

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & CULTURAL AFFAIRS



2025

CITIZEN CENTRIC

REPORT

P.O. Box 1262, Rota MP 96951
Telephone Number: (670) 532-9354



Honorable Mayor Aubry M. Hocog

Frederick A. Manglona Jr., Resident Department Head

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ABOUT US...

The Department of Community & Cultural Affairs in Rota provides direct social services to the young and old, sports and recreation for a healthy community, conducts outreach for the Arts and Culture, and protects the community's historical values.

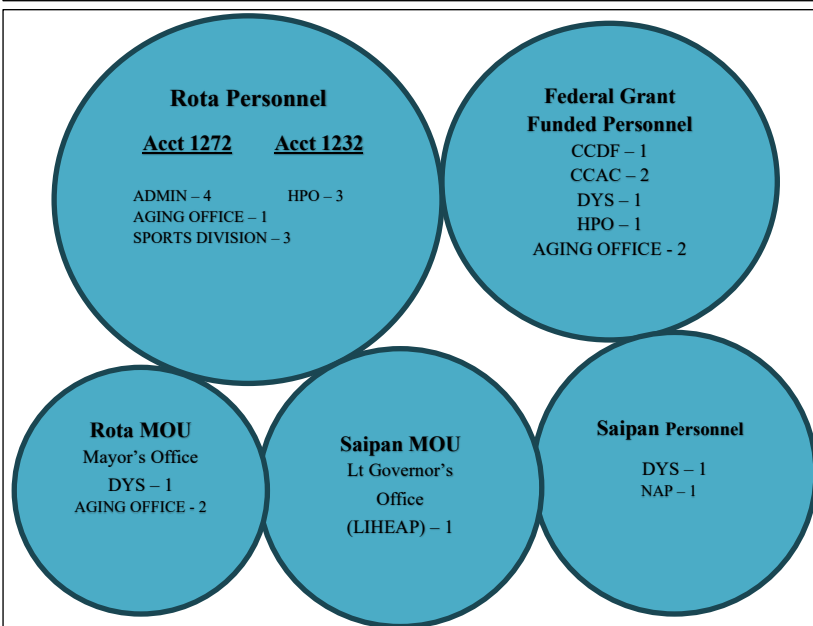
The department consists of the following divisions:

- ❖ Administrative Section
- ❖ Child Care Development Fund
- ❖ Division of Youth Services
- ❖ Nutrition Assistance Program
- ❖ Low-Income Home Energy Assistance
- ❖ Commonwealth Council for Arts & Culture
- ❖ Historic Preservation Office
- ❖ Sports and Recreation
- ❖ Office on Aging

These divisions are managed by the Resident Department Head, an appointee of the Mayor of Rota, as specified in Article VI, Section 3(g) of the CNMI Constitution.

MISSION STATEMENT

Is to oversee the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands' functions in the area of human and social services, historic and landmark conservation, and activities to preserve the Chamorro and Carolinian heritages and traditions with respect to Article VI of the CNMI Constitution.



The 2025 Citizen-Centric report introduction outlines the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' expenditure focus for the fiscal year, noting challenges due to unfunded operations for its business units 1272 and 1232. To sustain its functions, the department relied on support from the Office of the Mayor of Rota, the 20th Rota Municipal Council, and the Rota Legislative Delegation. While the department's personnel covered most operational expenses, key resources, such as fuel, equipment parts, vehicle parts, printer inks, and repair & maintenance for lighting and water leaks were also required. Telecommunications were placed on vacation plans to prevent disconnection. This report highlights the department's commitment to innovative strategies that enable it to maintain operations despite financial constraints. For Fiscal Year 2025, Rota's Department of Community and Cultural Affairs (DCCA) received minimal funding to operate. The revised budget focused solely on personnel costs and Office of Public Auditor (OPA) fees. Operational funding for key programs, namely, the Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP), Division of Youth Services (DYS), Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) Program, and Office on Aging (OoA)-are provided by their respective Saipan offices under the "State Plan" program, ensuring continued support for these services despite the funding limitations for the department.

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Site Maintenance

Efforts are managed by three divisions-Sports, Historic Preservation Office, and CCAC-with a team of six personnel. They provide monthly landscape and maintenance services for 12 key locations:

- 1) DCCA Main Office Compound
- 2) Casa de Re'al in Songsong Village
- 3) Japanese Water Well in Tatachog
- 4) Japanese Pre-war Rectory in Tatachog
- 5) Ma'ya Ancient Latte Site
- 6) Mochong Ancient Latte Site
- 7) Chugai Pictograph Cave
- 8) Joaquin M. Ogo Baseball Field
- 9) Sinapalo Youth Basketball Court
- 10) DYS Youth Center
- 11) Sonton to Tatachog Pavilion Highway (Adopt-A-Highway Program)
- 12) Joe Charfauros, Jr. Veteran's Memorial Park

***Funding and Resources:** Fuel, equipment parts, and supplies for field operations in FY'25 were provided by the Rota Mayor's Office and DCCA personnel. Additionally, financial contributions from Honorable Aubry Hocog and DCCA staff helped support ongoing maintenance efforts.

***Acknowledgements:** Special thanks are extended to the Rota DCCA site maintenance team and Mayor Hocog for their contributions, ensuring these sites remain accessible and enjoyable for the public, students, and visitors.



Community Support Activities

Rota DCCA personnel, including staff from Administrative, Sports, Arts Council, and Historic Preservation Office (HPO), actively support the Public School System and community initiatives. Their efforts include:

- Providing cultural education and supporting seasonal sports leagues and festivals.
- Assisting with officiating for softball, basketball, and volleyball games during school hours, after school, and at night.
- Offering cultural education through the Arts Council and HPO upon request.
- Conducting historical site tours, especially by HPO personnel, for students, residents, and visitors, including weekend tours to sites like the Chugai Pictograph Cave. Special recognition is given to Mr. Antonelli Rosario for his dedication to touring off-island visitors.
- Additional responsibilities: HPO personnel also issue occasional earthmoving permits as part of their duties.

Acknowledgements and Dedication: Rota DCCA personnel often work beyond their scheduled hours without overtime funding, earning compensatory time instead. Their commitment promotes healthy living, preserves Chamorro & Carolinian heritage, and supports community sports and youth engagement, despite limited operational funds.



Direct Services

Direct service programs include the Child Care Development Fund Program, the Division of Youth Services, the Nutrition Assistance Program, and the Office on Aging. These division provides:

- ✓ Client intake and case management.
- ✓ Preparation and execution of action plans.
- ✓ Weekly and monthly nutritional support for low-income families and elders.
- ✓ Protection from neglect and abuse.
- ✓ Recreation and outreach services, along with other necessary human services.

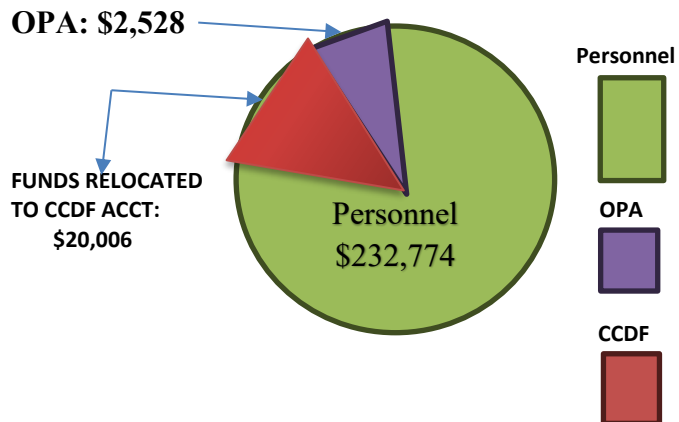
These direct services are predominantly funded by Saipan DCCA, covering 98% of the operational costs.



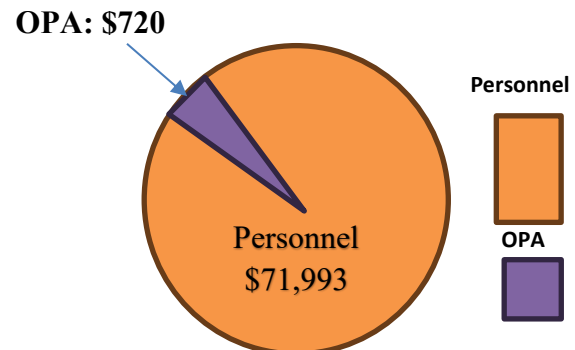
FINANCES

Public Law No. 23-09 October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024

Sports & Recreation Bus. Unit 1272

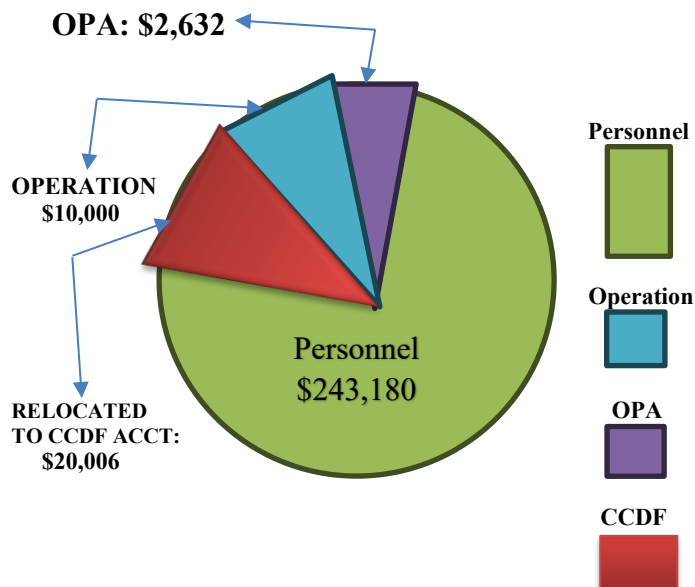


Historic Preservation Office Bus. Unit 1232

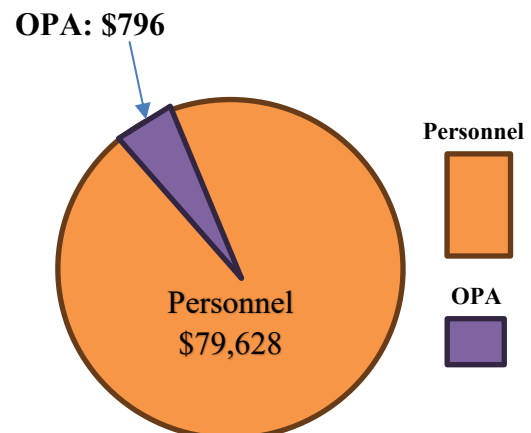


Public Law No. 23-26 October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025

Sports & Recreation Bus. Unit 1272



Historic Preservation Office Bus. Unit 1232



KEY INITIATIVES

The following initiatives will be pursued if the identified funding sources become available:

1. FY 2026 Supplemental Appropriation by the CNMI Legislature to enhance project funding.
2. Appropriations from the Rota Legislative Delegation to support local initiatives.
3. Federal and Foundation Grants: Actively seeks and apply for grants through the National Endowment of the Arts for a Special Community Project Grant, as well as the Office of Grants Management and the Clearance House.
4. Rota Mayor's Office Support: Engage with the Mayor's Office to secure additional backing.
5. 20th Rota Municipal Council Support to promote local initiatives.
6. Local and Regional Partnerships: Collaborate with local, Saipan DCCA, communities, government department heads, business sectors to strengthen support and resources for key programs and projects.

These efforts aim to secure diverse funding and support to implement critical initiatives across Rota.



CHALLENGES

The department faces significant challenges due to limited funding and staff, which limit our ability to implement and maintain all desired programs and services fully. Despite these challenges, we remain committed to serving the community by maximizing the use of available resources, prioritizing key initiatives, and fostering partnerships that support our work. Our team stays dedicated to finding innovative solutions, such as cross-training employees, seeking collaborative support, and applying for grants, to ensure that essential services and cultural programs continue to reach those who depend on them.

KEY PROGRAMS & SERVICES

1. Personnel Professional Development.
 - Administrative and Division Cross-Training: Cross-train staff to improve versatility and inter-departmental collaboration.
 - Quarterly Retreat: Host one retreat each quarter to enhance team bonding and professional growth.
2. Non-Standard Work Week Schedule
 - After-School and Evening Programs: Offer youth and adult sports as well as cultural programs outside traditional hours.
3. Jr. & Sr. High School Skill Awareness Outreach
 - Skill Demonstrations: Expose students to a variety of skilled professions through interactive presentations.
4. Cultural Folk Art Program
 - Support and promote traditional folk-art practices within the community.
6. Cultural Music and Dance Program
 - Offer classes and events focusing on indigenous music and dance.
7. Medicinal Workshop and Archiving
 - Conduct workshops on traditional medicine practices and create an archive for knowledge preservation.
8. Weaving Class
 - Host classes to teach traditional weaving techniques.
9. Highway Beautification Nursery
 - Establish a nursery for beautification projects, Rota Cultural Center landscaping, and the planting of 200 coconut trees and fruit trees for environmental and aesthetic benefits.

These initiatives emphasize cultural preservation, skill development, environmental sustainability, and community engagement across various age groups.

