



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Manila

July 5, 1996

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
No. 23-A s. 1996

**SUBJECT : GUIDELINES ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND ESTABLISHMENT OF
BOTICA NG BARANGAY (BNB)**

I. THE BOTICA NG BARANGAY (BnB) PROGRAM

A. GOAL

To promote equity in health by ensuring the availability and accessibility of affordable, safe, and effective, quality essential drugs to all, with priority for marginalized, underserved, critical and hard to reach areas.

B. STATEMENT OF POLICY

The 1987 Philippine Constitution clearly mandates the right of every Filipino to health. The State, under Section II of Article XIII, shall adopt an "integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services acceptable to all the people at affordable cost". Under the Generics Law, it is the policy of the State to "ensure the adequate supply of drugs with generics name at the lowest possible cost". Under the principle of devolution, people's participation in local governance has been institutionalized. Empowerment and self-reliance maximize initiation of development by local people and full participation of the members of the community in all phases and aspects of development process. Cohesive communities link and collaborate together on an equitable basis towards the pursuit of community development.

In view of the above, the Botica ng Barangay (BnB) project essentially aims to rationalize the distribution of common drugs and medicines among intended beneficiaries i.e., indigents. Moreover, this shall serve as mechanism for the DOH to establish partnership with Local Government Units (LGUs) and Community Organizations. It shall also optimize involvement of the Barangay Health Workers addressing the health needs of the community. Recognizing, too the various successful efforts and approaches in establishing Botika sa Barangay as initiated by various sectors in the spirit of partnership among groups and organizations, the DOH shall also encourage all sectors to support the BnB particularly towards its sustainability, and in support of community health development.

C. CRITERIA FOR ESTABLISHING A BOTICA SA BARANGAY

The following are the criteria for the establishment of BnBs:

1. Managed or operated by an established community organization or cooperative which is duly recognized as a juridical body;
2. Service or operated area is barangay (one or more contiguous barangays) that is far flung, depressed, hard to reach area as defined in the Magna Carta for public Health Workers Implementing Rules and Regulations. Other areas which are far from and/or do not have any licensed drugstore may be considered;
3. Community-sourced funds at least 1/3 of the initial capital requirement;

4. Local Government unit/other government officials-sourced funds (e.g., Community Development Fund) at least 1/3 of the initial capital requirement;
5. Submission of a barangay resolution and a barangay socio-economic profile and health profile including a masterlist of indigents, if available;
6. Commitment from a licensed pharmacist to supervise BnB operation;
7. Identification and selection of at least 2 accredited Barangay Health Workers or Community Volunteer Health Workers trained as BnB Aides;
8. Availability of a BnB space.

D. NATURE OF DOH ASSISTANCE

The DOH, through the Regional Health Offices (RHOs), shall encourage and influence communities to establish BnBs in partnership with the LGUs. The DOH is therefore committed to provide the following services for the establishment and management of BnBs:

1. Capability-building assistance like community organizations, training on quality assurance, drug management, purchasing, storage and distribution and training for BnB Aides.
2. Information and educational materials on Essential Drugs (e.g., Philippines National Drug Formulary, etc.) and Rational /Use; Drug
3. Initial fund or “seed” money
4. Supplement fund as deemed necessary;
5. Development of a comprehensive BnB Operating Manual which will include topics on Organizational, Financial and Supply Management;
6. Additional Fund for travelling expense (TEV) of government pharmacist for supervision and monitoring;
7. Support for monitoring and researches;
8. Legislative support to include review of existing laws and drafting of laws in aid of BnB;
9. Methodology and procedures for supervision and monitoring of BnBs.

E. RESPONSIBILITIES OF RECIPIENTS OF BnBs

The duly recognized community organization or cooperative in charge of the BnB has the following responsibilities and accountabilities:

1. Adheres to Generics Law, Pharmacy Law, Bureau of Food and Drug and other related laws;
2. Ensures project implementation in accordance with the guidelines stipulated in the BnB Operating Manual;
3. Keeps and maintains separate accounts and subsidiary records for assistance received;
4. Submits financial and physical status reports to entities which are sources of funds;

5. Ensures that the community or their members be regularly informed of their financial and physical status;
6. Educates the community on the principle of rational drug use;
7. Markets only/Drug found in the list of Primary Medical Drugs under the Philippine National Drug Formulary.

F. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LGUs

LGUs, being primarily responsible for responding to basic health needs of the constituents, are highly encourage to:

1. Provide financial support to BnB i.e. initial seed money;
2. Monitor operation of BnBs based on DOH methodology and procedures
3. Participates in the review and formulation of policies;
4. Update masterlist of indigents on a periodic basis.

G. OTHER PARTNERS

The academic community and Non-government Organizations are encourage to be involved in research, capability building and drafting of policy and legislative agenda as sourcing of drug and funds for BnBs.

II. BnB APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR DOH ASSISTANCE

he DOH assistance in terms of initial fund or seed money shall be released by the RHOs the community organization or cooperative upon the latter's compliance of the following:

1. Criteria as stated in Section A above. Compliance to the criteria shall be assessed and approved by the Regional Community Health Policy Committee (RCHPC).
2. Submitted all properly accomplished applications forms as attached in Annex A.
3. The Local Health Board and/or the Regional Bureau of Food and Drug Inspector shall be responsible for the view of submitted documents as to completeness and veracity. It shall recommend appropriate action to the RCHPC which shall approve the release of grants to the community organizations.
4. Annex B shows the more detailed steps involved in the application process. As shown, the Memorandum of Agreement shall be prepared by the Local Government Unit/Non-government Unit or People's Organization as proponent and signed by and between the Proponent's authorized representative and the Regional Director.

Under this order, the Regional Health Office shall formulate specific guidelines consistent with the above guidelines and with the PHC Fund Release and Utilization Guidelines as revised.

(Sgd.) CARMENCITA N. REODICA, MD, MPH, CESO II
Secretary of Health

APPLICATION FORM FOR BnB ASSISTANCE

THE HONORABLE SECRETARY
Department of Health
San Lazaro Compound
Sta. Cruz, Manila

ATTENTION: The Chairperson
Regional CHPC

Through: The Regional LGU/NGO Unit

Sir/Madam:

In support of the Department of Health's policy of providing essential and safe drug accessible, applicable and always available to hard-to-reach depressed communities in the country, the undersigned, from _____
(Name of Organization)

whose business address is located at _____
(Address of Organization)

is submitting these accomplished application form and required attachments for possible assistance from the DOH that our organization which was duly established and registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and /or with the _____
_____ on _____ at will
(Name of other Govt. Accrediting Agency) (Date of Registration)
managed jointly with barangay _____, municipality of _____
who shall be beneficiaries and owners of their BnB.

Enclosed are the following:

- () Accomplished Form II
- () SEC registration, Articles of Inc. Constitution and By-Laws
- () Other government agency's registration
- () 2-Year Work and Financial Plan Report
- () Latest copy of Annual Report (Program/Project)
- () Latest copy of publication (if any)

Printed Name & Signature

Position Title

Date of Receipts: _____

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Vision/Goal: _____ _____ _____
Objective/Purpose: _____ _____ _____
Program Services/Activities: _____ _____ _____
Geographical Scope: _____ International _____ Nationwide _____ Local
Areas of Coverage: _____ _____ _____
No. and Type of Beneficiaries/Cientele/Partners: _____ _____ _____
Source of Fund: _____ _____ _____

Beneficiary Barangay Profile:

1. Short Description of Location and Population
2. Short Description of Health Status and Economic Situation

Record of Collaboration with DOH and/or Devolved Health Services Unit:

DOH/Devolved Health Services Unit	Project/Activity	Date	
		Start	End

BNB Counterpart Resources

Please indicate below the counterpart resources for the BnB in Barangay/Municipality resources/assistance that your organization may share with or that will be utilized for their BnB.

Source of Funds	Amount	% of Initial Fund	Contact Person
1. LGU			
2. DOH			
3. NGO			
4. COMMUNITY			
5. OTHER			
TOTAL			

BnB Asstnc. Form II Accomplished by:

Signature Over Printed Name

Position/Designation

DOH Asstnc. No. _____

Date of Approval: _____

Flowchart of the BnB Application Process

