

ADDENDUM

WHAT WE ARE DOING

The CNMI Office of Veterans Affairs continues to assist those returning home from serving the military in registering with our office; assist in Veterans/family members in seeking employment; assist them with medical and health issues in collaboration with the federal VA regarding health and medical benefits.

The completion of the \$3.2 million Expansions and Improvements project through a federal grant from the Department of Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Administration of the CNMI Veterans Cemetery which will include 320 columbarium, 216 double-depths crypts with 8 Oversized crypts, new administrative building to assist visitors and families to make funeral arrangements, a maintenance building, on-site rest rooms, a committal shelter that provides additional covered portions for family members during rainy or hot days, decorative perimeter fencing for added security and memorial wall for families to visit and remember our loved ones.

After several years of persistently advocating to the VA Regional Office in Hawaii for a full-time Veteran Service Officer (VSO), we finally have Mr. Willie Peterson, the new VSO and has since been providing much needed services to Veterans and family in terms of applying for compensations, benefits and/or pensions on a regular basis.

Assisted Veterans filed Service-Connected compensation.

Assisted Veterans filed Claims/Benefits/Survivors Pension.

Continued assisting as needed Veterans with VA Home Loan Packets (Administered by NMHC).

Assisted Veterans with documents such as printing, scanning, faxing and emailing.

Assisted surviving spouse/child with Dependency and Indemnity (DIC) Death pension and accrued benefits.

LOOKING AHEAD

Partner with NMC and NMTI and arrange computer training for veterans and family.

Partner with not-for-profit organizations to sponsor events of interest for Veterans and family.

Increase visits from VA Benefit Counselor from quarterly visit to monthly visit.

Resume with our Quarterly Town Hall Meetings in all three Municipalities Saipan, Rota, and Tinian.