



Mayors' Council of Guam

Konsehelon Mahet Guåhan

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE:

Official Statement from the Executive Director, Mayors' Council of Guam (MCOG) in regards to the Senior Center Operations.

The Mayors' Council of Guam (MCOG) appreciates the Department of Public Health and Social Services' (DPHSS) continued commitment to the programs that serve our island's manåmko'. We share DPHSS's goal of ensuring that our senior centers remain open, welcoming, and fully operational for those who rely on them every day.

Over the past two years, MCOG has been proud to facilitate the coordination and delivery of senior center services across all participating villages. During this time, we have worked closely with DPHSS to identify and communicate program-funding needs. Despite these ongoing efforts, the allocations provided have consistently fallen short of the total operational costs necessary to sustain the program.

MCOG has continued to support these vital services by absorbing certain operational expenses, including utilities, facility maintenance, and other essential costs necessary to keep the centers running. We have done so out of commitment to our manåmko and our shared belief in the importance of these programs. However, this practice has placed significant strain on the Council's limited financial resources and can no longer be sustained without creating financial hardship to the Council and Guam's nineteen mayoral offices.

We remain committed to maintaining open communication with DPHSS and to working together toward a long-term funding solution that ensures the continuity and quality of services for our manåmko'. The mayors and staff across all villages stand ready to continue serving our seniors with the care and respect they deserve, provided that the necessary resources are made available to support these efforts in full.

For more information, please contact Amber Benavente at 671-477-8461.

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