

CITIZEN CENTRIC REPORT

Fiscal Year 2020

SUBSTANCE ABUSE, ADDICTION & REHABILITATION (SAAR) PROGRAM



HOPE Recovery Center
Marpi, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

About SAAR:

The **Substance Abuse, Addiction & Rehabilitation (SAAR) Program**, under the Office of the Governor, operates the **Hinemlu O'hala Para Enteramenti** or the H.O.P.E. Recovery Center ("HOPE"). HOPE is dedicated to providing quality clinical care and social services to individuals and their families living in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

SAAR's Mission Statement is to **CHANGE** the lives of individuals struggling with substance abuse and addiction. In alignment with the Mission Statement, SAAR's **Vision** is to **LEAD** the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands toward building a safe and addiction free society.

Synopsis

SAAR was developed through the reestablishment of the Special Assistant for Substance Abuse & Rehabilitation position under the **Executive Order 2018-07**.

HOPE Recovery Center provides an evidenced-based intensive outpatient treatment program thru the use of the Matrix Treatment Model, with the support of a 24 hour staffed, residential safe-environment living. SAAR also established the Offender Advocacy (OA) program to provide a transitional support service for formerly convicted and incarcerated individuals that's soon to be released, of whom have struggled as a result of alcohol and substance misuse.



Ralph DLG. Torres
Governor

Arnold I. Palacios
Lieutenant Governor

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Yvette R. Sablan
Special Assistant



Participant Quotes:

“Do not ever give up.
Never back down.
Work it because you
are worth it.”

“I am important.”

TESTIMONIAL 1:

“Upon my release I struggled to fit in, to belong and to be a part of something... The HOPE Recovery Center empowered me to take charge of my situation...to take control of my life”

– J.R., a former client whose life experiences after his release inspired the need for the Offender Advocacy Program

SERVICES OFFERED

TREATMENT

Clinical services is client centered and is based off of the Matrix Treatment Model, 12-Step Facilitation, Life Skills, Anger Management and other treatment components. This comprises of individual therapy, group sessions, family education, and life skills. Intense case management is also provided for medication management, mental health evaluation, and therapy.

Admission into home placement is contingent on the recommendation of the psychosocial assessment, history on violent or sexual criminal conviction(s), if any, provide a communicable or infectious disease health clearance from a medical doctor, and must test negative for COVID-19.

RESIDENTIAL

The HOPE Recovery Center provides a clinically managed low-intensity residential services. The program is appropriate for individuals who need a safe, sober supportive environment and structure to learn, practice, and integrate coping and relapse prevention skills.

The residential component provides stability and minimizes or prevents relapse , which helps sustain sobriety. Additionally, the group home living allows the individual to practice and improve their interpersonal communication and life skills, which builds confidence and supports the individual’s reintegration efforts.

HOPE is the only treatment provider in the Commonwealth that employs Peer Support Specialists, of whom have fluent access and responsive advantageous engagement with individuals struggling with alcohol and drug dependence.

HEALTH & CRISIS SUPPORT

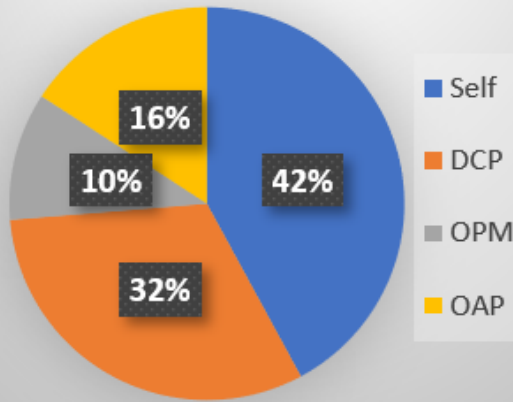
In addition to substance abuse treatment, the HOPE Recovery Center also provides a much needed support and guidance in health and wellness, and crisis support. Since the inception of the HOPE Recovery Center (Aug 2017), we average above 85% of our clients to be unemployed, 62% are homeless or living with others, 29% do not have health insurance, and 23% have availed to Nutritional Assistance Program (NAP) through the HOPE center. HOPE also provides the support for all participants to address their health conditions through a primary physician, ophthalmologist, dentist, and other medical services to promote health and wellness.

Furthermore, HOPE works with local resources to help address homelessness, educational, unemployment, and vocational training to address overall challenges and crisis.

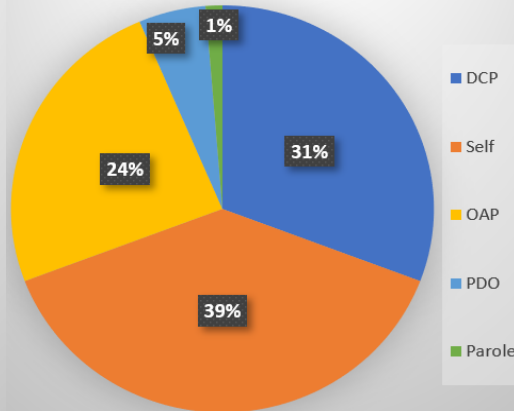
IN-TAKE MEASURES

REFERRALS

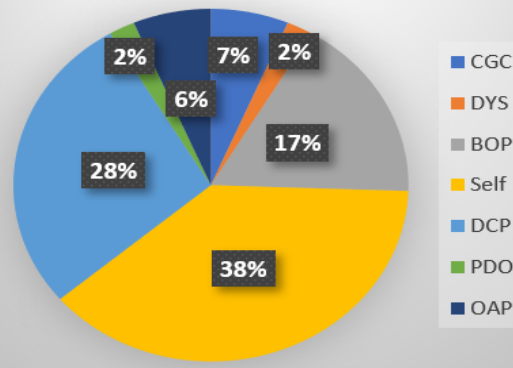
2017 Referral Data



2018 Referrals



2019 Referrals



- DCP: Drug Court Program
- DYS: Division of Youth Services
- BOP: Board of Parole
- CGC: Community Guidance Center
- PDO: Public Defender's Office
- OAP: Office of Adult Probation
- OPM: Office of Personnel Mngmnt
- Self: Self Referral

TESTIMONIAL 2:

“What’s happening at SAAR works. As a person in recovery, treatment works for those seeking help—help to get back on their feet—to be a productive individual.”

- R.C.

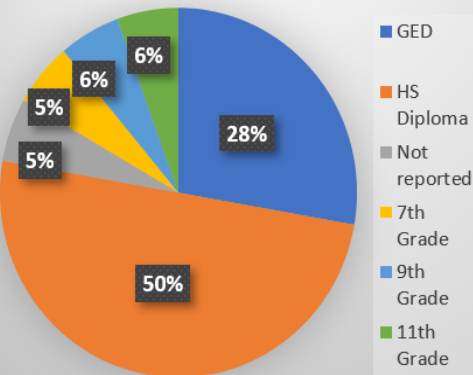
TESTIMONIAL 3:

“With the support & guidance from the staff at SAAR and it’s program, my once unmanageable life is now manageable. I now have a life worth living.”

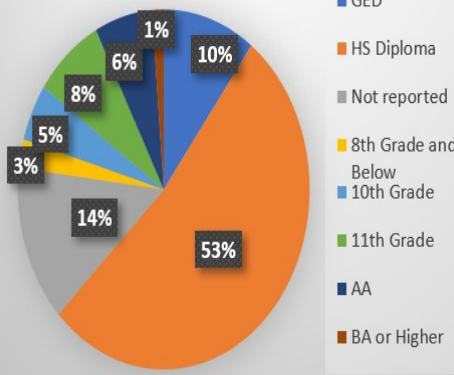
- R.K.

EDUCATION RECEIVED

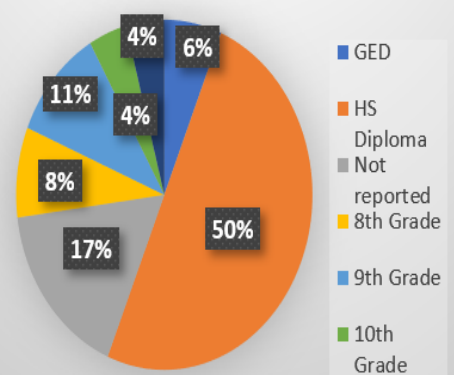
2017 Education (Highest Level Received)



2018 Education (Highest Level Received)

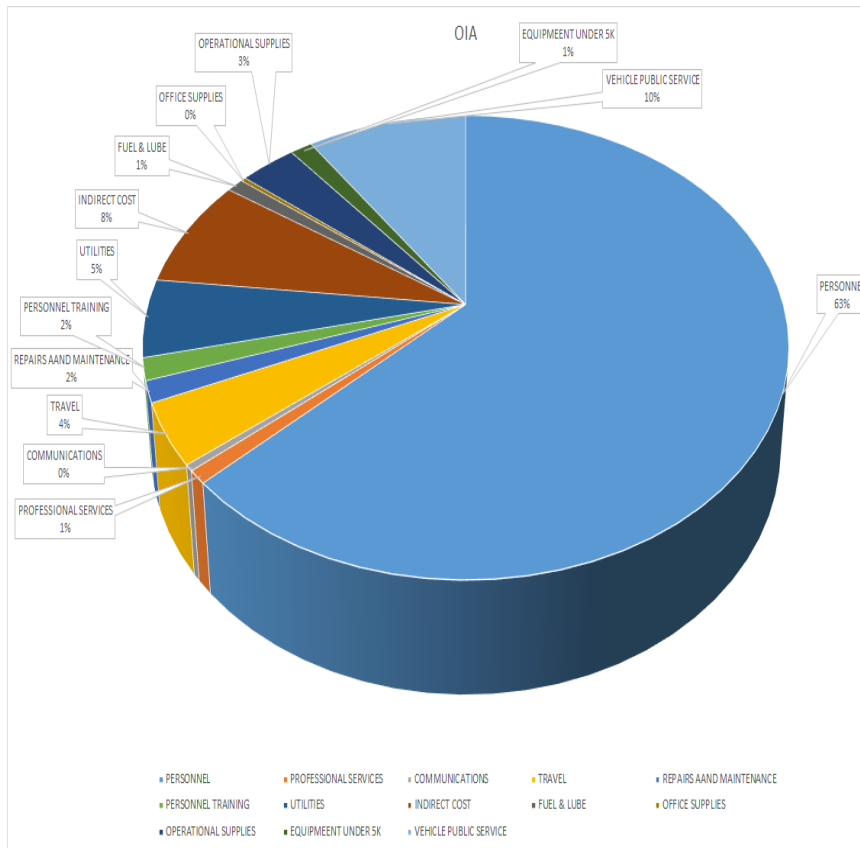


2019 Education (Highest Level Received)



FISCAL YEAR 2020

**Office of Insular Affairs
CNMI-TAP-2018-04
\$297,077**



In response to the COVID-19 costs facing the Commonwealth, and to safeguard the program's services, the difference of \$225,087.00 was approved for reprogramming to carry the operation and personnel costs as of July 2020.

The funds covered a total of \$197,713.00 for personnel, operation at \$32,000.00, a purchase of a vehicle at \$16,820.00, and other costs to sustain a decent operation of the program.

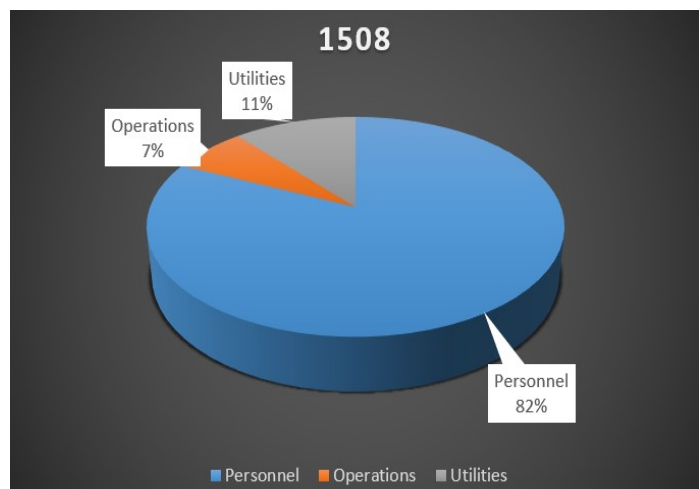
Personnel training is also funded to ensure continued quality of service and increase personnel confidence and performance ability.

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Office of the Governor
Substance Abuse, Addiction, & Rehabilitation
(SAAR) Program
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands



Fiscal Year 2020 Local Appropriation

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the government prioritized local funds to cover costs for the pre-pandemic preparation and therefore, the appropriated funds of \$598,785.00 through Public Law 21-08, was reduced by 28.3343% on February, and eventually overall dedicated to COVID-19 costs.