

GSAT Hosts "Transition into Community Living" Conference



Lisa Ogo, GSAT Advisory Council Member, reads the Council's Resolution on Community Living, Choice, and Assistive Technology during the Transition into Community Living Conference held at the Westin Resort Guam and on July 31.

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

At all ages, many individuals with disabilities face physical and social barriers that keep them from participating in the social, recreational and economic world around them. Some individuals with disabilities may live at home but with little connection in their community. It is a basic human and civil right for people with disabilities to have equal access for participation in society as called for in the Americans with Disabilities Act and as advocated for by the U.S. Supreme Court's 1999 landmark decision in *Olmstead v. L.C.* On this premise, the Guam System for Assistive Technology (GSAT), a project under Guam CEDDERS, conducted a training that highlighted various supports necessary to make this happen.

On July 31, at the Westin Resort, 130 people participated in this event titled "Transition into Community Living: An Assistive Technology Training for Individuals with Disabilities, Family Members, and Service Providers." The day kicked off with Carla Torres, ATP, Assistive Technology and Special Projects Coordinator, presenting on GSAT's long standing commitment to the Guam community to assist individuals with disabilities to live productive, independent, and happy lives. GSAT's Advisory Council read their "Resolution on Community Living, Choice, and Assistive Technology" which helped to set the perspective of the day.

Ms. Torres led the morning with presentations that included key elements of a successful community living transition plan and the various types of assistive technology (AT) that could support community living. There was a wealth of AT examples shared, categorized into areas of functional needs like safety, mobility, personal care, cognition and memory tasks, home management, community and

Continued on page 2

GSAT Hosts Transition...continued



Conference participants listen attentively to Daren Burrier, Assistant Fire Chief, as he shares information in line with recent legislation about a new voluntary emergency online registry.

recreational activity involvement, and communication. The participants received copies of the “AT in Community Living Resource Guide” which includes pictures and descriptions of various AT in these categories.

Ginger Porter, Guam CEDDERS consultant, closed out the morning with a presentation on the Department of Public Health & Social Services, Division of Senior Citizen’s No Wrong Door (NWD) Initiative. The vision of NWD access to long term supports and services is to ensure that all persons of all ages are able to access information for the range of supports they need to live the life they wish to live. A NWD approach is about building a commitment across all formal services, to provide individuals with all of the information that might be of use to them at that point in time. This approach will enable Guam to support all populations, older adults and individuals with disabilities, in the environment of their choice.

The next speaker, Guam Fire Department’s Assistant Fire Chief Daren Burrier, conducted a presentation on the new emergency online registry for individuals with special needs. This new tool, expected to be in effect in January 2016, will support independent living needs and safety for individuals with disabilities. Participants were very excited to learn that the emergency response needs of individuals with disabilities will finally be addressed.

Ms. Torres rounded out the afternoon with two more presentations on assistive technology. Participants learned

about the variety of features and numerous apps offered through the iPad that can help adults with disabilities maintain independence and participation in daily activities. They also learned about tools, modifications, and strategies to make gardening more accessible as gardening is a leisure activity enjoyed by many and a great way to contribute to the community.

It often takes several coordinated and different types of services and supports to make the transition to community living happen for individuals with disabilities. Because the knowledge and coordination of these supports and services are key, the conference offered a panel presentation of the various resources offered in our community. The panel was made up of representatives from six different private and public agencies including Guma Mami, Guam Legal Services Corporation-Disability Law Center, Self-Advocates in Action, Health Services of the Pacific, Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities, and Catholic Social Services. The panel members shared information on community living services they offer and answered questions from the audience.

This well-attended event was well-received and shows that there continues to be a need for more supports to help individuals with disabilities make connections in their community and truly be included in their communities.

GSAT Hosts ADA Workshops on Accessibility

As part of a month long celebration of the 25th anniversary of the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). Carla Torres, ATP, Assistive Technology and Special Projects Coordinator, conducted two workshops on July 23 for Government of Guam ADA coordinators. One workshop focused on how to create accessible documents. A document is accessible if users with disabilities can read and understand all essential information that it contains, whether or not they use assistive technology. Participants in this workshop learned how to build style and structure into a Microsoft Word document and how to create tagged PDF documents making digital information accessible in a variety of ways by people of all abilities, including people

with disabilities who may be using assistive technology devices such as screen readers and Braille displays.

The second workshop covered website accessibility. Web accessibility means that people with disabilities can use the Web. More specifically, Web accessibility means that people with disabilities can perceive, understand, navigate, and interact with the Web, and that they can contribute to the Web. Web accessibility also benefits others, including older people with changing abilities due to aging or those with slow internet connection. These workshops were conducted to help increase the accessibility of government agencies and the services they provide the community.

Guam CEDDERS Posters Featured at Smithsonian ADA Celebration



Dr. Heidi San Nicolas (far right), Guam CEDDERS Director, presents Guam CEDDERS posters to representatives from the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD). Receiving the posters are: (L-R): Shakia Baskerville, MPH, Presidential Management Fellow, Office of External Affairs, Administration for Community Living, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Shia Byers, Summer Intern, American Association for People with Disabilities (AAPD), Andrew Morris, MPH, Policy Analyst, Office of the Commissioner, Administration on Disabilities, Administration for Community Living, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

Resource materials developed by Guam CEDDERS and funded by CEDDERS' Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) Core Grant were put on display at the 25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act Festival held at the Smithsonian Museum of American History on July 24-26. Copies of the posters, featuring advocates on Guam, were also given to AIDD for display at the AIDD offices in Washington, DC. to celebrate the ADA.

Child Care Center Directors Complete ASQ Booster Training



Guam CEDDERS conducted "Ages & Stages Questionnaires (ASQ) Booster Training" on Saturday, July 25 at the University of Guam. Fifteen child care center directors and staff from 11 centers attended the training that covered early childhood developmental monitoring techniques and practices, and working with parents. This training is the second in a series made available to child caregivers through the support of Project Tinituhon, Guam's Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems grant facilitated by Guam CEDDERS.

Child Care Centers Receive Health Care Consultant Orientation



Guam CEDDERS, in partnership with the Department of Public Health & Social Services (DPHSS) facilitated the "Child Care Health Consultant Orientation" for child care centers on Wednesday, July 29, at the University of Guam. Elaine Eclavea, Guam CEDDERS Early Childhood Consultant and Vera Blaz, Guam CEDDERS Training Associate, facilitated a presentation during the event. The orientation provided information about health and safety for centers and the children they serve. Project Tinituhon, Guam's Early Childhood Comprehensive System and DPHSS Child Care Development Fund Program, Bureau of Social Services Administration, and Maternal Child Health Program co-sponsored the event.

GMHA Staff Meet with Guam EHDl on QI Strategies



Members of the "Initial Screening Quality Improvement Team" met on August 12th to discuss effective strategies to improve Guam Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDl) Loss to Follow-Up rates. Seated clockwise starting from bottom left: Alyson Ward, National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM); Valerie Meno, RN, Guam Memorial Hospital Authority (GMHA); Ruth Sabangan, RN, GMHA; Avelina Opena, RN, Nursing Supervisor, GMHA; Terrie Fejarang, Guam EHDl; Elaine Eclavea, Guam EHDl Consultant; and Joseph Mendiola, Guam EHDl Data Coordinator.

Guam EHDl Stakeholders Meet to Address Quality Improvement



Alyson Ward (standing), Quality Improvement Advisor from the National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM), provided technical assistance on strategies for effective Quality Improvement for the Guam Early Hearing Detection & Intervention Program on August 10-12. Staff from the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority, Guam Regional Medical City, Guam Early Intervention System, and the Department of Education (DOE) Audiology unit joined Guam EHDl for this quality improvement activity.

Revised Guam Early Learning Guidelines: Ages 3 to 5 Unveiled



On Monday, July 27, Vera Blaz, Guam CEDDERS Training Associate, facilitated a discussion on the revisions to the “Guam Early Learning Guidelines (GELGs) Ages Three to Five” with providers from Project Bisita I Familia, Project Kariñu, and Guam LAUNCH at the Westin Resort Guam. The GELGs were updated through the support of Project Tinituhon and Project Bisita I Familia and will be used during home visits with families, by early childhood providers in the child care centers, and parents. These guidelines are also being used by the newly established Guam Department of Education Prechool Pilot Program.

Cohort 2 Attends Strengths Finder Webinar



On July 17, Sharron Corle (on screen), Maternal Child Health Consultant, facilitated a webinar on Strengths Based Leadership for the Cohort 2 Leadership Team. Cohort 2 is a team comprised of early childhood program administrators, staff, and parents that are receiving training and technical assistance on how to improve health and education services, access, and integration on Guam. Cohort 2 is a Department of Public Health & Social Services initiative in collaboration with Guam CEDDERS, Department of Education, Office of the Governor and Office of the First Lady. (L-R): Jeffrey Pinaula, Vera Blaz, Pauline Camacho, Elizabeth Calvo, Jolene Dagame, Bonnie Brandt, Margarita Gay, Julyne Manglona, Terry Aguon, Elaine Eclavea, Maggie Bell, Tammy Bamba, Joe Montague, and Linda Rodriguez.

Workgroup Updates Guam ELGs Birth to 36 Months



With funding support from Project Tinituhon and Project Bisita I Familia, Guam CEDDERS facilitated the process to update the "Guam Early Learning Guidelines: Birth to 36 Months" first published in 2007. Members of the Early Childhood Care and Education Strategic Management Team met on July 17, August 13, and October 12 to provide guidance for the update. Mary Kidd, Guam CEDDERS Early Childhood Consultant, spearheaded the written revisions. Participating in the first meeting shown in the above photo are: (L-R): Linda Rodriguez, Terrie Fejarang, Vera Blaz, Joseph Montague, Kat Bayson, Ramon Castro, Maggie Bell, and Mary Kidd. Input was also received from Maggie Huffer, Director of the Adventures in Learning Child Care Center, and Ama Underwood, a former child care center director.

Pacific VIP Reps Meet with Agencies During Chuuk Site Visit



A meeting was held on August 19, attended by representatives of Chuuk State Special Education and Department of Public Health, to discuss collaborative activities related to vision impairments in Chuuk. Attending the meeting were (Clockwise starting at bottom left) : Ansina Kony, Special Education Coordinator; Donna McNear, Pacific Vision Instruction Project (Pacific VIP) Consultant; Callie Brusegaard (partially hidden), UMASS Boston doctoral student; Kathy Mori, Chuuk Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Project Coordinator; Chelsea Mori, Pacific VIP Scholar and Chuuk State VI Instructor; Awreen Paul, Department of Public Health; Dr. Anamarie Yomai, Public Health Physician; and Jason Reiong, Pacific VIP Scholar and Chuuk High School Principal. Not shown: Terrie Fejarang, Guam CEDDERS Associate Director.

Parents Participate in Café Conversation



Project Kariñu, Project Bisita, and Project LAUNCH facilitated a Parent Café on August 21 at the Pacific Star Resort & Spa. The Parent Café is a conversation process that encourages parents to talk about what they do in their lives and their families to build the protective factors. When parents and providers are more intentional about living the protective factors the overall outcome are strong families, optimal child development, and reduced child maltreatment and abuse.

Project Kariñu Conducts Family Evaluation Café



Bonnie Brandt (standing), Training Associate for Guam CEDDERS and Lead Evaluator for Project Kariñu provided an overview of the Project Kariñu Family Evaluation Café that was held on Saturday, August 29, at the Westin Resort Guam. Thirty-one parents and family members participated in the event.

Strengthening Families™ Trainers Bring Protective Factors to Village Mayors & Staff



Facilitated by Guam CEDDERS, early childhood providers conducted a training for village mayors and their key staff on "Protective Factors for Strengthening Families" on September 14 at the Leo Palace Hotel, Yona.

Representatives from six mayors' offices from around the island met on September 14 at Leo Palace Resort to learn more about the Strengthening Families™(SF) Protective Factors. Guam's certified trainers from Guam CEDDERS, Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) Project Kariñu, Guam Identifies Families' Terrific Strengths (G.I.F.T.S.) Organization, Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center (GBHWC) - I Famagu'on-ta and icareguam facilitated a four-hour introductory training on the protective factors. The purpose of the training was to:

- provide information on the Strengthening Families™ Protective Factors Framework that helps keep families strong and prevent child abuse and neglect;
- assist participants to understand what it means to work with families in a strength-based way; and
- gather information on services and support for young children birth to eight years of age and their families.

The SF framework was designed to assist professionals who work with children and families in promoting the optimal development of all children while protecting vulnerable children from maltreatment. Protective Factors are characteristics that

make a parent, child, or family more likely to thrive and less likely to experience negative outcomes. SF focuses on five protective factors. These five factors were chosen through careful research about children and families. Protective factors are not only important for families; they can also be used to build interactions with people and systems that families encounter in their day-to-day lives.

The trainers spent two hours defining and discussing the five protective factors which are parent resilience, social connections, knowledge of parenting and child development, concrete support in times of need, and social and emotional competence of children.

Representatives from early childhood programs were also invited to provide the mayors' office staff information about the purpose and eligibility for their respective programs. Programs that participated included Department of Education - Guam Early Intervention System and Early Childhood Special Education Preschool, DPHSS - Project Kariñu, Project Bisita I Familia, Guam LAUNCH, and Bureau of Social Services Administration, Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program, and Immunization Program; and GBHWC I Famagu'on-ta and icareguam.

Pohnpei State Vision Instruction Program Receives Donated Braille Books



The Pohnpei State Department of Education, Special Education Program, received a contribution of braille books for young children through the donation of Sheila Amato and her volunteers from West Virginia. This donation was made through the networking contact of Donna McNear, Pacific Vision Instruction Project (Pacific VIP) Consultant and UMASS-Boston adjunct instructor. Pictured receiving the books on August 21, are: (L-R): Roddy Robert, Vision Instruction Teacher; Karlina Henry, Special Education Coordinator; Joseph Villazon, Director of Education; and Johnatan Zared, Pakein Elementary School Principal. Terrie Fejarang, Guam CEDDERS Associate Director, delivered the books during her Pacific VIP site visit to Pohnpei.

Pohnpei Teachers Receive EPICS Info



Terrie Fejarang, Guam CEDDERS Associate Director, shared information on the EPICS Project. EPICS stands for "Educating Pacific Island Clinicians in Speech-Language Pathology." Attending the meeting on August 21 were (L-R): Joysleen Daniel, Pohnpei Special Education Staff and graduate of Project Fo'na; Terrie Fejarang, Guam CEDDERS; Maureen Villagomez, Special Education Teacher; Maiulynn Gallen, Special Education Teacher; Roddy Roberts, Vision Instruction Teacher; and Karlina Henry, Special Education Coordinator.

Pacific VIP Scholars Complete Final Activities



(L-R): Terrie Fejarang, Guam CEDDERS Associate Director; Silugia Fa'atau, Pacific VIP Scholar; Paulo Salavea, American Samoa Interim Assistant Director for Special Education; Amy Epati, Pacific VIP Scholar, and June De Leon, Guam CEDDERS Associate Director, met on August 5 to finalize steps for completing activities of the Pacific Vision Instruction Project (Pacific VIP). Scholars not shown: Sigalu Espensa, Loretta Luta, Tailua Apaia.

Guam CEDDERS' Pacific Vision Instruction Project (Pacific VIP) staff conducted an on-site visit to American Samoa on August 4-7 to meet with the Director of Education, Interim Assistant Director for Special Education, Program Directors, and Pacific VIP scholars to discuss the completion of project activities, including evaluation activities. Other regional activities, such as the San Jose State University (SJSU) EPICS Project, which stands for "Educating Pacific Island Clinicians in Speech Language Pathology" were also discussed. Guam CEDDERS is partnering with SJSU to facilitate this Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) personnel preparation grant in the Pacific region.



(L-R): Terrie Fejarang and June De Leon, Guam CEDDERS Associate Directors, pose for a photo with Vaitinasa Dr. Salu Hunkin-Finai, American Samoa Director of Education, and Paulo Salave'a, American Samoa Interim Assistant Director for Special Education, on August 5 after discussing the status of Pacific VIP activities.

EPICS Recruitment Goes to American Samoa & Washington DC



Guam CEDDERS representatives met with officials from the American Samoa Department of Education to share information on recruitment for the EPICS Program. Applications relating to EPICS, which stands for "Educating Pacific Island Clinicians in Speech Language Pathology" were due on August 31. Seated (L-R): June De Leon & Terrie Fejarang, Guam CEDDERS Associate Directors and Vaitinasa Dr. Salu Hunkin-Finau, American Samoa Director of Education. Standing (L-R): Silagi Potasi-Faiivae, Special Education Teacher; Sala Godinet, Special Education Teacher; Foa Kapesi, Special Education Teacher; David Gabriel, Assessment Officer; and Paulo Salavea, Special Education Interim Assistant Director.



Dr. Gloria Weddington (left), San Jose State University Project EPICS Liaison, met with Frank Horiuchi (right), Special Education Director, Ministry of Education, Republic of the Marshall Islands, on July 30 after the OSEP Leadership Conference. Dr. Weddington was providing information on the EPICS Project, which stands for "Educating Pacific Island Clinicians in Speech Language Pathology."

PBIS School Teams Engage in Team Training



Guam CEDDERS facilitated a workshop attended by teams from various schools to sustain the Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports (PBIS) initiative in Guam Department of Education schools on August 26. Shown here are the PBIS teams from V.A. Benavente Middle School (top photo) discussed the factors that sustains PBIS while Adacao Elementary (bottom photo) are shown completing their PBIS Histomap.

In collaboration with the Guam Department of Education Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) coaches, Guam CEDDERS facilitated a beginning of the year training for school climate cadre (SCC) team members from 26 elementary schools, eight middle schools, one high school, and representatives from the Guam Department of Youth Affairs correctional and educational program. The training was held on August 24 & 25 for elementary schools and on August 26 for secondary schools at the Westin Resort.

The first part of the training focused on the basic foundations of PBIS and the enablers and barriers to the sustainability of PBIS based on research. The second half of the training provided teams with information on the “Team-Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS) process.” The TIPS process promotes the use of data-based decision making, action planning, and monitoring and evaluating interventions implemented to improve school climate. The training provided participants the opportunity to apply the knowledge gained through simulation of a school behavior team meeting with pre-and post self-assessment of the meeting process.

This training was made possible through a subcontract from the Guam Department of Education through funding provided by the U.S. Department of Education Title V Consolidated Grant.

No Wrong Door Planning Project Steams Ahead



No Wrong Door System stakeholders met on July 24 to explore the potential for enhanced participation of Medicaid for Finance and Sustainability. (L-R): DISID Director Benito Servino, Kathy Bayona of DSC and Reina Sanchez from Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center gain insights from Teresa Bondoc of Medicaid.

The Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS), Division of Senior Citizens No Wrong Door (NWD) project gathered steam this summer, generating information for planning efforts. Fifteen stakeholders joined together at Catholic Social Service Conference Room on July 24 to embrace the opportunity to provide planning input for the NWD Three-Year Plan by identifying system gaps in long-term services and supports in the Guam community. Project activities, facilitated by Ginger Porter, Guam CEDDERS consultant, generated a diverse and rich list of gaps in services and supports.

Participants explored their personal choice of priority areas to address change and then were asked to gain consensus as a group. Their prioritized focus areas to initiate Systems Change were: 1) access to adequate and coordinated services along the continuum of care; 2) cross-training and development of awareness across services; 3) removal of the silo operational structure of agencies; 4) improvement in the consistency of direct support services, and 5) improvement in funding.

This was an interesting comparison to gaps expressed during Intake and Referral input sessions by the NWD partner agencies: Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities (DISID), Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center, Division of Senior Citizens and Medicaid. On the working side of the issues, other gaps emerged during their sessions: shortages of qualified staff, lack of management information systems (MIS), inefficient features of existing MIS, and insufficient emergency service options. The information in total will guide the decisions for a more robust and shared MIS

that will more fully insure that individuals seeking information for long-term services and supports can trust that the responses to their inquiries will be streamlined and that the information and referrals will be coordinated and consistent through a person-centered counseling experience.

On Friday, July 31, a summary orientation of the NWD system, which included data from the NWD Survey of Long-term Services and Supports, was presented to 130 participants of the Transition into Community Living conference, with an invitation to join the NWD Work Groups as a stakeholder. This outreach of information was addressed to an array of health and rehabilitation representatives, family members, employers, educators, and individuals with disabilities. From this group, nine additional people were added to the NWD Work Groups. Individuals reached out to join the stakeholder work groups addressing 1) Operations, 2) Marketing, 3) Person-Centered training and 4) Resources. They will join the volunteers from the Stakeholder Planning Input session to contribute, monitor, and evaluate the progress of the NWD initiative during the evolutionary implementation of a NWD system.

The NWD Work Groups are created to provide recommendations to the Key Partners on NWD components after having explored resources, promising practices, community input and generating plans for local and mutually agreeable consideration. Key elements include Management Information Systems, Common Intake Tools, Assessment and Eligibility Determinations, Training in Person-Centered Principles, Resource Data Base, Marketing, Finance and Sustainability, and Expansion. During implementation phases, these groups will act as monitors and evaluators of the system.

Project partners met in August to reframe the timelines of the planning grant in response to an opportunity to extend the grant period. During these sessions, reviews and updates were conducted, partners identified representatives for Work Groups, tasks were distributed, and regular monthly meetings were established. With the onset of September, most work groups will commence activity and partners will explore enhanced Medicaid strategies as a possible new source of revenue to sustain and expand the NWD services. The Partners will also get their first review of a draft plan for Operations and MIS for guidance, discussion and determination of activities and 3-year timelines. The goal is to develop a strong foundation of information to incorporate in the 3-Year Implementation Plan by April/May of 2016.

If you are interested in participating in NWD Workgroups, or for updates and more information on this project, please contact joleen.almandres@dphss.guam.gov.

Project Kariñu Promotes Awareness of Language Access Services

Accessing critical information, services, and supports may be a challenge for many people who are new to a community, especially when coming from a different culture and language base. This is particularly true in Guam's multi-cultural environment.

Facilitating Language Access Services (LAS) has been a goal under Guam CEDDERS' contract with Project Kariñu, Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS). The timeline below outlines the key events and activities in addressing this challenge.

The poster at right was produced, through the efforts of Guam CEDDERS and Project Kariñu, to promote public awareness of consumer rights to free interpreter services when accessing public services. Members of the Council on Language Access Services provided key input into the development of this poster.

Please ask us about free interpreter services!



Famaisen pot i Dibátde na Setbision Intetpiti!



Libre po ang tagasalin para sa inyo!



Kose mochen kapaseis ngeni kich fan iten ekewe aninis ren fosun fonuomw!



Osr leng ku kasru ke lungasyen kas Kosrae suc kom ku in siyuk ke kasru ac tia moul nu sum (tia enenu in moul-free).



Ne kwaj aikuj riukook, jouj im kajitok bwe ejelok wonen.



A mousbech a ngeseu e ng nga er ngii a chad el sebechel ngosukau el oiuid a tekoi el diak el ocheraol.



Soun kawehwe me sohte anahne pweipwei kak sawas, komw menlau peidek ni saledek.



Siro, mu fith marangean e ma'afweg thin ya dariy pulwon.



Co dich vu thong dich mien phi!



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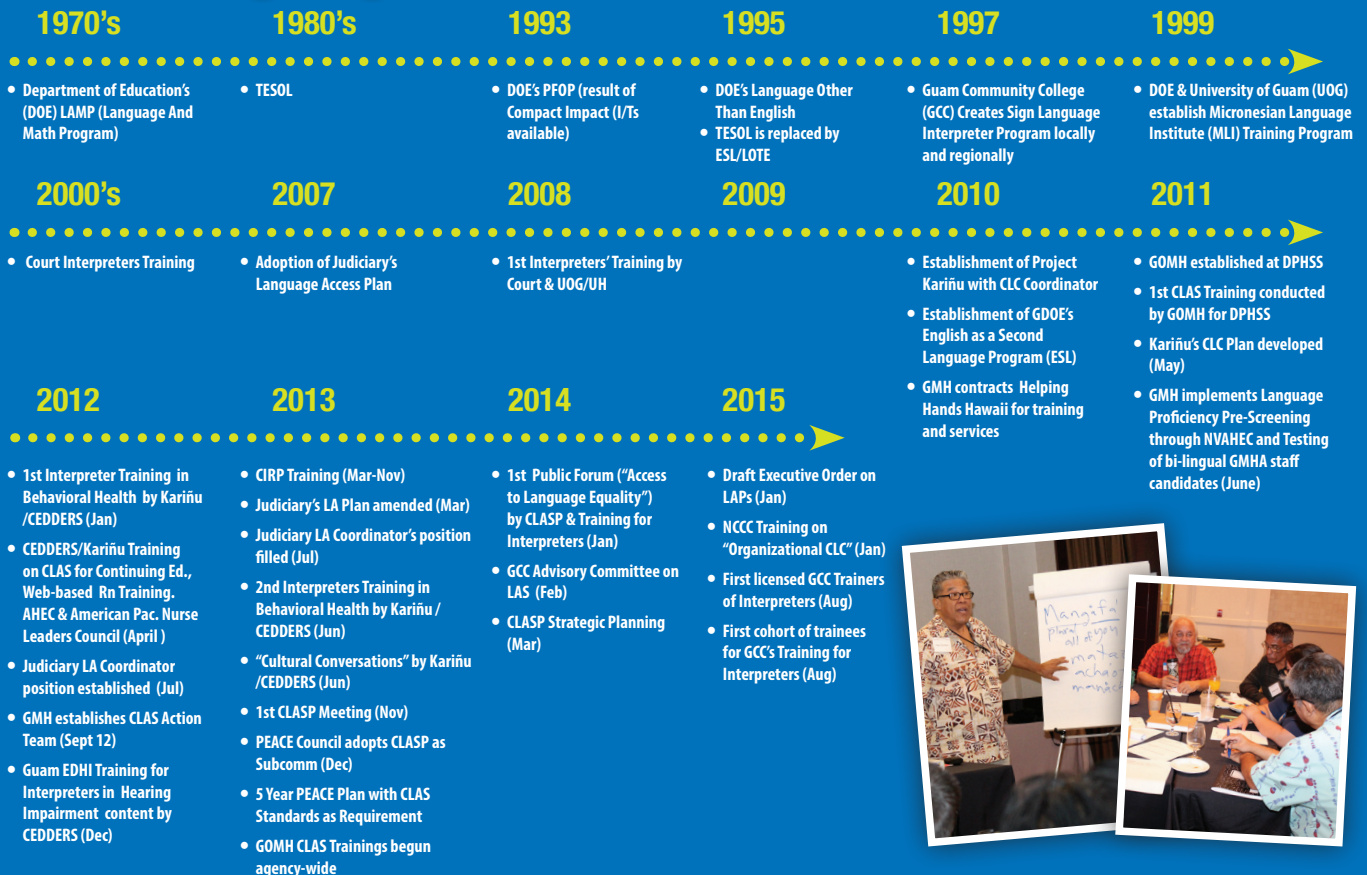


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Source: Title of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 12816 in 1993 regarding meaningful access to services, and the National Standard 10.45 Standard for Health and Health Services.

Language Access Services on Guam



Project
Kariñu
Loving Our Babel



GUAM
CEDDERS

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Deaf Jam Fiesta Celebration



Over 100 guests including individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, have other disabilities, their family members, members of the community and service providers attended the 2015 Deaf Jam Fiesta on July 11 at the Joseph Flores Memorial Park at Ypao Beach. The event was coordinated by Melissa Cayton, a resident of Oregon with Guam ties, who was on-island to produce and film a video featuring the deaf community of Guam. Shown in the photo above are: Melissa Cayton (at the microphone), the main organizer, welcomed the participants of the 2015 Deaf Jam Fiesta event on July 11. Standing around Melissa were (L-R): Kirsten Bamba, Sign Language Interpreter, Ben Servino, Director, Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities (DISID); Rosanne Ada, Executive Director, Guam Developmental Disabilities Council, and Governor Eddie Calvo. Not shown: Andrew Tydingco, master of ceremonies and Vice President, Siña.



(L-R): Terrie Fejarang, Guam CEDDERS Associate Director, Leone Rohr, Guam CEDDERS Advisory Council Member, and Joyce Flores, Guam Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (Guam EHD) Program Advisory Council member, pose by the Guam EHD display table during the 2015 Deaf Jam Fiesta event held at the Governor Joseph Flores Memorial Park at Ypao Beach on July 11.



Kaleb Suzuki (in dark blue shirt) joins in during the audience participation segment of the cultural presentation at the Deaf Jam Fiesta. His parents, (at right with phone cameras) proudly record his dance moves.

Guam CEDDERS Director Meets Virgin Islands Counterpart



Heidi San Nicolas, PhD., Guam CEDDERS Director, met with Yegin Habtes, Ph.D., University of the Virgin Islands University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UVI UCEDD) Director and UVI UCEDD Provost, Camille McKayle, on August 3 during a visit to the UVI UCEDD.

Alternative Financing Program & AT Reuse Conference



Terrie Fejarang (left), Guam CEDDERS Associate Director, met Rob Groenendaal (right), Project Officer, Administration for Community Living during the the "Alternative Financing Program and Assistive Technology Reuse Acquisition Conference" held on August 31 to September 1 in Washington, D.C.

Poster Series Celebrates Anniversary of ADA



To help commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Guam CEDDERS produced a 10-poster series featuring successful individuals with disabilities. Shown above are three of the posters. To view the full set, please visit the Guam CEDDERS website at www.guamcedders.org.

Organizations Collaborate on Communication Film



Left to right: Kirsten Bamba, Sign Language Interpreter, Erlinda Tydingco, SiñA President, Barbara Johnson, Self-advocate, David De Leon, Production assistant, Glen Paulino, Caregiver, Moses Puas (seated), Self-Advocate, Andrew Tydingco, SiñA Vice President, James Davis, Videographer, take time out from shooting scenes at the Micronesia Mall on July 1.

Guam CEDDERS, Guam Legal Services Corporation - Disability Law Center, and SiñA: Self-Advocates in Action recently collaborated to produce a video on communicating with individuals with disabilities entitled: *Ta Fan A Comprendi: Communicating with People with Disabilities*. *Ta Fan A Comprendi*, which means "to understand each other" in Chamorro features scenes to facilitate communication with individuals with disabilities.

The video, which is still in production, will be used as a training and education tool to help the general public communicate better with individuals with disabilities.

Ginger Porter Makes Her Mark



Left photo: Ginger Porter, a 14-year Guam CEDDERS veteran, served as Consumer Leadership and Systems Change Initiative Area Coordinator, Faculty, and finally as a consultant. Right photo: Guam Self-Advocates proudly represented the island at the Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD) Self-Advocacy Summit held in Honolulu, Hawaii on March 28, 2012. Ginger Porter (standing third from right) served as a mentor to Guam's delegation.

After having served in various capacities while at Guam CEDDERS, Ginger Porter completed her work with the organization on September 30. Ginger served as the Consumer Leadership and Systems Change Initiative Area Coordinator, Faculty, and as a consultant.

Some of Ginger's key projects involved facilitating training and technical assistance in the areas of employment, transit safety, and self advocacy. She led the development and course delivery of the Disabilities Studies class series and began the process of having this course considered for adoption as an option to meet a general education requirement at the University of Guam. She served as a mentor to self-advocacy organizations and was the facilitator in the implementation of Guam's pilot project on Individualized Budgeting. And she was the lead facilitator, in collaboration with self-advocates, on the "Update from Advocates on Guam's Disability Agenda" report and forum held last December.

Ginger's work at Guam CEDDERS started in 2001 after her long career as a pioneer Special Education teacher for the Guam Department of Education, and as a faculty member and subsequently a Dean at Guam Community College.

Dangkulu na si Yu'os ma'ase, Ginger, for your hard work devoted to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities and their families. You have laid a strong foundation and framework upon which the next generation of advocates of individuals with disabilities can build.



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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Editors: Terrie Fejarang, June De Leon, & Ginger Porter
Layout & Design: Sean Lizama

This issue of *I Tellai* was made possible by contributions from the following Guam CEDDERS staff members:
Mariles Benavente, Vera Blaz, Bonnie Brandt, June De Leon, Terrie Fejarang, Nieves Flores, Ed.D., Terry Naputi, Jeff Pinaula, Ginger Porter.

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

Please contact Margaret Johnson 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

OCT
15

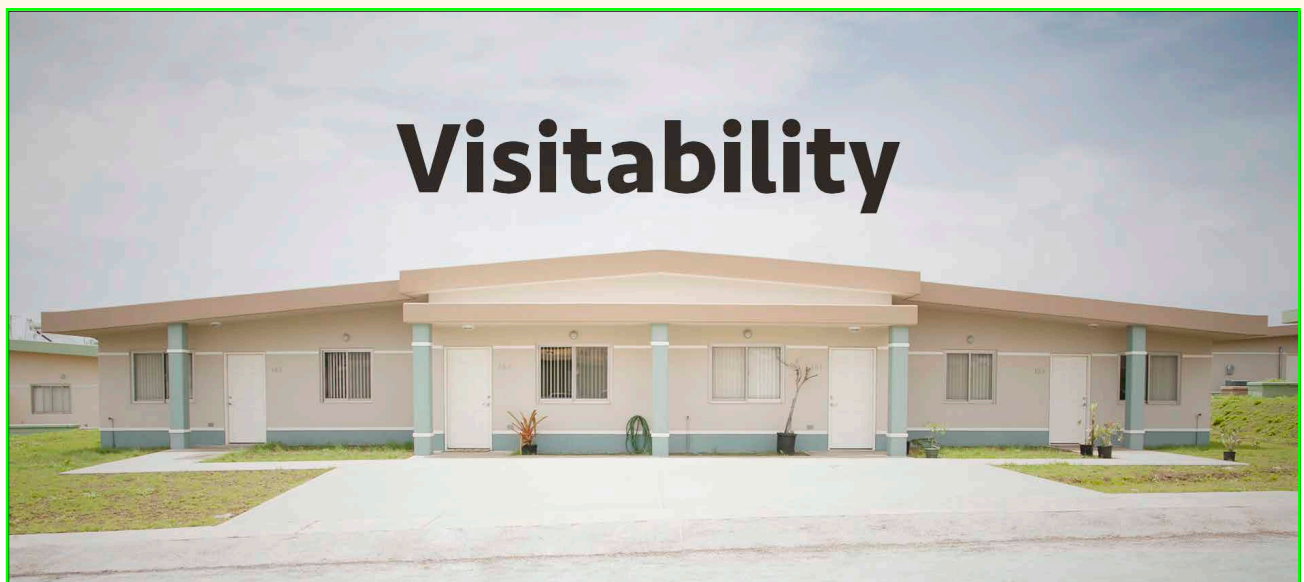
- Oct 9** Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center Advisory Council Meeting, 3pm-5:30pm GBHWC, Tamuning
Oct 15 Project Bisita CQI Program Level Meeting, 8:30am-9:30am, House 22 and 23, Dean Circle, UOG
Oct 17 Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies Fair, 10am-3pm, Micronesia Mall, Center Court
Oct 22-23 CNMI Technical Assistance Visit
Oct 24 Head Start Parent Conference, 8am-2pm Pacific Star Resort Guam
Oct 26 Guam EHDI Outpatient QI Team Meeting, 10am-12pm, Guam CEDDERS House 22 and 23, Dean Circle, UOG
Oct 27 GSAT Advisory Council General Membership Meeting, 3:30pm-5pm, GSAT, House 19, Dean Circle, UOG
Oct 28-29 CNMI Technical Assistance Visit
Oct 29-30 Self-Employment Conference, 9am-5pm, The Westin Resort Guam

NOV-DEC
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- Nov 4-6** Palau Technical Assistance Visit
Nov 5-6 CNMI Technical Assistance Visit
Nov 10 Project Tinituhon Strategic Management Team Meeting, 8am-4pm, The Westin Resort, Guam
Nov 13 Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center Advisory Council Meeting, 3pm-5:30pm GBHWC, Tamuning
Nov 13 Territories Meeting with Administration on Community Living, Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Washington, D.C.
Nov 17 Project Bisita Advisory Committee Meeting, 9am-11am, Dededo, Lagu Resource Center
Nov 19 Territories Meeting with Association of University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, Washington, D.C.
Dec 1 ELC Quarterly Meetings, 9a-12pm, Venue to be announced
Dec 4 Guam CEDDERS Advisory Council Meeting, 3:30pm-5pm, GSAT, House 19, Dean's Circle
Dec 14 Guam EHDI Advisory Council Meeting, 11:30am-1:30pm, Venue to be announced
Dec 7-11 Regional Pacific Meeting with OSEP, including the 2-day National Center for Systemic Improvement (NCSI) Language and Literacy Learning Collaborative, TBA
Dec 18 Guam CEDDERS Advisory Council Meeting, TBA

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

Video Production Focuses on Home Accessibility



Guam CEDDERS recently produced a video entitled, "Visitability" to promote accessibility in private homes. The three main components of visitability are: 1) a "zero-step" entrance to the home; 2) hallways and doorways at least 32 inches wide; and 3) having an accessible bathroom on the first floor.

To view the video, please visit the Guam CEDDERS website at www.guamcedders.org.