



Citizen-Centric Report

FY 2021

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs

Mission

The *Department of Community and Cultural Affairs'* (DCCA's) mission is to oversee the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands' (CNMI's) functions in the areas of human and social services, historic and landmark conservation and preservation, and activities to preserve Chamorro and Carolinian heritages and traditions, public arts, and sports programming.

About the Department

The DCCA was created in 1978 with the signing of the Covenant to establish the CNMI in political union with the United States of America (USA). The DCCA is an executive branch agency, responsible to the Governor through the Secretary.

Divisions and Programs



CCAC
Commonwealth Council for
Arts and Culture



CCDF
Child Care and
Development Fund



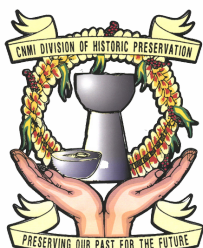
CCLP
Child Care
Licensing Program



CCLPC
Chamorro -Carolinian
Language Policy Commission



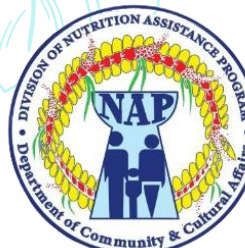
DYS
Division of Youth Services



HPO
Historic Preservation Office



LIHEAP
Low Income Housing Energy
Assistance Program



NAP
Nutrition Assistance Program



OoA
Office on Aging



DCCA
SPORTS & RECS
Sports and Recreation Program

Divisions and Programs



The Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture (CCAC) will serve to develop and foster programs that promote excellence in the arts, promote and utilize our diverse artistic and cultural resources, provide quality arts experiences for our citizens and opportunities for artists, and promote and perpetuate the unique folk heritage of the CNMI.



The Child Care and Development Fund's mission is to enhance the quality, affordability, and supply of child care available for all families.



The Child Care Licensing Program ensures the health, safety and well-being of children in Day Care Centers & Group Child Care Homes, Before and After School Programs, Family Child Care Homes, and Infant and Toddler Child Care Centers throughout the CNMI by establishing appropriate rules, regulations, policies for licensing and operation of day care centers within the Commonwealth, monitoring compliance relative to the administrative code, offering technical assistance and training.



The CCLPC was established in accordance with the "Chamorro-Carolinian Language Policy Commission Act of 1982," with a vision that families in the CNMI will be socially and culturally enriched with the Chamorro and Carolinian languages. The CCLPC strives to strengthen, promote, and preserve the native languages of the Marianas.



The Division of Youth Services (DYS) is the mandated state agency to provide social service programs for children, youth and families throughout the CNMI. Established by CNMI P.L. 2-19 and 8 CMC, Div. 1 Article 2 "Family Protection Act," DHS has numerous responsibilities to include interventions on reports of all forms of child abuse and neglect, domestic violence where children are involved, truancy, runaway/homeless youth, juvenile delinquency and provide rehabilitative services to youth remanded for secured care.

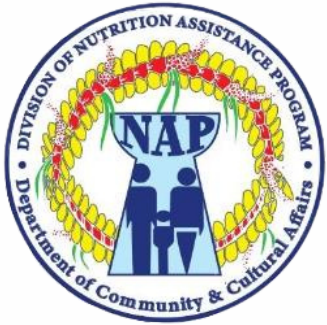
Divisions and Programs



The CNMI Historic Preservation Office is mandated under Public Law 3-39, cited as the "Commonwealth Historic Preservation Act of 1982," to promote the preservation of the historic and cultural heritage of the Northern Mariana Islands and regulate activities that have the potential to adversely affect historic and cultural properties.



The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally funded program that provides eligible households with power subsidy assistance and intends to ensure that families are safe, healthy, and comfortable within their homes.



The mission of the CNMI Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) is to help low-income residents and families buy the food they need for good health. The NAP provides food stamps as a supplement to eligible low-income or no income households to buy food for proper diets.



OFFICE ON AGING

The Office on Aging (OoA) was established to develop, coordinate, and deliver support services to CNMI elders and to assist the senior citizens in maintaining their independence. It is the program's responsibility to proactively implement a wide range of functions relative to planning and advocating for a system designed to assist older persons to lead meaningful and dignified lives.



The DCCA Sports and Recreation Program was created to promote wellness, team building, and active lifestyles.

Our Progress



CCAC

Commonwealth Council on Arts and Culture

CCAC-Coordinated arts programs:	10
Number of Artists and Cultural Practitioners involved:	211
National Endowment for the Arts Funding:	\$544,600



CCDF

Child Care and Development Fund

Total Number of Children who received services/subsidies:	755
Amount of subsidies paid out in FY21:	\$3.79 Million
Number of trainings provided in FY21:	51
Number of training participants in FY21:	934



CCLP

Child Care Licensing Program

CCDF Subsidized Centers:	12
Private/ Non-subsidized Centers:	12
CCDF Subsidized Enrollment:	587
Private/ Non-subsidized Enrollment:	221
Announced Inspections:	24
Unannounced Inspections:	24
Renewal Assessments:	24



CCLPC

Chamorro-Carolinian Language Policy Commission

Number of Translation Services:	60
Number of Interpretation services:	5
Number of Phone Calls:	4



HPO

Historic Preservation Office

Number of One Start Permit reviews:	447
Number of Section 106 Consultations:	77
Major Siting Project reviews:	12
Research Permit Reviews:	2

Our Progress

DYS Division of Youth Services

Child Protective Services

Child Abuse Cases:	285	
Number of Victims:	863	
Types of Allegations	Physical Abuse	64
	Sexual Abuse	70
	Emotional Abuse	152
	Neglect/General	158
	Others (Support Services, Teen Pregnancy, Domestic Violence, Minor sex trafficking, Truancy, Suicidal)	55

Juvenile Probation Unit

Number of Juveniles on Probation:	63
Number of Incarcerated Youth Served:	25
Number of youth served with the PSS Student Attendance Review Committee (SARC):	88

Emergency Shelter Program

Number of children sheltered in DYS Emergency Shelter:	37
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Foster Care Program

Number of children Fostered:	34
Number of Children in Kinship Placement:	24

Family & Youth Enhancement Program

Number of Individuals served:	511
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LIHEAP

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

Number of households served:	442
Number of adults:	551
Number of children:	899
Total number of Individuals who benefitted:	1450



NAP

Nutrition Assistance Program

NAP Program

Average number of households receiving benefits:	4,420
Average number of individuals receiving benefits:	11,490
Total amount of benefits distributed in FY21:	\$26.47 Million

Pandemic EBT Program

Average number of households receiving benefits:	5,383
Total amount of benefits distributed in FY21:	\$9.89 Million

OoA

Office on Aging

Service Breakdown

	Saipan	Tinian	Rota
Number of Active Clients:	97	36	40
Number of meals served to Congregate Clients:	16,490	6,580	9,800
Number of Homebound Clients:	214	32	38
Number of meals served to homebound clients:	36,380	6,110	9,310



OFFICE ON AGING

Our Budget



Program Benefits **\$418,503**

Personnel **\$175,236**

Operations **\$140,392**



Personnel **\$213,340**

Operations **\$19,603**



Personnel **\$204,103**

Operations **\$13,757**



Personnel & Utilities **\$101,643**

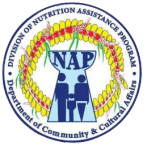
National Endowment of the Arts **\$293,400**



SCSEP Participants' Salaries **\$251,621**

Personnel **\$496,647**

All Others **\$2,268,797**



Program Benefits **\$32,985,397**

Administrative Costs **\$4,763,299**

Personnel **\$1,836,696**

Operations **\$1,260,872**



Indirect Costs **\$256,489**

Personnel **\$429,179**

Operations **\$4,986,416**



Please Note: The graphs above are not to scale and are for visual purposes only. Additional information on the data presented above may be available by contacting the respective Divisions directly or by using the contact form shown on the final page of this report.

Moving Forward

Social Services were greatly impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Many of our programs faced a multitude of difficulties that delayed service delivery. The Child Care sector was forced to close, face-to-face services and programs for all divisions of DCCA were halted and modified, and community activities were indefinitely postponed, but our teams worked diligently behind the scenes to continue operations. The people of the Marianas did well to practice appropriate mitigative measures, which led to our islands achieving Community Vulnerability Level GREEN from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force. This allowed our programs much more flexibility as well as the opportunity to increase intake volume at service delivery sites.

Midway through the year, the American Rescue Plan Act granted funding to stabilize and refresh government functions. Offices that were once cramped with a mix of division staff due to cost saving measures were able to acquire new, permanent facilities that will be ready and active before the end of the next fiscal year. Programs also benefited greatly from this funding. Child care facilities benefited from increased financial assistance to implement safeguards against Covid 19 and increase their capacity to serve families.

Recruiting and retaining staff for DYS will be a big challenge as we deplete our CARES Act, Disaster Supplemental Assistance, and ARPA funding. Youth programs have been enhanced with more, better resources available at DYS' community and youth centers. Additionally, federal assistance was secured to offer qualified families Utility and Rental assistance.

Food and Power assistance were delivered without delay, with expansions and enhancements on the way. NAP will be adjusting income guidelines to match the SNAP 130% Poverty Level. Allotment levels will be raised to match maximum amounts on Guam, undoubtedly raising benefit levels for clients on Tinian, Rota, and the Northern Islands. We also anticipate the long-awaited implementation of an Electronics Benefit Transfer (EBT) system to begin by early 2023.

Moving Forward

LIHEAP submitted a model plan to the Department of Health and Human Services in September. This plan, dubbed the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program or LIHWAP, will be implemented in FY22, to subsidize water utility costs for families. We will also increase outreach efforts to ensure that more families are aware of and practice energy saving techniques.

Information and service access will be increased for our elderly as the Office on Aging enhances its Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC). Two new services will be available soon - the *Adult Protective Services* will enable us to protect the elderly, while the *CNMI & Senior Respite Service Program* helps to provide rest and professional development for caretakers of the needy.

The Chamorro-Carolinian Language Policy Commission (CCLPC) will continue their duties as they look further into expanding their team as well as move into their new facility, Bldg. 1359 in Capitol Hill, Saipan. They are working with policy makers to enable the office to expand their services as well as collect fees to help generate funds to increase their painfully small budget.

The Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture, or CCAC, will be looking into ways to bring back its major activities and enhance service access to artists. Preserving, Promoting, and Perpetuating our commonwealth culture remains a top priority.

Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu left many islanders homeless. Federal aid came in the form of complete home construction, most of which required permits from the Historic Preservation Office (HPO). HPO will work vigorously to recruit a U.S. National Park Service qualified Archeologist, as well as an Archivist/Historian and an Administrative Officer.

With the help of the emergency funding granted to our island nation, we were able to bring back furloughed employees, enhance office functions, increase capacity to serve clients, and expand services to be more inclusive of our community. We hope to continue this momentum of positive outcomes throughout the next year. We can do this, but not without the help of our community. Please, let us each do our part to build our commonwealth back and better than before.

Contact Us



Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture

Saipan (670)322-9982 or 9983
Tinian (670)433-9330
Rota (670)532-9350
Website cnmiartscouncil.org



Child Care and Development Fund

Saipan (670)664-2575 or 2576
Tinian (670)433-9330
Rota (670)532-9350
Website cnmicclp.gov.mp



Child Care Licensing Program

Saipan (670)664-2572
Tinian (670)433-9330
Rota (670)532-9350
Website cnmicclp.gov.mp



Chamorro Carolinian Language Policy Commission

Saipan (670)664-5321
Tinian (670)433-9330
Rota (670)532-9350
Website dcca.gov.mp/cclpc



Division of Youth Services

Saipan (670)237-1004 to 1014
Tinian (670)433-9272
Rota (670)532-9393
Website dys.gov.mp

Contact Us



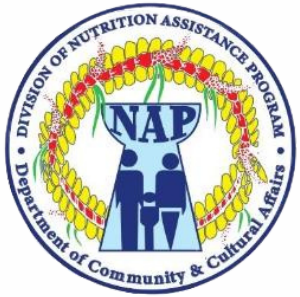
Historic Preservation Office

Saipan (670)664-2120
Tinian (670)433-9332
Rota (670)532-0818
Website dcca.gov.mp/hpo



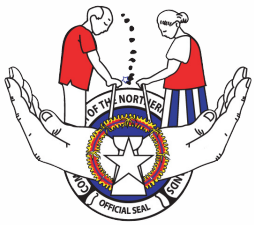
Low-Income Housing Energy Assistance Program

Saipan (670)664-2574
Tinian (670)433-9330
Rota (670)532-9354
Website dcca.gov.mp/liheap



Nutrition Assistance Program

Saipan (670)237-2800
Tinian (670)433-9330
Rota (670)532-9354
Website cnminap.gov.mp



OFFICE ON AGING

Office on Aging

Saipan (670)233-1321
Tinian (670)433-9220
Rota (670)532-9483
Website cnmiooa.org



Office of the Secretary/ Office of the Resident Director

Saipan (670)664-2587
Tinian (670)433-9220
Rota (670)532-9483
Website dcca.gov.mp

Got Questions? Find Answers!



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