

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 Grants Management Office recognized by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials”

Each year, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) recognizes exemplary state and territorial health programs that demonstrate creative and innovative approaches to addressing local health jurisdiction needs and challenges through the annual Vision Awards. The purpose of the Vision Awards is to provide peer recognition for state and territorial health programs, and to promote awareness and replication of successful state and territorial health programs and initiatives.

The CHCC is pleased to announce that this year, our Grants Management Office (GMO) has won first place in Category B (programs with budgets less than \$250,000) for their outstanding work in grant and program management for the corporation. The CHCC GMO's Administrator, Vincent Camacho, will be presented with the award at a ceremony that will take place on September 25 in Bethesda, MD.



Image caption: Elke Shaw-Tulloch, chair of ASTHO's Nominations, Awards, and Membership Committee, presents GMO Administrator Vince Camacho and CEO Esther Muna with the ASTHO Vision Award.

To be eligible to apply for a Vision Award, a program or initiative must be administered by a state or territorial health agency and have been operational for at least one year. Applications for the 2019 awards were due in May, and were evaluated based on a number of factors including innovation, effectiveness, and potential for replication. Winners were announced in August.

The CHCC GMO was established in 2016. The CEO's initial vision of the office was to function as a much-needed oversight office for all CHCC grant programs to ensure compliance with audit requirements and federal regulations. However, during the implementation of the program, it was

realized that the office would function much more effectively as a coordination center for all CHCC program interactions with CHCC accounting, grantor agencies, and other related parties. This has led to more efficient processing and monitoring of all program activities. The GMO has developed new policies and procedures for grants management and has assisted CHCC finance in helping to respond to audit findings and reduce questioned costs over the past three years. The GMO looks forward towards implementing more system improvement efforts in collaboration with CHCC administration and programs.

For more information on the ASTHO Vision Awards, please visit <https://www.astho.org/Vision-Award-details/>.

For more information about CHCC programs, please follow us on Facebook and Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

This press release may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/index.php/press-releases>

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