The Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) was created by 5 GCA, Government Operations, Chapter 3, Departments of the Government, Article 1, §3111, Department of Public Health and Social Services. The Director of DPHSS is appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Guam Legislature. DPHSS employs approximately 414 full-time employees that provide support to the five divisions: Division of Public Health, Division of General Administration, Division of Environmental Health, Division of Senior Citizens, and Division of Public Welfare. These divisions are further organized into bureaus, programs, and sections (as applicable) that provide services to our island community. We are committed to embracing an organizational culture of continuous learning and development of all staff in order to become a stronger public health workforce for Guam.

**Mission Statement:** To assist the people of Guam in achieving and maintaining their highest levels of independence and self-sufficiency in health and social welfare

**Vision Statement:** Empowered people of healthy minds and bodies living in a safe environment throughout their lifetime

**Strategic Priorities:** Our strategic priorities is to enhance our department’s capacity to contribute to improving the health of the Guam community and reduce its physical and socio-economic burden from disease and ill health
In FY 2016, DPHSS was recognized with the following MagPro Award of Excellence.

The Festival of Pacific Arts that took place on Guam from May 22–June 4, 2016 was a great success due in part because of the hardworking and dedicated staff at the Department of Public Health and Social Services. DPHSS staff started planning and preparing for FestPac well over a year before the arrival of the delegates. DPHSS collaborated with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), U.S. Centers for Disease Control, and community partners. Public Health nurses manned the Paseo First Aid Station and the medical staff at the NRCHC extended their clinic hours to accommodate the health needs of the FestPac participants. DEH staff conducted daily inspections of the food vendors at Paseo and Chamorro Village and manned spray booths in order to prevent mosquito-borne disease outbreaks. DPHSS enhanced their syndromic surveillance so that any unusual occurrence could be addressed immediately.
DPHSS receives the following funds: General Funds. Primary fund from the local government. Federal Funds. Grants from the US Department of Agriculture, US Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, US Department of Interior and others. Special Funds. Consists of various programs that help fund the following: Community Health Centers, Health Professional Licenses, Health and Human Services, Controlled Substance, Environmental Health, and Healthy Futures. Special Fund revenues are restricted to specific purposes.
MOVING FORWARD

Our Way Forward towards a healthier, diabetes-free Guam

The Guam Diabetes Prevention and Control Program in collaboration with the Guam Diabetes Control Coalition recently completed the five year strategic plan for Guam. The 2016-2020 Strategic Plan for “Diabetes Prevention and Control in Guam” represents the combined input of numerous and varied stakeholders, representing the public sector, the private sector, the health care professionals, the faith community, the academic sector and, most importantly, community members who have been affected by diabetes. It is meant to outline the first steps towards attaining the vision of a healthier Guam, freed from the burden of diabetes.

We liken the process of implementation to building a healthy home – the foundation consists of strong community partnerships and collaboration. The four pillars of the house represent the four key areas of work. The pillars support a ceiling that embodies our five-year strategic goal of a 20 percent reduction in diabetes prevalence and mortality – “20 by 2020.”

The ceiling holds up the roof, which encapsulates our ultimate vision for our island community.

We realize that there are formidable barriers, but we are optimistic about the impact and potential achievements when our community is mobilized to act strategically in advocating for our goal and vision. We intend to monitor progress periodically, and agree that our strategic plan is a “living” document that may need to change as we go through the next five years. We will learn as we go.

With dedication, passion and perseverance, we believe we can generate change to improve our island’s health. We commit ourselves to making this positive change happen.

For more information on the 2016-2020 Strategic Plan for “Diabetes Prevention and Control in Guam”, please contact the Diabetes Program at (671) 735-7295.

Do you find this report useful? What would you like to see in the next issue? Please let us know by contacting James W. Gillan, DPHSS Director at 735-7102 or james.gillan@dphss.guam.gov or Bertha Taijeron, Program Coordinator at 735-7125 or bertha.taijeron@dphss.guam.gov. For more information about the Department, please visit: www.dphss.guam.gov

Note: An independent government-wide financial audit was conducted by Deloitte & Touche, LLP, which resulted in a clean audit opinion on GovGuam’s financial reporting. Complete financial information can be found at www.opaguam.org