

**Press Release
Department of Labor and Employment
Bureau of Working Conditions
31 January 2020**

BWC: BECAUSE WE CARE

Be a blood donor and be a hero!

This decade old slogan was emulated by the staff of the Bureau of Working Conditions staff when they heeded a call for four bags of blood for a female DOLE Administrative Service employee who was hospitalized in Tondo Medical Center.

Blood donation is a service to humankind. Six (6) employees of the Bureau didn't think twice to donate their blood to their co-employee. These six heroes are the following:

1. Elyza Belle Sanoza
2. Caselyn Anne Alota
3. Michelle Cruz
4. Cybelle Cortes
5. Jaime Agustin Jr
6. John Paul Austria

On hindsight, there is a need to strengthen the country's existing Blood Services Networks and improving the delivery of safe, adequate, accessible and affordable blood supply to health facilities. These are essential components in the healthcare delivery system. Further, the National Voluntary Blood Service Program NVBSP needs to fast-track, intensify and strengthen the implementation of Donor Recruitment, Retention and Care.

To institutionalize this, the BWC shall spearhead such activity in the DOLE in the near future. Incidentally, the following must be observed before an individual becomes a donor.

1. Donor's age must be between 18-60 years old.
2. Weight should be more than 45 kgs to be able to donate blood.

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