

Tri-agency Continues COVID-19 Vaccine Access Efforts

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On August 21, Michael Grino (pictured) smiled and gave a "thumbs up" after getting his COVID-19 vaccine with his family thru the COVID-19 Vaccine Access drive thru service at the University of Guam.

The fight in keeping the community safe from the COVID-19 virus continues with COVID-19 vaccine efforts from the Tri-agency partners that is comprised of Guam Legal Corporation – Disability Law Center (GLSC-DLC), Guam Developmental Disabilities Council (GDDC), and the University of Guam Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, Education, Research, and Service (Guam CEDDERS). The latest initiative is working collaboratively with the Department of Public Health & Social Services (DPHSS) and the Guam Army National Guard in the coordination of the COVID-19 vaccine drive up services for individuals with disabilities and senior citizens at the University of Guam campus. Through the supportive efforts of Guam Army National Guard Adjutant General Esther JC Aguigui and Lt. Colonel Glenn Mesa, the idea came to fruition on September 10th. Every Wednesday, community members who call the 311 Call Center to schedule an appointment for the COVID-19 vaccine can easily avail the drive up service.

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Tri-agency Continues COVID-19 Vaccine Access Efforts

Community members who opted for the drive up COVID-19 vaccine service are greeted with smiles and the "Hafa Adai spirit" from the Guam Army National Guard soldiers and Guam CEDDERS personnel. As part of the creative outreach endeavors, the staff from Guam CEDDERS then provide them with a "recyclable goodie bag" filled with informational brochures on various services offered by the Guam System for Assistive Technology (GSAT) and Guam Early Hearing Detection

& Intervention (Guam EHDI) that they can read during their COVID-19 vaccine wait time.

A testimonial from Mr. Rodney Calimlim, an individual with visual impairment, and his mother, Mrs. Nelly Calimlim, who availed of the drive thru services was quoted as stating, "It was very easy, quick, and convenient especially after dialysis. I loved it." Without a doubt, the initiative serves its purpose – to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families.

On August 11, Guam Army National Guard soldiers assisting drive up clients , Jenny Duenas & her family, at the University of Guam Calvo Field House COVID-19 Vaccination Access Drive Up site.



Soldiers Receive Disability Awareness & Sensitivity Training



On September 22, soldiers from the Guam Army National Guard were engaged during the Disability Awareness & Sensitivity training facilitated by Michelle Aguigui, Guam CEDDERS Associate Director (standing in the center).

On September 22nd, twenty-four soldiers led by Captain Denise Chargualaf from the Guam Army National Guard attended a training session on Disability Sensitivity & Awareness training facilitated by Michelle Aguigui, Guam CEDDERS Associate Director, Leah Abelon, Guam System for Assistive Technology (GSAT) Coordinator, and Guam CEDDERS student interns, Gabby Ulloa and Talyssa Kakas. The soldiers are part of the regiment assigned to the Department of Public Health & Social Services (DPHSS) in administering the COVID-19 vaccine.

As soldiers assist community members in availing of the COVID-19 vaccine, they encounter many individuals, some of which may have a disability. It is important that they are sensitive and aware of the unique needs that individuals with disabilities may have to ensure that they provide them with appropriate services. The topic areas of the training were:

- What is a disability?
- Types of disabilities – Visible & Invisible
- Interacting with Individuals with Disabilities
- Communication Tips with a Deaf/ Hard of Hearing Person
- Disability Etiquette Tips

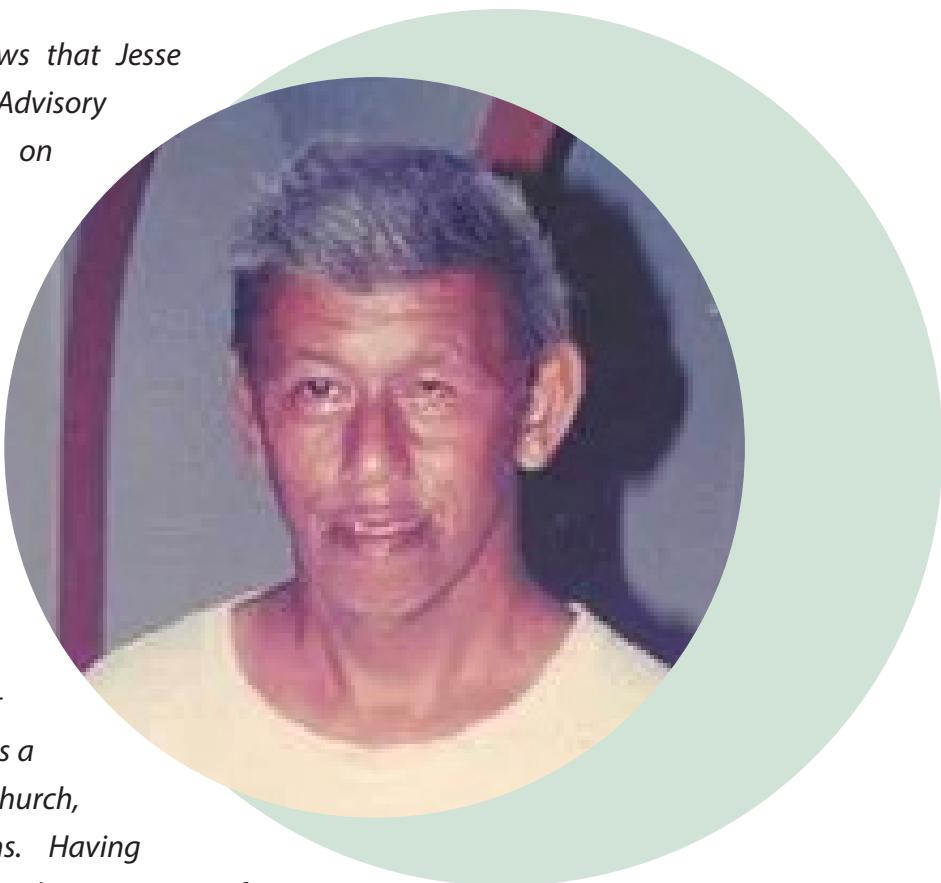
Jesse Pangelinan, Former Guam CEDDERS Advisory Council Chairperson, Passes Away

It is with sadness that we share the news that Jesse Pangelinan, former Guam CEDDERS Advisory member and Chairperson, passed away on September 28 at the age of 59.

Jesse was a lifelong resident of the village of Yona. He attended Chief Brodie Memorial School when it was first established as the "state school for handicapped children." An outgoing and friendly person who always greeted people with a warm smile and wave, Jesse was an active participant for many years in various community activities, often generously pitching in with event preparation and logistics. For a time, he was a regular volunteer at Saint Francis Catholic Church, serving as a collector of Sunday donations. Having been trained from a young age in the traditional CHamoru art of massage, he was known to occasionally make some pocket money giving shoulder and neck massages, but more often provided them for free.

Jesse was a frequent participant in disability-related events and activities and was a self-advocate which led him to be appointed to the Guam CEDDERS Advisory Council from 2002-2005, serving as chairperson for 2003-2004 term. He also was involved with Guam Developmental Disabilities Council activities.

Jesse, your community advocacy, bright smile and kind spirit are sorely missed. Rest in Peace, ga'chong!



TRIBUTE BY
Terrie Fejarang
Guam CEDDERS Consultant

Palau Starts In-Person Technical Assistance



On September 14 & 15, Guam CEDDERS June De Leon met with the MOE SSIP Team to review the requirements of the FFY 2020 SSIP reporting.

It's not about sustaining a COVID-free community, it's about making sure it is a COVID-safe community! This was the sentiment of the Republic of Palau when they lifted their travel restrictions to allow for weekly passenger flights from Guam in the summer. Adherence to the COVID-19 mitigation requirements: the three W's – Wash your hands, Wear a face mask, and Watch your distance, were in place with COVID-19 testing for all incoming passengers. The Republic of Palau was ready to welcome visitors to their island nation.

With all precautions taken, Guam CEDDERS June De Leon conducted on-site technical assistance visits in July and September for one week each visit. Her last visit to Palau was in March 2020 before the shutdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Now, over a year later, she was able to return to Palau to facilitate modified in-person technical assistance activities. The modification included adhering to the three W's, in particular wearing a face mask and having hand sanitizers readily available and keeping to the work schedule only. She had to clear the 5th day of COVID-19 testing before going around in the community.

The July on-site activities included:

- Co-facilitating the annual private school consultation meeting to review the 2020-2021 proportionate-share expenditures, the 2021-2022 proportionate-share, and to gather input on how the Ministry should provide special education services to parentally-placed private school students with disabilities.

- Co-facilitating the 2021 ROP IDEA Determination, the Determination over the year, and implications for developing the new ROP IDEA State Performance Plan with the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC).
- Facilitating the development of the online survey for school administrators to determine technical assistance and training needs related to special education.
- Providing consultation on next steps for meeting the ROP Teacher Certification Policy and Procedures, including the review of the University of Guam School of Education bachelor's degree program proposal.
- Facilitating the review and priorities for the new school year, including a virtual call with the off-island Guam CEDDERS consultant for a high school student with low vision. The clearance of the 5th day COVID-19 testing allowed Ms. De Leon to visit the high school student and family on Pelelui, one of the island states in Palau.
- Co-facilitating Part 1 of the special education leadership series designed for school principals and vice-principals based on the July online school administrators survey. The training session included a virtual presentation by Dr. David Bateman, co-author of the resource procured for each participating school administrator: "A Principal's Guide to Special Education." Dr. Bateman's presentation focused on the latest education issues and litigation, including the Endrew F case and implications for the delivery of special

Palau Starts In-Person (Cont.)

The September on-site activities included:

- Co-facilitating the development of Palau's FFY 2020 State Performance Plan (SPP), Annual Performance Report (APR) and the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP).
- Providing consultation on next steps for meeting the ROP Teacher Certification Policy and Procedures, including engaging in the Palau Partnership virtual meeting with the Ministry, Palau Community College (PCC), and the University of Guam School of Education (UOG SOE). The purpose for



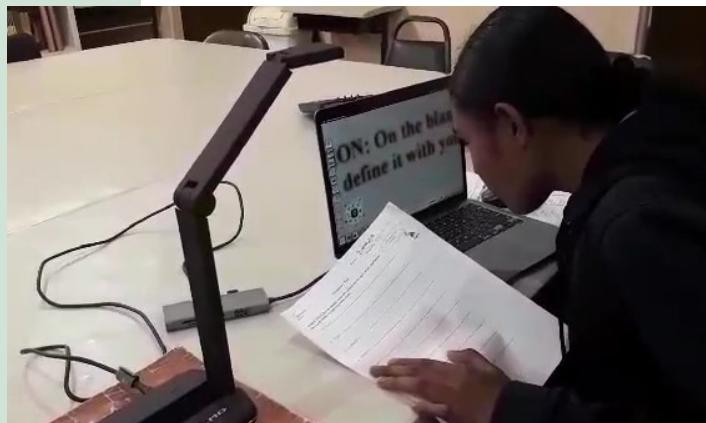
On July 11, Guam CEDDERS consultant Donna McNear, pictured on screen and laptop, has a conversation with the student from Pelelui about her high school experiences.

the virtual meeting was to review the design of the UOG SOE bachelor's degree program.

A COVID-safe school system means that there will be increased capacity for virtual learning by teachers and students, while providing opportunities for in-person technical assistance support within the Republic of Palau health safety guidelines.



On July 11, Guam CEDDERS consultant Donna McNear, picture on screen, meets with the student, parent, special education team in Pelelui to review the outcomes of the student's first year in high school and to plan for her return to high school in August.



On September 13, the high school student uses the portable Elmo Document Camera to complete an assignment. As prioritized by MOE Special Education Program, the portable Elmo Document Camera was procured by Guam CEDDERS for the student to easily carry from class to class.

On September 15, Guam CEDDERS June De Leon co-facilitates the Palau Partnership virtual meeting with PCC and UOG to discuss the design of the UOG School of Education (SOE) bachelor's degree program to address the Palau special education teacher certification requirements. Top row (L-R): MOE Team (June De Leon; Nora Renguil, MOE Special Education Coordinator; Ray Mechol, MOE Director of Bureau of Education Administration; and Ibuuch Tomoichi, MOE Chief of Personnel); Cathy Cardenas, Ph.D., Chair, Special Education, SOE, UOG; and Dee Leon Guerrero, Vice-Provost, UOG (aerial view of UOG). Middle row (L-R): Patrick Tellei, Ed.D., President, PCC; Alicia Aguon, Ph.D., Dean, SOE, UOG; and Hedrick Kual, Dean of Continuing Education, PCC. Bottom row: Matthew Limtiaco, Ed.D., Faculty, SOE, UOG.

GDOE Plans for Continuous Support to SSIP Schools



On May 28, SSIP Core Team Meeting participants, pictured above from left to right, top to bottom, Josephine Cruz, Ed.D.; Associate Director, Guam CEDDERS; Debra Whitt, Training Associate, Guam CEDDERS; Nieves Flores, Ed.D.; Consultant, Guam CEDDERS; June Quitugua, Consultant, Guam CEDDERS; Rose Castro, Principal, JMGES; Natasha Dela Cruz, Principal, MULES; Terese Crisostomo, Programs Coordinator, GDOE/SPED; Elias Taisipic, Assistant Principal, CHBPES; June De Leon, Interim Director, Guam CEDDERS.

On May 28, the Guam Department of Education (GDOE), in a collaborative effort with Guam CEDDERS, had a planning session with the four elementary State Systemic Improvement Project (SSIP) schools that focused on next steps in anticipation of the opening of schools for SY: 2021-2022.

In preparation for next school year, dialogue on what schools may look like during the reopening phase at the beginning of August was shared. Health protocols will continue at GDOE to ensure the health and safety of all students, faculty, and staff. These protocols will include the 3 W's: wear a mask, wash your hands, and watch your distance. Social distancing may be adjusted on campus from 6 feet to 3 feet, accomodating for more students than was previously allowed. However, more details will be announced as we approach the beginning of the new school year and after public health guidance is given.

The SSIP schools' major focus areas for SY: 2021-2022 are as follows:

- Universal Screener data (aimswebPlus)
- Parent/Guardian Engagement
- Building of Teacher Leader Capacity
- The use of technology resources to support reading instruction (Learning A-Z's: Raz-Plus)
- Evidence-based practices (i.e., Explicit Instruction)

The universal screener, aimswebPlus data will be compiled by Guam CEDDERS and shared with SSIP schools. The Spring 2021 data will reflect the three SSIP school sites that were able to give the assessments to their students. For next school year, the data collected from Fall 2021 will be compared; however, those students who did not take the screener in Spring 2021, will be compared to the last data point which was Winter 2020.

Although the pandemic may have impacted schools' ability to gather and meet in person with families, many schools were able to reach out to families through alternative communication and technology platforms. Students who attended in person classes, those who received hardcopy assignments, and those who received instruction online were able to benefit from resources and information through emails, google classroom access, or printed copies that were sent home.

Teachers were able to build their knowledge throughout the school year through ongoing professional support on Fridays. Many capacity building exercises and trainings were offered on Raz-Plus technology-based leveled reading program and Explicit Instruction—I do, We do, You do—instructional approach. These focus areas will continue for school year 2021-2022 and technical assistance will be provided to improve student outcomes.

GDOE Offers Extended School Year Teachers Support in using Fast ForWord with their Students



On June 11, Markesha Wattree (pictured), Implementation Manager, Fast ForWord, facilitates a virtual session with ESY teachers.

On June 11 & June 25, the Guam Department of Education (GDOE), in a collaborative effort with Guam CEDDERS, offered resource room teachers of students with IEPs support by providing an overview session on the brain-based program Fast ForWord. Students attending extended school year (ESY) were able to benefit from this research-based online program that was developed by neuroscientists. This technology helps to build student's brain capacity through its specially designed activities that improve the necessary foundational and cognitive skills for learning.

The first interactive session was held on Friday, June 11, and was facilitated by Markesha Wattree, implementation manager of Fast ForWord. It highlighted research on how the brain learns and how Fast ForWord helps to improve student's brain fitness by enhancing memory, attention, processing, and sequencing skills. ESY teachers were given an overview of the

program, demonstration of some of the brain training exercises in elementary through secondary grade levels and were given a walk through on how to view students' reports and provide further guidance.

The second ESY teacher session was held on Friday, June 25, and teachers were given the opportunity to share and ask questions regarding the implementation of Fast ForWord at the halfway point of the ESY (summer) program.

Additionally, a paraeducator training session on Friday, June 18 with 84 participants, as well as a parent/guardian session on Saturday morning, June 26, for the families of ESY students enrolled in the Fast ForWord (FFW) program was held. The parent session facilitated by Markesha Wattree gave an overview of the brain-training exercises their child was participating in at school and families were encouraged to continue its usage at home.

EPICS Meets Goal: 17 SLPS Graduate

After a long six years filled with twists and turns, bumps in the road, frustration, delays, and yes, a pandemic and absolute perseverance and tenacity, the EPICS Project has met its goal and has ended.

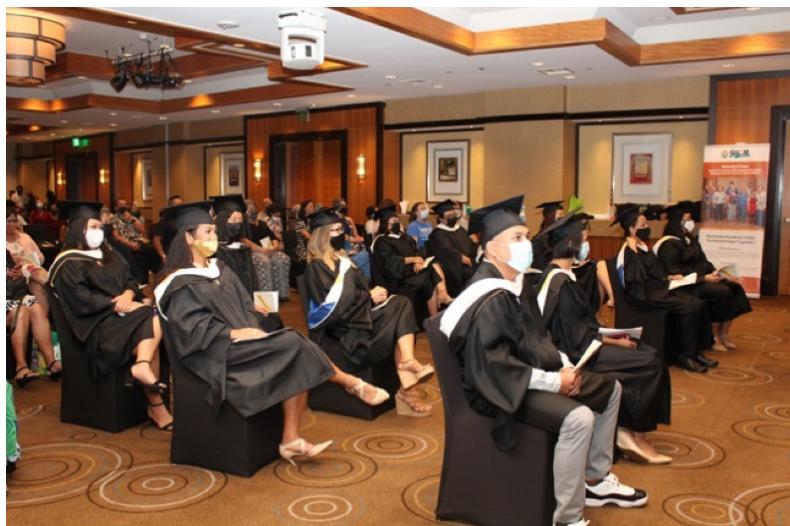
The "Educating Pacific Island Clinicians in Speech Pathology" (EPICS) Project began in May 2015 when San José State University (SJSU) applied for and was awarded a personnel preparation grant by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs. Guam CEDDERS is a collaborative partner in this project and serves as the on-site Pacific liaison.

The goal of this five-year grant is for SJSU to deliver its master's degree program in speech pathology primarily through online courses to produce highly qualified speech language pathologists (SLPs) from the U.S.-affiliated Pacific island jurisdictions to serve children from the region who need and are determined to be eligible for services in the area of speech and language development. Providing these services has historically been a challenge in the Pacific region due to the lack of certified SLPs, thus the goal and urgency to produce more professionals in this area.

Beginning in May 2015, Guam CEDDERS facilitated the recruitment of applicants for the project and received applications from residents from American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Pohnpei State, Federated States of Micronesia, and Guam. Coursework began during the summer of 2015. Guam CEDDERS provided assistance in recruitment and coordination of services for the project which ranged from facilitating on-site coursework logistics and group cohort meetings, practicum placements, and preparation for externship placements, to project leadership meetings, scholar supports, and project reports. Completion of all coursework and the

awarding of graduate degrees was initially targeted for August 2020, however, due to the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic, a "No Cost Extension" year for activity completion was approved. The original five-year graduate program was extended to six years for 10 of the 17 anticipated program completers.

To commemorate the completion of this arduous journey, a program evaluation by scholars and a "Celebration of Achievement" Ceremony were held during the evening of August 6 at the Westin Resort Guam.



Graduates listen attentively as Dr. Thomas Krise, UOG President, delivered Opening Remarks.

Opening Remarks were provided on-site by Dr. Thomas Krise, University of Guam President, with Dr. Gloria Weddington, SJSU Professor Emerita and EPICS Project Coordinator providing an historical overview of EPICS and the close relationships and partnership with Guam CEDDERS that make an endeavor such as EPICS possible. Live remarks presented virtually was provided by Dr. Heather Lattimer, SJSU Dean of the Lurie College

of Education, with pre-recorded messages shared by Dr. Nidhi Mehandra, SJSU Chair of the Department of Communicative Disorders and Sciences, and Dr. Wendy Quach and Dr. June McCullough, EPICS Co-Principal Investigators of the EPICS grant.

Chosen as the student speaker by his peers, Ignacio Dela Cruz enthusiastically shared his reflections on this momentous occasion. A particularly poignant reflection that he shared talked about his personal experience as recipient of speech therapy services as an elementary student. He said, "If you were to tell that 9-year-old boy in the Resource Room who received therapy for his fluency, that one day he will be up on this stage to make a speech to his classmates and all the guests, both onsite and on livestream, that boy would say 'Hey Hafa Adai!' This is one of the many joys of this field. We give our clients the confidence to

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EPICS Meets Goal (Cont.)

share their voice with the world around them. We give them the tools they need to communicate and express themselves to the world around them." He went on to express his appreciation of the generous support from many people who had assisted him in his journey to becoming a speech pathologist, and gave special thanks to Suzanne Lizama, his special cheerleader since his elementary school days. Ms. Lizama was the CNMI Public School System Special Education Director for over 31 years, until her untimely death two years ago.

In her Closing Remarks, June De Leon, Guam CEDDERS Interim Director asked the audience to read the mission statements of SJSU Communicative Disorders and Sciences Department, the University of Guam and Guam CEDDERS provided in the Ceremony booklet. The missions in combination with the potential of each of the 17 graduates having a 25-year career as an SLP, during which each had, say 35 students a year to work with, what a significant impact they would make while the missions of each of these organizations are fulfilled.

BIBA EPICS! BIBA SJSU! BIBA UOG and BIBA GUAM CEDDERS!!!

EPICS Project Graduates

Advani, Asha
Bala-an, Cassandra Christine Dimla
Borja, Tatiana J. Perez
Coles, Christina Nicole Bruschi
Cruz, Liahanni Nicole Dela Rosa
Dela Cruz, Ignacio Joaquin Cosico
Eclavea, Lisa Aguigui
Mendiola, Joseph-John Baza
Merfalen, Megan K. Flores
Obillo, Bobbie Jin Arevalo
Gonzales, Camille Onglao
Ruszala, Kathy Lalaine
Reyes, Lillian Llaneta
Sapida, Dianne Marie Q.
Serrano, Aileen Alfonso
Terlaje, Mary Meagan Q.
Yasuhiro, Gabrielle Kanani Duenas



Ignacio Dela Cruz, EPICS graduate, at podium, was chosen by his peers to be the student speaker. His spirited remarks did not disappoint.



Platform Guests at the Ceremony included (L-R): Reuel Drilon, Master of Ceremony; Dr. Gloria Weddington, SJSU EPICS Project Coordinator; Dr. Thomas Krise, UOG President; Dr. Anita Borja-Enriquez, UOG Senior Vice President and Provost; and Ignacio Dela Cruz, EPICS graduate. Also shown are Dr. Pamela Wiley, Los Angeles Speech and Language Center Owner and EPICS Project Externship Partner and Dr. Rachael Leon Guerrero, UOG Vice Provost for Research & Sponsored Programs.

EPICS Meets Goal (Cont.)



Dr. Heather Lattimer, Dean of the Lurie School of Education at San José State University (on screen), delivered live remarks virtually via Zoom during the ceremony. She spoke at about 1:30am Pacific Standard Time in California which was about 6:30pm on Guam.



Guam Department of Education Speech Language Pathologists played a key role in providing practicum experiences for the scholars. SLPs who attended the ceremony were: Front Row L-R: Nicole Duenas, May Camacho, Elizabeth Blas, Michelle Camacho and Keokia Mendiola, SJSU Adjunct Instructor and Clinical Practicum Supervisor. Back Row: Rowena Dimla, Richard Tumanda, and Amalia Badua. Not Shown: Sibyl Crisostomo.



Liahanni Cruz (Right), helps Camille Gonzales (Left) adjust her graduation hood.



Pictured (L-R): Dr. Pamela Wiley and Dr. Gloria Weddington traveled from California to represent SJSU at the event. They received special plaques during the ceremony as tokens of appreciation for their great efforts in support of the project. At right is Terrie Fejarang, Guam CEDDERS, EPICS Consultant.

EPICS Meets Goal (Cont.)



Joseph John Mendiola celebrates with his boys, Jaxx, José, and Jordan, after the ceremony.



Tatiana Perez Borja got married and had two children during her graduate studies. She is shown here with her spouse Gregorio Borja, and children Paloma and Santiago.



Aileen Serrano happily poses with her spouse, Juanito Serrano, and her son, Jericho, after receiving her diploma and commemorative medallion.



Dr. Gloria Weddington, (standing, right), facilitated an evaluation input session with scholars prior to the Celebration of Achievements ceremony.



EPICS Professors visited Guam Department of Education (GDOE) Superintendent Jon Fernandez on August 4. Standing L-R: Dr. Pamela Wiley, owner of the Los Angeles Speech and Language Center; Dr. Gloria Weddington, SJSU EPICS Project Coordinator; Jon Fernandez, GDOE Superintendent; Terrie Fejarang, Guam CEDDERS EPICS Consultant.

SSIP Schools Receive Support for School Year: 2021-2022



On July 26, SSIP CORE Team meeting, pictured top to bottom, left to right, Josephine Cruz, Ed.D., Associate Director, Guam CEDDERS; Debra Whitt, Training Associate, Guam CEDDERS; June Quitugua, Consultant, Guam CEDDERS; Nieves Flores, Ed.D., Consultant, Guam CEDDERS; Natasha Dela Cruz, Principal, MULES; John Wesolowski, Principal, CHBPES; Darlene Castro, Principal, CBMES; June De Leon, Interim Director, Guam CEDDERS; Elias Taisipic, Assistant Principal, MULES; Denise Taimanglo, Assistant Principal, CHBPES.

On July 26, Guam CEDDERS supported the Guam Department of Education's State Systemic Improvement Project (SSIP) school principals, in the planning for the delivery of school based technical assistance (TA). The CORE Team planning session consisted of administrators from the four SSIP schools: Chief Brodie Memorial Elementary School; JM Guerrero Elementary School; MU Lujan Elementary School; and Capt. HB Price Elementary School.

Administrators met this month as a team in preparation for upcoming technical assistance provided to all four SSIP school sites. Discussions centered on building school capacity—providing continuous meaningful professional development that builds on strategies that enhances overall student learning. This would include specially designed technical assistance at each school site, and collaborative team dialogue—to include consulting resource teachers (CRT-TAs), instructional coaches

(ICs)/district-based mentors (DBMs) and school-based mentors (SBMs), that also support these school sites. With all collaborative team members engaged, there would be a more focused level of support provided across all four SSIP school sites.

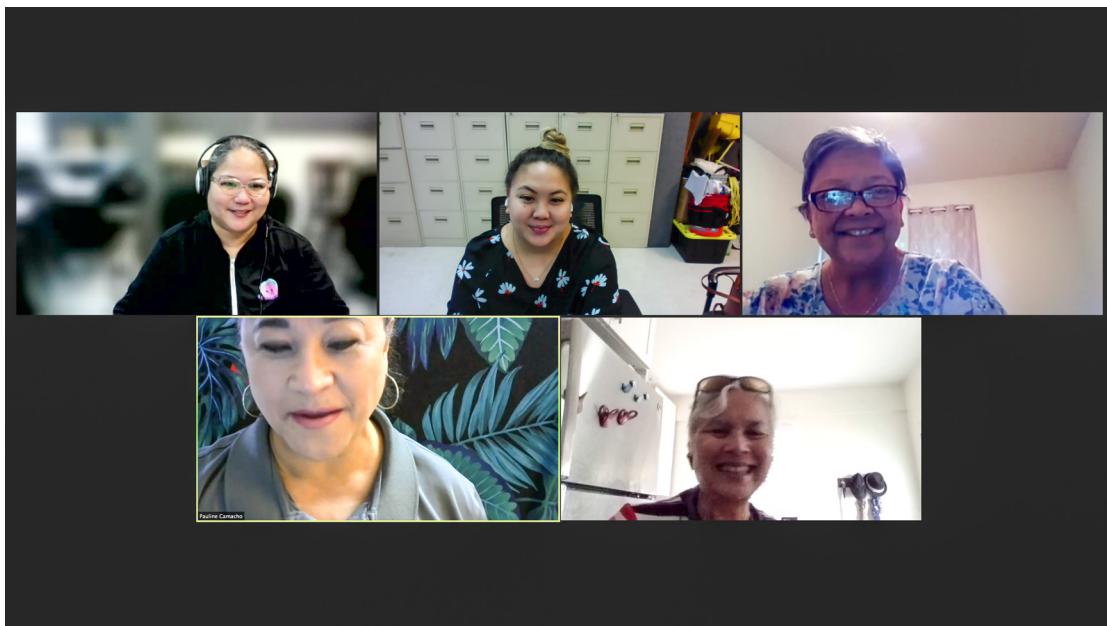
Our aim is to strengthen reading and mathematics, using evidence-based practices, such as Explicit Instruction, to enhance student learning. Hopefully, providing schools with more opportunities to review in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) previous data to examine specific areas for improvement in these core subject areas—using the (PDSA) Plan, Do, Study, Act: developing a plan, delivering the plan and intervention, reviewing and analyzing, and to act accordingly (by continuing, discontinuing and or changing the plan). Moreover, this school year, much like last school year, will require flexibility and adjustment in responding to the individual school site's needs.

GELC Leadership Team Theory of Change Meeting

On August 31, staff from the Guam Preschool Development Grant Birth – Five (PDG B-5) and Guam CEDDERS met with service providers and parent members to review the different areas of focus and start developing a Theory of Action. during the Guam Early Learning Council (GELC) meeting.



Guam's Training of Trainers for Strengthening Families Parent Café Booster Session



Guam's Training of Trainers for Strengthening Families Parent Café Booster Session led by Guam CEDDERS personnel with participation from Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) Family Health Information Resource Center (FHIRC) coordinator. Top row (L-R): Vera Blaz, Guam CEDDERS Training Associate; Jenika Ballesta, Guam CEDDERS Research Associate; Elaine Eclavea, Guam CEDDERS Consultant; Bottom row (L-R): Pauline Camacho, FHIRC Coordinator; Marie Wusstig, Guam CEDDERS Training Associate.

GDOE plans for more Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Technical Assistance

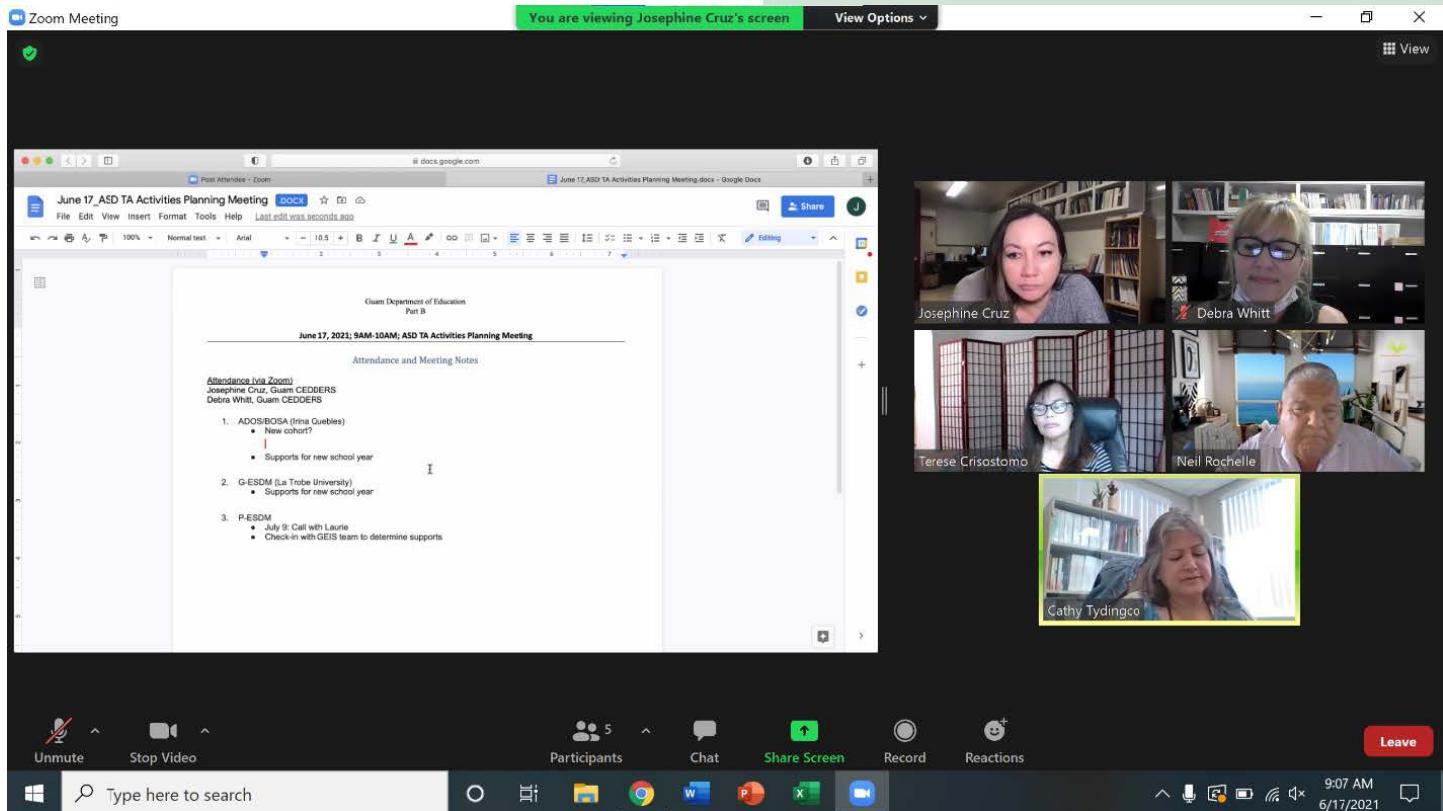
On June 17, Guam CEDDERS supported the Guam Department of Education's SPED leadership team, in the planning for the delivery of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) technical assistance (TA). The planning session included ASD activities for the new school year 2021-2022. This included information and guidance on conducting the Brief Observation of Symptoms of Autism, also known as BOSA (teletherapy version), report writing, analysis and understanding of data in terms of the child's academic or behavioral progress, comparing data from initial to current data points and what that means in terms of overall student growth.

The planning discussion covered the following in support of:

- Brief Observation of Symptoms of Autism (BOSA)/Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule/ADOS (with Dr. Irina Quebles)
- Group-Based Early Start Denver Model/G-ESDM (with La Trobe University)
- Parent-Based Early Start Denver Model/P-ESDM

On August 11, this session facilitated by Dr. Irina Quebles, offered participants with more practice and guidance in conducting BOSA assessments and the needed support in the scoring and analysis of such. Additionally, this session and future sessions, will include an interdisciplinary approach to report writing and include more opportunities for collaboration across individual team members.

On June 17, ASD planning session with GDOE, pictured top left to right, Josephine Cruz, Ed.D., Associate Director, Guam CEDDERS; Debra Whitt, Training Associate, Guam CEDDERS; Terese Crisostomo, Program Coordinator, GDOE/SPED; Neil Rochelle, Special Program Coordinator; Cathy Tydingco, Part C Coordinator, GDOE/SPED.

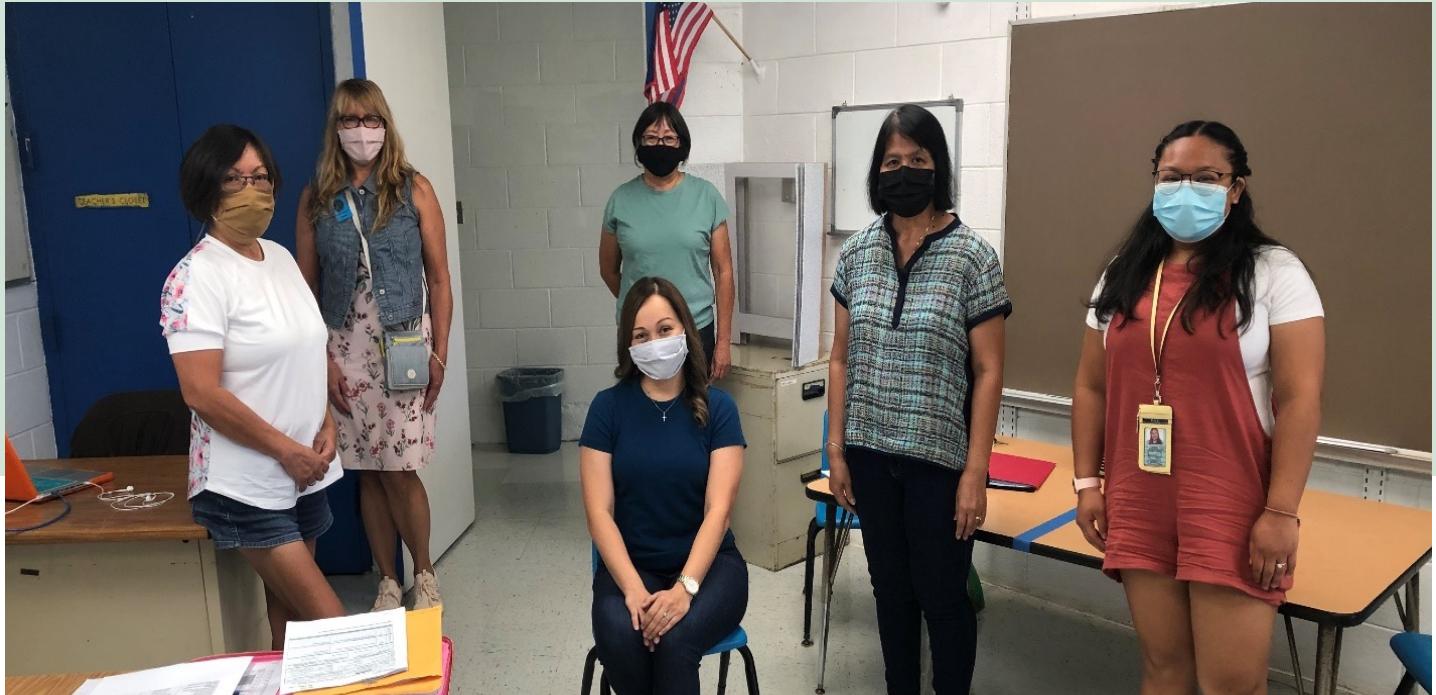


GDOE plans for more Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Technical Assistance (Cont.)



On August 11, BOSA/ADOS session facilitated by Dr. Irina Quebles. Pictured top row left to right, Dr. Irina Quebles, PsyD. ABPP, Consultant; Marie C. Wessling, Autism CRT-TA, GDOE/SPED; Jessica Atoigue, Autism CRT-TA, GDOE/SPED; Neil Rochelle, Program Consultant; GDOE/SPED. Second row left to right, Anna Perez, ED Services, GDOE/SPED; Alma Terbio, Psychological Evaluator, GDOE/SPED; Cathy Tydingco, Part C Coordinator, GDOE/SPED; Marita Gogue, Psychological Evaluator, GDOE/SPED. Third row left to right, Barbara Bernardo, ED Services, GDOE/SPED; Audra Mesa, Academic Evaluator, GDOE/SPED; Marie A. Tenorio, Autism CRT-TA, GDOE/SPED; Liz Blas, Speech Pathologist, GDOE/SPED. Bottom row, Janice Almoguera, CRT-TA, GDOE/SPED; Tricia Taitague, Program Coordinator, GDOE/SPED.

GDOE Offers Support to Resource Room Teachers with an IEP Checklist Review Work Session



On May 14, Individual school follow-up session with MU Lujan Elementary School (MULES): Seated center: Natasha Dela Cruz, Principal, MU Lujan Elementary School (MULES); standing left to right: Patricia Castro, Resource Room Teacher, MULES; Debra Whitt, Training Associate, Guam CEDDERS; June Quitugua, consultant, Guam CEDDERS; Bertha Torres, Resource Room Teacher, MULES; Cherise Charfauros, Resource Room Teacher, MULES.

On May 7, the Guam Department of Education (GDOE), in a collaborative effort with Guam CEDDERS, offered principals and resource room teachers of students with IEPs, continuous support by providing an overview session on reviewing the components of their student's Individualized Education Program (IEP). The session reviewed the importance of the alignment of the components within the student's IEP. Each school was provided with an IEP checklist with its component's descriptors and a rating sheet.

Prior to this overview session in March 3-18, GDOE Special Education staff and Guam CEDDERS staff independently reviewed SSIP school's IEPs. Individual ratings were summarized for each IEP component and a percentage was identified, in which at least 4 out of 5 raters indicated the presence of the criteria.

Individual follow-up school sessions, were conducted in person and virtually on May 11, 12, 14, 17, & 21, and allowed teachers to discuss and review their ratings, as well as comparisons to the summarized staff ratings, along with dialogue, and critical analysis of each IEP component in the following areas:

- PLAAFP or Present Levels of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance (5 sections to rate/review)
- Annual Goals (8 sections to rate/review)
- Special Education (i.e., specially designed instruction or SDI) (4 sections to rate/review)

Next steps to include each school's identification of professional development needs based on this review, as well as any other additional support.

GDOE Offers an Overview Presentation on the State Systemic Improvement Project (SSIP)

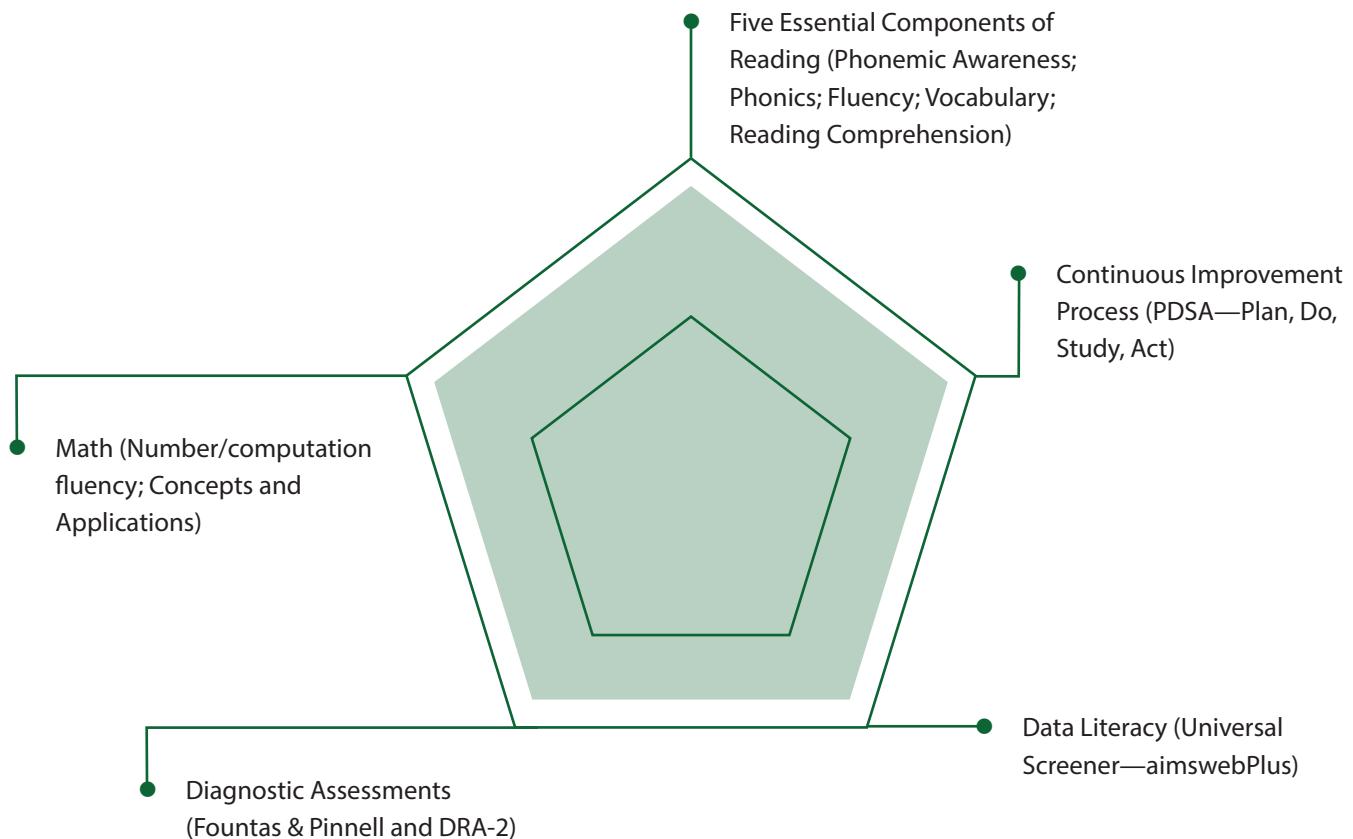
On August 10-11, the Guam Department of Education, in a collaborative effort with Guam CEDDERS, provided an overview of the State Systemic Improvement Project (SSIP) and the relationship between the Professional Learning Communities (PLC) process, Continuous Improvement (PDSA), and Instruction (Explicit Instruction).

The four SSIP elementary schools: Chief Brodie Memorial Elementary, Juan M. Guerrero Elementary, MU Lujan Elementary, and Capt. HB Price Elementary School teachers attended sessions at each of their respective school sites. Guam CEDDERS Josephine Cruz, Ed.D., and Debra Whitt, along with consultants Nieves Flores, Ed.D., and June Quitigua presented the content and facilitated the sessions at each school over the two day period. On Tuesday, August 10, Chief Brodie and Capt. HB Price Elementary held their sessions, and the following day, Wednesday, August 11, JM Guerrero and MU Lujan Elementary

held their sessions.

Teachers at all school sites were given the opportunity to analyze screening data from the school's last data point. For some school sites it was Winter 2020, and for others it was Spring 2021 (though participation rates were much lower than in the previous school years before the pandemic). Grade levels dialogued and created their own grade level PDSAs based on the data examined. Additionally, once current data, the Fall 2021 aimswebPlus screening becomes available then grade levels will cycle through the process once again and make the necessary adjustments based on the analysis of the new data—in this continuous cycle of improvement.

The presentations conducted at each SSIP school site focused on the overview of the following information and how each correlates and assimilates into one another.



GDOE Offers an Overview Presentation (Cont.)



Pictured left, left to right, Brittany Masang, Office Assistant, Guam CEDDERS; Natasha Dela Cruz, Principal, MU Lujan Elementary School; Josephine Cruz, Ed.D., Associate Director, Guam CEDDERS; Debra Whitt, Training Associate, Guam CEDDERS; Keith Villaluna, Data Specialist, Guam CEDDERS.



Pictured above, teacher participants at the session held on August 11, 2021, at MU Lujan Elementary School.

On August 10, Price Elementary participants, pictured above standing, John Wesolowski, Principal; Josephine Cruz, Ed.D.; Associate Director, Guam CEDDERS; Denise Taimanglo, Assistant Principal; seated at the table, 4th grade teachers.



On August 11, at MU Lujan Elementary School, pictured with Josephine Cruz, Ed.D., Associate Director, Guam CEDDERS, fourth grade teachers working on their grade level PDSA (Plan, Do, Study, Act).

WHAT DOES EARLY INTERVENTION LOOK LIKE?

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or a senior citizen interested in getting
the COVID-19 vaccination



We can
help...

- ✓ Schedule your appointment at a vaccination site
- ✓ Arrange for transportation to and from vaccination site (if needed)
- ✓ Arrange for homebound vaccination service



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Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities
Education, Research, & Service (Guam CEDDERS) Newsletter

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Alternative formats (e.g. Braille or large print) of *I Tellai* will be made available upon request.

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**For more information on any of these events,
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