

# AT YOUR SEPARATE OF A CONTRACT OF A CONTRACT

Keeping our CNMI community informed of government agencies and non-profit organizations' annual accomplishments in Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

A SAIPAN TRIBUNE SPECIAL ADVERTISING FEATURE

10 | 14 | 22

# **EDITOR'S NOTE**

odav's issue of Tribune Saipan comes with a special supplement called, "At Your Service," which we deemed necessary because some government agencies, autonomous agencies, or non-profit organizations need to update the public on what they have been doing that benefit the public's welfare.

Some government agencies are front and center when it comes to their public roles, like the Department of Finance or the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., so almost everyone knows the agency and have a fairly good inkling of what the agency is doing. Yet there are still aspects of their operation that could benefit from more exposure. Take the Public School System. The public is well aware of many of the accomplishments of PSS and their significant role in the public's lives, yet there are still many aspects of PSS that remain esoteric, like the role federal funding plays in its daily operation, staffing needs, its assets and

liabilities, etc. There are also some groups whose purpose cater to a niche demographic, like the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, or agencies that mostly operate behind the scenes, like the Office of the Attorney General, who must be more forthright with what they have accomplished in order for the public to be aware and gain an understanding of these agencies when it comes to their roles in helping the public good. It would be a gross mischaracterization to say that DPL is just all about public lands. There's also the homestead programs, the development

**MICRONESIAN LEGAL** 

SERVICES CORPORATION

of government-owned real estate, etc. Even the Marianas Visitors Authority, which is one of the more well-known government agencies, has some aspects of its operation that could benefit from some exposure. As for the Division of Youth Services, what does it actually do? These and more are questions that this supplement aims to shed light on and we hope this goal is accomplished somewhat.

Journalism has its own "sunshine policy" and it's all about transparency and open governance. This is because it is a basic tenet in journalism that a transparent government is an accountable government that is responsive to the needs of more people and will benefit more. We hope that this supplement lends itself to that illustrious principle.

**Jayvee Vallejera** Editor, Saipan Tribune

# PO What is the greatest satisfaction you get from vour job?

aipan Tribune did a survey on some of the longest-serving employees of some government agencies/nonprofit organizations and here are their responses:

# Name: Urbano Babauta

Position: Investigator III Years of service: 34 Years (since Aug. 28, 1988)

"The greatest thing(s) that I am satisfied with my job is not one thing but multiple things, like assisting assistant attorneys general, performing administrative and legal investigations but, most especially, assisting the attorney general. However, to narrow it down to one thing, it would be serving penal summons, witness summons, civil documents and other documents that need to be served. Serving legal documents are vital for the cases filed by the Office of the Attorney General in order for the cases to be finally adjudicated.



# Name: Bernice S. Maratita

Position: Administrative Officer II, Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr/ Sr. High School

Years of service: 33 years, 11 months "I think the greatest



my work is seeing our students happy, eager, and fearless in their effort to learn. The past few years have brought challenges and struggles at RHI, but l>ve witnessed first-hand how our kids are remarkably resilient and were able to overcome and adapt to the changing times. Overall, I am truly honored and just so grateful to know that, in some small way, my being here has impacted their learning experiences, accomplishments, and successes in school. They

pleasure I am gaining from

are the reason we serve and do everything we can to teach them, guide them, protect them, and love them just as if they were our own children."

# Who We Are

- A non-profit private law office established in 1970 serving the people of Micronesia
- Attorneys, trial counselors or paralegals, and secretaries in our service offices, with leadership, accountants and support staff in our Central (administrative) office
- Our Board of Directors comes from all of Micronesia, and currently includes as President, Robert Ruecho', and other members Jack Ading, John Mafel, Nena Ned, Marcelo Peterson, Harris Rain, Nace Soalablai, Robert T. Torres, and Joshua Walsh.

# **By The Numbers**

In 2021, we closed 4990 cases.

The top five categories of service in those closed cases were family matters including divorce. child support, and adoptions (1,121); powers of attorney (758); minor guardianships (562); name change (492; and wills and probate (397).

In 2021, we filed 899 new court cases.

Approximately 25% of our clients are aged 60 or older.

# **CONTACT US:**

Online at https://www.micronesianlegal.org/ **Or []** : Micronesian Legal Services Corporation C In the Marianas: 670-234-7729 / 670-234-6243

# Who We Serve

We serve low income people throughout Micronesia. We have offices in 4 countries!

- CNMI & Guam, USA
- Koror, Republic of Palau
- Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap, FSM
- Majuro & Ebeye, Republic of Marshall Islands

# **Our Mission**

Our mission is to promote equal access to justice and to provide high quality legal assistance to low income people. MLSC improves the lives of the people of Micronesia by helping them solve important legal problems and strengthens communities through advocacy.

# What We Do

MLSC offers free legal assistance to low income persons throughout Micronesia. We handle a wide variety of different kinds of cases that are important to our clients. (We don't handle traffic or criminal cases.)

# YOUTH AFFAIRS BUILDING THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW





The Youth Affairs Office under the CNMI Office of the Governor's purpose is to develop comprehensive development for our youth in the CNMI. We offer programs and services to the youth to assist them in developing their future. This is the Youth Affairs Office's most active year yet! We've been involved in numerous projects from reopening our youth centers, school field trips, collaborating with our partnering agencies, beach clean ups and so much more! However, our most successful project was our 2022 Governor's Summer Youth Employment Program. We would like to thank the Department of Youth Affairs in Guam for laying the foundation and inspiring us to commence this project here in the CNMI, as well as partnering government agencies and private establishments for assisting us in this launch. Lastly, we

would like to extend our utmost gratitude to Governor Torres for always supporting us in what we do and for playing a big role with this summer program.





OUTH

Hafa Adai DEPARTMENT OF

AFFAIRS

It was an honor to give

to be in the workforce.

our youth this opportunity to experience what it's like





HERE AT YOUTH AFFAIRS, WE BELIEVE THAT

**"EVERY CHILD** 

IS AN UNCUT

**DIAMOND.**"



NMPASI administers eight federally funded grant programs serving distinct populations of people with disabilities. NMPASI's services are available for qualified individuals with disabilities, who have present alleged rights violations such as, discrimination based on disability or experience barriers to accessing programs and/or services from the federal or local government, or private businesses. Services offered by NMPASI include:

- Information and referral
- Technical assistance
- Legal advice and/or litigation services
- Direct client representation
- Education and training

In Fiscal Year 2022, NMPASI provided direct services to 101 individuals and provided training about legal protections for people with disabilities to 631 people. Please see the services snapshot for detailed information about our case problem areas and demographics of individuals served.

This year, NMPASI received Public Health Work Force grant funding which has allowed us to hire staff members on the islands of Tinian and Rota. It is our goal to increase the access to our services to these traditionally underserved population by expanding our workforce to our neighboring islands. Please allow us to introduce our Intake Specialists.

### Pauline Manglona, Intake Specialist-Rota

Born and raised on Guam, Pauline has been residing on Rota for the past five years. She is married to an "old fashioned" gentleman from Rota and they have two wonderful children. Pauline and her spouse enjoy spending family time with teaching their children our Chamorro culture after making the big decision to move transitioning from their Guam lifestyle of strolling through the Micronesian Mall and watching at the Movie Theaters to a simple and safer lifestyle on Rota like going hunting,



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fishing, and raising livestock. Pauline's eldest child was diagnosed with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) at an early age and later also diagnosed Gastrointestinal Disease. Being a proud parent of a child with a disability is the main reason that she became interested in working for NMPASI, as she wants to help other parents build up their confidence and speak up for their children with disabilities. When asked about working for the community of Rota, Pauline says, "Honestly, I want to assist and help [individuals with disabilities] within my community that aren't able to speak up and want to be heard. I'm lending out my hand and especially my friendly smile to my community to trust me if they need someone to turn to. I want my community to know that NMPASI programs are here on Rota to assist them."

Rota residents seeking NMPASI services may schedule an appointment to meet with Pauline by calling her at (670) 287-9943 or by email at pmanglona@nmpasi.org.

### Jennielyn Cruz, Intake Specialist-Tinian

Born on Saipan and raised on Tinian, Jennielyn (Jen for short), is pursuing a degree in Early Childhood at Northern Marianas College. Jen counts cooking, listening to music, dancing, and singing as her hobbies along with spending quality time with her two children and her dudus chihuahua, Paris. She values her family, friends, and her community. Having experiences in interacting with students with disabilities and a desire to help her community "in way or another" brought her to NMPASI.



When asked about what interests her in working for NMPASI, Jen says, "my interest [in] working with NMPASI is protecting the rights of our people who have [problems with] accessibility around our community today and knowing that I am capable of making a positive impact in anyone's life."

Tinian residents seeking NMPASI services may schedule an appointment with Jen by calling her at (670) 287-9937 or by email at icruz@nmpasi.org.

The Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc, or NMPASI, is the CNMI's State Designated protection & advocacy system. Established in 1993, NMPASI is a private, non-profit organization that protects the rights of people with disabilities through legally based advocacy (representation, support, or help). NMPASI operates with the mission, "To protect the civil, legal, and human rights of individuals with disabilities".

### NMPASI 2022 SERVICES (BY PROGRAMS)

		CAP	PABSS	SPBSS	PAAT	PATB	PAIR	PAIMI	PADD	TOTALS
1. INFOR	MATION & REFERRALS	3	5	0	1	2	75	11	32	129
2. OUTRE	EACH ACTIVITIES	8	11	5	6	5	8	38	12	93
	# People Reached	750	1373	690	696	690	965	3300	1420	9884
3. TRAIN	ING ACTIVITIES	6	5	2	7	0	6	5	13	44
	# People Trained	107	73	10	70	0	53	61	257	631
4. WEBS	ITE HITS									210,765
5. INDIVI	DUAL CASES									
	Breach of Confidentiality	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
	Education	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	14	15
5	Employment	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	2	6
de	Programs & Services	6	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	11
en	Abuse/Neglect	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	2	16
Defended	Government Benefits	0	0	0	0	0	5	2	12	19
S S	Health Care	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	2	11
Rights	Insurance	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Riç	Housing	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
	Financial Exploitation	0	0	9	0	0	0	1	1	11
	Rights Violation	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
	Architectural Access	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	3
TOTAL P	EOPLE SERVED (1-5)	6	5	9	0	1	21	24	35	101

INDIVIDUAL CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS (BY PROGRAMS)										
HARAC	TERISTICS	CAP	PABSS	SPBSS	PAAT	PATBI	PAIR	PAIMI	PADD	TOTALS
	0-2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Age	3 - 4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Ă	Age 5-22	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	24	29
	Age 23-59	4	5	8	0	1	12	18	7	55
<u> </u>	60 +	0	0	0	0	0	9	3	3	15
Sex	Male	5	4	1	0	1	14	15	22	62
	Female	1	1	8	0	0	7	9	13	39
~	Caucasian	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	3	8
ji,	Asian	1	1	1	0	0	5	5	11	24
nic	Hispanic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ethnicity	Native American	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Pacific Islanders	5	3	8	0	1	14	17	21	69
	ADD/ADHD	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	7	8
	Autism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	7
	Blind	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	4
	Cancer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Cerebral Palsy	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Cognitive Impairment	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
	Deaf	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Developmental Delay	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	End Stage Renal Failure	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
	Environmental,									
ity	Chemical Sensitivity	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Disability	Epilepsy, Seizure	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sa	Hard of Hearing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
ia	Heart, Circulatory	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	1	1
	Learning Disability	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	5
	Mental IIIness, SED, ODD	0	2	1	0	0	0	24	5	32
	Muscular/Skeletal Impairment	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	4
	Neurological,									
	Org. Brain Syndrome	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	3
	Orthopedic Impairment	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	1	1
	Respiratory Impairment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Speech Impairment	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	ТВІ	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Visual Impairment	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	0	4
σ	Saipan	6	5	6	0	1	20	24	33	94
Island	Tinian	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	4
S	Rota	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2

NAME OF THE LONGEST SERVING EMPLOYEE: Greg Borja

NUMBER OF YEARS OF SERVICE: 20 years (May 2002)

WHAT IS YOUR POSITION: Executive Director

WHAT IS THE GREATEST SATISFACATION YOU GET FROM YOUR JOB? Giving someone a voice when they are unable to speak, gives me the greatest satisfaction in my job. By helping people with disabilities overcome obstacles in their lives by providing them the skills they may need to advocate on behalf of themselves or their family members is the goal of NMPASI, as "Independence Should be a Common Wealth."

For anything further, please feel free to contact the NMPASI Office at (670) 235-7273/4 [tel.] / 235-7275 [fax] / 287-0652 [text message] or contact us on-line at www.nmpasi.org.

\*NMPASI, a local non-profit organization, administers grant funds from the U.S. **Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)**/Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS)/Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD), and the Human Resources Services Administration (HRSA), the **U.S. Department of Education (DOE)**/Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), and the **Social Security Administration (SSA)**.

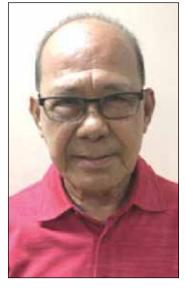
### From Page 12

# Name: Maria P. Muña

Years of service: 51 years Position: Paralegal, Micronesian Legal Services Corp. "[The greatest satisfaction I get from my job] is helping people."



### Name: Victorino Cepeda



Position: External Affairs, Northern Marianas **Technical Institute** Years of service: 14

vears "When I see a student enroll, take classes, then works in their skill they learned from our campus. That's the greatest satisfaction to me."

Continued on Page 25



- Multiple deployments for our Wildland Forestry Strike Team to
  - California to help battle the wildland fires.
- Completion of new EMS, Prevention, and Administration Offices etion of new DFEMS Command Center
  - Outreach at schools for Fire Prevention and showcasing the Fire trucks and ambulances.



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Office Location: Capitol Hill on the 1300 Block past the Capitol Hill Post Office and Department of Treasury 🕻 https://www.facebook.com/CNMIDFEMS 🛛 👩 @dfemscnmi670 In case of fire, call 911.

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services' mission is to protect the lives and property of the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands - both visitors and residents alike -

from fires, natural disasters, and hazardous material incidents by providing emergency medical services

as well as preventing fire through mitigation and education programs.



- ESTABLISHED A FINANCIAL AID OFFICE
- AGREEMENT WITH NMHC THAT PROVIDES IN-HOUSE SCHOLARSHIP FOR CONSTRUCTION TRADES CALLED THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
- MOU WITH DOC OUTREACH PROGRAM FOR PILOT PROGRAM WITH INMATES A COHORT OF 9 ELIGIBLE DETAINEES HAVE
- COMPLETED CORE FUNDAMENTALS
- MOU WITH THE NMC MARIANAS COLLEGE IN CELEBRATION OF APPRENTICESHIP
- SITE VISIT TO ROTA AND TINIAN TO CONNECT WITH MAYORS AND RESIDENT DIRECTORS OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, DOL, AND NMC TO EXPLORE OPTIONS IN EXPANDING
- PARTNER WITH ISLAND SUMMER AUTO FEST AND TEAM EXOTIC MINIS MARIANAS CHAPTER, WE DONATED SUPPLIES AND NON-PERISHABLE GOODS TO THE TONGA RELIEF DRIVE;
- MOU WITH PSS TO PROVIDE A "TRADING UP" DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
- OSHA-10 TRAINING COMPLETION FOR ALL NMTECH ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL AND OSHA-30 TRAINING CURRENTLY IN
- MOTION FOR ALL FACULTY AND MANAGEMENT;
- LAUNCH OF OUR NEW WEBSITE: WWW.NMTECHCNMI.ORG;
  - PACIFIC MINI GAMES PROJECT: BUILD A 15-FOOT LATTE STONE PILLAR, UMPIRE CHAIRS FOR TENNIS, MEDAL PODIUMS
  - CULINARY STUDENTS HAVE SUCCESSFULLY BEEN PLACED IN INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS WITH THE HOTELS AND SMALL BUSINESSES
- ESTABLISHED CLASSROOM, OFFICE AND STORAGE SPACE AT NMTECH TO HOUSE THE WESTERN PACIFIC MARITIME ACADEMY
- (WPMA) FOR US COAST GUARD APPROVED CURRICULUM
- REVISING LEGISLATION ON A CONTRACTORS LICENSING BOARD AND TO ESTABLISH A CNMI CHAPTER
  - WWW.NMTECHCNMI.ORG 670-235-6684



# **DYS SECTIONS**

**Office of the Administrator:** Supportive Services; Human Resource; Accounting; Grants; Data; Outreach

**Child Protective Services (CPS):** 24/7 Response on Child Abuse and Neglect Reports; Assessments and Monitoring; Case Management; Forensic Interviews; Linkages and Referrals; Supervision of Tinian and Rota CPS Cases; Emergency Shelter and Foster Care/Kinship Placements

**Emergency Shelter (ES):** Home away from home; temporary placement for children removed from home for protective custody; provide daily care, including meals; assist with school work/projects; provide transportation to and from school and appointments and coordinate and deliver shelter programs

**Juvenile Probation:** 24/7 Crisis Response to Juvenile Cases/Delinquency Reports; Monitoring of Court Ordered Conditions for Juveniles; Case Management; Rehabilitative Services at the Juvenile Detention; Linkages and Referrals and Supervise Tinian and Rota Juvenile Cases

Family & Youth Enhancement Program (F&YEP): Evidenced-Based Programs for youth & adults; Youth and Adult Support Groups; Education/Training; Employment; Housing; Volunteer Recruitment and Retention; Juvenile Detention Rehabilitative Services; Kagman Community Center; Tanapag Youth Center; Networking & Outreach Events

# CONTACT INFORMATION

Address: P.O. Box 501000, Saipan, MP 96950 DYS Website: http://dys.gov.mp DCCA Wesbite: http://dcca.gov.mp

Admin: (670) 237-1000 to 1004 Vivian T. Sablan, DYS Administrator Email: vsablan@dys.gov.mp

### CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES: (670) 237-1005 to 1014 Julian R. Camacho,

Child Protective Services Supervisor Email: jrcamacho@dys.gov.mp

JUVENILE PROBATION: (670) 237-1024 to 1030 Sylvio S. Ada, Juvenile Probation Supervisor Email: sada@dys.gov.mp

### FAMILY & YOUTH ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM:

Jennifer O. Tanaka, Family & Youth Enhancement Program Supervisor Email: jtanaka@dys.gov.mp • Tanapag Youth Center (670) 664-2599

Kagman Community Center (670) 237-1015 to 1019

# TINIAN DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES:

(670) 433-9272 Augusta F. King, Caseworker II Email: afamaw@dys.gov.mp

ROTA DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES: (670) 532-9393 Quindy Maratita, Caseworker II Email: qmmaratita@dys.gov.mp Mildred Sikebert, Caseworker I Email: mwsikebert@dys.gov.mp



**GET IN TOUCH** 

DYS TINIAN: 433-9393 of 287-3268 DYS ROTA: 532-9393 or 287-2553 DYS Website: http://www.dys.gov.mp DCCA Website: http://www.dcca.gov.mp







CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES	FY2020	FY2021	FY 2022
CHILD ABUSE CASE CASES	271	285	345
NUMBER OF VICTIMS	743	863	956
TYPES OF ALLEGATION			
PHYSICAL ABUSE	74	64	79
SEXUAL ABUSE	63	70	76
EMOTIONAL ABUSE	129	152	171
NEGLECT-GENERAL	89	158	173
OTHERS (SUPPORT SERVICES, TEEN PREG., Domestic Violence, minor sex trafficking, truancy, suicidal)	73	55	127
NEGLECT BREAKDOWN	EDUCATIO	DNAL	48
	EMOTION	AL	26
	MEDICAL		9
	PHYSICA	_	90
	TOTAL		173
SUPPORTIVE SERVICES BREAKDOWN		C VIOLENCE Hildren Are D	18
	DRUG RE	LATED	28
	SUICIDE		8
	TRUANCY	1	12
	TEEN PR	EGNANCY	8
		& BATTERY	1
	RUNAWA	-	2
	HOMELES		2
	CUSTODY		2
		S CHECK UP	2
	BEYOND		1
	REFERRA	L FOR SERVICES	5 43

JUVENILE PROBATION	FY2020	FY2021	FY 2022
NUMBER OF JUVENILES ON PROBATION	45	63	79
NUMBER OF INCARCERATED YOUTH SERVED	81	25	29
NUMBER OF YOUTH SERVED WITH THE PSS STUDENT			
ATTENDANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE (SARC)	46	88	119
EMERGENCY SHELTER PROGRAM	FY2020	FY2021	FY 2022
NUMBER OF CHILDREN SHELTERED	19	37	39
FOSTER CARE PROGRAM	FY2020	FY2021	FY 2022
NUMBER OF CHILDREN FOSTERED	31	34	9
NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN KINSHIP PLACEMENT	1	24	15
FAMILY & YOUTH ENHANCEMENT PROG.	FY2020	FY2021	FY 2022
NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS SERVED	469	511	1313
DYS ROTA	FY2020	FY2021	FY 2022
CHILD ABUSE CASE CASES			12
NUMBER OF VICTIMS			20
TYPES OF ALLEGATION			
PHYSICAL ABUSE			0
SEXUAL ABUSE			5 7
EMOTIONAL ABUSE			/ 8
NEGLECT-GENERAL Others (support services, teen preg.,			ŏ
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, MINOR SEX TRAFFICKING,			
TRUANCY, SUICIDAL)			16
INGANGI, SUIGIDAL/			10
		1	

CELEBRATING NATIONAL Parents' Day

Payless SuperFresh & Truckload Store

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth."

Ephesians 6:1-3





Triple J Corporate Office: Tel: +1(670) 234-1795 • Fax: +1(670) 234-7347 • corp@triplejsaipan.com • www.triplej.net

SURFRIDER Hertz dollar. TRIPLE I MOTORS

# **COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF MILITARY AFFAIRS**

### **ABOUT US**

With a vision for a strong and mutually beneficial collaboration between the CNMI and the U.S. Department of Defense that recognizes and preserves the cultural values of the people, Governor Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres established the Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs on July 19, 2019, through Executive Order 2019-09, with the overall objective to improve communication, coordination and response of the CNMI government to the United States Military, and to ensure the relationship between the military and the CNMI is one based on mutual respect and benefit.



Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Admiral John Aquilino, INDOPACOM Commander

The Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs, through its Executive Order mandate, serves as the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Central Clearinghouse of all communication. documents, and information between the Department of Defense (DoD), and its various departments and commands. In furthering its mandate, the Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs through the Special Assistant to the Governor for Military Affairs serves as the liaison between the DoD and the government of the CNMI and aids, assists, and coordinates the CNMI government in its engagements with the DoD.

The Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs is also mandated to establish and maintain the CNMI repository of all military and military-related records; to facilitate military integration into the Community; and to seek to promote economic opportunities and activities through engagement with the DoD creating stronger ties with the CNMI and its residents.

The Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs regularly monitors military related matters for the Governor and formulates plans and policies that create a comprehensive approach for coordinating programs and activities that result in an improved relationship between the CNMI and the U.S. Armed Forces.

### LEADERSHIP

**Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres** Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

**Glenna Sakisat Palacios** Special Assistant to the Governor for Military Affairs

SUPPORT TEAM Central Office **Tinian Satellite Office** Seven (7) Personnel Two (2) Personnel WHO WE ENGAGE WITH

### UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES

The U.S. Department of Defense Armed Forces (U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army) and various components assigned to the Indo-Pacific Theater), along with the Pentagon, the National Guard Bureau, the U.S. Coast Guard and relevant federal agencies and contractors.



In the Marianas, CBMA works in close collaboration with INDOPACOM LNO to the CNMI, Joint Region Marianas (JRM), U.S. Naval Forces Marianas, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas, 36th Wing Anderson Air Force Base, and Marines Corps Base Camp Blaz.



### **GOVERNMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**



Government departments, agencies, offices, other entities of the Executive Branch. heads of independent entities, government instrumentalities and government public corporations, the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, Mayors of each respective municipality, Office of the Attorney General, and the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

### WHO WE SERVE

CBMA supports the goals and vision for the entire CNMI population across Saipan, Tinian, Rota and the Northern Islands and serves a total population of over 50,000 residents and their desires for cooperation and benefits from military activities on their islands.









The Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs established protocols with CNMI Departments and Agencies and with the Department of Defense to streamline communication channels on all military related matters.

In partnership with the INDOPACIFIC Command and Joint Region Marianas, the Department of Defense Aircraft and Personnel Automated Clearance System was activated to centralize communication and military footprint flows via entry authorization protocol through the Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs.

### **CRITICAL COORDINATION HIGHLIGHTS**

The Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs planned and executed critical coordination activities ranging from Dignitary Visitors, pre-deployment site survey activities, natural resources survey activities, turtle survey activities, non-combatant training exercises with community members, to include taken on a lead role in CNMI-DOD MITT Technical Working Group, CNMI-DOD CJMT Technical Working Group, CNMI-DOD Divert Technical Working Group, FDM Summit, CNMI-DOD Chiget Range UXO Clean-up Technical Working Group, CNMI-DOD Industry Days and CNMI-FEMA Industry Days, to name a few.

### **REPOSITORY OF MILITARY RECORDS**

Established an internal repository of Department of Defense related resources and maintains a depository of resource library with more than 87,404 accessible records, to date.

Established a Land Analysis System to provide a centralized and secure data library for all GIS, CADD, and planning documents, including of geo-referenced, high-resolution aerial images of Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

### **MILITARY INTEGRATION**

To advance this mandate, the Commonwealth Bureau of Military formulated plans and policies that create a comprehensive approach for coordinating programs and activities that result in an improved relationship between the CNMI and the U.S. Armed Forces. Through its Community Relations Program, the Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs coordinated numerous government, non-profit and community relations activities with various military service components, to include military labor support on community projects.

Some of these activities include but not limited to beach and school campus cleanups, vegetation clearance at public roads, painting of public facilities, field activities with students, renovation of public facilities, sports activities with community members, non-combatant humanitarian exercises between military personnel and residents, successful coordination alongside Lady Diann Torres Foundation and CNMI government departments and agencies for the annual U.S. Marine Corps Activity Guam Toys for Tots Program, to include veterinary services at no cost to the community.

### MILITARY FOOTPRINT

As part of its mandate, CBMA regularly monitors military related matters for the Governor through its Clearinghouse and with active participations on military engagements throughout the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

Military Dignitary / Congressional and Federal Agency – Military Support Visits		Military Aircraft / Military on Commercial Footprint		
July 2019 - December 2019	10	July 2019 - December 2019	14	
January 2020 – December 2020	06	January 2020 - December 2020	28	
January 2021 – December 2021	23	January 2021 - December 2021	175	
January 2022 - October 2022 11		January 2022 - October 2022	182	
Military Ship Footpr	int	Military Personnel	Footprint	

July 2019 – December 2019	03
January 2020 – December 2020	121
January 2021 – December 2021	151
January 2022 – October 2022	82

Military Training Exercises on Rota					
05					
03					
03					
03					

January 2020 – December 2020 1296					
January 2021 – December 2021 1844					
January 2022 – October 2022	884				
Military Training Exercises on Tinian					
July 2019 - December 2019	21				
1 0000 D 1 0000					
January 2020 – December 2020	09				

1408

Military Training Exerc on Saipan	cises	Military Training Exerc on Farallon de Mendi	
July 2019 – December 2019	10	July 2019 – December 2019	87
January 2020 - December 2020	06	January 2020 - December 2020	100
January 2021 - December 2021	10	January 2021 – December 2021	104
January 2022 - October 2022	02	January 2022 – October 2022	85

January 2022 - October 2022

July 2019 - December 2019

**CONTACT INFORMATION** 

**Glenna Sakisat Palacios, Special Assistant for Military Affairs** Building 1263B, Isa Drive Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 Saipan, MP 96950 (670) 488-0220 / 488-0330 • glenna.sakisat.palacios@gov.mp 👎 https://www.facebook.com/military.cnmi 🏾 🎯 Website: governor.gov.mp

# **COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF MILITARY AFFAIRS**

### **PROMOTION OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES**

CBMA seeks to promote economic opportunities and activities through engagement with the DoD creating stronger ties with the CNMI and its residents. To advance its mandate in the development of employment and economic opportunities for CNMI communities, CBMA works closely with service components' training exercise planners and contracting officers to connect them to readily available products and services to support training requirements and military personnel life support.

### Annual Economic Impact of Maritime Prepositioning Ships Squadron 3 vessels within the 7th Fleet Area of Operations:

\$4M annually for food provisions, laundry services, garbage disposal, husbanding agency fees, security services, stores and miscellaneous purchases, medical, transportation, hotels for technicians, inspectors and crew turnovers, expenditures for mariners ashore on liberty, maintenance of ships, etc.

### Economic Impact of Service Components' Training Exercises in the CNMI for Fiscal Year 2019 - Fiscal Year 2022

Food caterings, laundry services, solid waste and waste water disposal, biosecurity washdown, port operations, boat charters, security services, stores and miscellaneous purchases, medical, transportation, lodging, storage, portable latrines, hand-washing stations, bottled waters, fuel supply, and other life support requirements:

Koa Moana	\$121K	Freedom Banner	\$155K
Foragers	\$400K	Pac Agility	\$575K
1st Special Forces	\$450K	Valiant Shield	\$400K
Cope North	\$1M	PACFLT Activities	\$1.2M
JET-P Fuel	\$480K		

### **Defense Contracting Support**

Marianas-based firms have the opportunity to participate as contributing partners in the numerous federal procurement events that occur throughout the nation. In Fiscal Year 2021, CBMA expanded its initiatives to include defense contracting support. Staffed with contracting specialists, CBMA is providing procurement technical assistance to local vendors to develop organizational capacity and know-how to navigate and participate in the federal marketplace.

In Fiscal Year 2021, CBMA clients gained access to an aggregate amount of \$57.6M (\$656.5K DoD awards) in federal contracts and \$38M (\$37.2K DoD awards) in Fiscal Year 2022, to date. The following are the services provided to CNMI vendors to increase local capacity in competing for federal contracts in the CNMI and in the region:

### **Training and Workshops**

- One-on-One Counseling
- Federal Contracting Overview
- Procurement Technical Assistant
- **DUNS & SAMS Registration**
- Small Business Profile on SAM
- ٠ Dynamic Small Business Search Engine How to market to the Federal Government
- Capability Statement
- Set-Asides [8(a) WOSB VOSB HUBZones
- Steps to Success, and more.
- **Connecting Resources**
- Doing Business with Defense Logistics Agency
- CNMI Industry Day in partnershio with NAVFACPAC NAVFACMAR and DoD Prime / Sub-Contractors with local vendors
- Doing Business with FEMA
- ٠ Market Research ٠
  - Sources Sought
  - Military Trainings
- Innovative Readiness Training
- Bid Matching
- **Teaming Agreement**

### **KEY HIGHLIGHTS**

CBMA led numerous round-table discussions between the CNMI government and the Department of Defense with the following notable partnership engagements:

In partnership with INDOPACOM LNO Captain Kimberly Hofschneider, Protocol Officer Jean Chabanne of Marines Corps Base Camp Blaz and the MARFORPAC Band, the Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs won the 2022 Liberation Day Float Competition.

In Fiscal Year 2022, CBMA secured military support for veterinary services for 240 animals spayed and neutered and 302 animals vaccinated at no cost to Saipan pet owners. CBMA also secured Military support for full medical mission in Fiscal Year 2023, which would include dental, optometry, behavior health, public health education campaign, and veterinary services at no cost to residents of Saipan, Tinian and Rota

Serving as the Co-Chair to the CNMI-DOD CJMT Technical Working Group, CBMA takes a lead role in round table discussions with DoD counterparts to address CNMI concerns. The initial proposed CJMT program has been descoped with the removal of the island of Pagan altogether from the proposal and in the removal of the proposed bombing activities on Tinian.

Worked in unison with NAVFACMAR, NAVFACPAC, USAE, and the Tinian Mayor's Office for the completion of Chiget Mortar Range Non-Time-Critical Removal Action Remediation Project, which is now open to public access.

In an effort to preserve the cultural/natural resources on Pagan, CBMA coordinated and executed a joint field characterization survey activities on the island for an entire month, with the Northern Islands Mayor

Vicente Santos and CNMI government agencies.

MITT Environmental Technical Working Group comprised of representatives from Pacific Fleet and Joint Region Marianas and CNMI government resource partners to discuss impacts of proposed DoD activities in the Mariana Islands Training and Testing, to include MITT Final SEIS technical review and comment submission by Governor Torres for MITT and Divert FSEIS, along with CNMI Agencies.

FDM Summit to discuss DoD impact on the Island of Farallon de Mednilla

Divert Design Review on the Divert Airfield and Operation infrastructure projects currently underway in Tinian, as well as with the Divert and MITT Programmatic Agreement Technical Working Groups.

Continuing efforts toward breaking into the military tourism market with more military ships making port calls within the last two years.

Completion of the CNMI Resilient Sustainable Islands Management Plan. A planning effort to identify systemic challenges to CNMI development and seek viable solutions to promote sustainable development opportunities and capacity building in line with DoD related activities in the CNMI.

### **RSIMP KEY RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- · Development of Land Fill on Tinian
- · Development of Wastewater Treatment System on Tinian
- · Increase potable water capacity on Tinian
- · Construct new breakwater on Tinian
- Target investment incentives toward the construction of new housing units
- · Seek establishment of National Guard Unit in the CNMI
- Build upon the Tinian Healthcare Infrastructure
- · Increase domestic workforce participation in DoD activities
- Establish a CNMI Contractors Association
- · Continue to develop and cultivate contracting skillset among local businesses for integration of local businesses in defense contracting opportunities
- Target investment incentives to develop a military contracting industry

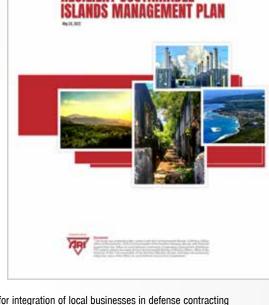


BG Jeremy T. Sloane, Commander, 36th Wing of Andersen Air Force Base, Rear Admiral Benjamin Nicholson Commander of Joint Region Marianas, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, Admiral John Aquilino, INDOPACOM Commander, Major General Mark Hashimoto, Mobilization Assistant to INDOPACOM Commander, Fleet Master Chief James Honea

### **OUR FINANCES**

Since its establishment, CBMA as had zero impact to the CNMI Government Budget. CBMA manages and operates several multi-year grant awards in the amount of \$12.2M secured through competitive grant funding opportunities to fund personnel, operations, programs, to include for the renovation of two government facilities to house CBMA and has since expanded staffing to support greater levels of service to the CNMI population. With a balance of \$3.1M, CBMA continues to deliver services in the execution of its mandate.

**CONTACT INFORMATION** Glenna Sakisat Palacios, Special Assistant for Military Affairs Building 1263B, Isa Drive Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 Saipan, MP 96950 (670) 488-0220 / 488-0330 • glenna.sakisat.palacios@gov.mp f https://www.facebook.com/military.cnmi 🛛 🔘 Website: governor.gov.mp



# COMMUNITY

- The Governor's Council of Economic Advisers, Public Private Partnerships
  - Reopening of HOPE Recovery Center following TCRA
  - Support of local non-profit organizations
  - Hosted Veterans Town Halls
  - Issued first homestead lots in 15 years

# CULTURE



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- Project Liffang led by the Carolinian Affairs Office and Indigenous Affairs Office
- Seafaring Traditions Program
  - Support for the House of Chamorros
  - Hafa Adai Tirow Tuesday & Thursdays

# **ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC LANDS**



- Executive Order 2022-05: Creation of the Governor's Environmental Council to formulate policy initiatives or community activities to encourage environmental protection, conservation, and sustainable development.
- Created the universal garbage collected plan to provide greater access to solid waste collection services.

# EDUCATION



- 2022 Summer Youth Program & 2022 Governor's Summer Youth Employment Program
- Proclaimed November 15-21, 2021 as National Apprenticeship Week in the CNMI, which included NMC, NMTech, PSS, and the CNMI Department of Labor
- The Marianas School Pride under the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers

# FEDERAL PARTNERS



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- Strengthened partnership with DOI OIA, DOD, DOT, VA, White House, and many federal partners
- Continued advocacy for CNMI workforce and economy
- Increased federal funding for infrastructure and improvement projects
- No Bombing in Pagan
- Tinian Divert Airfield

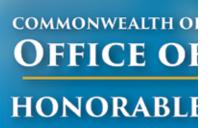
# **FEDERAL RELATIONSHIPS & ECONOMY**

# ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act)

- (2) Economic Impact Payments; stimulus distributions
- Utility vouchers issued to assist residents due to increased power rates
   BOOST Program designed to help spur economic growth and provide
- opportunities to profit and non-profit organizations.
  - Assisting community and local non-profit organizations
  - Support for local government operations

# **GOVERNMENT MODERNIZATION**

- Implementation of E-Government Online Permitting System
  Awarded a grant from FTA for ferry feasibility study and
  - Awarded a grant from FTA for ferry feasibility study and transportation master plan
- Awarded a grant for implementation of Electric Vehicles charging stations
  - Creation of Office of Information Technology



# WORKING FOR



# our UICP

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



# **HEALTH & WELLNESS**

- Support for athletes .
  - Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games
- Fit to Lead Initiative
- Governor's commitment to live and lead fit
- Fit to Lead 5K CNMI Tourism Month Fun Run
- Directive 2022-001 allowing two hours per week for each employee to take care of physical and mental health
- Trek around Saipan to benefit **Commonwealth Cancer Association**

# INFRASTRUCTURE

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- Roadside improvements
  - Isa Dr | Airport Rd. | Quartermaster Rd. Route 36 | Industrial Drive
- Garapan Revitalization Project
- CNMI Broadband Project (OPD, BEAD Program)
- 36 kW Solar Photovoltaic System for Rota Aquaponics
- Creation of Energy Task Force
- Largest Economic Agency Award to a single jurisdiction

# PUBLIC SAFETY

- Modernizing Public Safety Resources
  - New Personnel Protective Equipment to the Department of
  - Fire & Emergency Medical Services
- Crime rate down 65.3%

# PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION



- COTA CNMI Public Transportation (new location, state of the art building)
- COTA assistance in COVID-19 response

# **RECOVERY EFFORT** & DISASTER RESPONSE

- Governor's COVID-19 Task Force protocols and guidelines to safeguard community 獭
  - Creation of COVID-19 Care Force
  - Provided supplies to regional islands

# RETIREES

- Continued commitment in ensuring our Retirees receive their pensions
- Provided our Retirees with bonus of \$1,000

# TOURISM



AS.

- Bringing back the Japanese market with the introduction of direct flights from Narita to Saipan with United Airlines
- TRIP: Successful travel bubble with South Korea
- MSA
  - Brought in new airline to serve inter-island transportation in Marianas Southern Airways

N MARIANA ISLANDS OVERNOR **DLG. TORRES** 

# LE OF THE CNMI





# **Office of Planning and Development Office of the Governor**

# **AT YOUR** SERVICE

# A more #SustainableCNMI and how we'll get there

# **ACTION ITEM:**

By 2021 and every five years after, a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy will be submitted, with proposals on priority projects that focus on critical infrastructure and growth planning, economic diversification, job creation, and other economic development opportunities.



# **SDG #11'S PURPOSE:** "Make cities and human

settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable."



R

# SDG #12'S PURPOSE: "Ensure sustainable consumption and

production patterns."

### Next upcoming **CEDS Update:**

**Projects included in** 2019 CEDS Update:

190

# 2025

OPD is in close collaboration with agency partners to collect additional priority project and feedback that will be incorporated into 2025 update.

**Oleai Sports Complex and Cultural Events Center Facilities Development Project** 

# 21.2 million

- The largest single project grant award to a state or territory in U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) history

# By 2030, 50%

of the CNMI's recyclable waste will be diverted away from the CNMI's landfill or RCRA-compliant waste management facilities on Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and the Northern Islands

# **Garapan Revitalization Project**

# \$11.2 million

Cons. Start: <u>VI IV</u> Sep. 2022

Cons. Schedule: 



# The diverted waste will be:



### ACTION ITEM:

accessibility to support planning



ACTION ITEMS: • Continue SSG Training Development and outreach

efforts • By 2023, launch SSG Toolkit on OPD website to support integration of SSG into early planning and project scoping





"Community Pillars" include:

Libraries

# Smart, Safe Growth (SSG) Training, July 2022





The Marianas

Currently, OPD is working with training attendees to finetune SSG Toolkit

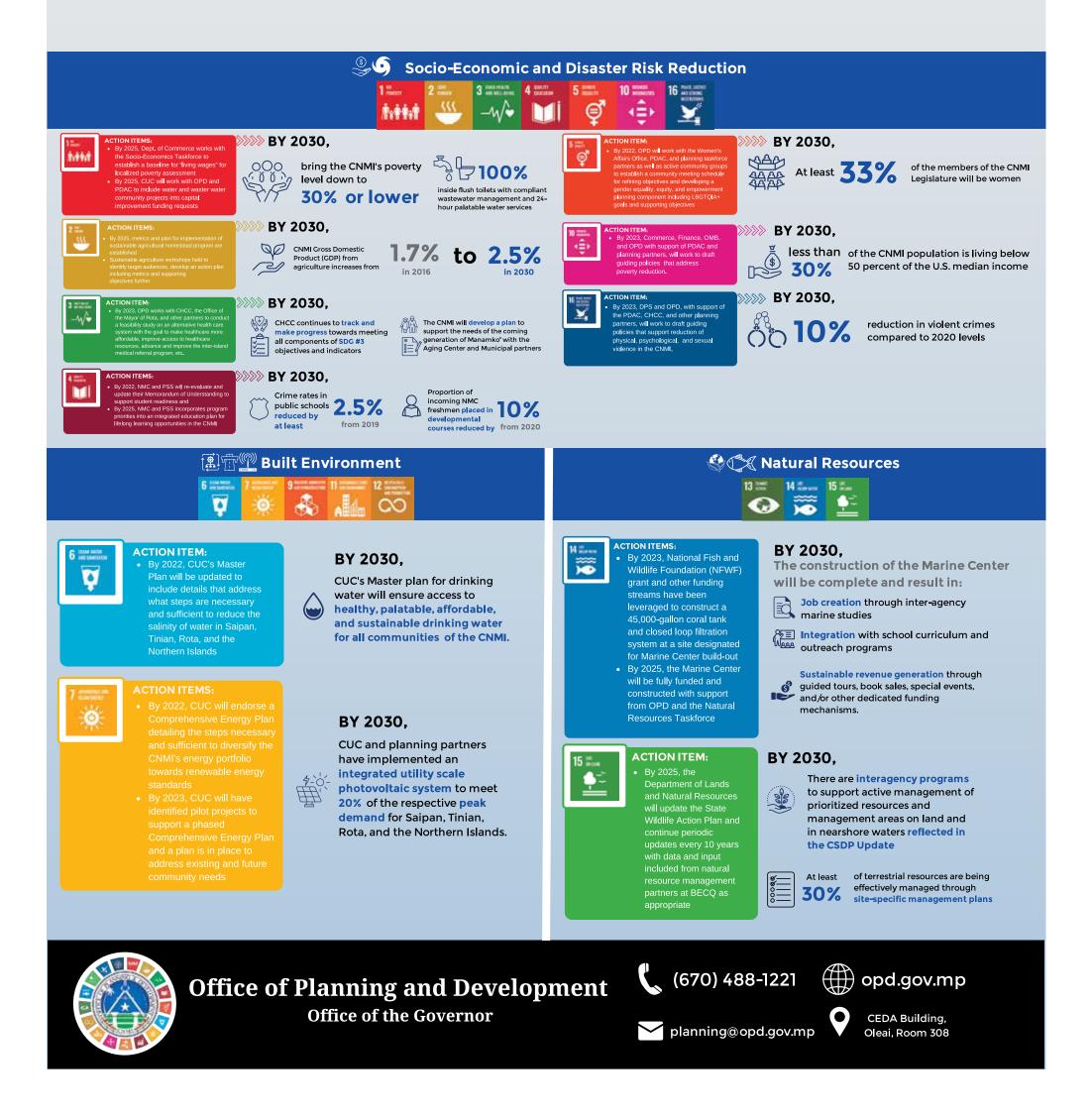


Work towards achieving these goals is made possible through OPD's many partners, which include:





# A more #SustainableCNMI and how we'll get there, contd.





### From Page 15

### Name: Hermis Jim Position: WIC Nutrition Technician

Years of service: 16 "[My greatest job satisfaction is] being able to assist and serve families in our community and working with a great team."



### Name: **Gregory P. Deleon Guerrero** Years of service: 30 years (all @ DPL) Position: Director, Compliance Division, Department of

Public Lands "Working for one of the CNMI government's most valuable resource that is public land is a rewarding and interesting experience. You develop institutional knowledge and skills in the management aspects from an autonomous agency to a department under the Executive Branch. The chal-

lenges you face on a daily

basis is quite overwhelm-

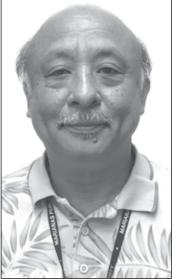
ing, and overcoming those

challenges and obstacles

with the help and support

of staffs and management

is truly satisfying."



### Name: Probio D. Cabrera Position: Statistical Specialist III, Office of Accountability,

Research, and Evaluation



Years of service: 32 years, 11 months

> "I am happy to be part of the CNMI Public School System>s family. I acknowledged working for the CNMI Public School System for over 30 years, working through eight Commissioner of Education. The most satisfying for this job is maintaining responsibilities in my capacity throughout these years, being able to provide the required meaningful basic education data and information, for both local and state levels."

Name: Erlinda Cabrera Naputi Years of service: 30

years **Position:** Library Director

"My job's greatest satisfaction is ensuring that we continue to provide quality library services to our entire community in the Marianas (Saipan, Rota, Tinian)."



### Name: Alfreda Camacho Maratita

**Position:** Special Assistant for Public Transportation for the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority **Years of service**: 9 years

and 2 months

"The greatest satisfaction that I get from serving at this agency is helping my team members advance their career goals in public transportation. Leading a team of individuals who pride themselves on the importance of moving our community around through an alternative form of transportation has been rewarding and fulfilling over the nine years that I have been a part of this wonderful organization. I am a firm believer that transit changes lives

and I am so grateful to see that in each one of these men and women who make up the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority."



# Name: Jacqueline A. Quitugua

**Position:** Senior director for Curriculum and Instruction; Rota Elementary School and Rota High School then moved to Central in 1984-2006 as Science, Health/HIV program specialist and now, senior director for Curriculum and Instruction

Years of service: 42 years, 3 months

"The greatest satisfaction I have is seeing our students reach their hopes and dreams, drawing the fullest potential of our students and are contributing to the community and their families! When we see our students taking lead in various agencies, businesses, and wider communities—local and abroad—we can then say we have done well (big or small). And when parents, teachers, and other stakeholders including students share their struggles, I call that 'unfinished work' and 'lessons learned.' I must work harder to meet the needs of the new students and the next generation. Honestly, I never even counted the years, it is a daily calling and responding to the needs of our children and serving/supporting our teachers and school leaders."

# At Your Service



ariana Islands Nature Alliance (MINA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit environmental organization established in 2005 by a group of individuals who shared a passion for preserving our island's natural resources for future generations. Funded primarily by grants from the Department of the Interior, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the annual Green Cala, MINA is led by a team of volunteer Board of Directors, a full-time staff of six, and a total of fifteen Tasi Watch Rangers.

MINA's accomplishments over the past year are a reflection of the hard work and dedication of the people who make up MINA's team. The largest of MINA's projects for 2022 was the biological assessments, coral translocation, and marine debris removal from the Tinian Harbor, with a total of 68,198 pounds of debris transported for recycling and disposal.

The Adopt a Bin project continues successfully, with nine corporate sponsors for 2022 including Kensington Hotel, D&Q Saipan, Bridge Capital LLC, Marianas Visitors Authority, Brabu Pharmacy, Saipan Computer Services/Ideal Signs, Docomo Pacific, Kanoa Resort, and IT&E. These sponsorships allow the continued collection of the contents of these bins to keep debris from entering Saipan's Lagoon.

Schools for Environmental Conservation is another long-standing program wherein MINA brings technical experts on topics related to the critical connection between land and sea to students at both public and private middle schools, learning through first-hand field experiences the importance of environmental stewardship. This year's program had forty-five participants from eight schools. MINA also included Tinian and Rota students in this year's outreach programs in coordination with the NMC Crees 4-H Program.

The Tasi Watch Community Ranger Program is another of MINA's initiatives for high school graduates and students from NMC who volunteer in field work that gives them invaluable experience in natural resources management. The goal of the program is to develop a passion in the youth as they continue their education and prepare for careers in the environmental field. This year MINA recruited eight new Rangers who have undergone training in field data collection, outreach, and education activities, as well as SCUBA certifications which will allow them to participate in marine debris removal such as roofing tin, and remnants of Typhoon Yutu.

Mariana Islands Nature Alliance

Empowering Communities for Conservation P.O. Box 506645, Gualo Rai Center Ste #103, Saipan MP 96950 (670)233-7333



### Name: Col. Marvin P. Sablan Years in service: 33 years (since October 1989)

Agency: Division of Customs and Biosecurity

"I enjoy my job because I help to keep our islands safe from drugs. Protecting our borders is more than just a job, it is part of who I am and the team that I have worked with over the years. My three decades of experience has taught me that while it is beneficial to have additional resources to assist officers in detecting drugs, an officer's skills and knowledge will always be the backbone of border security. It is officer training and skills that allow us to identify counterfeit items, determine undervaluation of commodities,



a Customs Biosecurity Officer at the Division of Customs Biosecurity, Department of Finance.

among others. I look forward to serving many more years as

OMMONWEAI



On August 12, 2022, COTA conducted its Annual Professional Development Training and Emplo Recognition



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: On November 8, 2021, Ms. Ginger Porter conducted the Passenger Assistance Safety and Sensitivity training as required by the Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA). A total of 23 employees have been PASS certified.



COTA held its first proclamation signing on July 14 2022 proclaiming July as CNMI Public Transportation Month.



On August 11, 2022, COTA team members successfully completed the Adult and Children CPR training conducted by Wave and Water Park Safety Academy.



COTA's Administrative Building and Maintenance Facility officially opened its doors to the public on August 25, 2022

OFFICE OF

IRAN

From March 2020-April 2022, COTA has actively supported the COVID-19 Task Force transporting a total of 32,922 individuals in its efforts to safeguard our CNMI community.

NONWEALTH

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COTA's Quality Assurance/ Quality Control (QA/QC) Driver's Program is an internal training modeled after the National Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP) that consists of multiple modules that every transit operator must undergo and pass before safely driving around passengers in the CNMI community.



COTA assisted with the transportation needs for the 2022 **Pacific Mini Games** 



COTA team members along with the Special Assistant for Public Transportation participated in the 2022 "We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes" motorcade.



COTA continues its efforts at keeping our community informed about the transportation services offered through participating in outreach and awareness events throughout the year.





COTA's Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for its New Administrative Building and Maintenance Facility on August 08, 2022.



On August 18, 2022, Special Assistant for Public Transportation met with US Department of Transportation: Federal Transit Administration's Administrator Ms. Nuria Fernandez in Washington D. C. to discuss COTA's success with the new building, plans for an inter-island ferry system, and the arrival of 10 buses to launch the fixed route system on Saipan.



On October 23, 2021, Mr. Carl Haddon and Mr. Aaron Heller from On Scene Training Association, LLC. , conducted the Incident Command System (ICS) 300 and 400.



In support of PSS's Cooperative Education Program (CO-OP), COTA presented three ON June 2022, COTA assisted the Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs (CBMA) with hundred (300) student passes for the participating students to avail of from their the transportation needs of the U.S. Army's 445th Medical Detachment Vetinary place of employment and to their residences.



COTA has actively incorporated a "work/health" work culture by going on walks, playing a game of basketball, joining a Zumba or yaga class to encourage a healthy balance for every COTA team member.



Services.

COTA participated in the Governor's Summer Youth Program and had the opportunity to give (3) high school students first hand experience on what it's like to be a transit professional.

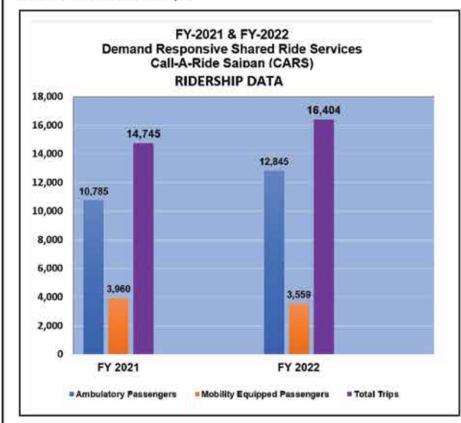


COTA's CNMI Public Transportation Month Roadside Waving

# FISCAL YEAR 2022 - SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL



COTA's Call-A-Ride Saipan (CARS) Demand Responsive Shared Ride Service had a significant increase of 11.1% in ridership with a total of Sixteen thousand four hundred and four (16,404) trips.



# FERRY FEASIBILITY STUDY

COTA along with the CPA and US DOT officials visited the island of Tinian and Rota to discuss transportation improvements and conducting an inter-island ferry system.





# COTA was awarded \$800,000.00 through U.S. Department of Transportation — Federal Transit Administration's

(FTA): Areas of Persistent Poverty Program to conduct an independent ferry feasibility study for the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

# BUS TRANSFER STATION

COTA is planning for the construction of bus transfer stations at the following locations: Northern Marianas College, Kagman Mobil Station, and Paseo De Marianas.





# ELECTRIC VEHICLES

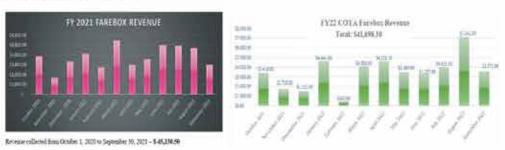
COTA was awarded \$2,373,645.00 through the U.S. Department of Transportation – Federal Transit Administration's (FTA): Low or No Emission Grant Program for the acquisition of electric vehicles for the CNMI. We are currently working on the solicitation of electric vehicles this fiscal year

# GRANTS

	Competitive Grants	Award Amount:
1	CNMI Public Transit System Expansion	\$6,387,346.00
2	Emergency Relief Grant	\$351,000.00
3	COVID-19 Research Planning Grant	\$300,000.00
4	Low or No Emission Electric Bus	\$2,373,645.00
5	Ferry Feasibility Study and Transportation Master Plan	\$800,000.00
	TOTAL:	\$10,211,991.00

# FINANCE SECTION

For FY2O22, COTA collected a total of **\$41,698.10** in Farebox Revenue which is a decrease of **7%** from the revenue collected in FY2O21 due to the increase of student ridership in the amount of **\$1.00** per trip.



# **UPCOMING PROJECTS**

LAUNCH OF COTA'S FIXED-ROUTE SERVICE

COTA is currently preparing for the launch of its Fixed Route Service on the island of Saipan as we will be receiving a total of ten (10) ADA Accessible buses to support this service.

# **BUS SHELTERS**

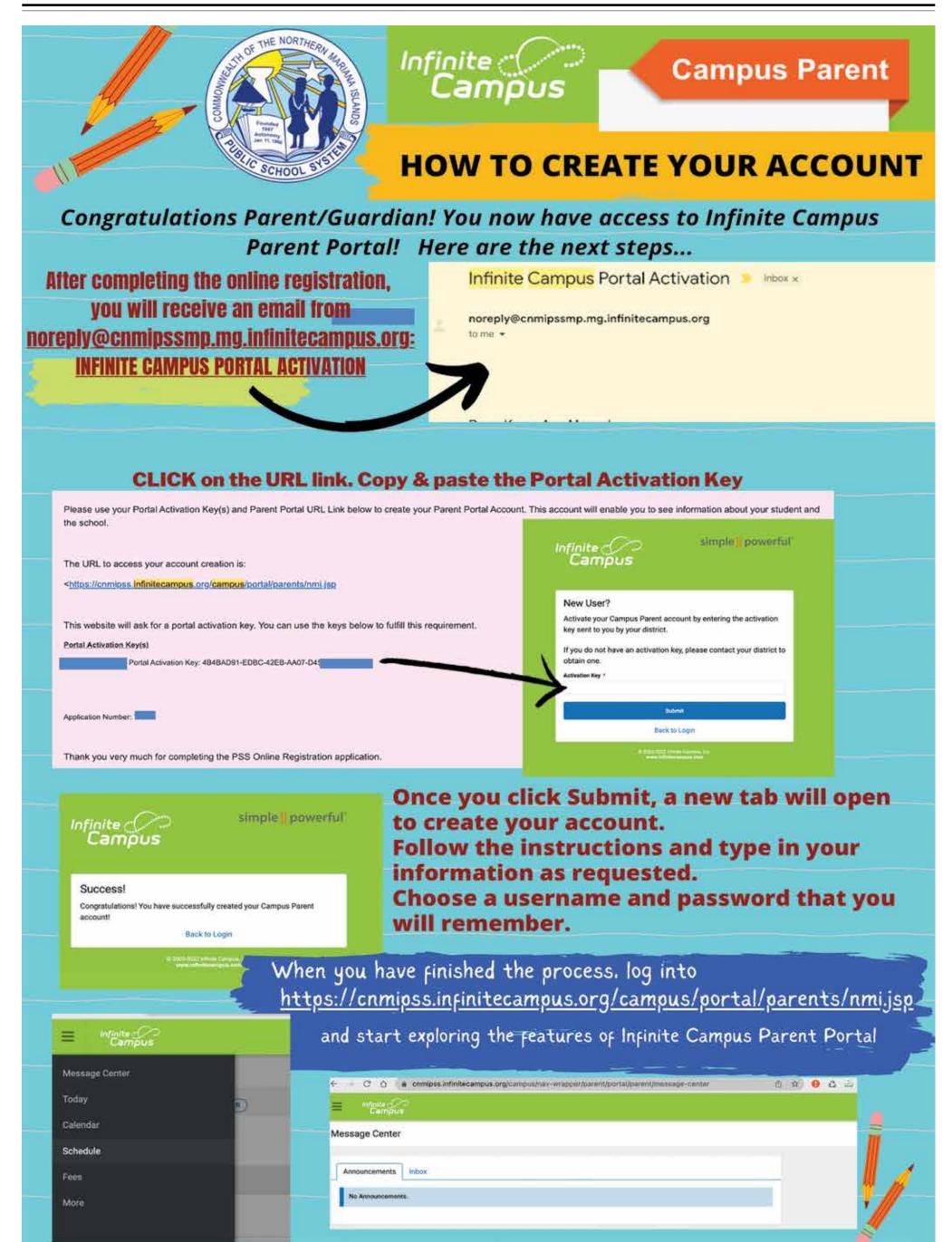
COTA is preparing for Bus Shelters as it plays a crucial role in safeguarding our community from natural causes, such as rain, wind, and the heat.



# SOLAR COVERED PARKING GARAGE

COTA is currently seeking for more federal assistance to construct the solar covered parking garage at the Administrative Building and Maintenance Facility.





Communications System (PACS). The innovative

medical imaging software helps healthcare

providers work efficiently and deliver quality

patient care.



- Set up a pharmacy process in California to ensure Medicaid beneficiaries can have access to their medications.
  - Initiated discussions with Guam Mega Drug who is willing to find a reasonable solution to help meet the needs of this population group (pending Medicaid contract).

### From Page 25

### Name: Sylvio S. Ada Years of Service: 28 years

Position: Supervisor, juvenile Probation, Division of

Youth Services

"The greatest satisfaction I get from my job is knowing that by the end of my working day, my daily task or goals as a Juvenile Probation Supervisor is accomplished. In addition to ensuring my staff and I continue to change the lives and future of our youth by following no other than our DYS' mission and that's "Strengthening families to promote the well-being of children, youths and families" and Vision: "All families in the CNMI will be self-sufficient and self-reliant"



### Name: Elizabeth A. Furey Years of service: 9 years (January 2013 to the present)



Position: Executive director, Mariana Islands Nature Alliance

"I feel that the best affirmation of the work that MINA does is to see the engagement of our youth in environmental stewardship and how they embrace the realization that their actions today affect the future of the sustainability of the natural resources of the land and sea that we call home."

# Name: Alfred L. Maratita

Position: Trades Technician, Marianas Visitors Authority Years of service: 32

years "The greatest satisfac-

tion I get from working here at Marianas Visitors Authority is I get to be a part of a great agency and help make a difference in today's economy. because tourism is everyone's business.



### Name: Teisha Helena Camacho Efraim

Years of service: 2 years and 7 months

Position: Budget Officer, Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs

"The greatest satisfaction of being the budget officer is the fact that I have been entrusted to manage over \$12 million in federal resources secured by the Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs through competitive grant funding opportunities.

As the budget officer, I've had the opportunity to grow and expand my knowledge in the CNMI government fi-

nance system, the intricacies of handling a budget through our established internal bookkeeping system, and in working closely with our partners at the Department of Finance on all of our financial matters.

In addition, I have firsthand knowledge of how critical of an impact the federal resources have on our economy through employment opportunities and with investment of those resources with local businesses to support CBMA's personnel and operational requirements.



I joined CBMA only eight months from its official establishment by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres. I am privileged for the opportunity to be part of CBMA's growth and of the progress that we have accomplished over the last short years. I am humbled that I am able to experience and contribute to CBMA's mandate and to be part of the team across the CNMI government that work toward ensuring that our islands and our environment that we enjoy today will equally be enjoyed by our future generation.

I also would like to acknowledge that working with a team that supports each other in the workplace and in social settings has a positive impact on the work environment. We each have our role in contributing to CBMA's mandate and I am honored to be the 'go-to person' for advice and guidance. I am always happy to provide them with assistance and support in the same manner that they extend to me.

I would like to extend my appreciation to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for giving me the opportunity to work at CBMA. The opportunity to engage directly with various service components of the U.S. military has been truly rewarding.

My sincerest gratitude to Special Assistant Glenna Sakisat Palacios. She recognized my potential and she challenged me to step out of my comfort zone in order to grow and expand my limited experience when I first came on board to the vast knowledge that I now hold about CBMA's entire operation. She has been a source of my motivation to overcome challenges and for inspiring me to take on a greater role in CBMA. I thank her for believing in me and for pushing me to grow with CBMA and to take ownership of the work that I do for the benefit of our people and our Commonwealth."

### Name: Nora V. Borja Years of service: 27+

Position: Deputy Clerk of Court; former Judicial Assistant for the late Chief

Justice Miguel S. Demapan "My greatest satisfaction I get from my job is that I am very fortunate to come to work every day and be with awesome co-workers that work as a team and having the best judicial management and leaders as our boss."



Name: Patrick V. Diaz Years of service: 25 years on Nov. 17, 2022



Position: Clerk of the Superior Court

"[The greatest satisfaction I get from my job is that] I am always looking forward to work with the best co-workers to ensure that access to the court system is always available to the people of the CNMI and knowing that every day, you at least helped someone navigate through the system."

# Name: Rosie Jane T. Ada

Years of service: 27 years and 9 months (Since Jan. 30, 1995)

Position: Deputy Clerk II "The greatest satisfaction from my job is knowing that I complete my task every day and come tomorrow to face another challenge. But most of all, I love to end my day's work with a smile..."



# Name: Irene T. San Nicolas

Years of service: 27 years and 6 months Position: Chamber Administrator, CNMI Judiciary "The greatest satisfaction I get from working at the NMI Judiciary - Supreme Court is that I have been blessed all these years to work with wonderful, hardworking staff, management leaders, and the greatest bosses (Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro; Associate Justices John A. Manglona and Perry B. Inos). It's all about teamwork!"



Position: Counseling Program Coordinator, Office of Curriculum and Instruction: Mentoring Program, Homeschool Program, Junior Achievement Program, Family Engagement and Community Involvement, Counseling Program

Years in service: 35 years, 8 months with PSS. Started in September 1986. Had a break between April 1989-July 1989

"[My greatest satisfaction is] making an impact and difference in a student's life."



