



## **Civilian Military Task Force Labor Sub-Committee**

**Monthly Report - November 2008**

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## **Guam Department of Labor Right Sizing Strategies for Growth**

### **28-29 November 2008 – Micronesian Youth Services Network (MYSN) Board of Director's Meeting.**

Background: The Micronesian Youth Services Network (MYSN) was formed to promote, defend and foster the civil rights and well being of all youth; to improve the quality and quantity of youth and family services in the spirit of cooperation and collaboration with consideration of each community's unique cultural values; to develop opportunities for an exchange of information between young people, organizations, agencies, individuals and coalitions on Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands; to recognize and support the development of island coalitions and / or youth networks; and to engage in charitable and educational training, and provide technical assistance of any and all kinds.

Guam, Palau, CNMI, and American Samoa receive federal funds from USDOL ETA and one of the national (USDOL ETA) strategic directions is to develop pipelines for formerly disconnected youths who have dropped out of school or have performed poorly in school, but have become reconnected and achieved academic success through alternative learning pathways. Given the increasing number of dropouts, we need a series of connected education, training programs, and support services to enable youths to pursue and enter careers in specific industries, and to advance over time to successively higher levels of education to enable career advancement/promotion. Thus, it is necessary to align with MYSN to bridge the "gap" and embed WIA Programs to Youth programs and support service providers.

### **26 November 2008 – Meeting with US. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health, Division of Capacity Building (OMHRC), Director Jay Blackwell.**

Background: The OMHRC Capacity Building Division provides an array of Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Activities to health care agencies and programs throughout the United States and its Territories and Jurisdictions. Service delivery is provided to increase the strength and competence of an organization. The Capacity Building Division defines Technical Assistance as providing short-range, acute care to agencies and organizations. Capacity Building Activities are considered to be more long-range activities where services are provided typically over a 2 year time period.

Guam Department of Labor (GDOL) staff met with Mr. Jay Blackwell, Director of the Division of Capacity Building of the Office of Minority Health to discuss the types of training that the OMHRC conducts in the Micronesian region. Their training inventory includes such sessions for Organizational Infrastructure Assistance, Cultural Competency Assistance, Community Outreach Assistance, Programmatic Design, Training Requests, and Communications Assistance.

## **Guam Department of Labor Right Sizing Strategies for Growth**

Mr. Blackwell and Mr. Henry Ocampo were on island providing capacity building to staff of the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services. Present at the meeting were:

Jay Blackwell – OMHRC  
Henry Ocampo – OMHRC  
Maria Connelley – GDOL  
JLawerence Cruz – GDOL/AHRD  
JoyJean Mantanona – GDOL/AHRD  
Phyllis Topasna – GDOL/AHRD  
Celine Cruz-Aguilar – GDOL/AHRD

### **18-21 November 2008 – Micronesian Chief Executive’s Summit, Pohnpei, FSM.**

The Pacific Workforce Investment Workgroup (PWIW) held its organizing and technical meetings on November 18-19, 2008. The PWIW Host Chair (FSM), Jesse Sidney convened the two sessions welcoming the participating members representing each of the Jurisdictions (Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau, and Republic of the Marshals, CNMI, and Guam). Area reports were presented highlighting programs updates, opportunities and challenges. These discussions continue the PWIW workgroup early meetings held since the last summit and the latest pre-summit meeting held in Guam October 1, 2008.

The key discussions covered the development of the RWDC bylaws, importance of workforce data collection, aligning practical regional workforce initiatives and building stronger collaboration across all key public and private sector partners. Other discussions include the importance of addressing computer literacy training and the earlier PWIW member discussion on the importance of financial literacy education. Two motions represent continuing discussions and are now presented within the context of the RWDC Action Plan (Seven proposed PWIW action strategies).

Specific Recommendations for the Chief Executives to consider:

The PWIW acted on two recommendations presented as motion items in its formal meetings:

1. To approve the RWDC Bylaws as developed by the PWIW workgroup session with allowances for periodic updates as needed by RWDC and PWIW.
2. To adopt the PWIW action plan framework that incorporates the following Regional Workforce Action plan strategies:
  - Strategy 1: ***Implement the RWDC Pilot Data Initiative***
  - Strategy 2. ***Regional Entrepreneurship/Enterprise Initiative***

## Guam Department of Labor Right Sizing Strategies for Growth

Strategy 3. ***Implement Pilot Workforce Readiness Credentialing System***

Strategy 4. ***Develop A Regional Workforce Pipeline Development Initiative***

Strategy 5. ***Regional Communications RWDC/PWIW Plan***

Strategy 6. ***Computer and Financial Literacy Initiative***

Strategy 7. ***Succession Planning Initiative*** (replacement of key staff and mentoring of junior staff)

Present at the Pacific Workforce Investment Workgroup meeting were:



**Guam Team:** Maria Connelley  
Peter Barcinas  
Celine Cruz-Aguilar

**CNMI:** Edith Deleon Guerrero

**FSM Team:** Jesse Sidney  
Kadlino Demarlen  
Wehns Billen  
Grilly Jack  
Jesse Salalu  
Casiano Shoniber  
Kuliano Raymond

**RMI:** Marie Maddison

**Palau:** Josephine Ulengchong

### **17-18 November 2008 – State Workforce Program Managers Meeting – USDOL ETA Region VI, San Francisco, California.**

A team from the Guam Department of Labor and Agency for Human Resources Division attended USDOL ETA Region VI - State Workforce Program Managers meeting in San Francisco to discuss State Economies, Performance and States' Priorities for 2009. Discussions focused on the impacts of the economic downturn on state economies, consequential performance impacts and potential solutions. Other discussions included the application of transformational principles within state systems; group discussion focusing on statutes, regulations and/or policies that present challenges or obstacles to the workforce development system.

## **Guam Department of Labor Right Sizing Strategies for Growth**

The Guam team consisted of the following:

David Dell'Isola, Director of the Agency for Human Resources Development,  
Karen Taitano, WIA Programs Administrator  
Helen Mafnas, Administrative Services Officer.

### **7 November 2008 – Press release: 2008 Survey of Compact of Free Association Migrants.**

The U.S. Census Bureau, the Governor's Office, the Bureau of Statistics and Plans, the Guam Department of Labor, and the University of Guam will conduct the 2008 Survey of Compact of Free Association (COFA) Migrants beginning this month.

Governor Felix P. Camacho, Tony Lamorena, Director of the Bureau of Statistics and Plans, and Kevin Deardorff of the U.S. Census Bureau hosted a media conference on Friday, November 7, at 10:30 a.m. at the Governor's Complex to outline the scope of the survey. The media conference is the first step of an outreach strategy to inform residents that enumerators will be knocking on the doors of 4,000 households in the coming weeks.

\$30 million of Compact Impact funds are available to Guam, the CNMI, Hawaii, and American Samoa to reimburse governments for the cost of providing services to regional immigrants. The survey results will directly affect how much Guam receives out of the total amount. Since 2004, \$14 million dollars of Compact Impact funds have helped our community build new schools and funded the purchase of school buses, ambulances, fire equipment, and medical supplies. These are services that directly benefit all our people and improve our community.