



# CITIZEN-CENTRIC REPORT-FY 2020

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS-TINIAN

## ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

The Department of Community & Cultural Affairs was created in 1978 with the signing of the Covenant to establish the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) in political union with the United States of America. The DCCA is an executive branch agency, responsible to the Governor through the Secretary.

## MISSION

"The Department of Community & Cultural Affairs (DCCA) is charged with the oversight of CNMI functions in the area of human and social services, historic and landmark conservation and preservation, activities to preserve Chamorro and Carolinian heritages and traditions, public arts and sports programming.

## DIVISIONS AND PROGRAMS

- ◆ Chamorro and Carolinian Language Policy Commission (CCLPC)
- ◆ Child Care Development Fund (CCDF)
- ◆ Child Care Licensing Program (CCLP)
- ◆ CNMI Respite Care Program (CRCP)
- ◆ Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture (CCAC)
- ◆ Division of Youth Services (DYS)
- ◆ Historic Preservation Office (HPO)
- ◆ Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program( LIHEAP)
- ◆ Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP)
- ◆ Office on Aging (OoA)
- ◆ Sports and Recreation Program



## OUR PROGRESS

### **Division of Youth Services (DYS)**

Child Abuse and Neglect: 23 cases  
 Juvenile Probation Unit: 3 cases  
 Emergency Shelter Intake: 3 clients  
 Foster Care: 3 children  
 Parents Anonymous: 9 participants  
 Internship Program: 1 participant  
 Volunteer Program: 15 participants  
 Service Hours Program (PSS): 5 students  
 Counseling Services (Community Guidance Center): 31 clients  
 Training & Workshop Programs: 28 participants

### **Historic Preservation Office (HPO)**

One Start Permit reviews (commercial): 12  
 One Start Permit reviews (non-commercial): 37

### **Office on Aging (OoA)**

Number of homebound meals distributed: 4,510.  
 Number of homebound clients: 43  
 Number of active clients: 17  
 Number of congregate meals served-in: 2,630

### **Sports and Recreation (SRP)**

Number of youth participants in summer and other sports programs: 112



## NAP FY 2020— TINIAN

Month	Cases	Members	Benefits	Supplemental Benefits	Supplemental Cases	Total Benefits
Oct 2019	180	435	\$83,077			\$83,077
Nov 2019	178	425	\$79,747			\$79,747
Dec 2019	190	454	\$86,915			\$86,915
Jan 2020	1585	455	\$87,862			\$87,862
Feb 2020	193	466	\$89,678			\$89,678
Mar 2020	196	484	\$93,857			\$93,857
Apr 2020	218	545	\$101,660			\$101,660
May 2020	279	658	\$130,601			\$130,601
Jun 2020	323	740	\$154,945	\$41,787	181	\$196,732
Jul 2020	314	712	\$147,385	\$41,336	185	\$188,721
Aug 2020	281	614	\$126,997	\$35,419	173	\$162,416
Sep 2020	232	508	\$103,077			\$103,777
					<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,405,043.00</b>

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP): 945 food packages distributed

## DIVISION

## SERVICES

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program	Provides assistance in paying the cooling bills of low income and elderly people.
CNMI Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP)	Promotes the general welfare and to safeguard the health and well-being of residents by raising the levels of nutrition among low income and zero income families and individuals.
Historic Preservation Office (HPO)	Promotes the preservation and protection of all significant historic and archaeological properties in the CNMI. Educate the public in facets of our cultural heritage and historic preservation.
Child Care Development Fund (CCDF)	Assists low income families in accessing quality child care for children while parents work, participate in education or job training.
Division of Youth Services (DYS)	Promotes the well-being of children, youth , families and the community as a whole. Helps strengthen families and promotes healthy child by practicing positive parenting skills. Promotes educational, intervention and preventative activities and services that provide children, youth and families the opportunity to interact, to learn life skills and to develop the ability to cope with challenges.
Office on Aging (OoA)	Serves and provides needed assistance to all senior citizens and caregivers by administering programs and activities, promoting independent living, building self esteem and providing opportunities for seniors to play an active role in the community.
Child Care Licensing Program (CCLP)	Ensures child care facilities follow regulations on administration requirements, health standards for children, health standards for staff, environmental health standards, physical facilities standard and program modifications.
Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture (CCAC)	Responsible in providing arts programs for the CNMI
Chamorro /Carolinian Language Policy Commission (CCLPC)	Conducts studies on the languages and cultures of the Chamorro and Carolinian in the CNMI; describes the grammar and prescribes good usages for the two indigenous languages; prepares a modern and up to date Chamorro/Carolinian English Dictionary; represents the Northern Mariana Islands in meeting and conferences on matters dealing with both languages; makes recommendations to the legislature on standard orthography to be used in schools; researches both languages and its people and to provide such resources in the Commonwealth library; and to make recommendations to the legislature on policies governing the usage of both languages in the public and private sectors.

## Successes

~Procurement and accounting duties are now the responsibilities of the DCCA main office allowing division supervisors more time to monitor and provide efficient services to our clients.

~The municipal gym was renovated in 2018 finally allowing the staff access to functional restrooms. Unfortunately, Super Typhoon Yutu caused damages making the gym once again unsafe for sports/exercise activities due to flooding. The most extensive damages are the two large gaping holes on the roof. We are working closely with the Tinian Mayor's Office in identifying resources to get the roof repaired.

~DCCA just recently received our newly purchased zero-turn mower. This major purchase should cut down total time spent on maintaining the grass at the baseball fields and DCCA grounds.

~Despite the roofing damage at the municipal gymnasium, our staff are currently allowing our basketball team to practice from Monday-Thursday in the evenings if the gym floor is dry to ensure the safety of the players. Weights and exercise equipment are also available for public use Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

~The DCCA women's staff restroom has finally been renovated and is currently functional for the convenience of our female staff. Other much needed renovations are currently being planned as funding permits.

~DCCA was able to re-pipe the water line allowing for water supply to the staff restrooms and install additional faucets in every corner of the building.

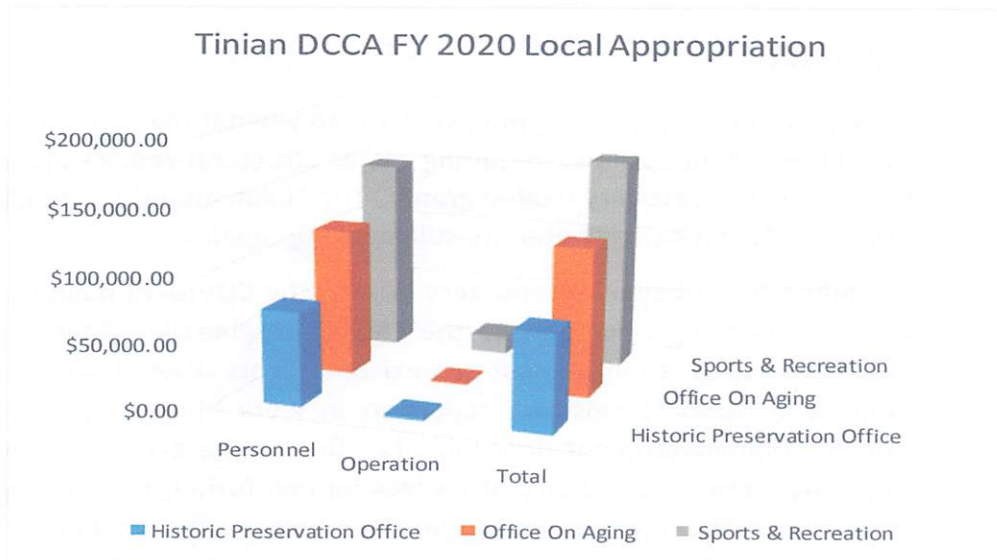
~DCCA purchased two sets of table tennis for recreation. Our visitors will be able to enjoy this recreation once the leaky roofs have been repaired.

~As a result of the excellent work rapport established with the DCCA Secretary and the NAP Administrator, Tinian DCCA under the Division of Sports & Recreation, was able to send their two administrative officers to attend a 3-day hands on training at the NAP office on Saipan. The two administrative officers are now tasked and able to conduct independent interviews to determine eligibility and issue NAP benefits within 24 hours after an applicant is deemed eligible. Because of the check and balance requirements, one employee is tasked with the client intake to determine eligibility while the other is responsible with the custody, accounting and issuance of NAP coupons.

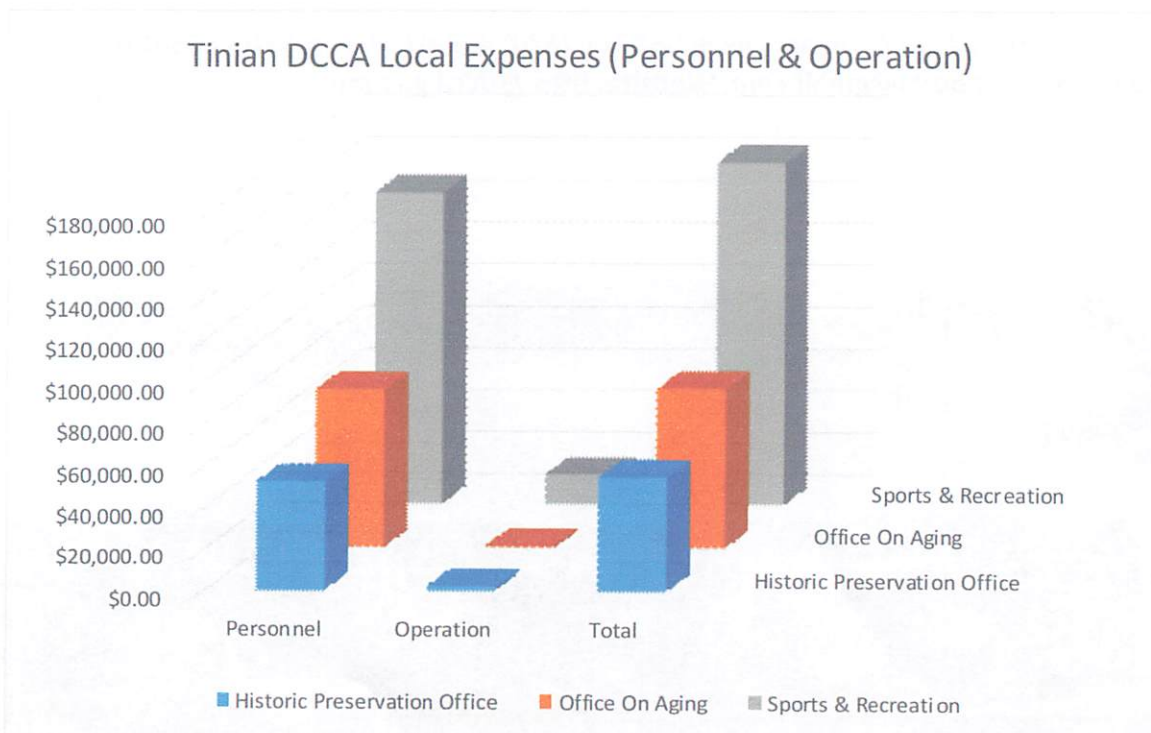
~For the first time in a very long time, DCCA Commonwealth Council for Arts & Culture (CCAC) & DYS co-sponsored a two-week summer camp from 8 am - 4:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. Breakfast and lunch meals were served throughout the duration of the camp. Camp activities included arts & crafts, educational presentations and physical fitness games.



Tinian DCCA FY 2020 Local Appropriation	Personnel	Operation	Total
Historic Preservation Office	\$71,993.00	\$2,205.68	\$74,198.68
Office On Aging	\$113,775.00	\$809.13	\$114,584.13
Sports & Recreation	\$150,487.00	\$14,289.37	\$164,776.37



Tinian DCCA FY 2020 Local Expenses (Personnel & Operation)	Personnel	Operation	Total
Historic Preservation Office	\$52,482.29	\$2,205.28	\$54,687.57
Office On Aging	\$75,343.68	\$809.12	\$76,152.80
Sports & Recreation	\$148,488.56	\$14,289.37	\$162,777.93



NOTE: Operation allotments were drastically cut due to CNMI cash flow issues. Work hours were reduced to 64 hrs. bi-weekly. Seven employees funded under 1231, 1241 and 1271 units were furloughed.

## Outlook

In some areas of human and social services, Tinian DCCA strongly feels that there should be more community outreach and public education about the availability of funding for services such as the Child Care Development Fund, Child Care Licensing Program, CNMI Respite Services, Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. Currently there is no dedicated personnel for these divisions.

## Challenges

Super Typhoon Yutu severely impacted Tinian when it made landfall in October 2018. To date, government facilities requiring major structural repairs are still being addressed through disaster recovery related grants. The Tinian municipal gym, baseball fields, youth center and Tinian Aging Center are still awaiting repairs.

In addition to post typhoon recovery efforts, the COVID-19 pandemic caused even more economic hardships, not only to the CNMI, but globally. Tourism is the CNMI's main source of revenue, so the almost non-existent flights severely affected funding availability resulting in business closures, reduction in work hours, furloughs and reduction in budgets in all government departments. Due to the economic downturn, the FY 2021 budget was formulated to allocate wages for non-furloughed employees, procurement of the most essential supplies and payments of other office essentials such as communications, fuel and utilities.

We anticipate FY 2021 to be even more challenging and Tinian DCCA continues to ensure stringent cost-cutting measures and rigorous financial accountability. Our priority is to continue to nurture the growth of our people and community without sacrificing quality and efficient public services whilst keeping our employees and clients safe.

## Contact information

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Tinian