

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 19-125

RE: C.R. NO. 19-208/H&SA

SUBJECT: ACCEPTING GRANT ASSISTANCE FROM THE U.S.  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES IN THE  
AMOUNT OF \$61,414.

MAY 23, 2016

The Honorable Wesley W. Simina  
Speaker, Nineteenth Congress  
Federated States of Micronesia  
Fourth Regular Session, 2016

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs to which was  
referred C.R. No. 19-208, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION APPROVING A GRANT ASSISTANCE IN THE  
AMOUNT OF \$61,414 FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL  
HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, TO FUND AND SUPPORT  
THE COMMUNITY MENTALHEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM IN THE FSM  
FOR AWARD PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 1, 2016 TO SEPTEMBER 30,  
2017, INCLUDING ALL THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE  
ASSISTANCE.",

begs leave to report as follows:

The intent and purpose of this resolution are expressed in  
its title.

Your Committee held a hearing on May 20, 2016 the witnesses  
present included the Department of Health and Social  
Affairs, including the Secretary and key staff, and the  
Department of Justice.

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The Department of H&SA stated that this grant was part of a quarterly award. The annual total for this grant is \$190,316. This grant would support treatment and data gathering goals. This grant provides direct assistance to those suffering with mental illness. The annual grant supports the salary of the Data Coordinator and Psychiatrist, Travel for those two individuals, administrative costs including supplies and office rent and contractual services. The attached report is based on the entire annual budget.

The Committee is very familiar with the work funded by this grant. Your Committee has been concerned over years at the lack of professionals in the mental health care area, and is glad to see that a psychiatrist is being funded by this grant. From the statements by the witnesses it appears that access to mental health care is expanding however your Committee continues to be concerned that those citizens in need living in remote areas are still underserved.

As touched on several times during the hearing regarding this grant and others the Committee would like to see detailed statistics regarding the performance of these programs, and to understand if there has been improvement, and if not, why. As this grant provides for a Data Coordinator your Committee specifically requested statistics over a multi-year period.

The Committee is appreciative of the hard work that this division in the National and State Departments of Health do. It did question whether funding resources were being sought from other sources, and encouraged further work in that area.

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Your Committee on Health and Social Affairs is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 19-208, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Bonsiano F. Nethon  
Bonsiano F. Nethon, chairman

/s/ Ferny S. Perman  
Ferny S. Perman, vice chairman

/s/ Tiwiter Aritos  
Tiwiter Aritos, member

Florencio S. Harper, member

/s/ David W. Panuelo  
David W. Panuelo, member

/s/ Joseph J. Urusemal  
Joseph J. Urusemal, member

/s/ Alik L. Alik  
Alik L. Alik, member