

# ANTI-POVERTY PROGRAMS IN MICRONESIA

This NEWSLETTER is published bi-monthly by the Territorial Economic Opportunity Office, Office of the High Commissioner, with the cooperation of the District Community Action Agencies.

## CAA NEWSLETTER

Number 7

March 15, 1979

### High Commissioner Issues New Federal Program Policy

On November 17, 1978, the High Commissioner issued a new policy on Federal Programs which was promulgated in the face of mounting criticism from the Congress of Micronesia and other quarters over the influence and impact of Federal assistance grants in Micronesia. In the future . . . current Federal programs will not be expanded or enlarged.

. . . All programs will be reexamined to determine which, if any, can be eliminated or phased out prior to termination of the trusteeship.

. . . The D.O.I. on behalf of the TTPI will advise Federal cabinet offices offering programs to the territory, of the containment policy and urge them to cooperate by not expanding their activities.

. . . The D.O.I. will no longer lobby for TTPI's statutory inclusion in additional Federal programs.

The policy was reaffirmed and clarified on a subsequent memorandum dated December 18, 1978, which charged the TT Superdepartmental administrators to enforce the containment policy in consultation with the TT Federal Programs Coordinator.

It is estimated that during FY 1978, the TTPI received \$31.2 million through 73 separate programs. One beneficiary of the virtual "freeze" on TTPI Federal Programs may well be the Community Action Program. As non-governmental entities, the CAA's are exempt from the policy statement and since they enjoy non-profit community cooperation status, this may make them eligible to apply for a range of government programs facing elimination or not being pursued. For information on such programs, contact your Territorial Economic Opportunity Office.

### CSA Mandates Grantee Access to U.S. Federal Register

In an Instruction (No 7000-1) dated September 19, 1978, the Community Services Administration has directed all grantees to subscribe to the U.S. Federal Register, which is available from the U.S. Government Printing Office for fifty dollars per year. It advised grantees that the FR system was more effective and efficient as well as timely for CSA Instructions and Notices. The *Federal Register* is the system of publication used by the U.S. Government through which program regulations are issued daily and eventually incorporated into the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).

Grantee funds may be used for purchase of the Federal Register and the publication may be ordered from: Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

### President Inks CSA Law

On November 2, 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed legislation further authorizing Community Services Administration programs for three additional years. The legislation, "Economic Opportunity Amendments of 1978 now becomes PL 95-568. Significantly, the law requires a uniform 80/20 federal-local matching ratio for local initiative programs, a provision that may be waived in the case of Trust Territory grantees.

The U.S. Congress still must act on an appropriation measure for the funding levels authorized in PL 95-568. In the meantime, funding for CSA (and TT grantees) for FY 79 will be under a continuing resolution, meaning spending will be held at FY 1978 levels.

PER  
PAC  
MC681.5  
.AI  
A57

## Marshalls Launches Special Program for Gifted and Talented

The Marshall Islands through the Distad Representative, Kwajalein Atoll recently applied for and received a \$40,000 grant from the U.S. Office of Education to conduct a demonstration program on Ebeye Island for gifted and talented children. Under the direction of Mrs. Carole Schulkind, the program hopes to serve 120 children in all major areas of giftedness during the year. Twenty of the students in grades 1 - 8 will be pulled out of the regular system of education and given special support to nurture their unique skills and knowledge; the other one-hundred children will be matched with mentors (special instructors) drawn from the Ebeye community as well as from the Kwajalein Missile Range. The meritor program will utilize talents in areas such as traditional crafts, the arts, medicine, government, science, and religion.

It is hoped that successful aspects of the program will be replicated and adopted throughout the Trust Territory. Additional information on the program may be obtained from the Leadership Training Center for Gifted and Talented, P.O. Box 1248, APO San Francisco 96555.

## Farmers Home Eliminates Disaster Program Red-Tape

Under a new procedure announced by the Secretary of the USDA on September 5, 1978, The Farmers Home Administration has delegated on-the-spot authority to State Directors to make emergency disaster loans when a natural calamity occurs, thus eliminating time-consuming delays in securing the Secretary's confirmation of a disaster. For the TTPI, this authority has been granted to Mr. Megumi Kon, The Hilo-based State Director of the FmHA.

FmHA emergency loans are made to farmers who lack other means of credit to recover from a natural disaster. They are usually at low interest (5% or less) and may be used to put land back to production, restore farm dwellings, and to replace household effects lost or damaged by the natural disaster.

Should disaster strike in your district and a presidential proclamation be made, your farmers will be eligible for emergency disaster loans from FmHA. Therefore, contact your local FmHA office immediately or should you not have a local FmHA representative, the Western Pacific Territories on Guam.

## Neighborhood Self-Help Program Under Consideration by Congress

The U.S. Congress is considering the authorization of a Neighborhood Self-Help program which would be largely directed at community and neighborhood (i.e., CAAs) organizations. The program would permit basic construction renovation, and community beautification in low-income areas. The \$15,000,000 activity would be made part of the Housing & Community Development Act Amendments recently passed by the U.S. Congress and sent to the President for approval. Keep you eye on this measure; it could be a winner for your community.

## Women, Take Note!

Did you see the article entitled, "Breaking Through the Bureaucracy" in the September issue (Volume 2, No 3) of the NCCA's *Counteraction*, a newspaper for CAA Board members?

No doubt your CAA received several copies of the publication from NCCA. The article is extremely helpful to womens' groups in that it lists twenty-six national organizations dedicated to the advancement of women. Write the TEOO for a copy of the list if you cannot locate it locally.

## Mail Stop 103, National Endowment for the Humanities, Washington, D.C. 20506 for Fr Fy 1979 Program Information

HOW ABOUT THE ARTS? The National Endowment for the Arts also has grant programs available to assist in the furtherance of the arts. Special funds are available for the elderly and the handicapped. For further information, write to Program Information Office, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, D.C. 20506. Incidentally, the NEA is administratively separate from the NEH above. Information about all NEA/NEH programs may be obtained from the above address.

PEEPING INTO GOVERNMENT Often CAAs have an interest in acquiring information for their communities on governmental planning, decision making, and performance. Under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act, most of this kind of data must be made available upon formal request, with some exceptions. When it comes to TT Federal grants, this information will be supplied upon request. For instructions on how to request such information, send \$2.00 to the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 for a copy of No 052-071-00540-4, "A Citizen's Guide on How to Use the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act in requesting Government Documents."

## UH Municipality Forms Planning Committee After Community Planning Workshop

Seven residents of Uh Municipality in Ponape are forming a Municipal Planning Committee together with two Municipal Councilmen.

Gregorio Damerlane, Chief Magistrate of Uh, drew from the participants in the six sessions workshop on the community planning process to form the planning committee. Damerlane initiated the committee to assist the municipal government in needs assessment, program selection and evaluating use of the various funds made available to Uh through the Legislature, the Ponape Transportation Authority, and other sources. The Committee has also asked to be involved in screening the Uh applications for community and family incentive grants from the Ponape Community Action Agency.

Isiro Alex is chairman of the Uh Planning Committee and Mikel Marquez, secretary. The councilman members are Joakin Moses and Damian Primo. Other members are Clemente Lopez, Prens Penias, Mikel Dano, Simao Donre, and Ines Amor. Ines Amor is the only woman member. She attended the planning workshop as did all the other members.

Between November 20 and December 4, fifteen elected or traditional leaders and selected community representatives from Uh Municipality on Ponape Island participated in six sessions about the community planning process. Ponape Community Agency staff offered information and practice in assessing and prioritizing community needs, setting goals and objectives, basic proposal writing, and program budget development as well as group or individual problem solving techniques.

Kodaro Gallen, Executive Director of PCAA, explained that Uh was the site of the first of the series of similar programs scheduled for the six municipalities in Ponape before April 1979.

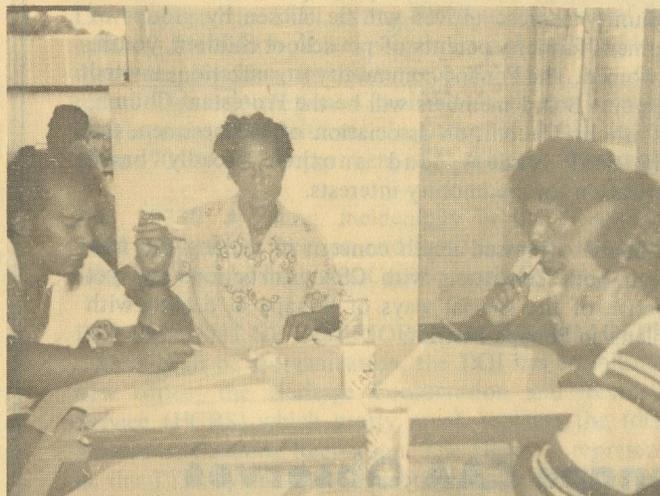
Residents and officials of Net, Madolenihmw, Kitti, Sokehs, and Kolonia Town will also have the opportunity to receive the training. The municipalities will be able to improve their capacity to benefit from the programming within their communities using both internal or outside resources.

Mr. Gallen, Community Organization Coordinator Job Micah and Fieldworkers Shadoru Santos, Pelerihno Mudong and Incentive Grant Coordinator Rosewell Edward have prepared a packet of planning process materials in the Ponapean language. All of the PCAA staff join in making presentations and in assisting the person attending sessions to apply the lessons in small groups carrying out model activities.

Chief Magistrate Damerlane pointed out that he is "particularly happy about learning how to plan. The whole training is fruitful. It certainly increased my ability to serve the people of Uh," he said. Other participant comments ranged from the simple statement, "I now can plan." to the observation that "Although the time is short, I do begin to perceive how to work with the Municipality, the villages and families with respect to needed projects."

As a follow-through with the PCAA workshop, the Municipality where training has just been completed is canvassed to involve women in nutrition education and local production of non-starchy foods, in handicraft marketing, and in health information projects. These are the three women-in-action goals of PCAA derived from priorities established earlier by Ponape Women.

Also during the month following planning workshops, small communities and families in the Municipality become eligible to apply for Community and Family Self-Help Incentive grants under the PCAA programs.



From left: Gregorio Damarlane, Chief Magistrate in Uh Municipality Ponape; Hermas Ladore, Uh Municipal Councilman; Joakin Moses, Uh Municipal Councilman; Roswell Edward, Incentive Grant Co-ordinator, PCAA.



From left: Simao Donre, a community participant in the training; Kodaro Gallen, Executive Director, PCAA; Damian Primo, Uh Municipal Councilman; Prens Penias, a traditional leader.

## **Ponape CAA Board of Directors Adopts New By-Laws**

The October meeting of the Board of Directors for the Ponape Community Action Agency adopted much revised by-laws to restructure the Board.

By-laws had been worked on at three meetings and had involved a special committee chaired by the Reverend Shem Jimmy. Under its new chairman, the longest-serving board member, Peter Christian, the board is becoming stronger and more active according to PCAA Executive Director Kodaro Gallen.

The new fifteen-member board will conform to CSA regulations in having three classes of members. The representatives of government will be named by the Acting Governor (3) and by the meetings of the Chief Magistrates (2). Elected CAA participants or low-income community representatives will be chosen by groups of fishermen, farmers, parents of pre-school children, youth, and women. The Ponape community organizations invited to appoint Board members will be the Protestant Church, the Catholic Church, an association of businessmen, the traditional leaders, and another broadly based organization for community interests.

The Board expressed much concern in making the new by-laws both consistent with CSA instructions and yet reflective of the special ways of Ponape in dealing with problems in Ponape District.

## **Ponape CAA Observes United Nation Day**

"Pein Kekidrahn Tohn Kouson" -- self-help for the people of the community -- proclaims the Ponape Community Action Agency. This was the theme of one of the pamphlets given away during the United Nations Day celebrations on Ponape. "Self-help for the People in the Community" summarizes briefly the purposes of a Community Action Agency, how it is organized with a Board of Directors representative of the community, and about on-going programs.

The PCAA staff constructed a simple booth near the races. A thousand banana fritters, an example of a nutritious snack, were offered free to passers-by along with another booklet of well-balanced recipes for the family using local food. Three of the PCAA programs this year emphasize good nutrition: a project under Women in Action, the Family Head Start Program, and the unique Family Incentive Grant Project.

## **Ponape CAA Begins Youth and Community Dialogue Program**

As the alienation of some youth in Ponape has become more evident, the Ponape Community Action Agency has begun operating a program to increase communication among the three generations and to increase cultural appreciation of both the new and the old.

The staff and directors of the PCAA observing the inability of many youth and parents or elders to understand or speak about each others' values proposed this unusual project to involve youth, parents and elders. Principally members of five identifiable sub-groups in the Kolonia area of Ponape will be participating -- people of Mokil, Ngatik, Kiti, Madoliniw, and Pingelap.

"With this program PCAA is not trying to tackle all the problems in the interests of youths, but we are directly attacking only certain problems, especially lack of communication and cooperation. Youth and parents need encouragement to understand the different ways of living now. The program is not sports and recreation to keep youth busy, but rather communication opportunities," according to PCAA Executive Director Kodaro Gallen.

Assistance in writing the program to adapt successful elements of a similar project in Hawaii was given by Lester Seto, then Youth Coordinator for the Hawaii County CAA in Hilo. Seto, now the Hilo Head Start Director, returned to Ponape the week of October 29 to train with the newly hired Ponape staff: coordinator Wehns K. Billen, Sokehs, and fieldworker Weldon Santos, Kiti.

During the coming month 50 youths between 14 and 25 years of age, 50 parents, and 10 elders steeped in tradition will be recruited to participate in one of five series of dialogue sessions. The first sessions will allow youth and parents in separate groups to talk about their own concerns, especially those that relate to the problems they feel towards youth and parents. They will be able to tell about their concepts of how Ponape is changing and growing. The next sessions will give participants the opportunity to speak to each other about those concerns. Participants will be encouraged to mutually plan some cooperative activity to which everybody will contribute equally. Additional sessions before the end of the program year will be devoted to cultural appreciation with the involvement of the knowledgeable elders.

## **Unique Family Incentive Grant Programs A First for Ponape CAA**

Incentive grants to families have been approved as a program for the Ponape Community Action Agency. Families, as well as community groups will be able to submit proposals this year for grants to assist self-help

projects. Whereas the community grants (\$500 - \$2,000 each) must address an economic need, the family grants are to generate activity decreasing dependency of a family on outside resources and increasing capabilities of family members to exist as socially and economically contributing persons.

Because family incentive grants will not be large, just \$50 to \$750, no economic development through commercial activity or production for sale is expected to be feasible. "By offering family incentive grants," states Kodaro Gallen, PCAA Executive Director, "the Ponape Community Action Agency is trying innovatively to support and strengthen the Ponapean family group. A traditional Ponapean family group has significant resources to meet the needs of the future, decreasing recent dependency."

In both the community and family portions of the \$20,000 incentive grant program, recipients must put up an amount equal to the grant in either cash or materials. All labor is a contribution from the recipient family or organization. However community groups may also combine resources (other than labor) from various funding sources. In the selection process, Ponape CAA looks for a willingness to invest real energy into the implementation of plans. The agency is looking for realistic intention. Creative use of the possibilities of the program are given priority.

Rosewell Edwards, Coordinator for Incentive Projects, wrote an explanation of the incentive grant as such a grant might explain itself. "This money should be helped; I want to say 'let's cooperate!' Then we can make something together-I am useful to you. I want to help, but you must contribute. An incentive grant is a love money because it wants you to pay careful attention to it and take care of it. If you love and care for it, the grant will help you for a long time and not be taken away." The grant explaining itself concludes: "An incentive grant picks people who are true because it doesn't want to help people that just take a grant like playing a game so that it will be thrown away in a short time."

What might a family incentive grant do? Home improvements permitting healthier, more efficient, more productive family life are one example of projects that could be considered favorably. Purchase of small tools to facilitate a home garden for improved family nutrition is another example.

The Board of Directors of PCAA has approved the guidelines for selection of family grant applications to be funded. A procedure to limit applicants in any one month to residents on one municipality has been adopted. The eligible area will be the one in which planning training for municipal officials and community members is being offered by the PCAA that month. PCAA staff will process and check out applications while the funding recommendations will be made by the Program Planning and Evaluation Committee of the PCAA Board. The Board itself will make the final funding decisions.

## TTG Reserves Additional Juvenile Delinquency Funds

The T.T. Justice Improvement Commission through the High Commissioner's Office recently received a supplemental award of \$41,000 in Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention for its FY 1978 program. This brings the total annual amount to \$60,250 available for action programs and projects dealing with deinstitutionalization of delinquents and/or separation of juveniles from adult offenders.

Under LEAA regulations, thirty percent of the JJDP funds must be allocated to non-profit agencies. If any CAA is interested in further information in applying to JIC for assistance grants, please contact Carolyn Webb, Administrative Officer, JIC, Saipan, TT Headquarters.

## Info Tidbits

Local Public Works Program - Remember the Round II LPWP offered to TTPI during FY77 to the tune of \$6.5 million? Six billion dollars were awarded nationwide for these employment intensive projects. How was it all spent? This information is available from the Economic Development Administration's Office of Public Affairs, Room 7019, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington,

D.C. 20230. A listing, incidentally of the 25 approved TTPI projects by location and funding levels, is available from our Federal Programs Coordinator's Office.

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR CREATES NEW OFFICE - As a result of reorganization, the DOI has established a new office, the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service (HCRS) which pretty much replaces the former Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. The HCRS is represented in the TTPI by the State Historic Preservation Office, an administrative arm of the High Commissioner. Dr. Tom King, is advisor to the TT Historic Preservation Program.

WHAT HUD ACTION FOR YOUR COMMUNITY? The Department of Housing & Urban Development has organized a special office for increasing opportunities for non-governmental organizations to participate in HUD programs. For further information, write to Justen Gray, Director, Office of Neighborhood Voluntary Associations and Consumer Protection, Dept of HUD, Room 4100, Washington, D.C. 20410.

HUMANITIES GRANT PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH NOW AVAILABLE. The National Endowment for the Humanities, a federally supported program, has now created an Office of Youth Programs sweetened with two kinds of grants. Projects that support the development of resource material and activities which help young people understand history, values, and culture, and \$2,500 planning awards to lead to development of new humanities program for youth. Interested? Write the Office of Youth Programs.

## **Workshop for TOCA Employees**

As follow-up to the Management Workshop held on Guam in the middle of November 1978 by the Bob Kenny and Associates, Inc., for the Executive Directors, Program Managers and Fiscal Officers of the Trust Territory CAAs, the Truk Organization for Community Action participants recently conducted a two-hour a day workshop for the rest of the TOCA personnel from December 4 to 8, 1978.

The workshop's objectives were to broaden the employees' awareness and understanding of their roles in the organization, and to improve effective performance, and to increase production from each of the employees.

At the opening of the Workshop, the Executive Director/TOCA, Mr. Ismael Dobich emphasized that attendance at the workshop was mandatory. The Workshop activities included the following topics: "You and Your Organization", "What is an Organization", "Individual Objectives in Organization", "Environmental and Social Issues for Management", "Developing and Maintaining Viable Organizations", "Managers Best Tools", "Management Process and Personnel". Each of the participants of the Guam workshop served as a facilitator for each of the topics and the other staff assisted him/her throughout each of his/her sessions.

The Guam-trained staff were trying to pass on to the other supervisors as well as the rest of the employees, the concepts that were relevant and which were learned at the Guam workshop. The facilitators of the TOCA workshop explained that one's individual objectives in the organization were important and must be understood.

The participating TOCA employees at the workshop asked many questions to the facilitators. The facilitators responded to each question as thoroughly as possible to insure understanding by each employee of the topics under discussion.

The Executive Director explained in the Workshop that it was very important that they understand these topics before implementing any changes in the TOCA organization. He further explained that he was planning to introduce significant changes in the operation of the organization.

The Workshop ran for one week, every afternoon from Monday to Friday. It was held at the TOCA Central Office on Moen, through the efforts of the Executive Director/TOCA, the three Project Directors/TOCA and the Fiscal Officer/TOCA. Near the end of the training, each of the Project Directors was also asked to submit a list of his proposed operational changes in his component and strategies to implement such changes, all of which was learned at the workshop. TOCA is now in the process of implementing these overall organizational changes.

## **Bibliographical Resources for Local Community Needs**

The National Center for Appropriate Technology has recently published bibliographies on several subjects of community interest. They are:

Publication No. B001 - Solar

Publication No. B002 - Wind

Publication No. B003 - Organizing Community Gardens

Publication No. B004 - Economic Development

Publication No. B006 - Alternate Waste Systems

The bibliographies list various books, pamphlets and commercial publications available in the U.S. on the above subjects. They also describe where and how these publications can be obtained. Each publication would be valuable for your community-resource library. An examination of each may be obtained by writing: NCAT, P.O. Box 3838, Butte, Montana 59701. Multiple copies may be had for .25 each.

## **South Pacific Commission Offers Home Economics Training Course in TTPI**

The South Pacific Commission has advised the TTG that it will offer a refresher training course in home economics and family resource management in Ponape between mid-July and August 1979. A mobile team of three Commission specialists in the subject fields will provide the instruction during the summer training. Because of its centralized location and training/residential facilities (at PICS), Ponape has been selected as the training site; accordingly, a local-based Training Advisory Council has been established to provide guidance to the program and to select participants. Headquarters coordination and support is being provided by the TT Office of Planning and Statistics with the assistance of Mrs. Linda Parkinson, newly appointed Food Services Officer, and Mrs. Nancy Rody, nutritionist for the Northern Mariana Islands.

It is expected that 25 - 30 participants will attend the training under the sponsorship of their nominating agency. Many of those planning to attend are graduates of the SPC's Community Education Training Centre in Fiji, including several CAA home economists and family services' staff. Interested individuals may write the TT Office of Planning and Statistics or Food Services Officer for application forms before mid-June, or inquire with the SPC Mobil Training Advisory Council, c/o Ponape Community Action Agency, Box 400, Kolonia, Ponape 96941.

## **The Editor's Chair**

It is now official: The Trust Territory Government has established a State Clearinghouse Agency in

accordance with O.M.B. Circular A-95 and has issued regulations effective October 1, 1978, governing operation of the territory's coordination and review system.

Innocuously enough, the system is called TERNs, itself an acronym for Territorial Executive Review and Notification System. We have received some good-natured kidding about the word, but the system or process is no kidding matter. Rather, it is viewed as a serious, no-nonsense subject which offers excellent potential for insuring to the people of Micronesia more effective and better service delivery of programs shorn, it is hoped, of fat and waste.

We remain eternally optimistic that, unlike the old saw about the weather . . . whereby everybody's always talking about it but nobody does anything about it, something can be done about Coordination. TERNs as a body of procedures can fulfill the goal of coordination, a touching-of-bases not just between allied governmental agencies, but between CAA.s and government and other activities as well.

All of you have had some exposure to TERNs in workshops, during field reviews, and through our technical assistance visits. As you know, the system is administered by the Federal Programs Coordinator in the T.T. Office of Planning and Statistics, which virtually brings it within the CAA family in that your TEOO and FPC are in fact alter-egos. As you no doubt already recognized, the TERNs procedures usefully serve your mission objectives as a community resource and action agency: the process keeps you 'in the know' about what's happening in your island, in the way of community programs. Viewed positively then, the TTG's project notification and review system can be a great weapon in your armory of knowledge.

Lastly, we do hope that if your CAA has any questions about TERNs and its participation in it, you will let us know immediately. Only through your cooperation and help will it become truly meaningful.

