



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
CNMI Council On Developmental Disabilities
Assistive Technology Program**



ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CITIZENS OF THE CNMI

FISCAL YEAR 2023

- Who We Are** 1
- Performance** 2
- Financial** 3
- What's Next** 4

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OUR PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Council is to undertake advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities consistent with subsections [b] and [c] of section 101 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance & Bill of Rights Act of 2000, more specifically, to ensure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of and have access of needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life.

MISSION:

It is the mission of the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities to bring about necessary systemic change in order to promote the lives of persons with developmental disabilities. This will assure that the service network is providing persons with developmental disabilities the programs necessary to enable them to achieve their maximum potential.

STATE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:

The Council shall develop and implement that state plan required by the DD Act and the Council's State law, as now or hereafter amended. The Council shall implement the State Plan by conducting and supporting advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities as described in Part B of the DD Act.



PERFORMANCE

Objective 1.2: SELF ADVOCACY - Annually, the CNMI will have increase the number of self-advocate trainers so they can provide other self-advocates with opportunities to learn and engage in personal, collaborative, and civic leadership.

In FY 2023, the Council collaborated with the DD Network and the Disability Network Partners to conduct Advocate Day for self-advocates and family members on Saipan, Tinian and Rota. The purpose of Advocate Day was to provide hands-on training activities that build leadership and self-advocacy skills of people with developmental disabilities and their families in the CNMI. 71 participants attended the event on Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

The Council in partnership with CNMI-UCEDD conducted training titled “How to Advocate for Yourself” on Tinian (March 16, 2023) and Rota (March 30, 2023).

17 participants attended the event on Tinian and Rota.

Objective 2.8: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS - By 2024, the CNMI will have increased the number of CNMI First Responders who have participated in disability awareness training focused on the needs of people with developmental disabilities and their families during emergencies and natural disasters.

During fiscal year 2023, the Council in collaboration with partners in the DD Network (CNMI-University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities - UCEDD and Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy and Systems, Inc. - NMPASI) conducted 7 Disability Awareness and Effective Communication trainings to CNMI first responders and community members CNMI-wide in FY 2023. A total of 146 participants took part in the training.

The Council in collaboration with the CNMI-UCEDD co-sponsored the following trainings conducted by staff from the National Disaster Preparedness Training Center for CNMI community members and first responders CNMI-wide:

- AWR-308 Natural Disaster Awareness for Caregivers
- AWR-310 Natural Disaster Awareness for Community Leaders
- AWR-217 Tsunami Awareness

A total of 200 participants attended the trainings.

Objective 1.3: Annually, the CNMI will increase the number of self-advocates active in public policy, advocacy, cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership activities.

On March 1, 2023, the 2023 Developmental Disabilities (DD) Awareness Month Proclamation Ceremony and Champions for Equal Opportunities Awards was held at the Saipan World Resort. Honorable Governor Arnold Palacios and Lt. Governor Apatang kicked off Developmental Disabilities Awareness month with a proclamation signing ceremony that was held in conjunction with the Champions for Equal Opportunities Awards. During March 2023, over 152 participants CNMI-wide attended events that recognized self-advocate and advocate champions who were selected by members of their community for the positive contributions they made to the disability community in the CNMI.

Objective 2.3: ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM - BUILDING CAPACITY: By 2026, people with developmental disabilities and their families will have increased access to assistive technology by building the capacity of the CNMI Assistive Technology Program that will directly improve their access to education, employment, housing, transportation, and healthcare in the CNMI.

During fiscal year 2023, the Council partnered with the CNMI-UCEDD to assess the current capacity of the CNMI Assistive Technology Program to provide assistive technology to individuals with developmental disabilities in rural and underserved areas of the CNMI by developing and conducting a pilot survey of assistive technology users’ needs in the CNMI. There were 151 surveys conducted CNMI-wide. The Assistive Technology User survey will be available until December 31, 2023, for community members to fill out.

Objective 2.5: TARGETED DISPARITY: By 2026, Asian families with children with developmental disabilities in the CNMI will have more information about formal and informal supports and services so they can get services and supports that meet their individual needs and preferences in a culturally appropriate manner.

Translated CNMI CDD Program brochures in the following languages per CDD’s Five Year State Plan 2022 to 2026 Goal 2: Community Services Improvement that was shared at DNP outreach and training events during FY 2023.



FINANCIAL



FUNDING SOURCE:

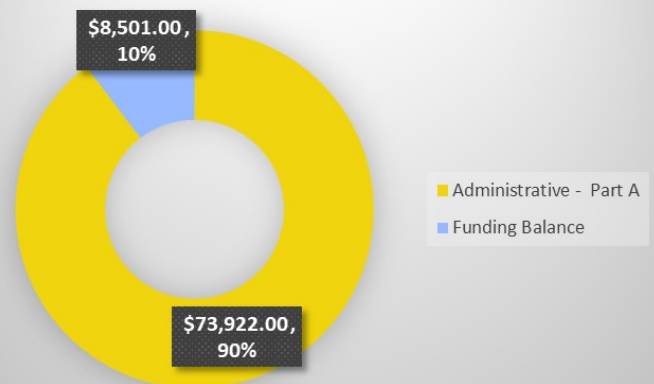
The CNMI CDD receives a federal formula grant from the Administration on Community Living under Title I, Subtitle B of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000. All funds are subject to the requirements of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principle and Audit Requirements for HHS Awards under 45 CFR Part 75.

The CNMI CDD funds used primarily for two purposes: (1) planning and (2) implementation of innovative strategies to address the needs of CNMI residents with developmental disabilities.

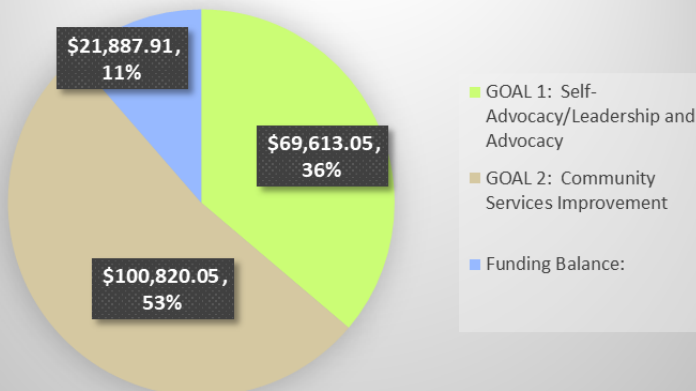
ADVOCACY LEADERSHIP COMMUNITY SERVICES IMPROVEMENT

2023 PROJECT BUDGET

FISCAL YEAR 2023: ADMINISTRATIVE PART A



FISCAL YEAR 2023: SERVICES - PART B



WHAT'S NEXT



CNMI CDD – Mandarin



CNMI CDD – Cantonese



To take the AT survey, please scan the QR code or click on google link below:



<https://forms.gle/bhc3sUxxWetR7ymC7>



CNMI CDD – Korean



CNMI CDD – Tagalog



CNMI CDD – Thai

