



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



ADVISORY 18 FILIPINOS STAND STRONG IN THE FACE OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles informs our *kababayans* in Southern California, Southern Nevada and Arizona that the Philippine government is extending all possible assistance to our *kababayans* abroad, prioritizing those left most vulnerable by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Philippines is battling the same crisis and has to direct precious, limited resources to those most in need. All sectors of Filipino society, dedicated women and men, toil fearlessly night and day to save as many lives as possible and to prevent further spread of the disease.

The Consulate General empathizes with those who have been greatly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic here and back home, those who lost loved ones, have been separated from their families, lost their jobs, are struggling to keep their business afloat and all the others who are in need of support and hope.

Back home the stakes are higher and tougher choices have to made.

Here in the southwestern United States, in the face of Social Distancing and as the country enters difficult weeks ahead, the Filipino *Bayanihan* spirit should be kept alive. The same *Bayanihan* spirit has us seen through many natural disasters and trials as a nation. The scourge of this new coronavirus should be no different. Overseas Filipinos should stand strong together in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic.

There is currently a deep philanthropic feeling among residents of southern California, including Filipinos and Filipino-Americans. Those who may want to help in one way or another may visit: californiavolunteers.ca.gov or covid19supplies.ca.gov.

The following counties have also appealed for help either in the form of volunteering or donations:

Los Angeles County: covid19.lacounty.gov/covid19-2/how-you-can-help

Riverside County: rivcoph.org/coronavirus

Ventura County: vcportal.ventura.org/covid19

San Bernardino County: publichealthsbc.org/covid19

Those who are staying safer and healthy at home can still help by simply reaching out to our kababayans who are in dire need of assistance. Sometimes just pointing someone in need in the right direction can make all the difference.

The local government has expanded its efforts to protect its residents amidst this crisis, regardless of nationality, political views gender or immigrations status. Many resources are readily available and may be at your fingertips without you even knowing it.

You want to be tested for CoVID-19 for free? Visit coronavirus.LACity.org/Testing

Are you a senior citizen and needs meals? Call: 1 (213) 482-7252

Unemployed and looking for state resources? Visit COVID19.CA.gov

Laid off or terminated from work? Visit LAJobsPortal.org for possible job opportunities that may lead you to start working immediately.

To file claims for unemployment insurance, worker's compensation, paid family leave benefits and other benefits caused by this pandemic visit edd.ca.gov. Workers, documented or undocumented, have employment rights. Know your rights by visiting legalaidatwork.org

Are you on the verge of eviction from your current home? You have the right to dispute such action and L.A. county offers solutions. Know your rights by visiting HCIDLA.LACity.org

No medical assistance? You may qualify for My Health LA program. It does not matter whether you are documented or undocumented. Visit dhs.lacounty.gov/MHLA or call: 1 (844) 744-6452 or the toll-free hotline: 1 (800) 5938222 to avail yourself of medical insurance.

Need someone to talk to? Call: 1 (800) 854-7771, which is the access line of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health.

Needs legal advice? Call: 1 (213) 974-0572; 1 (323) 939-0506 or the toll-free hotline: 1 (833) 9743073

Not comfortable speaking other language other than Pilipino? Do not hesitate to call. Dial 3-1-1 for language assistance

Need a face mask? Check out laprotects.org

For more information, please visit oia.lacounty.gov or Coronavirus.LACity.org/FAQ.

Let us continue to do our part and stay safer at home to limit the spread of the virus. END.