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2011 Annual Report

# About the Cover

Caleb Suzuki was a typical and healthy baby boy at birth. He developed meningitis at four months old, which caused problems with his vision and hearing. He has since recovered his visual abilities but has a severe hearing loss. Caleb is currently receiving services and supports through the Guam Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (Guam EHDI) and Guam Early Intervention System (GEIS) programs.

Over the last 18 months, Trisha Suzuki, Caleb’s mother, has participated in several Guam CEDDERS activities which have assisted her in broadening her knowledge on hearing loss and early intervention as well as her skills as a parent advocate. She

serves on the Guam EHDI Advisory Council and the Inter-Agency

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# About Guam CEDDERS

The University of Guam Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service (Guam CEDDERS) serves as a training and technical assistance provider in the Pacific Basin region. From its inception in 1992, Guam CEDDERS has evolved into a dynamic organization that builds bridges with partners to create stronger linkages, programs, services, and support to positively impact the quality of life of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

As the largest training, service, technical assistance, and research center at the University of Guam, Guam CEDDERS is committed to collaborative training, community services, technical assistance, and research and dissemination activities that reflect cultural relevance and sensitivity. Guam CEDDERS serves as a tellai (bridge) for our University, community, and the Western Pacific Region. Our goals and activities reflect the needs of the community and are designed to build capacity and empower individuals in areas including independence, productivity, integration, and inclusion.

This Annual Report covers FY2011 from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. For more information about Guam CEDDERS projects, visit us online at www.guamcedders.org.

# Mission Statement

In partnership with individuals with disabilities and their families, agencies, organizations, and service providers, Guam CEDDERS creates pathways that enhance, improve, and support the quality of life of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Guam CEDDERS continues its mission through the Initiative Areas of Consumer Leadership & Systems Change; Health, Wellness, & Prevention; and Inclusive Communities.

# Core Functions

Guam CEDDERS has three core functions: **(1) Interdisciplinary Training, (2)**

**Dissemination, Research & Evaluation; and (3) Community Services & Technical Assistance**. Activities and projects under each of Guam CEDDERS’ core functions arealigned to the University’s Core Commitments of *Enhancing Academic Quality; Enrollment Growth, Retention, and Institutional Visibility; Promoting the Land-Grant Mission and Community Engagement; and Strengthening Institutional Efficiency and Effectiveness.*

## Interdisciplinary Training

Guam CEDDERS is committed to enhancing academic quality, student success, and institutional visibility through training programs that revolve around interdisciplinary processes. Guam CEDDERS employs staff and consultants from a broad range of disciplines and collaborates with faculty from various departments across the University and reflects the cultural and linguistic diversity of the island and region. Interdisciplinary training offered by Guam CEDDERS enhances academic quality for students by leading to undergraduate, graduate, and professional certification and advanced skills. Trainees also reflect the cultural and linguistic diversity in Guam and the region.

## Dissemination, Research & Evaluation

Guam CEDDERS promotes community engagement, while strengthening institutional efficiency and effectiveness by conducting research that is a reflection of pervasive and persistent community needs; monitoring consumer outcomes of these activities; and actively disseminating information to specially targeted populations and to the general public.

Information is disseminated through an array of multimedia methods and through the distribution of developed products. Information is also shared during training and technical assistance activities locally, regionally, and nationally through newsletters, website links, curricular materials, training and public awareness videos, informational brochures and posters, and evaluation studies and reports. In support of the UOG Green Initiative, Guam CEDDERS makes these materials available on its website in electronic format, reducing the need for paper consumption through reprinting and production.

## Community Services and Technical Assistance

Activities under Community Services and Technical Assistance strengthen institutional efficiency and effectiveness, while enhancing student success and institutional visibility and are based on needs identified by self-advocates, advocacy groups, service delivery agencies, and community service providers to ensure that communities are accessible and responsive to the needs of people with disabilities.

In addition, Guam CEDDERS has become the natural choice for Community Service and Technical Assistance for individuals with disabilities and other vulnerable populations in the Pacific Region. Departments/Ministries of Education in the Pacific Region have contracted Guam CEDDERS for support in a variety of report writing activities to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) and in improving educational results for children with disabilities.

# SiñA Self Advocates in Action

## Self – Advocates in Action (SiñA)

SiñA is a self-advocacy organization that was formed this past year. An acronym for

“Self-Advocates in Action,” SiñA also is the Chamorro word for “can do,” or “it can be done.” This group is certainly showing that “it” can be! Comprised of individuals with a wide range of disabilities, this group includes many completers of the “Self-Advocacy Workshop” facilitated by Guam CEDDERS, in collaboration with our Tri-Agency sisters, Guam Legal Services Corporation Disability Law Center and the Guam Developmental Disabilities Council. Ginger Porter, Guam CEDDERS Initiative Area Coordinator for Consumer Leadership and Systems Change, serves as a mentor to the group that has started the formal process of becoming a registered non-profit organization.

Activities spearheaded by this group include facilitating a “Policy Maker Forum,” attended by legislators and Government of Guam department directors, writing letters to the Governor expressing opinions of the group on issues relating to disabilities, and several social events for its membership. The group has several other projects in the works, including continued promotion of the Self-Advocacy Workshops, which laid the foundation for this dynamic organization.

# Consumer Leadership & Systems Change Initiative Area

The areas of emphasis included in this Initiative Area are: Transportation,

Quality Assurance, and Quality of Life.

This Initiative Area is tasked with facilitating on-going systems change and program development efforts within the community, which reflect and respond to emerging and persistent needs affecting the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families. Projects under this Initiative Area focus on training and technical assistance to councils, boards, and commissions whose missions relate to improving services to individuals with disabilities.

## Core Grant

 The “Core” grant of the organization, funded by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities, provides the foundational support to run Guam CEDDERS administrative functions, the Advisory Council, direct consumer leadership support, and to explore new initiatives. The Core maintains the infrastructure for managing grants, contracts, and various projects that fall under the Consumer Leadership and Systems Change Initiative Area.

The Core also supports dissemination activities, such as the publication of newsletters and various media productions for print, radio, video, and the web.

I Linå’lå-ta (Our Lives), a tri-agency newsletter whose target audience is individuals with disabilities and their families and I Tellai (The Bridge), a newsletter featuring updates on Guam CEDDERS projects and initiatives are published quarterly. In addition, the Core also supported the main Guam CEDDERS website where developed products and print materials such as brochures, booklets, and reports are available for download in accessible formats. Video productions included two 30-minute documentaries on people with disabilities and their families and a one-hour documentary on the “Policy Maker Forum,” which captures several presentations made by individuals with disabilities sharing their situations and recommendations for policy improvements.

Picture showing two newsletters Guam CEDDERS publishes quarterly. I Tellai (The Bridge) is the main newsletter, which is distributed locally and nationally. I Linå’låta (Our Life), published in collaboration with the Tri- Agency on Developmental Disabilities, focuses on consumer activities with several articles written by individuals with disabilities. To receive these newsletters, contact us online at www.guamcedders.org.

## Project DREAMS

Project DREAMS, which stands for “Dedicated to Reaching Excellence And Maintaining Success,” is the umbrella unit of the Guam Parent Information Resource Center (Guam PIRC). This non-profit organization provides training and supports to parents and families with school-aged children, with specific supports to families with children who are atrisk or have developmental disabilities.

Through Project DREAMS, Guam CEDDERS facilitated training and technical assistance in the development and implementation of activities to increase parents’ involvement in their children’s education that would lead to their children’s success in school.

## Self-Advocacy Workshops

A series of three self-advocacy workshops conducted during the year resulted in a growing number of trained facilitators and self-advocates engaged in meaningful individual and community projects. Under the guidance of Guam CEDDERS, seasoned self-advocates mentored new self-advocates in practicing assertive behavior, preparing written documentation, and using a broadened network of resources. They were also supported in drafting a Constitution and By-Laws for a non-profit Self-Advocacy organization, SiñA: Self-Advocates in Action, which achieved 501(c) 3 status.

Collectively, self-advocates rallied to support the appointment of the Department of Integrated Service for Individuals with Disabilities (DISID) director, published their opinions made known at an ADA Roundtable, provided meaningful input at the May

2011 Transportation forum, and spearheaded the Gold Star Awards, a public awareness program which provides recognition of businesses and agencies that provide exemplary access and service to customers with disabilities. Three self-advocates were active with Guam CEDDERS in a professional presentation at the annual National Association of Social Workers Conference, advancing the theme of social justice through self-advocacy.

A product of this year’s self-advocacy effort is the Super Friends Show, a radio program hosted by two self-advocates who bring on guest hosts and speakers to inform the public about programs, resources, activities, and issues on disabilities.

The Super Friends Show and SiñA have connected individuals to social networking and public awareness activities such as the White Cane Safety Day, the Guam Liberation Day Parade, and multiple community fairs. SiñA members are also part of several disability councils and boards.

## Transportation Activities

Guam CEDDERS continued its work with the Guam Regional Transit Authority Board, the governing body that operates the island’s transit system, on ensuring “disability- and access-related” issues are addressed from a systems perspective as well as the perspective of individuals. Thirty-one individuals took the opportunity to speak up about their experiences with the public transportation system at the 2011 Transportation Forum, held on the University of Guam Campus on May 27. The forum, facilitated by Ginger Porter, Guam CEDDERS Consumer Leadership & Systems Change Initiative Area Coordinator, provided a venue for comment, discussion, and recommendations for public transportation in an open arena by individuals with disabilities and their families.

Picture showing (L-R) Tom Manglona, Guam CEDDERS Advisory Council member, shares his experiences with the transit system while Ginger Porter, Guam CEDDERS Initiative Area Coordinator and forum facilitator, looks on.

## Pripåra Hao Emergency Preparedness for Individuals with Disabilities

In collaboration with Guam Homeland Security, the Core supported the production and dissemination of information relating to emergency preparedness for individuals with disabilities. The theme of Pripåra Hao (Get Ready) was publicized through an emergency preparedness checklist, guidebook, information packet, and two 45-second TV ads featuring individuals with disabilities that were aired on local television stations.

These products are available for download or viewing at www.guamcedders.org/priparahao.

Picture showing (L-R) Terrie Fejarang, Guam CEDDERS Associate Director, presented 240 copies of “Tips for First Responders” to Chuck Ada, Acting Administrator for the Office of Civil Defense, and Mark Aguon, Guam Police Department.

Picture showing two 45-second television ads that focus on emergency preparedness recommendations for individuals with disabilities were produced by Guam CEDDERS.

Participating in the video productions were (top photo, L-R) Bull Fuppul & Lee Cruz and (bottom photo) Lisa Ogo.

(Right photos) To download copies of the Guam CEDDERS Emergency Preparedness Guide and other Pripåra Hao products (shown at right), or to learn more about emergency preparedness for individuals with disabilities, visit www.guamcedders.org/priparahao.

## Guam CEDDERS Online

Guam CEDDERS has continued to grow its web presence over the years. Along with its flagship website (www.guamcedders.org) which was redesigned and updated,

Guam CEDDERS has developed and is currently managing four other project-driven websites for Guam FS360º (www.guamfamilysupport. org), GSAT (www.gsatcedders.org), Guam EHDI (www.guamehdi.org), and PACIFIC Project (www.pac6.org).

Each website was developed with web accessibility in mind at the very beginning, following standards and best practices from the “World

Wide Web Consortium Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0 and 2.0.” In addition, each website was rigorously tested and evaluated using online web accessibility tools. Advisory Council members also provided feedback.

As Internet technology continues to advance, Guam CEDDERS is looking at more dynamic implementations which include social media integration, rich media applications such as streaming video, audio, and searchable publication databases, all while keeping accessibility in mind.

# Self-Advocate Profile: Jacob Cruz, Man with a Mission

## Jacob Cruz is a man with a mission. His goal: to graduate from the University of Guam with a degree in Cruise Line Management.

The path Jacob has chosen has not been an easy one. In fact, he was originally supposed to graduate in 1990, but went off-track. In a recent interview, Jacob shared that, “as a teenager, I was what you could call ‘a little stubborn.’ I thought I knew enough, didn’t need school, and so just dropped out.” Over the next 14 years, Jacob tried a variety of things. He worked for his mother’s catering business as a helper. He was a clerk for the Guam Housing Corporation and then Guam Memorial Hospital. He moved to Saipan for a while where he volunteered for the Center for Independent Living. When he returned to Guam, he again worked as a clerk for the A.B. Won Pat International Airport. From 1999 to 2000, he worked at various non-profit organizations.

As time passed, he became increasingly frustrated with his situation. He related that, “as I got older, I realized that I had to do something more with my life.” So he decided to return to school and enrolled in the Adult High School program at Guam Community College in the Fall of 2004. With a lot of hard work, perseverance, and support from his family and friends, Jacob graduated in 2006.

Picture shown of Jacob Cruz.

Encouraged by his success in completing high school, Jacob decided to stay on the education track and explored the possibility of attending the University of Guam. As an individual with learning disabilities, Jacob qualified for support and receives financial assistance through the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, a program under the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities. Jacob enrolled at UOG and is continuing on his journey in higher education. As a qualified individual with a disability, helping in this journey is the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Office at the University. This program assists Jacob by facilitating various accommodations.

A two-year resident of the UOG dormitory, Jacob is happy with the total experience of being a university student. He does admit that it is a challenge to meet academic requirements, but he is committed to meeting his goal. “You have your ups and downs, but you must always keep in mind ‘begin with the end in mind,’” as stated by Stephen Covey, author of The *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*.

To other individuals who quit school, he offers this advice: “Go back to school. Take it slow, one day at a time. Start with one class, then increase (your class load). Stick with it, move forward and don’t look back!” Jacob offers this final thought: “the struggles will be painful, but you’ll begin to see that many people are there to help you along the way.”

Picture shown: of baby girl in a bright green top with white polka dots.

# The POWER of Play!

Guam CEDDERS hosted the 2011 Power of Play Interactive Parent Conference for parents of young children birth to five years old on May 7, 2011 at the Guam Sports Complex in Dededo. This conference was an inter-agency collaboration of various presenters from the Guam Department of Education, Head Start, Early Childhood Special Education Program, Guam Early Intervention System, Guam Parent Information Resource Center, various Child Care Centers, and Guam CEDDERS.

A total of 60 parents/individuals and 104 children participated in the various activities that included fine and gross motor skills activities, early literacy information, nutritional information, early hearing detection and intervention information, and a range of other activities that promote positive and healthy development in children ages birth to five years of age.

Picture shown: (First picture from left) young boy looking at pictures from a storybook with Power of Play staff. (Second picture) Young girl reading a storybook. (Third picture) Young girl drawing with mom and dad.

# Health, Wellness, & Prevention Initiative Area

The areas of emphasis included in this Initiative Area are: **Early Intervention, Child Care, and Health**.

The Health, Wellness, & Prevention Initiative Area seeks to facilitate technical assistance and training efforts that specifically address early intervention and health care issues affecting persons with disabilities throughout their lifespan. Current projects under this Initiative Area focus on enhancing early childhood and educational systems of service, building local capacity in child caregiver training, newborn hearing screening, and supporting a ground-breaking children’s mental health project through evaluating program effectiveness.

## Early Intervention Services Part C Activities

The Guam Department of Education (DOE) Part C Program and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Public School System (CNMI PSS) Part C Program once again contracted Guam CEDDERS for technical assistance and training to improve their early intervention systems.

Guam CEDDERS provided assistance on the annual reporting requirements related to Part C State Performance Plans, Annual Performance Reports, and annual survey of family perceptions regarding the Part C Program services and supports for Guam and the CNMI. Guam CEDDERS also provided support in obtaining consultative and professional development services in the area of vision and hearing impairments for the Guam Early Intervention System (GEIS).

Picture showing baby Lilya undergoing a quick developmental screening with staff from the Guam Early Intervention System at the Children’s Healthy Development Fair held at the University of Guam on May 28, 2011.

The fair featured displays and presentations from over 20 agencies from the Guam Department of Education (DOE), Head Start, Early Childhood Special Education Program, Guam Early Intervention System, Guam Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Services, Guam Parent Information Resource Center, Department of Public Health and Social Services, Project Kariñu, I Famagu’on-ta, and Guam CEDDERS.

## Project Tinituhon (The Beginning)

Project Tinituhon is Guam’s State Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (SECCS) grant, with the mission that “all of Guam’s young children will have healthy minds, bodies, and spirits as the foundation for lifelong success.” Project Tinituhon addresses early childhood systems development to support the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive needs of young children on Guam. The project focuses on five critical components of early childhood systems development identified in the Maternal Child Health Bureau’s Strategic Plan for Early Childhood Health, with specific emphasis on the collaboration and coordination needed for addressing the key elements in building a comprehensive system.

## Guam’s Early Childhood Home Visiting Program: Project Bisita I Familia

In collaboration with DPHSS, Guam CEDDERS facilitated the completion of an updated and comprehensive early childhood needs assessment and prioritized strategies to support at-risk children and families on Guam through home visitation.

## Guam State Advisory Council Grant - Guam Early Learning Council

Funded through the Guam State Advisory Council Grant, this project focused on supporting the Guam Early Learning Council, which facilitates the collaboration and systems improvement among early childhood education and childcare programs and services on Guam. The project also supported social marketing, professional development, and family support in the area of early childhood.

Picture showing participants from Pohnpei DOE discuss and develop strategic action plans for the Early Childhood Education program during a three-day strategic planning session facilitated by Guam CEDDERS.

## Pohnpei State Department of Education – Early Childhood Education Program

The Pohnpei State Department of Education enlisted assistance from Guam CEDDERS to work on the development of early childhood policies and procedures to guide and support the establishment of the Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program. This included on-site technical assistance and group facilitation in gathering stakeholder input and data for the development, technical assistance, and training on the policies and procedures that support and guide the ECE program.

Picture showing representatives from the various child serving agencies attended the December 2010 meeting of the Governor’s Early Learning Council.

## Child Care Licensure

Promoting the improvement of the quality of child care on the island was the focus of a contract between the Department of Public Health and Social Services

(DPHSS) and Guam CEDDERS. A seven-year effort culminated this year with the passage of legislation and the signing of a law which updates the rules and regulations for child care center and group care licensure.

### Child Care Licensure Developed Products

To spread the word about the updated rules and regulations for Child Care Licensure,

Guam CEDDERS produced a “Frequently Asked Questions” pamphlet, printed posters, and ran several print ads in the local newspaper. Printed materials are available online at www.guamcedders.org.

## Child Care Licensure & Guam Early Learning Council Bills Become Law

Public Law 31-73, which establishes the administrative rules and regulations of the Department of Public Health and Social Services relative to child care centers and group child care homes, was signed into law on June 2. The bill provides updates to the rules and regulations that govern childcare licensure that have not been changed since 1978.

Childcare stakeholders (standing) joined (seated left to right) Senator Aline Yamashita, Senator Dennis Rodriguez, Governor Eddie Baza Calvo, and First Lady Christine Calvo at the signing ceremony for Public Law 31-73.

Also signed into law was Public Law 31-62, a bill introduced by former Guam CEDDERS Training Associate, Senator Aline Yamashita, Ph.D., that legislatively establishes the Guam Early Learning Council (ELC).

## Guam Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (Guam EHDI)

Picture showing Guam Early Hearing Detection Intervention (EHDI) logo.

Since its inception in 2002, Guam EHDI has conducted newborn hearing screenings for over 23,000 infants, referred 130 babies for early intervention services, and identified 53 with a hearing loss. Currently, approximately 99% of Guam’s newborns are screened at the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority, Guam’s only public hospital, and the Sagua Mañågu Birthing Center. In addition, through its integrated data tracking and surveillance system known as Guam ChildLink, Guam EHDI works to ensure that all babies born in Guam receive their initial hearing screening before leaving their birth site and receive follow-up services if a hearing impairment is detected.

This year, Guam EHDI launched a TeleAudiology pilotprogram in collaboration with the Children’s Hospital Colorado (CHC) to provide pediatric audiological evaluation and services currently not available in Guam. Through specialized TeleAudiological equipment, audiologists from the CHC will be able to diagnose and examine infants for hearing loss in Guam.

For more information about Guam EHDI, visit online at www.guamehdi.org.

Picture showing (Left Photo) Dr. Susan Dreith (right), audiologist, CHC, demonstrates the use of audiological equipment to Vicky Ritter, Guam EHDI Screening Technician (left).

Picture showing Guam EHDI brochures (above) and poster (below) displayed and distributed at the hospitals and birthing center, childcare centers, and pediatric clinics on Guam.

## Project Kariñu (Loving Our Babies)

The purpose of Project Kariñu is to develop, implement, and sustain an early childhood system of care for children birth to five years of age and their families that (1) promotes young children’s social, emotional, and behavioral well-being; (2) prevents disruption in young children’s social, emotional, and behavioral development as well as prevents the development of emotional and behavioral problems; and (3) provides direct intervention for young children and their families.

Picture showing Project Karinu logo.

In collaboration with the Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS), Guam CEDDERS took on the primary responsibility for the design and implementation of the evaluation, technical assistance and training, and the cultural and linguistic competence (CLC) components of Project Kariñu. Guam CEDDERS also facilitated, designed, and produced public awareness materials for the project.

Project showing participants from the Project Kariñu Strategic Planning Summit pose with the consultants at the conclusion of the Summit in August 2010. The purpose of the Summit was to provide stakeholders with an orientation to the project and early childhood systems of care, and to begin work on their strategic plan.

This event was co-sponsored by the Department of Public Health and Social Services, the Offices of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor of Guam, and the Guam Early Learning Council, in collaboration with Guam CEDDERS.

Picture showing mommy smiling while holding baby girl.

### What is Kariñu?

Kariñu is an early childhood initiative using a Public Health

approach that serves children age’s birth through five

years by providing screening, assessment, mental health

promotion, family education, mental health consultation,

and individualized services and supports.

### System of Care Core Values:

• Family-driven and youth-guided

• Community-based

• Culturally and linguistically competent

### System of Care Guiding Principles:

• Available and accessible array of services

• Individualized services using a strengths-based approach

• Use of evidence-based practices

• Least restrictive environment

• Full family participation

• Integrated services

• Care coordination using collaboration among agencies and families

• Developmentally appropriate services and supports

• Smooth transitions

• Early identification and intervention

• Use of evaluation to ensure effectiveness and quality outcomes

• Rights of children and families protected and advocacy

• Non-discriminatory and culturally/linguistically appropriate

# Commitment to Serving Our Region

Guam CEDDERS is committed to serving the Pacific through technical assistance, training, and graduate and undergraduate programs. Through national grants and contracts, Guam CEDDERS has provided support to American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Republic of Palau (ROP), and Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI).

A regional project which commenced this year is the Pacific Vision Instruction Program (VIP), where graduate students from these entities began a 4-year Masters Degree in Special Education which will lead to dual credentials in Teacher of Visual Impairments (TVI) and Orientation and Mobility (O&M). The end goal of the project is to have teachers who are highly qualified with credentials to educate students who are blind or have visual impairments.

# Inclusive Communities Initiative Area

 The areas of emphasis included in this Initiative Area are: **Education and**

**Assistive Technology**.

This Initiative Area is charged with facilitating activities that provide a variety of training and technical assistance opportunities that promote the increase of meaningful community involvement of individuals with disabilities and their families.

## Guam Department of Education, Project Menhålom (Wisdom)

Through Project Menhålom, a character education program in collaboration with Guam Department of Education, Guam CEDDERS facilitated technical assistance and training to increase academic achievement and positive behaviors in middle school students. Outcomes focused on increased awareness and appreciation for the value of character education, improved student discipline/behaviors, increased student academic achievement, and eventual program institutionalization with potential expansion of a systematic character education program in all grade levels.

Picture showing Celeste Dickey, from the Center on Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports at the University of Oregon (center), conversing with teachers during a Project Menhålom workshop session.

Picture showing visiting consultants from PEPNet West Cathy McLeod, and

Mary Morrison, and consultant Dr. Judy Coryell paid a visit to the Deaf Community Church to learn about Guam’s adult deaf community.

## Post-Secondary Education Programs Network (PEPNet)

In collaboration with PEPNet-West, a project out of the National Center on Deafness at California State University, Northridge, Guam CEDDERS provided facilitation services to conduct a workshop and provide technical assistance on “Deaf/Hard of

 Hearing: Understanding Leads to Success.” Part of the activities for this project was to coordinate the attendance of representatives from the CNMI, FSM, Guam, Palau, and the Marshall Islands. A total of 63 participants attended the two-day training held on April 4-5, 2011.

## Guam Department of Education, Division of Special Education – Part B Activities

The Division of Special Education, Part B Programs, contracted Guam CEDDERS to provide technical assistance and training in the implementation and evaluation of prioritized improvement activities identified in its Part B State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report submitted to OSEP following the ARRA-IDEA use of funds plan. This included: 1) technical support in the service delivery infrastructure professional development to address instructional needs of low-performing schools and students with the greatest learning challenges; 2) technical support to address the improvement of performance on State Performance Plan Indicator 13, Secondary Transition; and 3) managing contractual arrangements for any technical assistance and training provided by off-island consultants.

A second contract also included conducting an annual survey of parent perceptions regarding the Part B Program and providing professional development services based on priorities established by the Division of Special Education. The contract included the facilitation process to bring consultants to provide technical assistance in the areas of vision impairment, transition, and deaf/hard of hearing and the facilitation of parent leadership trainings.

## CNMI, FSM, and Palau Part B Activities

 Guam CEDDERS had contracts to perform similar types of services and supports for the Part B Programs in the CNMI, the FSM, and Palau. The CNMI Public School System (PSS) IDEA Part B program enlisted the help of Guam CEDDERS to provide technical assistance in the implementation and evaluation of prioritized improvement activities in the PSS State Performance and Annual Performance

Reports.

The national government of the FSM contracted Guam CEDDERS to assist with similar activities, in addition to the development and implementation of local monitoring systems consistent with program requirements.

The Republic of Palau Ministry of Education also worked in these areas with Guam CEDDERS, which also facilitated revisions to the Part B procedural safeguards notice and manual to meet IDEA 2004 requirements and Part B grant assurance requirements.

Picture showing (above) Dr. Ed O’Leary, (second from right) a national expert on secondary transition programs, conducted high school site visits and a follow-up training on April 27-29, 2011. (Bottom) The Palau Ministry of Education Monitoring Team takes a photo break with the Peleliu Elementary School Administrator, Faculty, and staff during a Technical Assistance site visit.

## Guam’s Family Support 360º for Military Families (Guam FS360º)

Now in its third year, this project aims to help alleviate some of the pressures and challenges faced by military families with children with disabilities by serving as a “one-stop center” for information and services available in both the military and civilian communities. The project’s overall goals are to enhance the capabilities of families to assist their children with developmental disabilities to achieve their maximum potential; support the increasing ability of children with disabilities to exercise greater choice and self-determination and to engage in leadership activities in their communities; and ensure the protection of children with disabilities’ legal and human rights. Guam hosts a large military contingent representing every branch of the military including the National Guard and Reserve units.

Program Features:

* Family Support Navigators are experienced and trained peer to peer support persons who are assigned to assist military families of children with disabilities
* Interactive, skill building parent workshops and parent/sibling support groups
* Consultation and training for military and community programs on military culture, disabilities, inclusion practices, and other topics
* One Stop Center conveniently located at the University of Guam campus
* Community Partners consisting of parents, military organizations, and community resources

For more information about Guam FS360º, visit online at www.guamfamilysupport.org.

Picture showing a pie chart providing a breakdown in percentage of Guam’s FS360 military families by branch of service 2009-2011: As of March 31, 2011: Navy at 26 percent as well as Guam Army National Guard at 26 percent with the Air Force holding the most at 34 percent. Coast Guard holds 7percent, Army is at 6% and Marines holding the least at only 1 percent.

Picture showing a 2010 Guam FS360 Military Supports directory.

### 2010 Guam FS360 Military Supports Directory

Guam’s Family Support 360º for Military Families launched the 2010 Military

Supports Directory which featured listings on installations/bases, medical providers, educational institutions, and the supports within the Guam Community.

In addition, the directory also provided information on emergency preparedness for individuals with disabilities. To download a copy of the 2010 Military

Supports Directory or the updated 2012 Military Supports Directory, log on to www.guamfamilysupport.org.

## Guam System for Assistive Technology (GSAT)

Picture showing the GSAT logo.

Through GSAT, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, National

Institute on Disability Rehabilitation and Research (NIDRR), Guam CEDDERS serves as the primary resource in the community, for information on Assistive Technology (AT). GSAT provides training and technical assistance, transition assistance to individuals with disabilities, public awareness, and coordination and collaboration to increase access and utilization of AT devices and services. GSAT services include device recycling and equipment exchange, device loan and demonstration programs, and financing programs.

The Get Guam Teleworking (GGT) and Guam Options for Alternative Loans for Assistive Technology (GOALAT) alternative loan programs assist individuals with disabilities to obtain devices and services that will enhance their quality of life.

In FY2010-2011, GSAT approved five GGT Loans totaling $48,667.83 and nine GOAL-AT Loans totaling $28,510.80.

For more information about GSAT, visit online at www.gsatcedders.org.

Picture showing (above) Carla Torres (right) demonstrates how to use the Smartview Versa Plus, a handheld electronic magnification device, during the GSAT AT Fair at the Micronesia Mall. (Bottom) Ana Ishmael works on the Assistive Technology she was able to purchase through the Guam Options for Alternative Loans- Assistive Technology (GOAL-AT) program administered through GSAT.

### 2011 GSAT Conference & Fair

The 17th Annual Assistive Technology Conference focused on employment and accessibility with the theme “Assistive Technology: Making It Work for Business–A

Focus on Employment and Accessibility.” The conference, held on March 18 at the Guam Hilton Resort & Spa, was followed by the Assistive Technology (AT) Fair the next day at the Micronesia Mall.

The conference opened with the keynote address by Benito Servino, the new director of the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities

(DISID), who gave statistical information regarding the prevalence of disabilities in our community and schools.

Picture showing a GSAT resource material.

# AT Loan Helps Small Business Grow

Picture showing (Top) Noel Lazaga and his wife, Hikie Lazaga, are proud owners of a truck purchased through a loan from the Get Guam Teleworking (GGT) Loan Program. (Above) Newly self-employed Noel Lazaga (right) proudly markets his lawn care maintenance business at the Assistive Technology Conference.

Dreams do come true! Just ask Noel Lazaga who has turned his dream into a reality with the establishment of his own yard maintenance business, 4N Yard & Maintenance Services. Equipped with new assertiveness skills acquired through the Self-Advocacy Workshop, Noel became an entrepreneur with the help and support of the Get Guam Teleworking Loan Program and the services from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) and Guam CEDDERS.

The road to running his own business required hard work, persistence, and focus. He first requested that his VR case be reopened and then participated in trainings by the Small Business Development Center (SBDC). Later, he learned business terms, developed a business plan, obtained quotes for equipment and services, and applied for a loan. After obtaining a business license, he developed a customer base.

Noel has learned the ups and downs of loan applications, record keeping, purchasing, advertising, customer satisfaction, and monthly profit and loss. He uses his network of resources, including the SBDC, Guam System for Assistive Technology (GSAT), and his self-advocacy mentor, to guide him on this new venture, while routinely taking a look at his net income.

Noel has this advice for others who have selfemployment goals: “If you need help, SBDC will help. You know, I have problems now, but little by little you get your problems fixed. …Go ahead and do it and be positive.”

## Pacific Vision Instruction Project (Pacific VIP)

In partnership with the University of Massachusetts at Boston, Pacific VIP aims to increase the pool of fully credentialed instructional personnel who

 are highly qualified to educate students who are blind or have visual impairments (VI). By the end of this four-year grant, which began in February, 20 students will have earned a Master of Education in Special Education degree, plus dual credentials in Teacher of Visual Impairments (TVI) and Orientation and Mobility (O&M). Courses are offered through a combination of on-site and online delivery, with practica taking place on the students’ home islands. The impact of this cohort for students with VI will be significant throughout the region for years to come, with participants coming from American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the Federated States of Micronesia including Chuuk and Pohnpei.

Picture showing (L-R) Dr. Heidi San Nicolas, Guam CEDDERS Director and Connie Guerrero, Guam CEDDERS Pacific Vision Instruction Project Faculty, interviewed by Cathleen Moore-Linn, University of Guam Director of Integrated Marketing, on the “Higher Degree,” a weekly TV news magazine featuring postsecondary educational activities.

University of Guam logo.

Guam CEDDERS logo

ICI logo

University of Boston Massachusetts logo

Picture showing potential Pacific VIP trainees from Guam, CNMI, and FSM with Guam CEDDERS Project Staff, an Advisory Council member, and UMASS Boston faculty are all SMILES as they begin the February 2011 orientation session on Guam.

# “A Day in the Life Video Series” Featured by KUAM News

Employment and accessibility were two of the issues prioritized by the 2011 Assistive Technology Conference and Fair Committee as needing more exposure and increased public awareness in the community at large. So to address this need, the committee organized a “Day in the Life Video Series” that was featured on the local prime time six o’clock news to do just that. Committee members connected with KUAM to film four different segments that aired in the days leading up to the conference. Two of the episodes focused on accessibility and two focused on the use of assistive technology in the workplace to overcome the challenges faced by individuals with particular disabilities. In all of the segments, key community members who participated experienced having a specific disability.

The series was well-received and the folks who participated expressed that the experience has really opened their minds and hearts to the issues. In one of the segments, Senator Sam Mabini was given the opportunity to experience shopping with a visual disability. As a proponent of the workforce development on island, she expressed that the experience made her realize how employers need to train their employees on how to provide appropriate services to individuals with disabilities. These segments may be viewed on the Guam CEDDERS website at www.guamcedders.org.

Picture showing (Left Photo) Jason Salas (left), KUAM News Extra host, interviews Lee Cruz (center), Guam CEDDERS Advisory Council Member, and Francis Dadulfaza (right) about their use of assistive technology as persons with disabilities.

(Center Photo) Senator Tom Ada and Ginger Porter, Guam CEDDERS Initiative Area Coordinator, discuss the state of public transportation as the Senator takes a ride on a fixed public transit route in Hagåtña. (Right Photo) Senator Sam Mabini experiences a day of shopping as a person with vision impairment.

GSAT logo

Guam Legal Service Corporation

DCD logo

KUAM News logo

## PACIFIC Project

The PACIFIC Project stands for “Pacific Assessment Consortium (PAC6) Implementing Fully Innovative Change.” This project facilitates the continued commitment of the six Pacific Basin Entities (American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of the Micronesia, Guam, Republic of Palau, and Republic of the Marshall Islands) to build regional and local capacity for the development and full implementation of high-quality alternate assessments based on alternate academic achievement standards (AA-AAS).

These high-quality alternate assessments aim to produce accurate reporting and analysis of participation and performance data of students with significant cognitive disabilities in each entity’s inclusive assessment system.

The concerted efforts to build regional and local capacity speaks to the commitment of the PAC6 to “implement fully innovative change” in how research and best practices can be effectively applied in multilingual, and multi-cultural island communities with varying infrastructure capacities for economic, health, and educational development.

The 2010 Annual Regional Professional Development Institute was held in Guam on July 12-16 and was attended by over 200 regional special education and school administrators, special education and general education specialists and teachers, technology specialists, and parents of children with disabilities. The CIA of Education for All Students: Investigating the Possibilities in the Pacific focused on the Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment (CIA) for all students.

Other activities included a Project Leadership meeting in February 2011 attended by entity leaders and liaisons. On-site visits to each of the entities also took place throughout the year to provide follow-up support to reinforce Institute and project objectives.

Picture showing Special Education Coordinators and administrators from American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Republic of Palau pose with Guam CEDDERS PACIFIC Project staff during a Leadership Meeting in February 2011.

# Building Local Capacity through Specialized Cadres

The PACIFIC Project Entity Cadres or “core groups” are comprised of highly trained, experienced professionals able to consistently serve as local trainers responsible for providing technical assistance and training for local IEP teams, including facilitating the integrity of gathering, compiling, and reporting local data using various validity instruments. The PACIFIC Project facilitated specific training throughout the three-year project period, beginning with the February 2009 and continuing until the end of the project.

## CADRE 1: Scoring & Standard Setting

This cadre focused on building each entity’s “cadre” of local support for facilitating the AA-AAS scoring structure and process which included interpreting rubrics and ensuring consistent scoring procedures and understanding the use of performance level descriptors (PLD’s). In addition, this cadre focused on facilitating standard setting by understanding the critical components and planning for implementation.

## CADRE 2: Implementing with Integrity Validity Instruments

Cadre 2 focused on implementing a set of tools designed to investigate important questions of consequential validity regarding intended and unintended consequences of alternate achievement standards assessments and the provision of access to the general curriculum. Developed by University of Kentucky’s National Alternate Assessment Center (NAAC), the purposeful gathering, compiling, and reporting of data through the use of these tools such as: Learner Characteristics Inventory (LCI), Student/ Classroom Observation, Student Work Analysis, IEP Analysis, Teacher Interviews, and Four-Step Self-Evaluation.

## CADRE 3: Developing Media Clips for Local Training

Cadre 3 members were trained to develop local media clips to complement the development of IEP / Special Education training modules and to eventually create local public awareness videos. The Project provided video recording and editing equipment and conducted hands-on training for each Cadre 3 member on the use of the equipment and software and basic video shooting and editing techniques.

# Activity Data Summary (July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011)

## Direct and/or Demonstration Services

Guam CEDDERS Direct and/or Demonstration Services data and information reported through the Association of University Centers on Disability (AUCD) National Information Reporting System (NIRS) include: 652 hours of training to 3,260 participants.

## Community Services and Technical Assistance

Guam CEDDERS Community Services and Technical Assistance data and information reported through the AUCD NIRS include: conducting 4,317 hours of technical assistance and community services locally and regionally for 9,674 participants.

## Dissemination, Research, and Evaluation

Guam CEDDERS Dissemination, Research, and Evaluation data and information reported through the AUCD NIRS include: developing 71 products, and of those products, 121,095 units were disseminated.

Picture showing a pie graph providing a breakdown of funding between Federal, which has about 62 percent, equivalent to $5,276,824. State & Local generates 32 percent of funding at $2,744,017. And finally Other which provides 6 percent at only $537,271. This provide a total estimation however of $8,558,112.

# Collaborating Partners

## Collaborating Universities

California State University, Northridge Post Secondary Education Program Network for Students & Adults Who Are Deaf/Hard of Hearing

Guam Community College

Kapiolani Community College

Gallaudet University Outreach Center

San Diego State University,

Interwork Institute

University of Hawaii

Center on Disability Studies; Leadership in

Neurodevelopmental Disabilities

University of Kentucky

National Alternate Assessment Center;

Center on Inclusive Large Scale Standards &

Assessments

University of Massachusetts Boston

Northeast Regional Center for

Vision Education

University of Minnesota

Institute on Community Integration

National Center on Educational Outcomes

University of North Carolina

Frank Porter Graham Institute

University of North Carolina

National Early Childhood Technical

Assistance Center

University of Oregon

Western Regional Resource Center

Utah State University– National Center on

Hearing Assessment & Management

Vanderbilt University

Center on Social Emotional Development &

Early Learning

Western Oregon University

## Other Collaborators

American Academy of Pediatrics

American Samoa Department of Education

Bookshare.org, The Benetech Initiative

Boystown Center for Deafness

Center for Applied Special Technology

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Public School System

Community Transportation Association of America

Council for Chief State School Officers

Easter Seals Project Action

Federated States of Micronesia Department of Education

Hawaii’s Early Childhood Comprehensive Project

Interstate New Teacher Assessment & Support Consortium

Mid-Continent Research for Education & Learning, CO

National Alternate Assessment Center

National Association for the Education of Young Children

National Association of Social Workers

National Center for Special Education Accountability & Monitoring

National Child Care Information & Technical Assistance Center

National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center

National Infant & Toddler Child Care Initiative @ Zero to Three

National Information System for Assistive Technology (NISAT)

National Instruction Materials Accessibility Center

National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standards, TA Center

Pacific Resources for Education & Learning

Republic of the Marshall Islands

Ministry of Education

Republic of Palau Ministry of Education

Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America

U.S. Department of Defense

## Guam Collaborating Partners

Agency for Human Resources Development

Alee Shelter

Catholic Social Services

Center for Independent Living Council

Department of Defense Educational Activity

Educational Developmental Intervention Services, U.S. Naval Hospital, Guam

Guam Child Care Development Association

Guam Community College

Guam Department of Education

Guam Department of Homeland Security - Office of Civil Defense

Guam Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities

Guam Department of Labor

Guam Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse

Guam Department of Public Health & Social Services

Guam Department of Public Works

Guam Department of Vocal Rehabilitation

Guam Department of Youth Affairs

Guam Developmental Disabilities Council

Guam Early Learning Council

Guam EHDI Family Support Group

Guam Housing & Urban Renewal Authority

Guam Identifies Families’ Terrific Strengths

Guam Interagency Coordinating Council

Guam Legal Services Corporation Disability Law Center

Guam Legislature

Guam Medical Society

Guam Memorial Hospital Authority

Guam Parent Information Resource Center

Guam Positive Parents Together

Guam Regional Transit Authority

Guam Salvation Army

Head Start

Mayors’ Council

Office of the First Lady

Office of the Governor

Office of the Lieutenant Governor

Office of the Public Guardian

Sagua Mañagu Birthing Center

Self-Advocates in Action

Superior Court of Guam

Small Business Development Center

Victim Advocates Reaching Out

# The Guam CEDDERS Team

## Teaching, Research, Outreach, & Administrative Staff

**Heidi San Nicolas, PhD**

Director & Professor

 **Kim Aeillo, MA, CCC-A**

Guam EHDI Follow-Up Coordinator

 **Maria Luisa D. Benavente, ACSW**

Training Associate

**Vera Ann G. Blaz, MA**

Research Associate

**Bonnie Brandt, MA**

Training Associate

**Julie Celeste, MBA**

Administrative Manager

**June De Leon, MEd**

Associate Director

**Cheryl DeRoca, MS, MA**

Training Associate

**Elaine Eclavea, MEd**

Health, Wellness, & Prevention

Initiative Area Coordinator

**Mary Fegurgur, MSW, PsyD**

Associate Professor

Guam Family Support 360º Principal

Investigator

**Terrie Fejarang, MEd**

Associate Director for Interdisciplinary

Training, Operations, & Data/

Dissemination

**Nieves Flores, EdD**

Associate Professor

Training Associate

**Asuncion Guerrero, MEd**

Training Associate

 **Lisa Jensen, MEd**

Family Support Specialist

**Sean Lizama, BA**

Disability Media Specialist

**Jonas Macapinlac, MBA**

Media Development /

Information Technology Coordinator

 **Joseph Mendiola, BA**

Data Coordinator

**Jeffrey Pinaula, BA**

Research Associate

**Ginger Porter, MEd**

Consumer Leadership & Systems

Change Initiative Area Coordinator

 **June Quitugua, MEd**

Inclusive Communities

Initiative Area Coordinator

 **Victoria Ritter, BA**

Guam EHDI Screening Technician

 **Velma Sablan, PhD**

Professor

Project Director Guam EHDI

**Carla Torres, MEd**

Assistive Technology Specialist

**Keith Villaluna, BBA**

Data Coordinator

## Support Staff

**Leah Grace Abelon, BA**

AT Center Assistant

**Crystal Bannister, AA**

Family Navigator

 **John P. Camacho, Jr.**

Student Office Assistant

 **Patrick Carlos**

Student Office Assistant

 **Johnathan Castro**

Student Research Assistant

 **Joseph Connelly**

Student Research Assistant

**Marvin Crisostomo**

Family Support Navigator

 **Dolores Cruz**

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 **Elizabeth Ficke**

Center Assistant

 **Tamara Flores**

Office Technician

 **Elizabeth Hines**

Grant Assistant

**Besse Ilustre**

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**Eric Pegarido**

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**Krystal Perez**

Office Technician

 **Camarin Sablan**

Student Office Assistant

 **Jacia Shimizu**

Follow-up Parent Mentor

 **Bernadette Shisler**

Family Interviewer

 **Stephanie Tenorio**

Student Office Assistant

 **June Timpe**

Grant Budget Specialist I

 **Belinda Villareal**

Office Technician

# Guam CEDDERS Advisory Council

The Guam CEDDERS Advisory Council meets quarterly to provide input and guidance as community needs were addressed and activities were implemented. Comprised of a majority of individuals with disabilities and family members, with representation from disability-related service providers, the Council provided critical direction in key initiatives, including transportation, emergency preparedness, and self-advocacy.

Picture showing the 2011-2012 CEDDERS Advisory Council members are (Seated L-R) Bill Fuppul, Self-Advocate & Vice Chairperson; Moses Puas, Self-Advocate; Tom Manglona, Self-Advocate & Chairperson; Erlinda Tydingco, Self-Advocate; (Standing L-R) Ben Servino, Director of DISID; Nathan Taimanglo, Self-Advocate; Lydia Tenorio,

Department of Public Health and Social Services; Marcelene Santos, Office of the Public Guardian; Maria Libria, Guam Developmental Disabilities Council; Harold Parker, JD, Guam Legal Services Corporation-Disability Law Center; and Anna Kilroy, Parent.

Not in photo: Bernie Grajek, Executive Director, Guma’ Mami and Ordelia Pritchard, Parent.

University of Guam seal

Guam CEDDERS

University of Guam logo

# 2011 Annual Report

## University of Guam Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service (Guam CEDDERS)

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