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UNIVERSITY OF GUAM
Center for Excellence in
Developmental Disabilities
Education, Research, and Service

First PBILC Meeting in 9 Years Held in Guam



Pacific Basin Interagency Leadership Consortium

(Top Photo) Representatives from American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Guam met on February 28 to discuss common issues relating to disabilities on our islands and the potential for re-establishing the Pacific Basin Interagency Leadership Consortium to collaboratively address common concerns. (Left Photo) Tafaimamao Tua-Tupuola, Director of the American Samoa University Center on Developmental Disabilities (ASUCEDD) spearheaded regrouping efforts and facilitated the meeting with support from Guam CEDDERS.

See the next issue of *I Tellai* for
Guam System for Assistive Technology (GSAT) Conference &
Fair Highlights & 25th Anniversary Commemorative Report

Self-Advocates Complete Train-the-Trainer Workshop



On February 16, five Self-Advocates gather with Guam CEDDERS staff following completion of a 2-day Self-Advocacy Train the Trainer Workshop, February 9 and 16, 2019 at GSAT. Front row (L-R): Self-Advocates Maria Bontogon, Barbara Johnson, and Candice Perry. Back row (L-R): Kunta Edmond, UOG Social Work Intern; Mary Kidd, CEDDERS Consultant; Esther Gina Arca and Silvestre San Nicolas, Self-Advocates; and Tanya Simer, Guam CEDDERS staff.



Self-Advocates review an activity in one of five modules of the Self-Advocacy Training Program for Individuals with Disabilities at a Train the Trainer Workshop held at GSAT. Seated clockwise are: Silvestre San Nicolas, Self-Advocate; Mary Kidd, CEDDERS Consultant; Maria Bontogon, Candice Perry, and Barbara Johnson, Self-Advocates; and Kunta Edmond, UOG Social Work Intern.

New DD Council Executive Director Meets with CEDDERS Director



Dr. Heidi San Nicolas, CEDDERS Director, welcomes recently appointed Jermaine Alerta, Guam Developmental Disabilities Council (GDDC) Executive Director, during a planning meeting at the GDDC office.

UOG Social Work Faculty Visit Guam CEDDERS



On February 4, Lisa Linda Natividad, Ph.D., and Tricia Lizama, Ph.D., UOG Social Work faculty, visited Guam CEDDERS to discuss the inclusion of a breakout session entitled, "The Behavioral Health Glossary in CHamoru: A Practical Tool Towards Health Literacy and Patient-Centered Care" during the upcoming National Association of Social Workers – Guam Chapter Annual Conference scheduled for March 18-19, 2019 at the Westin Resort Guam. Mariles Benavente, LCSW, and retired Guam CEDDERS Cultural and Linguistic Competence Coordinator, the editor of the Glossary, will be the lead presenter of the session. (L-R) Dr. Natividad and Dr. Lizama are shown holding copies of the Glossary.

2019-2020 Guam Directory of Services for Individuals with Disabilities



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Meeting with EPICS Scholars Focuses on Practicum Preparation



Terrie Fejarang, Guam CEDDERS Associate Director and EPICS Liaison, met with Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Public School System Special Education staff on February 20 to discuss upcoming practicum options for the Saipan-based scholars. Front Row (L-R): Terrie Fejarang and Suzanne Lizama, CNMI PSS Special Education Director. Back Row (L-R): Nora Pangelinan, Data Management and Compliance Program Manager, and Donna Flores, Data Management and Compliance Program Manager.



On February 20, Saipan-based EPICS scholars met with EPICS staff to discuss upcoming practicum activities. EPICS stands for "Educating Pacific Island Clinicians in Speech Pathology" a personnel preparation project funded through a U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Program (OSEP) grant. The grant supports the delivery of San Jose State University's (SJSU) graduate program in Speech Language Pathology for Pacific scholars. (L-R): Catherine Roszala, EPICS Scholar; Ignacio Dela Cruz, EPICS Scholar; Terrie Fejarang, Guam CEDDERS Associate Director and EPICS On-Site Liaison; and Keokia Mendiola, CCC-SLP, EPICS/SJSU Clinical Practicum Supervisor. Not shown: Tricia Taitano, EPICS Scholar.

EPICS Clinical Practicum in Guam DOE Schools to Start Soon



(L-R): Amalia Badua, Guam Department of Education (GDOE) Speech Therapist assigned to Agana Heights Elementary School (AHES); Hannah Gutierrez, Principal, AHES; and Meagan Terlaje, AHES Teacher and EPICS Scholar, met on February 6 and are excited about the anticipated start of student practicum by the end of the month.

Guam Regional Medical City Serves as Practicum Site for EPICS Scholars



Sibyl Crisostomo, CCC-SLP, (right) clinical supervisor at Guam Regional Medical City, explains bolus flow to Joseph Mendiola, during a bedside swallow assessment, as part of his practicum activities on December 13, 2018. Joseph is a graduate student under the “Educating Pacific Island Clinicians in Speech Pathology” (EPICS) Project, a collaborative project facilitated by San Jose State University and Guam CEDDERS.

Guam EHDl Parents & Staff Visit North Carolina D/HH Programs



Guam Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) Project, Guam Positive Parents Together (GPPT), and Guam Department of Education (GDOE) – Guam Early Intervention System met with Communication Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CSDHH) staff in Greensboro, North Carolina on February 19 to discuss the programs and services CSDHH provide. CSDHH is a non-profit organization that provides services for Individuals who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing (D/HH) and their families, which consists of advocacy, American Sign Language (ASL) classes, interpreting, and social activities. Pictured from left to right: Jenika Ballesta, Guam CEDDERS Research Associate; Cathy Tydingco, School Program Coordinator, Guam Department of Education; Ann Marie Cruz, GPPT Board President; Tanya Simer, Guam EHDI Hearing Screening Paraprofessional; Paige Sprinkle, CSDHH, Program Coordinator; Susan Dugan, GPPT Project Fitme Coordinator; Trisha Suzuki, Parent Mentor; Meredith Kaplan, CSDHH, Outreach Coordinator; Jen Dunn, NC Early Learning Sensory Support Program; Marie Wusstig, Guam CEDDERS Training Associate/Guam EHDI Project Coordinator; Evelyn Topasña, Parent Mentor. Not pictured is Kelle Owens, MPA, Executive Director, CSDHH.



On February 20, Guam Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) Project, Guam Positive Parents Together (GPPT), and Guam Department of Education (GDOE) – Guam Early Intervention System met with North Carolina Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) staff. Both EHDI Teams were able to share their experiences and the resources within their programs with one another. Front row left to right: Jenika Ballesta, Guam CEDDERS, Research Associate, Marie Wusstig, Guam CEDDERS Training Associate/Guam EHDI Project Coordinator; Beth Whitfield, NC Early Learning Sensory Support Program; Tisha Suzuki, Parent Mentor; Susan Dugan, GPPT Project Fitme Coordinator; Cathy Tydingco, GDOE-GEIS, School Program Coordinator; Ann Marie Cruz, GPPT Board President; Johnnie Sexton, CARE Project, Founder, Executive Director; NC-EHDI staffs with NC EHDI Coordinator, Marcia Fort, AuD., CCC-A; Evelyn Topasña, Parent Mentor; Tanya Simer, Guam EHDI, Hearing Screening Paraprofessional.

Guam EHDl Parents & Staff Visit North Carolina D/HH Programs (cont.)



On February 21, Guam Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDl) Project, Guam Positive Parents Together (GPPT), and Guam Department of Education (GDOE) – Guam Early Intervention System (GEIS) toured the Greensboro County Deaf Education programs at Frazier Elementary School, Hunter Elementary School, Johnson Street School, and Grimsley High School. The Deaf Education program provides equal educational access for deaf and hard of hearing students. Support services are provided for different hearing loss and communication needs which consist of American Sign Language Interpreting and Assistive Technology devices. Pictured left to right: Joann Mapas, GCS Deaf Education Lead; Jenika Ballesta, Guam CEDDERS Research Associate; Tanya Simer, Guam EHDl Hearing Screening Paraprofessional; Ann Marie Cruz, GPPT Board President; Evelyn Topasña, Parent Mentor; Susan Dugan, GPPT Project Fitme Coordinator; Marie Wusstig, Guam CEDDERS Training Associate/Guam EHDl Project Coordinator; Trisha Suzuki, Parent Mentor; Cathy Tydingco, School Program Coordinator, GDOE-GEIS.

Guam EHDl & GSAT Participate in Lion's Club Health Fair

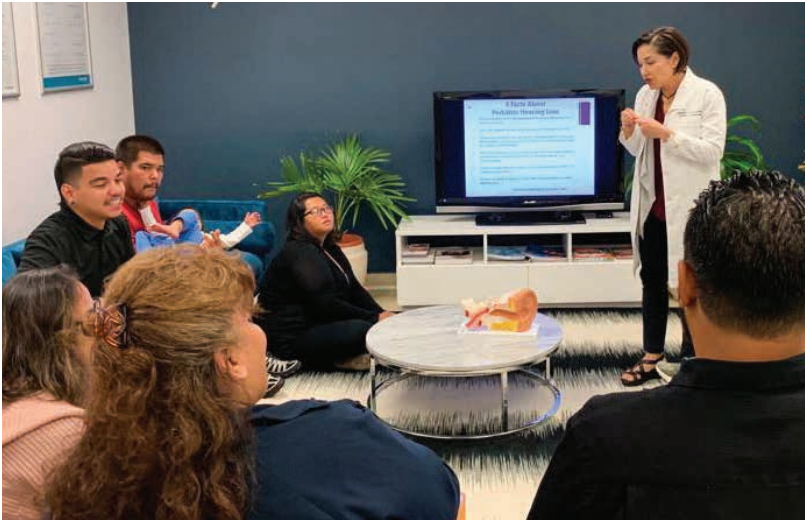


The Guam Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (Guam EHDl) Project Fitme and Guam's Positive Parents Together (GPPT) participated in the Lion's Club Health Fair at the Micronesia Mall Center Court on February 2. Guam EHDl and GPPT shared information about initial hearing screening for newborns and parent supports available to families of children identified with a hearing loss. Pictured at the event were (standing, L-R): Ashley Babauta, GPPT/Project Fitme Support Staff; Jenika Ballesta, Guam CEDDERS Research Associate; and Bobbie Afleje, GPPT/Project Fitme Support Staff.



The Guam System for Assistive Technology (GSAT) participated in the Lion's Club Health Fair at the Micronesia Mall Center Court. Pictured at the event is Leah Abelon, GSAT Center Coordinator.

“Introduction to Deaf/Hard of Hearing” Training Held for Guam EHHI Parents and Family Members



On January 19, Renee Koffend, AuD, CCC-A, facilitated a Parent Leadership Training on “Introduction to Deaf and Hard of Hearing” for parents and family members at Guam Hearing Doctors. The training focused on the causes of hearing loss, available hearing technology and other forms of communication, the purpose and importance of the hearing booth, and how to read an audiogram which shows the type, degree, and configuration of hearing loss. (Pictured from left to right) Front Row: Milo Roberts, Jamae Quenga, Mila Nicole Quenga. Dr. Renee Koffend, and Evelyn Topasña. Back Row: Bobbie Afleje, Project FitMe Staff; Ivan Babauta, ASL Community Interpreter; Nathan Manibusan, ASL Community Interpreter; Susan Dugan, Project FitMe Coordinator; Caleb and Trisha Suzuki.

Guam CEDDERS Express Appreciation to GMHA Staff



Guam CEDDERS expressed their appreciation to GMHA OB Ward and Nursery staff for continued collaboration throughout the year on December 21, 2018. Pictured from Left to right: Tanya Simer, Guam CEDDERS; Nursery staff; Avelina (Bing) Opena, GMHA NICU Supervisor; Elena Mariano, Nursing Staff; JennyLyn Pascual, GMHA Staff; and Marie Wusstig, Guam CEDDERS.



Pictured from left to right: Ma Victoria (Marivic) Guaio, GMHA OB Ward Nursing Supervisor, and Tanya Simer, Guam CEDDERS. Not pictured: Marie Wusstig, Guam CEDDERS.

GEIS Staff Receive Diagnostic Audiological Evaluation (DAE) Toolkits



On December 5, 2018, Guam Early Intervention System (GEIS) staff received ten Diagnostic Audiological Evaluation (DAE) Toolkits for infants referred for a DAE from Guam EHDH staff. Toolkits include materials to assist families to prepare for the infant's diagnostic audiological evaluation. Pictured Left to Right: Barbara Leon Guerrero, GEIS Data Clerk; Tanya Simer, Guam CEDDERS; Therese Sanchez, GEIS Service Coordinator. Not shown: Jenika Ballesta, Guam CEDDERS.

GPPT/Project Fitme Holds Their 1st Family Social Event



GPPT/Project Fitme family and friends gather for a group picture at our 1st Family Social Event held at Chuck E. Cheese's on December 8, 2018. Families had the opportunity to meet and socialize during the event. (Seated L-R) Susan Dugan, Project FitMe Coordinator; Julia Flores, Richard Flores, Joyce Tejerasas, Evelyn Topasña, and Jay-Lynn Mendiola. (Middle Row L-R) Mike Romero, Joseph Flores, Xavier De Jesus, Shane O'Mallan, Caleb Suzuki, Trisha Suzuki, Jacob Suzuki, Wil Topasña, John Mababayag, Javier Castro, Inina Topasña, and Ashley Babauta; Project FitMe Staff. (Top Row L-R) William Tejerasas, Keoni Smau-Pesch, Gatbo Topasña, Liam Cruz, and Jase Almandres.

GPPT/Project Fitme Holds 2nd Family Social Event



Guam's Positive Parents Together, Inc. (GPPT)/Project Fitme held their 2nd Family Social Event at the Onward Beach Resort Guam Water Park on December 30, 2018. The purpose of the Family Social Events is to promote social interaction between families who have young children with hearing loss and who are involved with the D/HH Family Support Group. Pictured front row (L-R): Evelyn Topasña; Gatbo Topasña; Caleb Suzuki; Liam Cruz. Back row: Susan Dugan (GPPT Staff); Ashley Babauta (GPPT Staff); Nathan Manibusan (ASL Community Interpreter) and Ivan Babauta (ASL Community Interpreter); Trisha Suzuki; Jay-Lynn Mendiola and John Mababayag.

CA-LEND Cohort 2 Meet



On January 10, UOG CEDDERS, through a sub-award from Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA), is currently facilitating the second cohort of the California Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (CA-LEND) Health Professional Support Program for Children with Congenital Zika Virus (ZIKV) Infection in American Samoa and the U.S. Affiliated Pacific Basin. Pictured (L - R): Jenesse Quan and Isabella Fagota, Social Workers, Karinu, Department of Public Health and Social Services; Tanya Simer, Hearing Screening Paraprofessional, Guam Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (Guam EHDI) Project; Josephine Cruz, CEDDERS Training Associate; and EDLynn Beyond, CEDDERS Student Office Assistant and currently a student in the University of Guam Master of Public Administration Program. Not pictured: Vera Blaz, CEDDERS Training Associate and CA-LEND ZIKV Training Coordinator.

Family Visits GSAT Model Home



On January 24, The Riate Family visited the GSAT Model Home, which helped them learn more about assistive technology. The Riates borrowed the Weighted Shawl and Puppy Hugs assistive devices. The Weighted Shawl and Puppy Hugs are weighted sensory products that aid with sensory processing by providing deep pressure information to joints and muscles, which help individuals feel relaxed and calm. (Pictured L-R: Joseph, Asuncion, and Simon Riate)

Langston University Reps Share Info on Research Project Supports



On February 27, CEDDERS staff pose with Langston University Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (LU-RRTC) staff and representatives from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Republic of the Marshall Islands. The Langston University team comprising of Corey Moore, Principal Investigator and Research Director; Edward Manyibe, Capacity-Building Director and Research Associate Professor; and Andre Washington, Co-Principal Investigator/Technical Assistant Coordinator, are on Guam to share opportunities for Guamanians to conduct research in the fields of disability and rehabilitation. Funded through a grant from the Department of Health and Human Services the LU-RRTC is actively recruiting participation in research opportunities in the U.S. Territories. Funding includes technical assistance in grant writing, conducting research, data analysis, and manuscript preparation and publishing.

Langston University Consultants Meet Senators



Langston University Rehabilitation Research and Training Center representatives pose in the main foyer of the Guam Congress Building after a meeting with senators on February 27. Left to Right: Jermaine Alerta, Executive Director, Guam Developmental Disabilities Council; Josephine Cruz, CEDDERS Training Associate; Senator Regine B. Lee, Committee on Federal and Foreign Affairs, Telecommunications, Technology, and Labor; Edward Manyibe, Capacity-Building Director and Research Associate Professor, Langston University Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (LU-RRTC); Corey Moore, Principal Investigator and Research Director, LU-RRTC; Vera Blaz, CEDDERS Training Associate; Andre Washington, Co-Principal Investigator/Technical Assistant Coordinator, LU-RRTC; Senator Amanda Shelton, Committee on Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens; and Jocelyn De Guia, Office of Senator Terlaje.



Representatives from the Langston University Rehabilitation Research and Training Center met with Senator Regine B. Lee, Committee on Federal and Foreign Affairs, Telecommunications, Technology, and Labor; Senator Amanda Shelton, Committee on Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth, and Senior Citizens; and a representative from Senator Therese Terlaje's office to discuss research opportunities for Guam in the area of disabilities. Pictured (l to r): Josephine Cruz, CEDDERS Training Associate; Senator Amanda Shelton; Evelyn Claros, Office of Senator Shelton; Senator Regine Lee; Corey Moore, Principal Investigator and Research Director, Langston University Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (LU-RRTC); Edward Manyibe, Capacity-Building Director and Research Associate Professor, LU-RRTC; and Andre Washington, Co-Principal Investigator/Technical Assistant Coordinator, LU-RRTC. Not pictured: Jocelyn De Guia, Office of Senator Terlaje; Vera Blaz, CEDDERS Training Associate, and Jermaine Alerta, Executive Director, Guam Developmental Disabilities Council.

NTACT Supports Guam

Guam Division of Special Education has established a partnership with the National Technical Assistance Center on Transition (NTACT) to provide technical assistance related to implementing evidence-based and promising practices to ensure students with disabilities, including those with significant disabilities, stay in school, progress in school, and graduate with knowledge, skills, and supports needed to succeed in post-secondary education and employment. As prioritized by the

Division, Guam CEDDERS facilitated the on-site technical assistance visit conducted December 12-14 by Dawn Rowe, Ph.D., NTACT Consultant from University of Oregon. The visit included meetings with Division and school secondary transition personnel to review the secondary transition elements in the Individualized Education Program (IEP) for transition-aged students.



Dawn Rowe, Ph.D. (right), NTACT Consultant, meets with Michelle Aguigui, Secondary Transition Teacher, Division of Special Education.



Dawn Rowe, Ph.D. (standing), facilitates the session with the Secondary Transition Teachers and Consulting Resource Teachers to review the secondary transition elements in the IEP.

CNMI DD Tri-Agency Partners Visit Guam CEDDERS



Representatives from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) paid a visit with Guam CEDDERS on February 27 to discuss various projects and potential collaborative activities. (L-R): Jennifer-Eileen Castro, Interim Director, CNMI University Center on Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD); Pamela Sablan, Executive Director, CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities (CDD); Terrie Fejarang, Guam CEDDERS Associate Director; Rufina Pangelinan, CNMI CDD Administrative Manager; and Ray Diaz, Program Manager, CNMI CDD.

GDOE Mini-Sessions Focus on Reading Strategies and Assessment

Throughout the months of January and February, Guam CEDDERS provided mini-sessions to two GDOE State Systemic Improvement Project (SSIP) schools, Price Elementary and M.U. Lujan Elementary. Price Elementary School teachers received training in the administration and scoring of the Fountas & Pinnell (F&P) Assessment System. The F&P Assessment system provides teachers with comprehensive reading data to identify the independent, instructional, and hard levels of students. M.U. Lujan Elementary School teachers and teacher assistants were provided mini-sessions on reading strategies. The sessions were conducted in grade-levels and targeted phonemic awareness, phonics, comprehension, vocabulary, and fluency.



MU Lujan Elementary School teacher assistants participated in mini-sessions to learn reading strategies to help students. Seated L-R: Andrea Quichocho, Stephanie Garrido. Standing L-R: Leilani Taitague, Steve Duenas Jr., Christiann Meno, and Evalucy Santarin (M.U. Lujan Elementary TAs).



Price Elementary teachers were focused as they listened to CEDDERS Training Associate Josephine Cruz explain how to administer the F&P Assessment System. Seated Clockwise from the left: Cellina Meno, 4th grade; Rosa O'Mallan, 4th grade; Gina Call, 4th grade; Josephine Cruz, Guam CEDDERS Training Associate; April Torres, 2nd grade; and Aprilynn Villafior, 4th grade.

MU Lujan 1st grade and Preschool GATE teachers learned how to use the word building strategy in their classrooms. Front row, L-R: Teresa Taitague, 1st grade; Crystal Chaco, 1st grade; and Michelle Santos, Preschool GATE. Back row, L-R: Bertha Torres, 1st grade; and Jen Ha, 1st grade.



Price Elementary School 5th grade teachers practiced coding a reading passage to determine the accuracy rate of a student using the F&P Assessment System. Seated from L-R: Flo Hawkins, Ed San Nicolas, Donny Castro, and Nacrina Meno, Price Elementary 5th grade teachers.



Price Elementary School 3rd grade teachers participated in a follow-up session after being trained with the F&P Assessment System. The follow-up session addressed any questions and provided support resources to teachers. Seated (L-R) Maria Charfauros, Dan Alig, Vanessa Ibanez-Ignacio, Josephine Certeza, and Charleena Yanger, 3rd Grade Teachers; and Josephine Cruz, Guam CEDDERS Training Associate.

Village Play Time Promotes Learn The Signs. Act Early Initiative

Young children learn through play with support and positive interactions that are engaging and meaningful. The Village Play Time is a new initiative to support children birth to five years of age and their parents to actively engage in learning opportunities to enrich their child's overall development.

The Village Play Time is an innovative traveling playgroup facilitated in collaboration with the Department of Education's Guam Early Intervention System (GEIS) and Early Childhood Special Education Programs, the Department of Public Health and Social Services' Kariñu, the Mayor's Council of Guam, Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority (GHURA), and the University of Guam Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Services (Guam CEDDERS) Learn the Signs, Act Early Project.

The Village Play Time events began in January and will be held through the month of March in the villages of Agana Heights, Mongmong-Toto-Maite, and Piti. Flyers are disseminated to parents in the housing areas and throughout the villages as well as parents of young children enrolled in Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education Programs. At each session, children are engaged in story time and interactive play alongside their parents and other young children. The goal is to provide ideas and activities that parents can do to support their child's developmental milestones and to monitor how their child learns, plays, acts, and moves. Each parent that attends the event are provided with Learn The Signs. Act Early resources and a story book.



On February 15, R-Lynn Tablan with the Preschool SPED program plays with a child during an activity at the Mongmong Village Play Time Event.

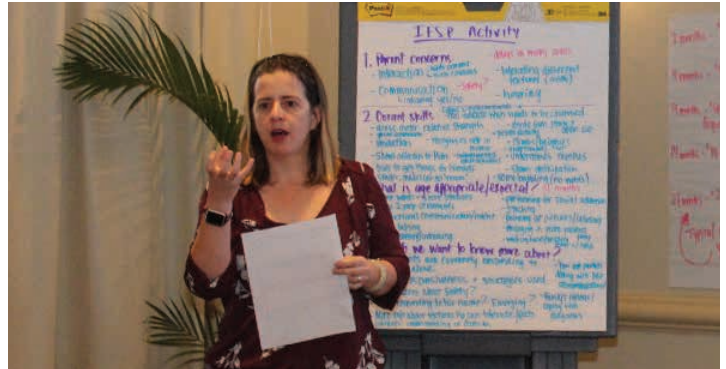


Preschool SpED teachers read the "Where is Bear?" book to intrigued children during the opening activity at the Agana Heights Village Play Time event on February 1.

CHLA-USC Facilitates Interdisciplinary Training

Guam CEDDERS provided technical support to the Guam Department of Education (GDOE), Division of Special Education, in partnership with Children's Hospital Los Angeles, University of Southern California (CHLA-USC), to provide an interdisciplinary training for early childhood providers from Dec. 10-13, 2018 at the Hilton Guam Resort and Spa. The training was conducted by CHLA-USC consultants Irina Zamora, Psy.D; Blake French, M.S., CCC-SLP; and Christine Turnbull, OTD. The full day workshops had a combined total of 45 participants and helped to establish greater understanding in behavioral, communication, and occupational milestones for children. In addition, participants learned how to apply interdisciplinary strategies within natural routines to address the needs of a child.

Guam CEDDERS also provided technical support to GDOE, Division of Special Education, in collaboration with CHLA-USC to provide three concurrent 3-hour workshops designed for parents and family members of children with disabilities who require supports to improve behavioral skills, communication skills, and/or daily occupational skills. The workshops offered ideas for how parents and family members can enhance supports to meet their child's developmental needs in home routines. The workshop took place on Dec. 14, 2018 at the Hilton Guam Resort and Spa and had a total of 40 participants. The workshops were conducted by CHLA-USC consultants Irina Zamora, Psy.D; Blake French, M.S., CCC-SLP; and Christine Turnbull, OTD.



Irina Zamora, Psy.D, from CHLA-USC presented on practical strategies to support development, relationships, and address specific developmental concerns to early childhood providers.



CHLA-USC presenters from L-R: Blake French, M.S., CCC-SLP; Christine Turnbull, OTD; and Irina Zamora, Psy.D.



Christine Turnbull, OTD from CHLA-USC presented on occupational supports to address sensory integration and feeding challenges to early childhood providers.



Parents listened as Blake French, M.S., CCC-SLP, discussed how to incorporate specific strategies in everyday activities to target language and communication development in their children.



Christine Turnbull, OTD, listened as parents shared their concerns about daily occupational skills such as grooming, mealtimes, and play.

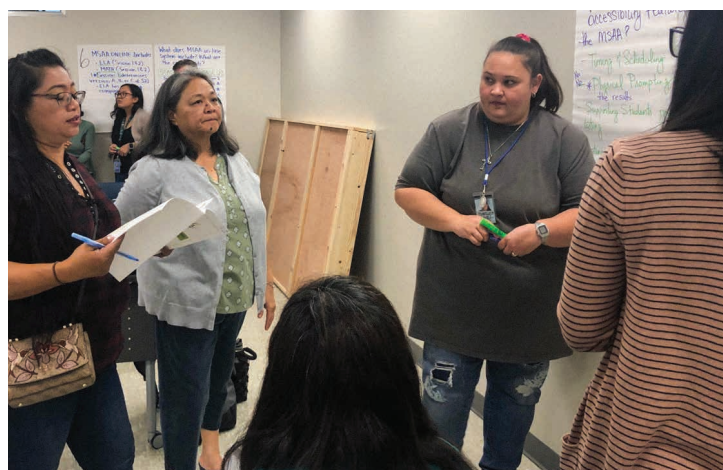
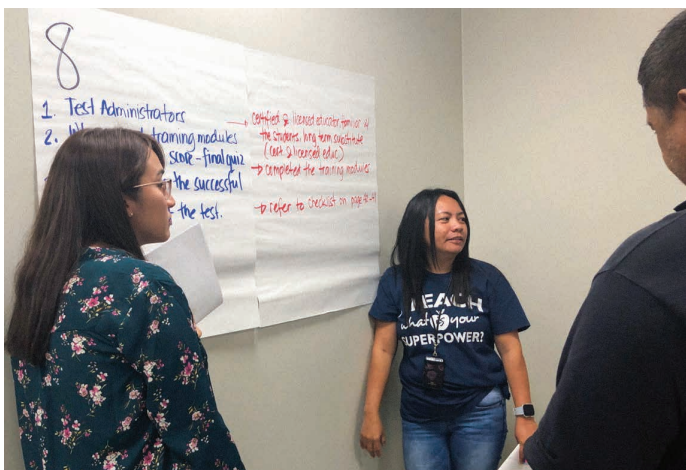
Parents of Children with Autism Participate in Workshop



On March 13, the Guam Department of Education (GDOE), Division of Special Education, in collaboration with Guam CEDDERS, held a workshop for parents with children on the autism spectrum. The focus of the workshop was on providing strategies for parents to help their child manage the demands of the home environment. The workshop was facilitated by Dr. Irina Zamora, a psychologist from Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA). It was attended by 22 participants.

GDOE Gears Up for Multi-State Alternate Assessment

Guam CEDDERS in partnership with the Guam Department of Education (GDOE), Division of Special Education, facilitated a half-day refresher training on March 11, 2019 for elementary resource room teachers, and March 12, 2019 for secondary resource room teachers. The focus of the training was to prepare Special Education teachers for the administration of the Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA). The MSAA is a comprehensive assessment system designed to promote higher academic outcomes for students with significant cognitive disabilities (MSAA Test Administration Manual, 2019). The training was conducted by June DeLeon, Associate Director from the Guam CEDDERS and Terese Crisostomo from the GDOE, Division of Special Education and was attended by 60 teachers at the GDOE offices in Tiyan.



(Left Photo) Guam Department of Education (GDOE), Division of Special Education secondary teachers discuss the Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA) requirements for test administrators during a refresher training. (Right Photo) Guam CEDDERS Associate Director June DeLeon discusses the accessibility features of the MSAA with secondary teachers during a refresher training on March 12. The focus of the training was to prepare Special Education teachers for the administration of the MSAA.

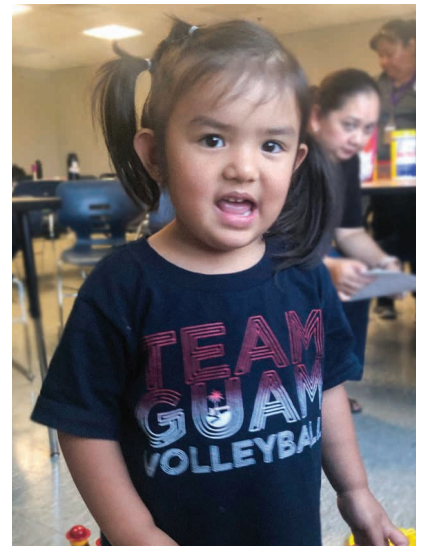
GDOE School Psychologists Discuss How to Assess Complex Cases



On March 15, the Guam Department of Education (GDOE), Division of Special Education, with technical support from the Guam CEDDERS, provided an opportunity for school psychologists at GDOE to come together and discuss the assessment of complex cases with Dr. Irina Zamora, psychologist from Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA). The collaboration facilitated problem solving and dialogue on best practices for assessment. Standing L-R: Audra Mesa, Pia Watson, Rowena Guzman, Alma Terbio, Tom Babauta, Tom Hazama, Marian Punzalan, Marita Gogue, Dr. Irina Zamora (CHLA), Doris Espinosa, and Joanne Kim.

GDOE Takes the Lead in the Identification and Assessment of Children with ASD

The Guam Department of Education (GDOE), Division of Special Education, with technical support from Guam CEDDERS, provided training to 8 GDOE personnel, Cohort #3, in the administration and scoring of the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule, 2nd Edition (ADOS-2). The training is designed to prepare the participants to take the Western Psychological Services (WPS) certification test for administering the ADOS-2. The overarching goal of the training is to build the capacity of the GDOE in identifying and assessing young and school age children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The training was conducted by Dr. Irina Zamora, psychologist from Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) and was held from May 11-14, 2019.



(Left photo) ADOS-2 Cohort #3 and coaches from L-R, back row: Arnell Medler, Barbara Bernardo, Julene Isezaki, Gage Parsons (coach), Rowena Dimla, Nadine Cepeda, and Jonathan Guerrero. Front row, L-R: Audra Mesa, Pia Watson, Dr. Irina Zamora (CHLA), and Josephine Cruz (Guam CEDDERS). (Right photo) Brynn Badua gets ready to participate in the ADOS-2 live practice.

Products Developed This Quarter

What if my baby did not pass the hearing screening?

My baby did not pass the hearing screening, what do I do next?
Please don't panic. Not passing the hearing screening does not mean that your baby is deaf or hard of hearing. But we won't know for sure without further testing. So your baby needs a Diagnostic Audiological Evaluation (DAE).

The DAE is performed by an audiologist, who is a special doctor trained to diagnose and manage hearing loss in infants, children, and adults.

Don't miss the DAE appointment. Only the DAE can determine the presence or absence of hearing loss. Early diagnosis and treatment of hearing loss will help your baby's speech, communication, and learning.

What to expect before your appointment...

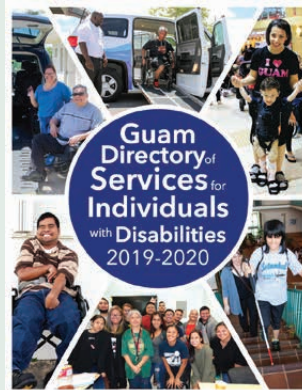
- Guam Early Intervention System (GEIS) will contact you. GEIS will assist you in scheduling an appointment for your baby with the audiologist.
- If you have medical insurance, you will need a referral from your Primary Care Physician (PCP) or Pediatrician to see the audiologist. GEIS will help you figure this out, too.

How to prepare for the appointment...

- For the DAE we want your baby to come to the appointment tired and hungry. Feeding a hungry and tired baby right before the test would help your baby sleep through the test.
- Don't feed your baby 2 hours before the appointment time.
- Keep your baby awake 2 hours before the appointment. Try not to let your baby sleep on the car ride to the appointment.
- Bring a bottle or pacifier for your baby in the event he/she awakes before or during the DAE.
- Bring anything you need to keep your baby happy and asleep once you get to the appointment.
- Breastfeeding mothers are welcome to nurse their baby. We will have a private room for you.
- It's best if you do not bring other children to the appointment. You will be too busy to watch other kids and the room must be quiet during testing.

How long is the appointment?

The appointment can take 1 - 2 hours.



SELF-ADVOCACY

A Training Program for Individuals with Disabilities and Their Families



Participant Manual



Visit www.guamcedders.org for more downloadable products.

Guam CEDDERS Welcomes New Staff



Kunta Kinte Edmond
Social Work Practicum Student

Kunta Kinte Edmond, a University of Guam senior majoring in Social Work, began his internship with Guam CEDDERS in February. He provided assistance during the GSAT Conference and Expo as well as the GSAT Fair. He has also participated in the "Positive Solutions for Families" training that focuses on social and emotional development of young children. Mr Edmond is scheduled to graduate in May 2019.

Welcome aboard, KK!



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

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I Tellai is a quarterly publication of Guam CEDDERS.
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This issue of *I Tellai* was made possible by contributions from the following Guam CEDDERS staff members/consultant: Leah Abelon, Jenika Ballesta, Vera Blaz, Josephine Cruz, June De Leon, Terrie Fejarang, Tanya Simer, Marie Wusstig, and Susan Dugan, Guest Contributor.

Alternative formats (e.g. Braille or large print) of *I Tellai* will be made available upon request.

Please contact Jenika Ballesta at (671) 735-2477 (v), (671) 735-6531 (TTY), or (671) 734-5709 (fax) for more information.

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

**Mar - Apr
2019**

- Mar 1:** GSAT Conference/Expo, 8:00am-4:00pm, Westin Resort
- Mar 1:** Guam CEDDERS Advisory Council Quarterly Meeting, 3:30pm-5:00pm, Guam Westin Resort
- Mar 5:** CNMI On-Site TA Visit, CNMI
- Mar 7:** LAUNCH CSEFEL Positive Solutions for Families Training, 9:30am-11:30am House 24, Dean's Circle UOG *Invitation Only
- Mar 9:** GSAT Fair, 10:00am-2:00pm, Agaña Shopping Center
- Mar 9:** Parents Empowering Parents, Inc (PEP) 5th Islandwide Conference on Disabilities, 8:00am-3:00pm, Dusit Thani Hotel
- Mar 9:** Guma' Mami & Humanities Guahan Photography Exhibit, 10:00am-2:00pm, Agana Shopping Center
- Mar 11:** Guam Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA) Spring 2019 Test Administrators Orientation Sessions, 8:30am-11:30am, GDOE Tiyan Building
- Mar 11:** Parents Empowering Parents, Inc (PEP) Professional Development Team Meeting, 9:00am-12:00pm, Dusit Thani Hotel
- Mar 11:** Guam Developmental Disabilities Council (GDDC) General Membership Meeting, 5:30pm-8:30pm, Holiday Resort
- Mar 11-15:** Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) ADOS Training, GDOE Conference Room, 2nd Floor
- Mar 12:** Guam Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA) Spring 2019 Test Administrators Orientation Sessions, 8:30am-11:30am, GDOE Tiyan Building
- Mar 13:** LAUNCH CSEFEL Positive Solutions for Families Training, 9:30am-11:30am House 24, Dean's Circle UOG *Invitation Only
- Mar 14:** CNMI Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA) Spring 2019 Test Administrators Orientation Session, 1:00pm-3:00pm, Saipan
- Mar 16:** D/HH Parent & Families Activity, 8:00am, TBA
- Mar 16:** Guam Developmental Disabilities Council (GDDC) General Meet & Greet Outreach, 10:00am-2:00pm, Cost-U-Less, Chalan Pago
- Mar 19:** DPHSS High-Risk Hearing Screening Clinic, Department of Public Health and Social Services, Mangilao
- Mar 21:** Guam State Rehabilitation Council General Membership Meeting, 10:00am-11:30am, DVR Conference Room DND Building, Hagatna
- Mar 21:** LAUNCH CSEFEL Positive Solutions for Families Training, 9:30am-11:30am House 24, Dean's Circle UOG *Invitation Only
- Mar 22:** Village Play Time, 10:00am-11:00am, Piti Social Hall
- Mar 28:** LAUNCH CSEFEL Positive Solutions for Families Training, 9:30am-11:30am House 24, Dean's Circle UOG *Invitation Only
- Mar 29:** Village Play Time, 2:00pm-3:00pm, Agana Heights Community Center
- Mar 30:** Guam Headstart Program Fitness Fair, 9:00am-1:00pm, Dededo Sports Complex
- April 4:** LAUNCH CSEFEL Positive Solutions for Families Training, 9:30am-11:30am House 24, Dean's Circle UOG *Invitation Only
- April 6:** 12th Annual Autism Awareness Fair, 2:00pm-3:00pm, Agana Shopping Center
- April 22:** GEIS/DOE Audiology Outpatient Hearing Re-Screen Clinic, 8:30am-4:00pm, DOE Audiology Program, Tiyan

For more information on any of these events, please call 735-2479 or visit www.guamcedders.org

Celebrating Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

View Locally Produced Videos on Disability Related Stories

TV 11

March 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2019

6:00pm-6:30pm

March 3, 10, 17 & 24, 2019

7:00pm-7:30pm

Docomo Channel 1

March 1-31, 2019

5:30pm-6:00pm

GTA Channel 17:

March 1-31, 2019

1:30pm-2:00pm



See the next issue of *I Tellai* for Guam System for Assistive Technology (GSAT) Conference & Fair Highlights & 25th Anniversary Commemorative Report