

# Department of Community and Community Affairs



## Municipality of Rota 2023 Citizen-Centric Report

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The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs on Rota provides direct social services to the young and old, sports and recreation for a healthy community, conducts outreach for the Arts and Culture, and protects the municipality's historical values. The department consists of the administrative section, Division of Sports and Recreation, Division of Historic Preservation Office, Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture, Division of Nutrition Assistance Program, Child Care Development Fund, Low-Income High Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Division of Youth Services and Office on Aging. These divisions are managed by the Resident Department Head, an appointee of the Mayor, pursuant to Article VI Section 3(g) of the CNMI Constitution.

The department has two unique business units: the Sports and Recreation account at \$198,820.56 and the Historic Preservation account at \$53,785.11 for personnel and zero for operations. DCCA Saipan also provides personnel and operational expenses to various divisions for Rota DCCA. Rota DCCA employs twelve (12) full-time employees, whereas, Saipan DCCA employs seven (7) full-time personnel, five (5) federally funded positions, and one from the Governor's Office. Therefore, the department has twenty-five personnel currently working to serve the municipality of Rota as follows.

**Rota Personnel:** 2 business unit

*Account 1272 Sports and Recreation* (12 personnel)

4 Administrative, 3 Sports Division, 1 Nutrition Assistance Program, 1 Office on Aging,

*Account 1232 Historic Preservation Office* (3 personnel) – 3 HPO

**Saipan DCCA Personnel** (7 personnel) – 1 Secretary's Office, 1 Historic Preservation Office, 1 Division of Youth Services, 2 Office on Aging, 2 Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture

**Federal Grant** (6 personnel) – 1 Div. of Youth Services, 1 Office on Aging, 2 Nutrition Assistance Program, 1 Child Cared Development Fund

**Saipan MOU** (1 personnel) – 1 Governor's Office

The 2023 citizen-centric report will focus on the expenditures for fiscal year 2023. Due to unfunded operations for both business units, Rota DCCA relied on the Mayor of Rota, the 19<sup>th</sup> Rota Municipal Council, other departments, and elected officials. However, most of the operational expenses were provided by Rota DCCA personnel. Major expenses donated to the department were fuel, parts, printer ink, and communications. Some communications were placed on vacation plans instead of disconnection. DCCA strives to be innovative in finding ways and means to stay operational. The department was able to reprogram personnel lapses in August 2023 in the amount of \$6,184.50 to subsidize its operations. The bulk of the funds were directed toward fuel for the maintenance of historic sites, Joaquin M. Ogo Baseball Field, DYS Youth Center, and the Adopted Highway, and procuring parts for two riding mowers. The remaining funds went to the installation of CCAC Air conditioning for the art gallery, light fixtures, and office supplies. I remain hopeful for a better fiscal year 2024.

## Programs

FY '23 Funding sources for Rota DCCA were zero for the entire year. The revised budget was for personnel and OPA fee only. NAP, DYS, CCDF, OoA's operation were provided by their respective Saipan offices through the "State Plan" program.

Rota DCCA has a unique program distribution of services. The state plan was funded by DCCA Saipan such as the Division of Youth Services, Nutrition Assistance Program, Commonwealth Council for the Arts, Child Care Development Fund, and Office on Aging. The local operation consists of the administrative section, Historic Preservation Office, and Sports and Recreation. However, some locally funded personnel augment certain such as the Nutrition Assistance Program to supervise the program and Cook to prepare food at the Office on Aging, and an administrative specialist assisting at the Office on Aging in Saipan.

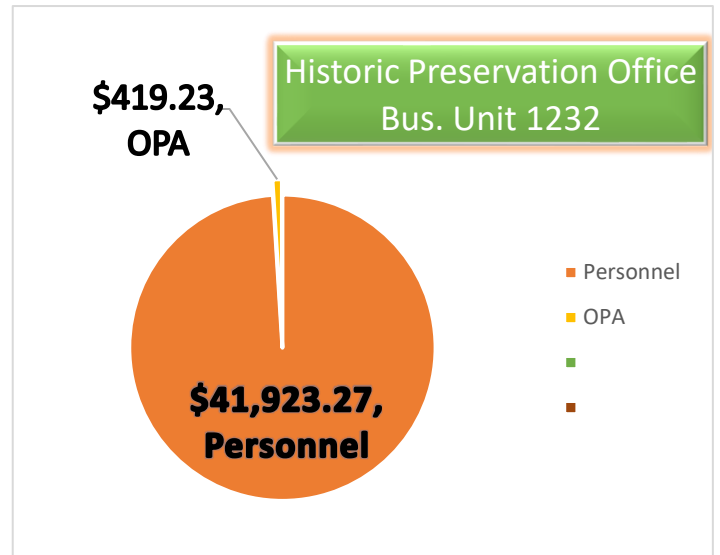
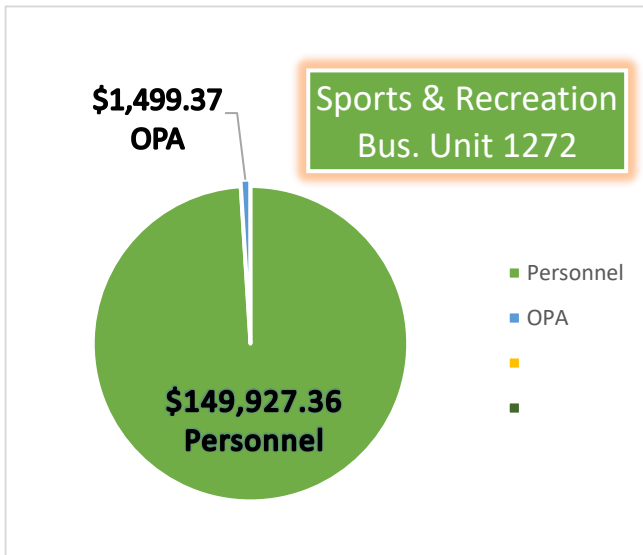
Three major areas of public service were provided by Rota DCCA: 1) Direct services 2) Site maintenance 3) Community support.

1. Direct services. This is a client-based operation. Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamp), Division of Youth Services, Child Care Development Fund (Child Care), and Office on Aging ( Man Amko'). These divisions provided client intake, case management, preparation and execution of action plans, weekly and monthly nutritional support to low-income families and elders in our community, protection from neglect and abuse, recreation and outreach, and many other human services deemed necessary. 98% funded by Saipan DCCA.
2. Site maintenance – Sports, Historic Preservation Office and CCAC, a combination of three (3) divisions with six (6) personnel, provided monthly landscape and maintenance to 12 locations on Rota. They were 1) DCCA main office 2) Casa de Re'al in Song song Village 3) Japanese Water Well in Tatachog 4) Japanese Pre-war Rectory in Tatachog 5) Ma'ya Ancient Latte Site 6) Mochong Ancient Latte Site 7) Chugai Pictograph Cave 8) Joaquin M. Ogo Baseball Field 9) Sinapalo Youth Basketball Court 10) DYS Youth Center 11) Sonton to Tatachog Pavilion Highway (Adopt-A-Highway Program) 12) Jose Charfaurose, Jr. Veteran's Memorial Park. Fuel, equipment parts, and field operation supplies for fiscal year 2023 were provided by Rota Mayor's Office and Rota DCCA personnel. I need to acknowledge the contribution of outside funding sources from Honorable Aubry Hocog and most importantly, staff financial contributions to continue the maintenance of all 12 sites for the general public, students, and visitors to enjoy and appreciate. Kudos to the Rota DCCA site maintenance team and Mayor Hocog.
3. Community support – Administrative, Sports, Arts Council and Historic Preservation Office personnel supported requests from the Public School System for cultural education, seasonal community sports leagues department requests, and festivals. Rota DCCA personnel provided many hours of softball, basketball, and volleyball officiating during school hours, after school, and at night games. Arts Council and HPO personnel provided cultural education upon request. Historical site tours were provided by HPO personnel to students, residents, and visitors upon request including on weekends. I applaud all HPO personnel and most especially, Mr. Antonelli Rosario, for his dedication to accommodating off-island visitors to the Chugai Pictograph Cave either Saturday or Sunday. Equally important was the occasional earthmoving permit by HPO personnel as part of their responsibility. I would be remiss not to acknowledge the unselfish dedication of Rota DCCA personnel to accumulate compensatory time due to the lack of appropriation for overtime necessary to provide community support to efficiently promote healthy living while promoting, preserving, and protecting our Chamorro heritage. During the day, they will maintain all the designated sites, and at night or after school accommodate youth and community sports. All these were without appropriation for operations.

# Finances

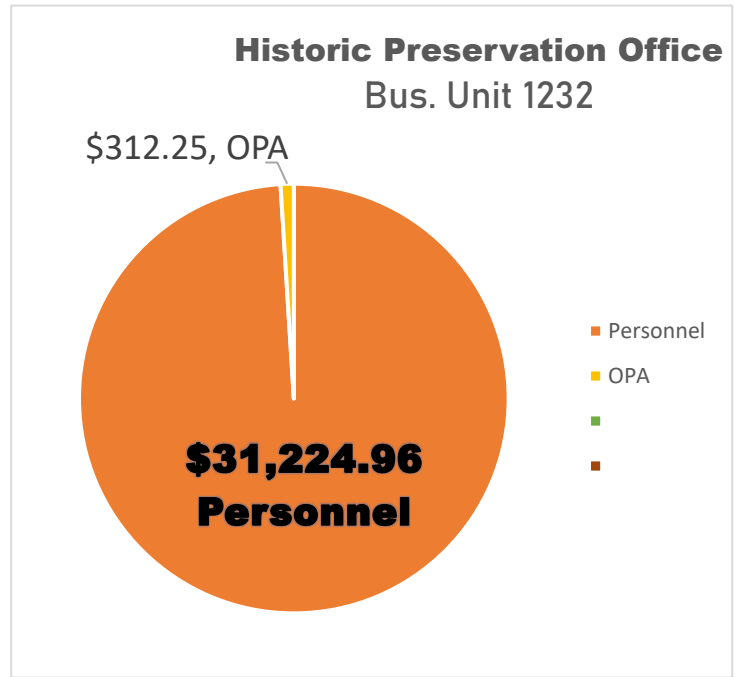
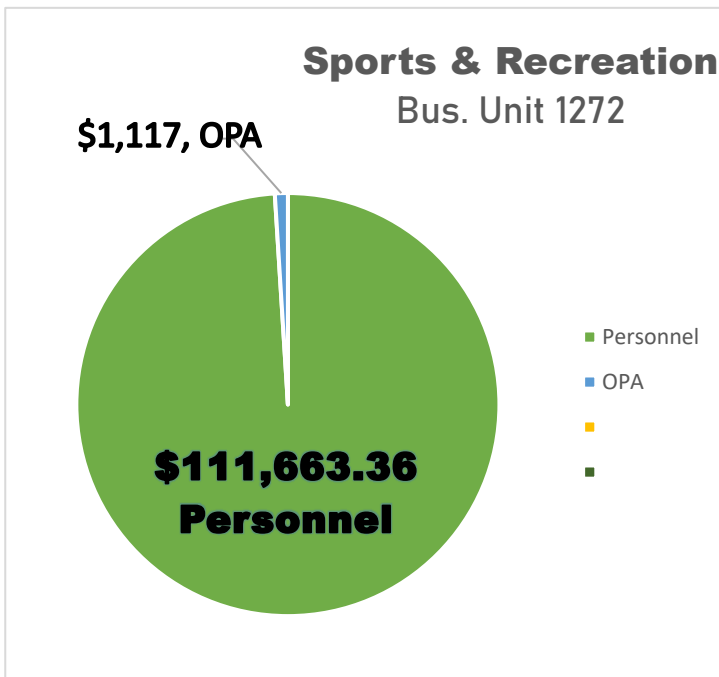
## Public Law 22-22

October 1, 2022 – April 25, 2023



## Public Law 23-04 (Revised)

April 25, 2023 – September 30, 2023



Public Law 22-22 October 1, 2022, through April 2023 was a regular 80-hour bi-weekly standard work schedule. In April 2023, Public Law 20the 72-hour bi-weekly work schedule was implemented. Therefore, the two expenditure reports reflected the personnel and Office of Public Auditor expenditure for fiscal year 2023. All others were unfunded pursuant to Public Law 22-22 and Public Law 23-04..

## Key Initiatives

The following key initiatives will be implemented if the following funding sources may be available:

- a) 2024 supplemental appropriation by the CNMI Legislature
- b) Seek appropriations from the Rota Legislative Delegation
- c) Seek and apply for federal and foundation grant monies
  - a. Friend OGM&CH
- d) Seek support from the Rota Mayor's Office
- e) Seek support from the 19<sup>th</sup> Rota Municipal Council
- f) Establish a partnership with local, Saipan and Guahan business communities, department heads, the Association of Mariana Island Mayors, and business

### Programs and Services

1. Schedule personnel professional development
  - a. Administrative and division cross-training
  - b. One (1) quarterly retreat
2. Establish a schedule for non-standard work weeks for after-school and evening programs
  - a. Youth and adult sports
  - b. Youth and adult cultural programs
3. Jr. & Sr. High School Skill Awareness Outreach
  - a. Demonstrate various skilled professions
4. Establish the Sinapalu Night Market policies and events  
Festival of Pacific Islanders (FestPac)
5. Touch Back Certification Program
6. Cultural Podcast
7. Cultural Folk Art
8. Cultural Music and Dance Program
9. Medicinal Workshop and Archiving
10. Weaving Class
11. Shoreline medicinal land designation
12. Establish a nursery for highway beautification, Rota Cultural Center landscaping, and 1K fruit tree planting

### Major Projects

1. Mes Gilita
  - a. Establish Mes Gilita
    - i. Proclamation
    - ii. Kick-off Sinapalu Night Market
    - iii. Department-sponsored weekend events
    - iv. Ginormous coconut art of Gilita man, woman and children (family)
    - v. Establish department-sponsored *feria* every Sunday for a month
  - b. Gilita Festival
    - a. TENTATIVE May 24-25, 2024
2. Reinternment of ancestral remains
3. Assist in seeking grant funding for the Rota Cultural Center in As Nieves
4. Community Kitchen
5. Revitalize HPO's proposed office behind Case de Re'al
6. Talapia fencing at OoA