



PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

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WILFRED G. AFLAGUE
Acting Director

**SAMHSA Team Provide
Training/Technical Assistance on Guam
(March 14-17, 2011)**

Hagatna, March 17, 2011- Mental health and substance abuse services providers and consumer representatives is concluding a series of meetings today with a team of consultants appointed by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The SAMHSA-appointed team includes former State Mental Health and Substance Abuse Authority Commissioners; Drs. Danna Mauch, David Wanser, Debra Kupfer and Jon Morris. Joining the Guam site visit team is Dr. Robert Glover, Executive Director for the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMPD).

At the request of the Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Director Wilfred Aflague, SAMHSA approved a third meeting event for continued training and technical assistance by experts in the mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment, systems of care. SAMHSA continues to demonstrate support for Guam's state and community level efforts to improve systems and services for the people of Guam.

This onsite T/TA support is designed to focus on three priorities aligned with Guam's Mental Health and Substance Abuse Block Grant goals and objectives. These priorities include training and technical assistance on:

- System of Care: furthering development of a comprehensive community based system of care for Guam's children and adults at risk of or suffering mental health and substance use conditions;
- Clinical Support Infrastructure: refining care management protocols, clinical processes, required staff competency, quality improvement, accountability, data analysis and evaluation infrastructure; and
- Financing and Sustainability: exploring options to maximize Federal financial participation in Guam's behavioral health care system through Medicaid, Medicare and new national health care reform provisions under the Affordable Care Act of 2010.

For more information about SAMHSA's site visit, please contact Wilfred G. Aflague, Director, Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse at 647-5448 or visit www.dmhsa.guam.gov.

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