



**Guam EHDH 4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Advisory Meeting  
Westin Resort Guam**

**September 11, 2017**

**Minutes**

**Guam EHDH Advisory Members Present:**

Ann Marie Cruz, Parent  
Avelina “Bing” Opena, GMHA  
Cathy Tydingco, DOE  
Glenda Leon Guerrero, GRMC  
Pamela Sablan, GRMC  
Joseph Tuquero, Parent  
Joyce Tejeras, Parent  
Brittney Cruz, PEP

Leah Malanum, SMBC  
Eileen Pascua, SMBC  
Ma Victoria Guiao, GMHA  
Margarita Gay, DPHSS  
Patricia Mantanona, DOE/GEIS  
Valerie Meno, GMHA  
Ruth Sabangan, GMHA

**Members Absent:**

Leann Barcinas Santos, Ph.D., CCC-SLP  
Evelyn Topasna  
Lt. Kyle Shepard  
Rachel Cornwell, AuD, CCC-A

Tom Babauta, DOE  
Tricia Suzuki, Parent  
Sherry Guerrero, CEDDERS

**Guam EHDH Staff Members Present:**

Heidi San Nicolas, Ph.D.  
Terrie Fejarang  
Joseph “JJ” Mendiola  
Renee Koffend, AuD, CCC-A  
Marie Wusstig

Christina Jung  
Ruth Leon Guerrero  
Tanya Simer, UOG Practicum Student  
Joseph Tajeron, UOG Practicum Student

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**I. Call to Order, Welcoming, Introduction of Members**

A. Ms. Margarita Gay, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

A. Ms. Gay asked members to review the meeting minutes. Ms. Joyce Tejeras made a motion to approve the minutes, and Ms. Pat Mantanona seconded motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

B. Ms. Gay then recognized Ms. Terrie Fejarang to discuss the agenda and other documents included in the folders provided for the meeting.



### **III. Updates & By-Laws**

- A. Received notification of award for two grants:
  - 1. “Project Fitme” under Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA)
  - 2. CDC Data Tracking and Surveillance Funding Support
- B. Copies of By-Laws PowerPoint Presentation were included in packets and handed out to Committee members.
- C. Presented By-Laws and mentioned last meeting was in March 2017.
  - 1. On February 9, 2017, a draft of EHDH By-Laws was developed and presented during the EHDH Advisory Meeting on March 14, 2017. Members were invited to provide input and the understanding was if the Committee did not hear any specifics from member, By-Laws will be official as of March 21, 2017.
  - 2. Page 1 of By-Laws, includes the membership listing and terms. Letters of appointment for members will be distributed before leaving today to ensure titles and address are correct.
  - 3. New funding has provided support for two meetings a year (discussed on Page 2 of By-Laws). This meeting being the first and the next meeting being in March 2018.

### **IV. Election for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson**

- A. Ms. Gay opened nominations for Chair and Vice Chair positions. Ms. Fejarang pointed out the parents present in the meeting: Ann Marie Cruz, Joyce Tejeresas, and Joe Tuquero.
  - 1. Ms. Tejeresas nominated Mr. Joseph Tuquero for the position of Chairperson and herself for the position of Vice-Chairperson if he accepts. Ms. Ann Marie Cruz seconded the motion. Ms. Gay inquired committee all in favor for nominations. Mr. Tuquero accepted the position of Chairperson and Ms. Tejeresas accepted the position of Vice-Chairperson.

### **V. Progress Updates to the Aims and Sub-Aims**

- A. Ms. Fejarang summarized the Progress Updates and Aims and Sub-Aims for Guam EHDH (See PowerPoint Presentation and HRSA Project Fitme Work Plan for information).
  - 1. Work Plan for “Project Fitme” has three (3) specific aims:
    - a. Aim #1: Health Professional Engagement;
    - Aim #2: Access to Early Intervention Services;
    - Aim #3: Improve Family Engagement, Partnership and Leadership within the EDHI Programs and SystemsThree Organizations:



- Parents Empowering Parents (PEP) – serves as an incubator to form a Parents of Deaf/Hard of Hearing (DHH) group. First training activity is the Individual Education Plan (IEP). 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting September 5, 2016. Meetings are scheduled for every Tuesday at the Hågatña Mayor’s office from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. until October.
  - Oasis – sponsors a week-long Deaf Camp for kids who are D/HH and family members during the summer. Students (two or more) from Gallaudet University serve as volunteers and role models who assist with the facilitation of the camp.
  - SKI HI Program from Utah State University - Ms. Fejarang shared that this organization has curriculum to provide training and we continue to work on specifics of this partnership.
- B. Dr. Koffend asked about the definition of Deaf and Hard of Hearing, such as those with mild hearing loss and those at risk for fluctuating hearing loss. Ms. Fejarang responded the project will follow the recommendations from the audiologist.
- C. Ms. Fejarang shared that a Project Rikohi “No Cost Extension” (NCE) was approved.
- D. Mr. JJ Mendiola noted that the “No Cost Extension” focuses on:
1. AIM #1: Lost to Follow-up rates from the initial hearing screening levels
  2. AIM #3: DAE for children by three months of age and subsequent enrollment into early intervention if diagnosed with a hearing loss by six months of age.
- E. Mr. Mendiola presented on the Initial Screening for each birthing site (GMHA, Sagua Mañagu, and GRMC) (See PowerPoint Presentation).
- F. Ms. Mantanona discussed statistics on infants referred for Outpatient Rescreen and infants who referred for DAE. She also shared statistics on infants with hearing loss receiving an IFSP prior to six (6) months of age (See PowerPoint Presentation).
- G. Dr. Koffend wanted clarification on the following: Referral process from issues of parents calling audiologist or physicians; Insurance purposes; Developing a form (Payer of Last Resort) for payment of services; System of payment. A discussion took place on these topics.
- H. Ms. Christina Jung discussed the statistics of Lost to Follow-up High Risk Rescreens, which included 17 children. She was able to connect with 8 families and rescreen 7 babies while 1 refused services. Several attempts were made to contact the remaining families including visiting Mayor’s Office to seek information and directions to locate families, calling a family member’s or friend’s telephone number, and home visits.
- I. System Sustainability
1. Ms. Fejarang discussed the status of efforts on system sustainability. Photos of the High Risk Rescreen Clinic at Public Health were shown to the Committee. Ms. Fejarang



shared that two High Risk Rescreen clinics have been completed so far and a training with DPHSS staff was completed beforehand facilitated by Ms. Marie Wusstig and Ms. Jung.

- J. Ms. Fejarang discussed the March to September 2017 trainings and activities that took place in which Guam EHDH was involved including:
- Outreach Activities: 03/04/17: GSAT Fair, 03/10:
  - GSAT Conference, 04/08:
  - 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Autism Awareness Fair
  - April 29: PEP Island Wide Conference on Disabilities
  - April 29: PEP Island Wide Conference on Disabilities
  - May 13: Better Speech and Hearing Month Outreach
  - June 25: 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Healthy Hearts, Healthy Living Health Fair
  - July 29: Child Immunization Outreach
  - August 26: 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Breastfeeding Awareness Health Fair.
- K. Hearing Screening Clinics
- L. Other Activities - May to June 2017: EHDH Evaluation Work Group, 08/24: CDC – Guam EHDH Site Visit.
- M. Ms. Fejarang and Dr. Heidi San Nicolas shared that the CDC Project Officers who conducted a site visit in August were very pleased with our database system. They also provided some recommendations. Of project improvements.

## **VI. Open Discussion**

- A. Mr. Tuquero inquired on the role of the Advisory Committee. Ms. Fejarang shared that the role is to provide comments and recommendations on activities, especially with the new grant. She also shared continuous monitoring activities take place to facilitate the project. Federal funding might end which will need local entities to maintain the existing system in terms of screening and reporting.
- B. Ms. Fejarang announced the next meeting will tentatively be on March 6, 2017. Additionally, EDHI Conference will be held on March 18 – 20, 2018.

## **VII. Adjournment.**

- A. The motion to adjourn was made by Chairperson, Ms. Gay. The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m