas whose income or combined household income falls below the poverty threshold as defined by the National Economic and Development Authority and/or cannot afford in a sustained manner to provide their minimum basic needs of food, health, education, housing and other essential amenities of life;

(v) "Workers in the formal sector" – Refers to workers in registered business enterprises who sell their services in exchange for wages and other forms of compensation;

(w) "Workers in the informal sector" – Refers to poor individuals who operate businesses that are very small in scale and are not registered with any national government agency, and to the workers in such enterprises who sell their services in exchange for subsistence level wages or other forms of compensation; and

(x) "Youth" – Refers to persons fifteen (15) to thirty (30) years old.

Section 3. Coverage. – This ordinance shall benefit: (a) all individuals and families residing in the City of Bacoor whose income fall below the poverty threshold as defined by the National Economic and Development Authority.
Authority (NEDA) and/or cannot afford in a sustained manner to provide their minimum basic needs of food, health, education, housing and other essential amenities of life, and (b) to individuals or families residing the City of Bacoor whose income or combined household income falls below the poverty threshold as defined by the NEDA and/or cannot afford in a sustained manner to provide their minimum basic needs of food, health, education, housing and other essential amenities of life who are more commonly referred to as the “urban poor”.

Section 4. Poverty Registry. – Within one (1) year after the date of effectivity of this Ordinance, the City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO) in coordination with the Family Care Institute of Bacoor, the Population Control Office, and all the barangays of the City shall submit to the City Mayor and the Sangguniang Panlungsod a complete list of the names, birthdates, addresses and other demographic data of all the persons subject of Section 3 hereof. The said list shall be known as the “Poverty Registry” and shall serve as a basis of all the projects and programs to be launched by the City Government by virtue hereof.

The data included in the Poverty Registry shall be posted in the official website of the City of Bacoor and shall be subject to validation by the Office of the City Mayor in coordination with the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC), the Sangguniang Panlungsod, and by various accredited NGO’s operating within the City. The said validation process shall be done within six (6) months after the submission of the Poverty Registry. After the lapse of the validation period, the Poverty Registry shall be deemed complete and may only be revalidated once every two (2) years following the date of effectivity of this Ordinance.

Section 5. Statement of Policy. – The City Government believes that the poor must be given every opportunity to better their lot with dignity and compassion; that receiving handouts is not a substitute to hard work; that the poor should not be used as political pawns but as vital tools for progress; and that it is the moral responsibility of the City Government to ensure that extreme poverty is eradicated in its midst within ten (10) years from the date of effectivity of this Ordinance because a community cannot be deemed truly progressive if a substantial portion of its populace is mired in poverty.

Section 6. Program Guidelines. - The various programs and projects to be implemented by virtue of this Ordinance shall be guided by the following principles:

i. Every poverty alleviation program, project or activity to be launched by the City Government must aim to significantly reduce the number of barangay residents living in

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poverty and the number of barangay residents who suffer from hunger;

ii. The programs/projects/activities mentioned above must include a validation mechanism to be done by independent third parties from the private sector to ensure that their implementation was transparent, effective, and sustainable;

iii. The said programs/projects/activities shall aim to promote the poor’s: (a) over-all health, (b) access to affordable yet nutritious food, (c) access to clean and safe water, (d) access to decent housing with sufficient sanitation facilities, (e) economic condition by providing them dignified work or sources of income, (f) access to basic education, functional literacy, and family care; and

iv. As far as practicable, the said programs/projects/activities shall also take into account the eight (8) United Nations Millennium Development Goals to which the Philippines is a signatory, specifically: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; achieve universal primary education; promote gender equality and empower women; reduce child mortality; improve maternal health; combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases; ensure environmental sustainability; and develop a global partnership for development.

Section 7. Primary Implementing Agency. – The City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO) is hereby designated to be the City’s primary implementing arm in all matters relative to poverty alleviation. All other departments or units of the City Government that may be authorized by law or ordinance to undertake poverty alleviation programs shall coordinate their activities with the CSWDO in order to prevent the duplication of efforts and the waste of valuable government resources.

As such the CSWDO shall:

i. Within three (3) months after this Ordinance shall have taken effect, prepare the general rules and guidelines implementing the provisions of this Ordinance and submit the same to the Sangguniang Panlungsod for its review and approval;

ii. Design and prepare anti-poverty programs, projects, and related activities for the City to carry out pursuant to the provisions of this Ordinance subject to the approval of the City Mayor and the availability of funds;

iii. Coordinate/work with different Government Organizations (GOs), non-government organizations (NGOs) and People’s Organizations (POs) in the pursuit of anti-poverty programs;

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iv. Exercise such other functions expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as functions necessary, appropriate, or incidental to the efficient and effective implementation of the provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 8. Funds. – Within one (1) year after this Ordinance shall have taken effect, the City Mayor shall propose the necessary appropriation of funds to be used in the implementation of City’s poverty alleviation programs depending on the actual costs of these programs, such to be taken from the general fund, subject to the approval of the Sangguniang Panlungsod. The City Government is hereby authorized to accept funds coming from other GOS and NGOs to be used in the implementation of anti-poverty programs, projects and related activities, subject to the proper government accounting and auditing procedures.

Section 9. Priority Projects. - The following projects and programs shall be given priority by the CSWDO in coordination with various government agencies and subject to pertinent laws and regulations pertaining to their implementation:

a) Micro enterprises and microfinancing projects including the availment by the poor of small savers instruments, group character loans, and collateral free arrangements;

b) Capability building of existing cooperatives;

c) Organization of communities into cooperatives;

d) Food-for-work programs;

e) Feeding programs for malnourished children;

f) Tutoring and apprenticeship programs for the out-of-school youth;

g) Installation of community toilets and laundry areas in economically depressed areas without access to water; and

h) Installation of community gardens where the poor can grow their own food.

Section 10. Separability Clause. – If, for any reason or reasons, any part or provision of this Ordinance shall be held to be unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 11. Repealing Clause. – The provisions of all subsisting local enactments, resolutions, executive orders, memoranda, circulars, and other issuances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
CITY OF BACOOR
Office of the Sangguniang Panlungsod

Section 12. Effectivity Clause. – This Ordinance shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in any local newspaper of general circulation.

ENACTED by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Bacoor, Province of Cavite this 5th day of November 2012.

I hereby certify that the foregoing City Ordinance is true and correct and that the same was duly approved in accordance with law.

Certified by:
HON. EDWIN G. GAWARAN
City Councilor/Acting Presiding Officer

Attested by:
ATTY. KHALID A. ATEGA JR.
Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod

Approved by:
HON. STRIKE B. REVILLA
City Mayor

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