

Mayor Beng Climaco yesterday distributed PhilHealth insurance renewal cards sponsored by the city government to 144 stakeholders of the Zamboanga City International Airport.

The beneficiaries form part of the total 8,857 recipients of the local government-sponsored health insurance program for this year. A total of P21 million has been allocated by the City Government for the program.

The PhilHealth beneficiaries yesterday included 24 tricycle drivers catering to air passengers, 65 Skycab cargo handlers and 49 employees of the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP), formerly Aviation Transportation Office (ATO), and 6 persons with disability (PWDs).

The distribution was done shortly after Mayor Climaco arrived from Manila at noon yesterday.

Last week, the lady chief executive also distributed PhilHealth cards to indigent residents in barangays Limpapa, Labuan and Sinubong in the west coast, through the barangay Councils concerned.

A month ago, the distribution was done in Manicahan in the east coast, also through the barangay Council. The distribution coincided with the conduct of the Dia del Alcalde.

Aside from indigents, other beneficiaries of the City Government-sponsored Philhealth program are barangay officials including tanods, barangay intelligence network and SCAA members, persons with disabilities, barangay nutrition scholars, members of the Rural Improvement Club, senior citizens, members of the urban poor groups, job order employees of the City Government, barangay nutrition scholars and TB Task Force members. New members are pregnant women, new barangay officials and those implementing the Security, Health and Education (SHE) program. — Vic Larato