



TERRITORY OF GUAM
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AGAÑA, GUAM 96910
U. S. A.

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 98-23

RELATIVE TO CREATING A "HEALTH PRIORITIES ACTION GROUP".

WHEREAS, for many years Guam has struggled to provide not only adequate but first-rate medical care for our people; and

WHEREAS, although we have one local public hospital, a number of private medical clinics and private medical practitioners, we are still experiencing a shortage of key physician specialties and a shortage of space at Guam Memorial Hospital; and

WHEREAS, it is not possible to solve all health care problems with only government resources when a great deal of the island's health care system is part of the private sector; and

WHEREAS, Guam needs a comprehensive joining together of resources to improve the health care system currently enjoyed by our residents; and

WHEREAS, a "Health Priorities Action Group" will be formed to follow up on work already developed by the Vision 2001 Task Force and previous health care initiative task forces; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ, I Maga'lahaen Guåhan, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, do order:

1. A "Health Priorities Action Group" is created, representing members of government agencies and the private sector involved in our island's health care system. The Administrator of the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority shall be the Chairperson of the Group.
 - a) The "Health Priorities Action Group" shall consist of representatives from:
 - i) Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (Mental Health);
 - ii) Department of Public Health and Social Services (Public Health);
 - iii) Department of Integrated Services for Individuals With Disabilities (DISID);
 - iv) Guam Economic Development Authority (GEDA);
 - v) Guam Memorial Hospital Authority (GMHA);
 - vi) health insurer organizations;
 - vii) community at large;
 - viii) private sector health care delivery organizations;
 - ix) private sector business; and
 - x) physicians, nurses, and other health care professionals;



- b) The "Health Priorities Action Group" shall have 3 key missions:
 - i) develop a comprehensive plan to end the shortage of "key physician specialties" on Guam as soon as possible;
 - ii) develop a plan to build a new hospital on the acreage in the village of Sinajaña which are reserved for this use under Public Law No. 22-18;
 - iii) develop a plan to address the island's chronic nursing shortage.
- c) The "Health Priorities Action Group" shall consider various methods to attract key physician specialties, including the use of the GEDA Qualifying Certificate Program, which has been only rarely used in the health care field;
- d) The "Health Priorities Action Group" shall examine alternative ways for forming a public-private partnership to build a second hospital;
- e) The "Health Priorities Action Group" shall meet as often as necessary to address the immediate needs of the goals to be met and shall submit an action plan to the Governor by December 15, 1998

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam this 29th day of July, 1998.

CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ
I Maga'lahaen Guåhan
Governor of Guam

COUNTERSIGNED:

MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO
Segunda na Maga'lahaen Guåhan
Lieutenant Governor of Guam