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*Indigenous  
Affairs  
Office*

The Indigenous Affairs Office was established in June 1985 through the 2nd Constitutional Convention. Article III Section 23 of the CNMI Constitution

established the Resident Executive and is mandated with the following duties and responsibilities.

1. Coordinate the development, distribution, adoption and translation of a comprehensive history of the Marianas.
2. Ensures local participation in executive managerial decision-making in the government and private sector.
3. Assist and promote local entrepreneurial development.
4. Establish a community foundation for the advancement of the indigenous people.
5. Coordinate the translation and distribution of such official documents as the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Covenant and the analyses thereof.
6. Plan for the establishment of the Indigenous Cultural Center and the Indigenous Hall of Fame.
7. Coordinate an annual cultural festival.
8. Develop and implement a long-range plan to assist and promote the entry of the indigenous people into professional and technical institutions of higher education.
9. Serve as an advocate of positions taken by indigenous people on issues brought before them.

The office of resident executive for indigenous affairs shall commence immediately upon ratification of this section.

The resident executive is authorized to hire staff and promulgate rules and regulations in carrying out the duties and responsibilities of the office.

The governor shall include in the budget of the executive branch the funding necessary to fully implement the provisions of this section.

Table of Contents:

About Indigenous Affairs Office	Page 1
Programs	Page 2
Finances	Page 3
Key Initiatives	Page 4

# Programa Siha

## Put I Kutturán Chamorro



Local Crafts



Cultural Dance



Fiscal year 2020 initially started with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Indigenous

Traditional Chamorro Food



Cultural Expo. Many Chamorro demonstrators were featuring indigenous medicinal practitioners, indigenous food, local fisherman, cultural



performances, and local arts and crafts. In a financial partnership with the Administration for Native American (ANA), we were able to construct one Chamorro thatch house, a traditional kitchen, and garden, and developed digital storytelling about Super Typhoon Yutu experiences. 300 digital flash drive copies will be distributed to individuals and families in the CNMI. For more information please contact or visit us on Capitol Hill, building 1213.



Medicinal Herbs



Chamorro Book Reading



1<sup>st</sup> Chamorro Thach House



2<sup>nd</sup> Chamorro Thach House



Display of Local Crafts

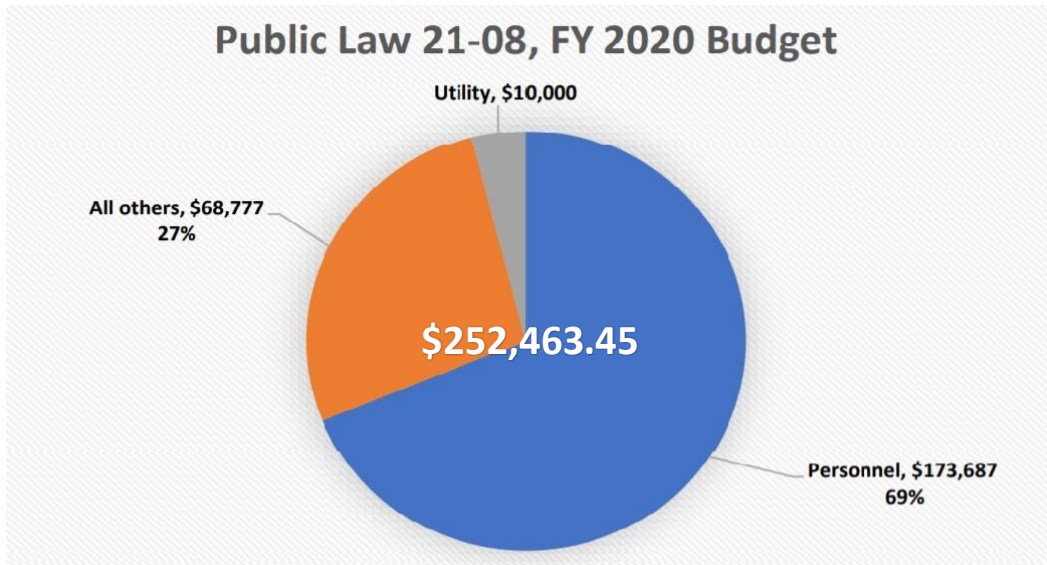


Traditional Kitchen

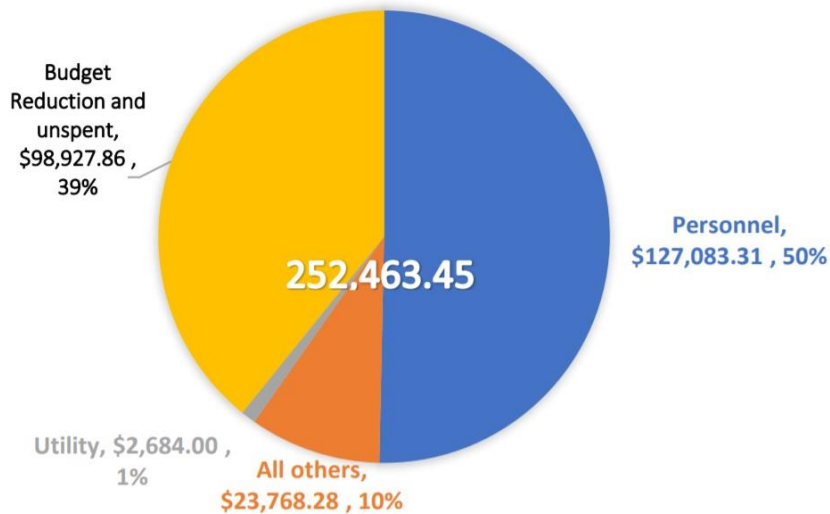


Local Crops and Medicinal Plant Garden

# Fainansiāt Indigenous Affairs Office



## FISCAL YEAR 2020 BUDGET EXPENDITURES



Fiscal year 2020 expenditures reflect personnel, utility, all others, and budget cuts/unspent. Personnel expenditure was less than appropriated due to the reduction of employment and non-hiring of personnel. Furthermore, due to cost-cutting measures and budget cuts, a portion of the utility, was included in the 39% of the pie. For all others, a portion of the funds was affected by the budget reduction.

# Intension para I mamamaila'

## 1. Program expansion to Tinian and Rota

- a) Chamorro language studies through media platforms
- b) Indigenous Cultural Expo and mini-expo
- c) Traditional medicine workshops
- d) Dialogue for the Draft Fanihi Recovery Plan of 2009
- e) Native medicinal garden
- f) Seafaring traditions
- g) Conference and workshops

## 2. Structures

- a) Construct two more Guma' Higai (Chamorro Thatched House) at Sengsong Chamorro in Civic Center to complete four
- b) Traditional thatch houses at Latte sites

## 3. Beautification and Accessibility

- a) Partner with HPO & MVA to develop an educational area at Latte sites on Saipan
- b) Partner with DPW & OGM to seek funding for Maga'lahi statues with interpretive device

## 4. Monitor re-internment of Chamorro ancestral remains

## 5. As mandated in Article III Section 23(b) of the CNMI Constitution:

- a) Seek funding for professional service to coordinate the development, distribution and translation of a comprehensive history of the Marianas,
- b) Advocate for more hiring of indigenous people in government and businesses
- c) Seek funding for future entrepreneurship workshops and training
- d) Establish canoe festival