

### **GDOE Hosts Administrator Boot Camp**

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On December 19, Southern High School administrator Michael Meno gets the group going with an ice breaker on the first day of the Administrator Boot Camp.

The Guam Department of Education (GDOE) Division of Special Education, in partnership with Guam CEDDERS, held a 3-day training at the Westin Resort Guam for school administrators from December 19-21, titled, "Administrator Boot Camp: Back to Basics – Making the Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) Connection." The purpose of the training was to provide an overview of the Special Education process with a specific focus on the development of the Individualized Education Program (IEP) and inclusive practices in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE).

The Division's leadership team, along with Special Education Consultant Dr. David Bateman, facilitated sessions that aimed to increase the knowledge and skill of administrators in the development of a well-written Present Levels of Academic Achievement and Performance (PLAAFP) statement, determination of Specially Designed Instruction (SDI), alignment of IEP components, and maximization of supports to foster independence. Additional presentations explained the Division's State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) and shared updates and tips regarding compliance.

#### **GDOE Hosts Administrator Boot Camp (cont.)**

Keynote speaker and presenter Dr. Bateman also discussed inclusionary practices in the LRE aligned with his publication, "The Principal's Guide to the IEP." A longtime consultant for the Division, Dr. Bateman's vast knowledge and expertise in special education law, assessment, and inclusion has helped various school districts in providing appropriate supports for students with disabilities, with a goal of preventing due process hearings. Dr. Bateman is also an author of various publications surrounding special education and has worked with the Guam Department of Education Division of Special Education to provide guidance and support for the professionals working to improve the outcomes of students with disabilities in the public schools.



Dr. Josephine Cruz, Associate Director, Guam CEDDERS, presents feedback survey results during the training.



GDOE Superintendent Dr. K. Erik Swanson talks to P.C. Lujan Elementary School Administrator Beth Perez.



School Administrators participate in a review activity on the last day of the Administrator Boot Camp.

## **VI Consultant Receives Prestigious Award**

Guam CEDDERS is pleased to announce that a long time off-island Visual Impairment (VI) Consultant, Donna McNear, was awarded the prestigious Holbrook-Humphries Literacy Award. Donna McNear continues to support and assist visual impairment teachers with the Guam Department of Education in their specialized work with students who are blind and visually impaired. We recognize Donna McNear's work in our pacific region and congratulate her on this well-deserved achievement.

On December 14, Donna McNear was awarded the 2023 Holbrook-Humphries Literacy Award at The Getting in Touch with Literacy (GITWL) Conference in St. Pete's Beach, Florida. The Getting in Touch with Literacy Awards is a historical honor and tradition. The Holbrook-Humphries Literacy Award is presented to an individual who has made a significant impact in promoting literacy skills for individuals who are blind and visually impaired. First presented at the GITWL conference in San Francisco in 1999, and named after conference co-founders Cay Holbrook and Janie Humphries Blome, this award honors an individual who has demonstrated innovative ideas, practical implications for intervention, professional publications, and commitment to improving literacy for students and or adults with visual impairments.

Donna McNear is a teacher's teacher. In more than thirty years as a teacher for students with visual impairments and orientation and mobility specialist with the Rum River Special Education Cooperative in Minnesota, Donna was a literacy champion for children with visual impairments. As a leader in promoting the understanding and use of access technology to build literacy skills for students who are blind and visually impaired, she shared her knowledge, skills, and enthusiasm for technology at a time when many teachers were hesitant to embrace new devices. Literacy is a common thread in Donna's lifetime work, publications, and technical expertise. She epitomizes the criteria for this award with excellent contributions in the areas of collaboration, innovative teaching, and partnerships to promote literacy for students and adults with visual impairment. Among her many accomplishments, Donna worked to develop support and improved access to instruction, materials, and opportunities for children with visual impairments in the Pacific Islands. In 2011, Donna shepherded The Pacific Vision Instruction Project and partnership with UMass Boston to train teachers of the visually impaired from the islands of Guam, Pohnpei, Chuuk, Kosrae, Saipan, and American Samoa.

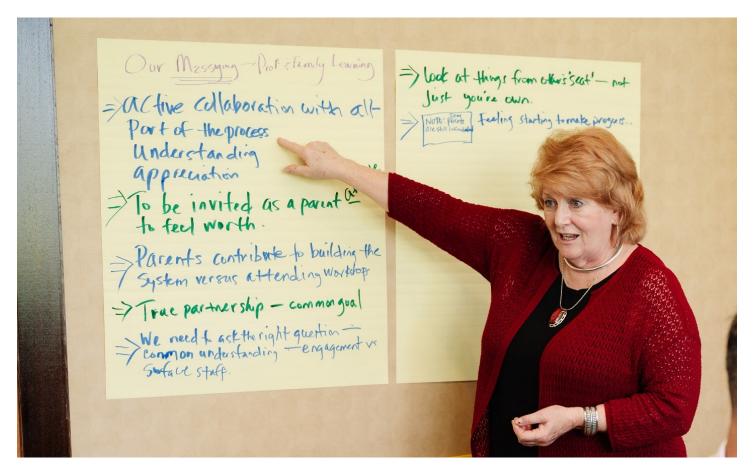


Presentation of the Holbrook-Humphries Literacy Award–St. Pete's Beach, Florida December 14, pictured front and center, Donna McNear, recipient of the 2023 Holbrook-Humphries Literacy Award for improving literacy for students and/or adults with visual impairments.

#### GDOE's Project Hita Para Mo'na Conducts Work Sessions with NASDSE

From January 5 to 10, the Guam Department of Education (GDOE), Division of Special Education, conducted in-person work sessions for the State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) known as Project Hita Para Mo'na or "Moving Forward Together." The goal of the grant is to improve the literacy outcomes of students with disabilities using an authentic engagement approach that includes all stakeholders, especially families. Central to Project Hita Para Mo'na is the principle of "Leading by Convening" (LbC) which provides a framework to engage stakeholders in improving results for students.

Project partners include GDOE, NASDSE, Autism Community Together (ACT), the University of Guam School of Education (SOE), and Guam CEDDERS. The work sessions were collaboratively facilitated by the NASDSE consultants Dr. Joanne Cashman and Dr. Luann Purcell, and Guam CEDDERS. The visit kicked off with a full partnership meeting on January 6 at Westin Resort Guam. The meeting provided an opportunity for partners to reflect on the accomplishments of the project and to plan next steps. Work team sessions throughout the week included reviewing project outcomes and identifying evaluation tools, beginning the mapping process for professional and family learning offerings in elementary, understanding how to conduct dialogue sessions using infographics, and discussing the recruitment of project champions. In addition, interviews with families were also conducted to assess the impact of the project. Overall, the 5-day visit was productive and collaborative as project partners came together through work teams to implement project activities. It was truly an example of "Moving Forward Together."



On January 6, NASDSE's Dr. Joanne Cashman reviews stakeholder reflections during the SPDG Full Partnership Meeting.

#### GDOE's Project Hita Para Mo'na Conducts Work Sessions with NASDSE (cont.)



On January 6, GDOE holds a SPDG Full Partnership meeting. Pictured, Tom Babauta, GDOE Assistant Superintendent of Special Education welcomes project partners.



On January 6, during the SPDG Full Partnership Meeting, NASDSE's Dr. Luann Purcell facilitates discussions with participants.



On January 6, Evelyn Claros, parent from ACT, contributes do discussions during the Full Partnership Meeting.



On January 9, a session on mapping the professional and family learning offerings in Elementary was conducted at the Westin Resort Guam. Front row, L-R: Laura Taisipic, Program Coordinator, GDOE; Terese Crisostomo, Program Coordinator, GDOE; Dr. Joanne Cashman, Consultant, NASDSE; Tom Babauta, Assistant Superintendent of Special Education, GDOE; Dr. Luann Purcell, Consultant, NASDSE; June De Leon, Interim Director, Guam CEDDERS; Vicky Arriola; Parent, Guam PTI. Back row, L-R: Rosemarie Alejandrino, Parent, ACT; Pearl Hamada, Instructional Coach, GDOE; Pauline Camacho, Project Director Preschool Development Grant, Department of Public Health & Social Services; Josephine Cruz, Ed.D., Associate Director, Guam CEDDERS; Eleuterio Mesa, Principal, GDOE; John Wesolowski, Principal, GDOE; Annette Raguindin, Teacher, GDOE; Natasha Dela Cruz, Principal, GDOE; Rachel Duenas, Training Associate, Guam CEDDERS; Mae Mendiola, Teacher, GDOE; Evelyn Claros, Parent, ACT; Jo Blas, Parent, ACT; Marie Babauta, Compliance & Monitoring, GDOE; Medwin De Castro, Bureau of Childcare Services; Cassandra Flores, Teacher, GDOE; and Ryan Cueto, Grant Assistant, Guam CEDDERS.

#### **Supporting RTI Coaches & Teachers through FSM Project LIFT**

During the weeks of January 29-February 2 and February 12-16, Project Literacy Intervention for Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) Leaders of Tomorrow Technical Assistance and Training (Project LIFT) provided Kosrae and Chuuk another round of onsite visits. During this cycle of onsite visits to Kosrae and Chuuk, Guam CEDDERS, in a collaborative partnership with the FSM National Department of Education, offered RTI coaches and teachers technical assistance in the area of research-based instructional practices and intervention, implementation observations and lesson progress, and progress monitoring with the RTI framework to improve the outcomes of students in Early Childhood Education (ECE)/ Kindergarten through grade 5 with an emphasis on Reading.

In this second completed round of support to Kosrae and Chuuk, each state received similar focused content as provided to the other two states in the FSM. Sessions were conducted with the Response to Intervention (RTI) coaches in Kosrae and Chuuk on coaching activities for RTI schools. The training and support helped to strengthen participants' knowledge in the coaching framework, core instruction implementation, progress monitoring, and intervention strategies. Observations were conducted by RTI coaches and Guam CEDDERS at both model and scale-up schools then Interrater reliability was also conducted through consensus conversations regarding the overall percentage of checklist items observed. Afterward, principals and teachers debriefed to share overall strengths and improvements that were noted during observations. Additionally, a Lesson Progress Chart (LPC) activity was completed by all teachers at both model and scale-up school sites. On the final day, the teachers were treated to a make-and-take activity with reading intervention strategies and resources to use in their classrooms.

Plans for continued support include monthly virtual checkin calls for all FSM states as well as individual state followup calls and onsite visits are in place to build capacity and increase knowledge and skills in evidence-based instructional practices to improve reading outcomes in the FSM for students in ECE/Kindergarten through grade 5.



On February 2, FSM Project LIFT RTI Coaches and Teachers from Kosrae pose for a photo on the final day of training. Pictured front row, left to right, Priscilla W. Taulung, grade 4, Tafansak Elementary School; Almarinda Jonithan, ECE teacher/school based coach, Tafansak Elementary School; Hetty Nena, grade 2, Utwe Elementary School; Emma A. Asher, ECE teacher, Utwe Elementary School; Darlinda H. Salik, RTI Head Coach, Kosrae; Nona Nena, grade 1 teacher, Utwe Elementary School. Back row, left to right, Rachel Duenas, Training Associate, Guam CEDDERS; Debra Whitt, Training Associate, Guam CEDDERS; Tulpe I. Joe, grade 3 teacher, Tafansak Elementary School; Annie A. Ned, grade 5 teacher, Tafansak Elementary; Hellen M. Welly, grade 1, Tafansak Elementary School; Vailima Sepe B. Edmond, grade 2 teacher, Utwe Elementary School; Sepe W. Edmond, grade 2 teacher, Tafansak Elementary; and Norma Tabayoyong, Sr. Sales Representative, McGraw-Hill.

#### Supporting RTI Coaches & Teachers through FSM Project LIFT (cont.)



On February 16, FSM Project LIFT RTI Coaches and Teachers from Chuuk pose for a photo on the final day of training. Pictured front row, (L-R seated), Debra Whitt, Training Associate, Guam CEDDERS; Rachel Duenas, Training Associate, Guam CEDDERS; Jayleen Nakamura, RTI Head Coach. Standing Left to Right, Ima William, ECE/Kinder teacher, Mechitiw Elementary School; Darleen Joshua, Principal/ECE/Kinder teacher, Sapuk Elementary School; Agatha Emuch, 1st grade teacher, Mechitiw Elementary School; Olayemisi Akintayo, 5th grade teacher, Mechitiw Elementary School; Sharon Poch, 4th/5th Grade teacher, Sapuk Elementary School; Domiko Moses, Related service provider, SPED; and Ercy Kosam, 2nd grade teacher, Sapuk Elementary School.

#### Need Assistive Technology Devices and Services?

Akudi Loan Program can help!



# **CNMI Continues to Engage Stakeholders**

On January 12-13, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Special Education Program facilitated Project Higai stakeholder sessions to further the enhancement of the Public School System (PSS) professional development system for improving educational results for students with disabilities.

In Chamorro, Higai means "woven palm leaves" used in traditional thatched roofing. The January 12, stakeholder session therefore continued the crafting of the traditional thatched roofing by sharing and gathering input on how Project Higai has been and will continue to progress towards strengthening PSS' professional development system. The session featured the PSS Implementation Support Practitioners (ISPs) sharing project progress as a follow-up to the kickoff stakeholder session held on October 6. The ISPs have evolved from the PSS IEP Task Force comprised of special educators who support the design, delivery, and evaluation of the enhanced professional development system.

In just three months, CNMI's Project Higai has been able to build upon the existing system to enhance the human-side and technical-side of strengthening the professional development system. The January 12 stakeholder session was evidence of that with the ISPs presenting their perspectives on how Project Higai is a support to PSS and not "another" program. The ISPs reiterated how Project Higai is an extension of the work that started through the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) around improving the development and implementation of the IEP to improve reading achievement by the 3rd grade.

National and regional partners: the National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE), American

Institutes for Research (AIR), and University of Guam Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service (UOG CEDDERS) continued to work with Project Higai key personnel in the development of PSS' ISPs using NASDSE's Leading by Convening principles of engagement to address the human side of improvement. NASDSE and UOG CEDDERS partners were on-site in January to serve as critical friends to ensure the "woven palm leaves" in the infrastructure improvements is relevant to CNMI's island community.

February 15-17 brought AIR's PROGRESS Center Director and Technical Assistance Consultant to Saipan to work on the technical side or the development of the distance learning modules for professionals and families. Prior to their visit, selected PROGRESS Center online IEP modules were migrated successfully into the PSS Learning Management System (LMS). With support from UOG CEDDERS, the visit confirmed the migration and provided an opportunity to better understand the features of the PSS LMS for ensuring the IEP modules are culturally relevant to the CNMI. UOG CEDDERS and AIR partners met with key PSS stakeholders, which included the PSS Technology Team and the ISPs, to walk through the PROGRESS Center IEP modules in the PSS LMS and to gather information on how to translate the modules into a series of engagement activities for an online PSS special education course designed for special education teachers.

As a result of the January and February visits, NASDSE, AIR, and UOG CEDDERS will continue virtual sessions with the ISPs to prepare the pilot of the PSS LMS special education course to be implemented with the ISPs at the beginning of next school year.



During the January 12 stakeholder session, Dr. Riya Nathrani (standing), PSS Instructional Technology Coach and Project Higai Technology Specialist, provides an overview of the PSS online professional development platform and how Project Higai will enhance its use for special education.

### **CNMI Continues to Engage Stakeholders (cont.)**



During the January 12 stakeholder session, Thelma Cing (standing), PSS ISP-Special Education Teacher, share how the October 6 and 7 stakeholder input sessions helped to chart the course for Project Higai activities.



Juliana Arriola, PSS ISP-Special Education Teacher, closes the January 12th stakeholder session by sharing how Project Higai will keep engaging stakeholders throughout the project period.



On February 16, Project Higai partners meet to review the features of the PSS Learning Management System (LMS) after successfully migrating the PROGRESS Center's online IEP modules into the system. Pictured from top left clockwise: Dr. Tessie Bailey, PROGRESS Center Director; Dr. Riya Nathrani, PSS Instructional Technology Coach and Project Higai Technology Specialist; June De Leon, UOG CEDDERS Interim Director; Sara Evans, AIR Technical Assistance Consultant; and Lorraine Catienza, PSS Instructional Technology Director.



On February 17, Project Higai partners celebrate being on SAIPAN!

# **FSM makes PROGRESS in Yap**

In partnership with PROGRESS Center, a USDOE Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)-funded national center, Guam CEDDERS supported the development, implementation, and evaluation of the three-day school team training, entitled Promoting Progress for All Students. The training was facilitated by FSM National Department of Education (NDOE) and hosted by Yap State Department of Education at the Yap Early Childhood Education Conference Room on February 22-24. The training included over 50 school team members from the four FSM states comprised of general education administrators, general education teachers, special education coordinators, special education teachers, related service providers, coaches, and parents. The training engaged team members in various activities to increase their knowledge and skills in understanding their role in implementing instructional programs, designing and implementing high-quality educational programs, and accessing resources to support the development and implementation of high-quality educational programs for students with an individualized education program (IEP). A feature of the training was having the school teams utilize the PROGRESS Center's IEP Tip Sheets when reviewing one of their student's IEP. This feature assisted school teams in examining the effectiveness of their IEP development in order to inform the implementation of high-quality educational programs for impacting improved educational results for students with disabilities.



On February 24, Guam CEDDERS Interim Director June De Leon (left) and PROGRESS Center Director Tessie Bailey (right) share a BIG smile with their beautiful mwar-mwars presented by the host state, Yap State. Kammagar!





On February 24, PROGRESS Center Director Tessie Bailey (standing) facilitates a school team exercise with an example on making connections with the parts of the IEP.

# **Guam EHDI Shares Quarterly Highlights**

The Guam EHDI Project wrapped up its last several series of 1-3-6 and Beyond Mini-Conferences for families, caregivers, and providers. Continuing from the conferences held in July 2023, EHDI finished up with its last conference of the cycle on January 13, which focused on the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Requirements Related to Children and Youth who are Deaf/Hard of hearing as well as Transition Planning and Advocacy. Marie Wusstig, EHDI Program Coordinator, presented the education requirements under the IDEA to support families in meeting the developmental needs of their children with delays or disabilities. She also shared the types of services offered for families and their children, such as assistive technology, audiology, health services, and more, all contributing to the well-being of the families. Michelle Aguigui, Guam CEDDERS Associate Director, also presented on Transition and Advocacy to support children and families and help them meet their goals. These conferences concluded successfully under the collaboration of EHDI, its partners, and its participants, including families, providers, and caregivers.

For the first two months of this new year, Guam EHDI also held the EHDI Conversations to connect with deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals (DHH), families, and providers to highlight the experiences of DHH individuals and their families and share resources to help them meet their needs. These sessions included the attendance of DHH students from Career Tech High Academy Charter School (CTHACS), their teachers, and American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreters. The first conversation session on January 26, 2024, was about education. Under this topic, Myra Aguon-Mendiola, a DHH adult, self-advocate, and educator at CTHACS, presented her educational experiences in Guam and Gallaudet University. Michelle Aguigui of CEDDERS also shared Transition Planning focusing on the Individualized

Continued on Page 12



Social Work interns Anniea Saturno and Yna Poquiz present about the Guam System for Assistive Technology and its Akudi Loan Program to students of Career Tech High Academy Charter School (CTHACS). Anniea demonstrates the use of the the Ubi Duo 3, a communication device for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals.



On January 26, Myra Mendiola, teacher at Career Tech High Academy Charter School presents about her education journey at the EHDI Conversation Session at Tony Roma's



On January 26, Guam Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Staff and CTHACS students and teachers pose for a picture at the end of the EHDI Conversation Session at Tony Roma's on Friday.

## **Guam EHDI Shares Quarterly Highlights (cont.)**

Education Plan (IEP) and available services, along with Social Work Interns Anniea Saturno and Yna Poquiz, who presented about the Guam System for Assistive Technology (GSAT) Program and Akudi Loan Program. Ms. Aguigui and the interns continuously shared about these topics throughout all the Conversation Sessions. The second Conversation Session was held on February 9, with the topic of Employment. This session highlighted the employment experiences of Cory Mendiola, a DHH adult, self-advocate, and mentor. Alvin Ancheta of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation also shared information on employment services for individuals with disabilities (IWD) and their families. The last session on Community Living included Myra's experiences on community living as a teacher, an individual living in Guam, and as a traveler. Another notable presenter was Danilo Barrido of the Department of Health and Social Services, who shared with participants the services offered to the public, such as Medicaid, the Medically Indigent Program (MIP), and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

On February 16, EHDI held its semi-annual Advisory Committee meeting, a platform for open and transparent discussion. The meeting, attended by EHDI staff, Advisory Committee members, CTHACS students, ASL Interpreters, and families, was a fruitful discussion on updates, concerns, recommendations, and questions related to EHDI activities and its grant. The meeting also included a discussion on the upcoming events of EHDI and the election for chairperson and co-chairperson, resulting in the election of Joyce Tejeresas and Eighy Liwis, parents of individuals with disabilities , as chairperson and co-chairperson, respectively.

In partnership with GSAT, Guam EHDI spearheaded a monthly information-sharing outreach to share information about their programs and services at the Dededo Flea Market (Farmer's Co-Op) from 5:00 AM to 10:00 AM. In addition to brochures on the programs, visitors also received books from the Bureau of Child Care Services (BCCS) and bags from the Preschool Development Grant (PDG). Representatives from the Guam Developmental Disabilities Council (GDDC) also set up a table to distribute resources. The tent was also provided for by the Autism Community Together (ACT).

Lastly, the Annual EHDI Conference was held in Denver, Colorado, from March 17 to 20, 2024. Marie Wusstig of EHDI and Ann Marie Cruz, a parent representative, attended events/sessions for the Guam EHDI Na' Mas Fitme Project. Together, they participated at the HRSA/MCHB Meet and Greet Reception for EHDI Coordinators and Key Partners and the Islands/Outlying Territories Meeting in which each island presented their program and highlighted the successes, challenges, data, and unique parts of their island(s) culture. They also attended several plenary sessions focused on the strengths of DHH individuals and how EHDI can help families reach their goals. This conference had a wealth of information to support families with DHH+ children and Deaf Mentors and support the Guam EHDI Project in continuing their work and benefiting the community.



On February 9, Cory Mendiola shares about his experiences as a DHH adult in the workforce at the EHDI Conversation Session on Employment at Tony Roma's.

### **Guam EHDI Shares Quarterly Highlights (cont.)**



On February 23, Ejay Lewis (middle) tries on the Subpac device to feel the vibrations from music with help from Social Work intern Anniea Saturno (right), while Rose Arceo (left) interprets at the EHDI Conversation Session on Community Living held at Tony Roma's.



Danilo Barrido, from the Department of Public Health and Social Services presents about the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to students from the Career Tech High Academy Charter School (CTHACS).

## **Guam EHDI and GSAT Provides Awareness**



On February 3, staff from the Guam Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (Guam EHDI) and Guam System for Assistive Technology (GSAT) conducted an outreach event at the Dededo Flea Market. The Dededo Mayor's Office provided space for activities on the first Saturday of every month. GSAT and Guam EHDI staff set up table displays each month to help raise awareness about both programs.



Guam CEDDERS Training Associate Marie Wusstig shows a shopper how to access websites by scanning a QR code with her smartphone.

# **GSAT Holds first Bylaws Committee Meeting**

On February 6, GSAT conducted its by-laws meeting. The committee recommended significant revisions across various sections of the by-laws to align with 21st-century Assistive Technology Act and National Assistive Technology Act Technical Assistance and Training (AT3) Center recommendations. Subsequent meetings were held on February 20, and March 5 and 12.



#### **GSAT Receives AT Support Post Typhoon Mawar**

In the aftermath of Typhoon Mawar, FEMA's Region IX team established a Priority Population Task Force in collaboration with local partners to deliberate on strategies to aid senior citizens, individuals with disabilities, and their families. Through FEMA's assistance, Guam CEDDERS successfully partnered with FODAC to procure durable medical equipment for individuals who reached out to the 311 Option 2 Call Center during its operation, reporting damage or loss of their assistive technology due to Typhoon Mawar.



#### GSAT Receives AT Support Post Typhoon Mawar (cont.)



On February 6, GSAT receives a donation of assistive technology devices from Friends of Disabled Adults and Children (FODAC), a non-profit organization that offers refurbished home medical equipment and assistive technology.



Recipients of AT devices from the CEDDERS-FODAC partnership are all smiles as they show off their new mobility equipment.

## **Guam PDG Hosts ESDM Advance Workshop**

Early Childhood Providers completed the Early Start Denver Model (ESDM) Advance Workshop held at the Westin Guam Resort on January 23, 24, and 25. Fifteen providers from the Guam Department of Education Guam Early Intervention System, Early Childhood Special Education, Preschool Head Start Program, and Speech Services along with two private providers from the U.S. Naval Hospital Education, Intervention and Developmental Services program completed the advance course conducted by ESDM Trainers Dr. Giacomo Vivanti from the A.J. Drexel Autism Institute and Kristy Capes, Centre Manager, and Carolyne Jones, Clinical Manager, Psychologist, both from La Trobe University Community Children's Centre in Bundoora, Australia. Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in which parents and therapists use play and joint activities for building positive and fun relationships aimed at helping children increase their social, language and communication, and cognitive skills. This type of therapy can be used in various settings including the home, school, or clinic.

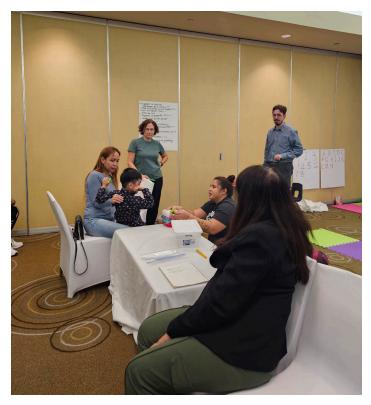
The three-day Advance Workshop provided an opportunity for participants to work directly with children with ASD implementing ESDM interventions and strategies, while receiving direct supervision from the three trainers. By the end of the three days, participants were equipped with the information, skills, and resources necessary to implement ESDM within their respective programs.



Sherry Cruz, Teacher, GEIS, interacts with a four-year-old child during the hands-on implementation of ESDM intervention strategies while colleagues Glorianna Guerrero, Teacher, ECSE Preschool, Ronelen Diolnaldo, Teacher, ECSE Preschool, and Lisa Eclavea, Speech Therapist, GDOE, observe and use their ESDM Checklists with developed goals for the child. Trainer Kristy Capes (standing) provides direct supervision to Ms. Cruz as she implements the strategies.

ESDM is a behavioral therapy for young children with

#### **Guam PDG Hosts ESDM Advance Workshop (cont.)**



Dr. Giacomo Vivanti (standing right) observes interactions between ESDM Advance Workshop participants and a four-year-old child.



ESDM Advance Workshop participants pose for a photo with Trainers (pictured wearing shell leis), Carolyne Jones (left), Dr. Giacomo Vivanti (center), and Kristy Capes (right).



ESDM Trainers set the stage for participants presenting the agenda and outcomes for the 3-day Advance Workshop sessions.

## **UOG Celebrates 56th Charter Day**



On March 7, Guam CEDDERS staff pose with Dr. Anita Borja Enriquez (third from right) during the 56th UOG Charter Day celebration on campus.



UOG Social Work Intern Anita Tman performs with the UOG Yap Student Organization during the UOG Charter Day celebration on March 7.

#### AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT



# **CEDDERS Welcomes New Staff**



Ethan Guzman STUDENT OFFICE ASSISTANT

> **Major/Minor** Business Administration, Public Administration

**Hobbies** Building model kits, playing video games, and reading novels

My future goal is to become a nurse.



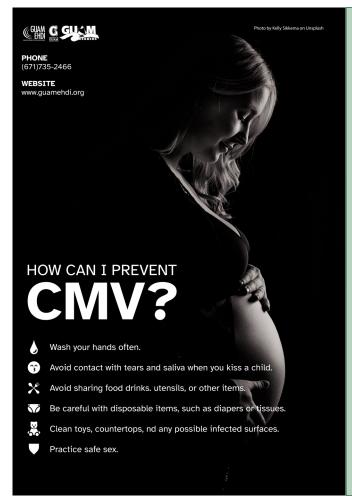
**Devin Santos** STUDENT OFFICE ASSISTANT

Major/Minor

Computer Science, Cybersecurity

Hobby Working out

My future goal is to work with cloud information technology.





I Tellai is a quarterly publication of Guam CEDDERS.

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

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