

PRESS RELEASE



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road, Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHCC CGC certifies 19 individuals in mental health education program

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC) Community Guidance Center (CGC) certified seven additional individuals from the community on Aug. 25, 2021 in Adult Mental Health First Aid (MHFA), and 12 additional individuals from the CNMI Public School System and CHCC CGC on Sept. 16, 2021 in Youth MHFA.

This calendar year, the CGC has completed 11 MHFA trainings, certifying 115 individuals. Since the training initiative began in 2015, CGC has certified 1,122 individuals. Of these individuals, 1,103 were certified in the CNMI, 11 in Palau, and 8 in Guam. The certified individuals in the CNMI have served as a ready resource for the community to address behavioral health challenges in a timely manner, preventing serious harm to residents.

Since January 2021, the CGC System of Care and Healthy Transitions has acted on 137 service requests from partner agencies, stakeholder groups, and community members.

The MHFA is an evidence-based public education program that focuses on recognizing the patterns of thoughts, feelings, behaviors, and appearance that show there might be a mental health or substance abuse challenge. Individuals are taught to safely and responsibly identify and address warning signs and symptoms through the use of an action plan. Part of the training also includes topics on suicide, non-suicidal self-injury, and psychosis.

The next scheduled public training for Adult Mental Health First Aid is October 2021, and for Youth Mental Health First Aid is November 2021 on Rota.

For more information on MHFA, visit <https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org>. For more information and to request for the CGC's MHFA training, visit <https://chcc.gov.mp/communitysupporttraining.php> or contact the CGC at (670) 323-6560.

For more information about CHCC programs, follow @cnmichcc on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter; visit www.chcc.gov.mp; or call (670) 234-8950.

This press release may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html>.