# DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES

# Fiscal Year 2022

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Mission Statement**

Strengthening families to promote the well-being of youth, families and communities as a whole. DYS’ vision is that families in the CNMI will be self-sufficient, self-reliant and economically, socially and culturally independent.

**Overview**

The Division of Youth Services (DYS) under the auspices of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs (DCCA) is the mandated state agency to provide social service programs for children, youth and families throughout the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). Established by CNMI P.L. 2-19 and 8 CMC, Div. 1 Article 2 “Family Protection Act,” the DCCA DYS 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, rehabilitative services to youth remanded for secured care and coordinate prevention and outreach activities for the CNMI community.

*UNITS/PROGRAMS*

*OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR*

Provide for administrative support services for DYS Saipan, Tinian and Rota to include: daily operational needs; human resource; accounting; grant applications and compliance; supportive trainings and public relations.

*CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES (CPS)*

CPS is legally mandated to protect the children who have been abused or neglected, or who are at risk of abuse and/or neglect. It also provides or coordinates family services to reduce or alleviate the risk of abuse or maltreatment. CPS includes the Foster Care Program, which is a long-term placement in a family setting for children who will remain under DYS custody for a longer period of time. This may include Kinship Placement

(family) placement under approved conditions. CPS staff operate with a 24/7 on-call rotational schedule.

*EMERGENCY SHELTER:* The Emergency Shelter is a 24/7 operation designed to provide temporary placement of a child who is placed under DYS custody as a result of child abuse and/or neglect. Primary function is to serve as a “home away. The services include, but not limited to, providing direct client care and supervision, daily hygiene, preparing and serving meals, homework/tutoring services, school projects and transportation services to and from appointments.

*JUVENILE PROBATION UNIT (JPU)*

JPU monitors court ordered conditions of juveniles placed under probation. It also provides for case management services as part of the youth rehabilitative programs to prevent further delinquent or criminal activities. JPU staff operate with a 24/7 on-call rotational schedule.

*FAMILY & YOUTH ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (F&YEP)*

The program’s goal is to provide preventative and supportive activities that would assist youths and families in developing sustainable basic skills to eliminate at-risk behaviors and provide opportunities for more positive lifestyles, enhancing their capacity to make healthier life choices and achieve self-sufficiency. It includes the following:

* Youth Services
* Parent Education Services
* Community Services

*DYS TINIAN AND ROTA*

Combination of services from the above DYS units and programs with the exception of the Emergency Shelter.

*PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS*

* Victims of Child Abuse and Neglect and their family members
* Juveniles detained at the Juvenile Detention Facility and their family members
* Juveniles on probation and their family members
* Youth At-Risk
* Parents At-Risk
* Homeless Individuals and Families
* Individuals and Families At-Risk of Homelessness
* Youth in General (prevention)
* Adults in General (prevention)
  1. **Accomplishments**

**TRAINING**

Professional Development of the DYS personnel is a key priority of its strategic plan to ensure that DYS personnel are provided the necessary knowledge and tools to effectively and efficiently carry out DYS’ goals and objectives in serving the CNMI children and families. For FY 2021, DYS staff completed the following:

* *Know More Webinar/ Safety & Technology in Virtual Space (October 2020)*
* *DYS In-Service on DYS Units/Programs (October 2020)*
* *Evolution of Safety and Technology, Survivors Speaking Out and Speaking Up (October 2020)*
* *Understanding Confidentiality and Contact Tracing (October 2020)*
* *Digital Service during Covid 19 and Intimate Partner Violence (October 2020)*
* *What do you Meme? Teen and Tech (October 2020)*
* *Client Confidentiality (November 2020)*
* *DYS Professional Development Training-Team Building and NMPASI (November 2020)*
* *Prevention on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome/Safe Sleep (December 2020)*
* *Prevention of Shaken Baby Syndrome/Abusive Head Trauma & Child Maltreatment (December 2020)*
* *Precautions in Transporting Children (December 2020)*
* *Building and Premises Safety (December 2020)*
* *Prevention & Control of Infectious Diseases and Immunization (December 2020)*
* *Handling & Storage of Hazardous Materials and Appropriate Disposal of Bio-contaminants (December 2020)*
* *Data Software Training (December 2020)*
* *CPR/ First Aid (January 2021)*
* *Food Handler Certification (January 2021)*
* *DYS In-Service Training in Partnership with CNMI Public School System on Protocol on Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting (January 2021)*
* *DYS Interagency Training with CGC, OVR and PSS Mental Health Team (January 2021)*
* *Child Care Development Symposium (February 2021)*
* *Understanding Sexual Violence (March 2021)*
* *Understanding Domestic Violence and Breaking the Silence (March 2021)*
* *Stress Management (March 2021)*
* *NMPASI Workshop (March 2021)*
* *Adolescent Substance Abuse (March 2021)*
* *MANGO ANA Grant Workshop (March 2021)*
* *Basic Word and Excel (February and April 2021)*
* *Active Parenting of Teens Training Facilitator Training (May 2021)*
* *Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) and Orders of Protection Training (June 2021)*
* *Human Trafficking Presentation (June 2021)*
* *LGBTQ+ Community Webinar in Partnership with Guam Coalition (June 2021)*
* *Social Services Block Grant Intended Use Plan Webinar (June 2021)*
* *Unit/Program Standard Operating Procedure and Action Plan In-Service (July 2021)*
* *Becoming “Trauma Informed” Webinar (July 2021)*
* *Advance Forensic Interview Training with First Child First Witness (August 2021)*
* *PSS PREPARE Training (August 2021)*
* *PSS FERPA Training (August 2021)*
* *CHCC HIPAA Training (August 2021)*
* *Child Care Development Fund/Childcare Licensing Monitoring Workshop (August 2021)*
* *Mental Health First Aide Instructor Training (September 2021)*
* *HOPE Program and Substance Use (September 2021)*
* *Age of Consent Work Session in partnership with NMCADSV (September 2021)*
* *Motivational Interview Training (September 2021)*

**RESOURCES**

Continued work with the CNMI Legislature and working with federal grantors has allowed for DYS funding to increase in both local funds and federal grants.

*GRANTS*

FY 2021 Funding Source

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Community Based Child Abuse Prevention | $160,018.00 |
| Promoting Safe & Stable Families | $5,750.00 |
| Community Services Block Grant | $593,702.00 |
| Community Based Child Abuse Prevention | $200,000.00 |
| Children’s Justice Act | $53,285.00 |
| Child Welfare Services | $150,910.00 |
| Social Services Block Grant | $55,162.00 |
| Child Abuse Prevention & Treatment Act | $70,198.00 |
| Family Violence Prevention & Services Act | $138,688.00 |

1. New, one-time grants to assist with SSBG 29 Definition of Uniformed Services (during pandemic and those families affected by the disasters)

* ***Promoting Safe and Stable Families-$216,986***
* ***Child Welfare Disaster Supplemental-$71,515***
* ***Child Welfare Cares Act-$13,749***
* ***Community Services Block Grant Cares Act-$770,378***
* ***Family Violence Prevention & Services Act-CARES Act-$43,594***

2. CJPA-Existing and New Awards

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CJPA-VOCA-CPS-NEW** | J0575Q | $ 53,017.00 |
| **CJPA-VOCA-CPS** | J9575K | $ 9,984.00 |
| **CJPA-JAG-JPU** | J18540A | $ 6,435.00 |
| **CJPA-JAG-JPU** | J18540B | $ 7,866.00 |
| **CJPA-JAG-JPU-NEW** | J9738Q | $ 23,253.08 |
| **CJPA-JAG-F&YEP** | J9738R | $ 9,811.86 |

3. Leadership in Disabilities in Achievement of Hawaii (LDAH)

*For FY 2021, DYS was awarded $23,200 to serve families with children with disabilities through the Family & Youth Enhancement Program Parent Education Services.*

4. Community Development Block Grant Disaster Supplemental-Phase I and II-$450,057

*Made available to assessments and housing rental and utility assistance to eligible families who were displaced as a result of Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu. A total of 11 families participated for rental, trash and utility assistance.*

5. Community Development Block Grant (Northern Marianas Housing Corporation)

*BUILDING PROJECTS*

* *Renovation and expansion project of the Kagman Community Center*

*(over $300K worth-completed February 2021)*

* *Renovation and expansion project of the Tanapag Youth Center*

*($200k worth-project completed September 2021)*

VEHICLES

* *Six (6) new vehicles were purchased April 2021 to assist in the daily operations of the Child Protective Services, Juvenile Probation, Family & Youth Enhancement Program and Admin Office*

SOCIAL MEDIA

The DYS has also created variety of forms to communicate information on DYS programs and services online, including reports and forms.

* ***DYS Website:*** [*http://dys.gov.mp*](http://dys.gov.mp)
* ***DYS Facebook Page: Dcca Dys***
* ***DYS Personnel Email: All DYS staff assigned a DYS email***

On December 2020, partnership with the CNMI Public School System was established to coordinate hotspots/access points at Youth and Community Centers CNMI-Wide to allow students to access the internet, most especially when classes were scheduled remotely.

*PROGRAM AND BUILDING COMPLIANCE*

* + Building Certificate of Occupancy (January 2021)
  + Sanitation Permit (January 2021)
  + Fire Evacuation Plan (January 2021)
  + Child Care License to Operate After School Program (January 2021)
  + Disaster Evacuation Plan Completed (July 2021)
  + Covid 19 Task Force Regulations Enforcement (Ongoing)
    - Covid 19 Mitigation
      * Social Distancing Signs; Designated Entrance/Exits; Temperature Checks; Sign Ins; Masks, Gloves and PPEs; Tents for Isolation Area; Desk Dividers; Scheduled Cleaning Services; Disinfecting Facilities and Vehicles
  1. **Data**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES** | **FY2020** | **FY2021** |
| CHILD ABUSE CASE CASES | 271 | 285 |
|  | | |
| NUMBER OF VICTIMS | 743 | 863 |
|  | | |
| TYPES OF ALLEGATION |  |  |
| Physical Abuse | 74 | 64 |
| Sexual Abuse | 63 | 70 |
| Emotional Abuse | 129 | 152 |
| Neglect-General | 89 | 158 |
| Others (Support Services, Teen Preg., Domestic Violence, Minor sex trafficking, Truancy, Suicidal) | 73 | 55 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **EMERGENCY SHELTER PROGRAM** | FY2020 | | | FY2021 | |
| NUMBER OF CHILREN SHELTERED | 19 | | | 37 | |
|  |  | | |  | |
| **FOSTER CARE PROGRAM** | | FY2020 | FY2021 | |  | |
| NUMBER OF CHILDREN FOSTERED | | 31 | 34 | |  | |
| NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN KINSHIP PLACEMENT | | 1 | 24 | |  | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **JUVENILE PROBATION UNT** | FY2020 | FY2021 |
| NUMBER OF JUVENILES ON PROBATION | 45 | 63 |
| NUMBER OF INCARCERATED YOUTH SERVED | 81 | 25 |
| NUMBER OF YOUTH SERVED WITH THE PSS STUDENT ATTENDANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE (SARC) | 46 | 88 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **FAMILY & YOUTH ENHANCEMENT PROG.** | FY2020 | FY2021 |  |
| NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS SERVED | 469 | 511 |  |