

Community Advisory Board (CAB) Conducts TB and HIV Lecture to Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs) at the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) GMA, Cavite

The **Community Advisory Board (CAB)** capped off the year by conducting a health education session on **Tuberculosis (TB)** and **Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)** to **Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs)** at the **Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) GMA, Cavite**.

The lecture was led by **Dr. Emmanuel Gutierrez**, Deputy Site Coordinator of **THINCR (TB-HIV Innovations and Clinical Research Foundation, Corp.)**. He discussed the basics of TB and HIV, including how these diseases are transmitted, their signs and symptoms, ways to prevent them, and the importance of early testing and completing treatment. The session also addressed common myths and helped reduce stigma, especially important in a jail setting where the risk of infection is higher.

Around **50 PDLs** attended the lecture, while **almost 70 PDLs** participated in the **free HIV screening** offered during the activity. The high turnout showed strong interest, with many inmates eager to know their health status.

The discussion was interactive, with PDLs actively asking questions and sharing their concerns. CAB members also emphasized that free testing and treatment services are available through government health programs and encouraged everyone to take charge of their health through regular screening.

Both BJMP staff and PDL participants welcomed the activity. This initiative highlights CAB's ongoing commitment to promoting health education, awareness, and support for vulnerable and underserved communities.



Dr. Emmanuel Gutierrez lecturing about TB and HIV



CAB Members doing the free HIV screening