



# *Social & Cultural Subcommittee*

## **Our Mission**

- To collaborate with the U.S. military and the Federal Government in building trust and partnership for the benefit of all present and future Guam residents with focus on the following:
  - Mutual respect and recognition;
  - A mutual ‘sense of belonging’;
  - Protection and preservation of Guam’s culture, language, and lands;
  - Promotion of civilian and military relations;
  - ‘Quality of life’ concerns for both military and Chamorro families; and
  - Use of shared federal and local resources to support the mission.



# Social & Cultural Subcommittee

## Our Members

- Ancestral Lands Commission
- Bureau of Statistics & Planning (BSP)
- Chamorro Artists Association
- Consul General – Federated States of Micronesia
- Council on the Arts and Humanities (CAHA)
- Department of Chamorro Affairs (DCA)
  - Administrative Office
  - Chamorro Village
  - Research, Publication, & Training
  - Guam Museum
- Department of Customs & Quarantine (DCQ) Department of Land Management (DLM)
- Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)
  - Historic Resources Division
- Guam Buildup Office
- Guam Fishermen's Co-Op
- Guam Hotel and Restaurant Association (GHRA)
- Guam Housing & Urban Renewal (GHURA)
- Guam Humanities Council (GHC)
- Guam Legislature
  - Committee on Tourism, Cultural Affairs, Youth, and Public Broadcasting
- Guam Museum Foundation
- Guam Preservation Trust (GPT)



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## Our Members Continued

- Guam Public School System (GPSS)
  - Chamorro Studies and Special Projects
- Guam Visitors Bureau
- Hagatna Restoration & Redevelopment Authority (HHRA)
- James Ji Foundation
- Mayors Council
- Military Affairs
  - Joint Guam Program Office (JGPO)
  - Joint Region Marianas
  - 36th Services (USAF, MWR)
  - MWR (Navy)
- Nasion Chamoru
- Office of the Governor
- Pa'a Taotao Tano
- Task Force for Free Association
- University of Guam (UOG)
  - Institutional Effectiveness, Planning, & Research
  - Micronesian Area Research Center (MARC)
  - Center of Excellence for Chamorro Language and Culture



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## **Facts & Assumptions**

### **FACTS**

- Population growth will have tremendous impact in all aspects
- Additional civilian workers will compete with local labor force
- New population will come from diverse backgrounds unfamiliar with Guam's cultural attributes
- More land will be utilized to support military expansion
- 'Quality of Life' is different inside the fence and outside the fence

### **ASSUMPTIONS**

- Population growth will change relaxed pace of life
- Local labor force need accelerated training/apprenticeship programs
- There is need to emphasize Respect as cornerstone of Guam's culture and orientate newcomers
- Eradication of medicinal plants, destruction of cultural artifacts forces further extinction of indigenous culture
- 'Quality of life' concerns demand working together to address the greater need for services and awareness programs



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## **Our Challenges and Concerns**

- ❖ Understanding the extent of the military relocation and the impact to our community;
- ❖ Compromising Chamorro traditions, language, and culture;
- ❖ Identifying and addressing the health benefits/care for children fathered by military personnel;
- ❖ Determining Guam's ability to meet demands for family entertainment, art, music, and cultural activities/alternatives and identifying ways to overcome shortcomings;
- ❖ Identifying more ways to integrate GPSS and DoDEA school activities to promote anti-racism and gain better understanding of cultural differences; and
- ❖ Developing a mitigation plan between the military and the Historic Preservation Office/Department of Chamorro Affairs to address the need for cultural resources (orientation programs, artifacts, burial sites, etc.).



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## Our Immediate Needs

*To better be prepared to orientate and familiarize the influx of people coming to Guam because of Buildup activities, we need*

- To assess the attitude of the people of Guam and to develop recommendations towards the Buildup (\$110K);
- To assess Guam's current infrastructure in terms of family entertainment, art, music, and cultural activities/alternatives (\$110K);
- To assess the feasibility of a partnership among the military, GovGuam, Consulates, Tourism to develop a cultural reception center (\$250K); and
- To establish a repository to store archeological finds (\$280K)
  - 20, 000 square feet
  - Temperature-controlled
  - Have a security system
  - Shelving, acid-free storage containers, and other supplies
  - Staffing (a lead anthropologist, several curators, administrative staff)



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## Our Accomplishments

- ❖ Continual outreach and participation in various civilian and military groups
- ❖ Publication of historic awareness booklet and Chamorro language guide
- ❖ Orientation to historic information website by *Guam Preservation Trust*
- ❖ More interest in Guam's culture through the showcasing of numerous cultural activities island-wide
- ❖ More profound interest and acceptance from EIS/military groups to seek out information from local community



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## **What we are currently doing**

- ❖ Prepare an update of Subcommittee activities for the 30<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature and community at large;
- ❖ Continue to broaden relationships with the business, military, government, and community-at-large;
- ❖ Finalize official Chamorro dictionary to publish in April;
- ❖ All Chamorro-oriented agencies are actively working together;
- ❖ Inventory of all artifacts is currently being taken;
- ❖ Educational series is currently being offered by the Guam Museum Foundation; and
- ❖ Guam Humanities Council is preparing for community conversations which include military bases.



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## **Where we need your assistance**

*At this time, we believe the following to be most important as the Legislature helps us in our Social & Cultural Subcommittee endeavors:*

- The commitment to establish a sustained funding mechanism to build and support The Guam Museum; and
- The commitment and support of all forms of Chamorro cultural expression—the arts, language, perpetuation of the culture, etc.



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## Our Next Steps

- Encourage more participation from government, military, private sector, and community at large;
- Work with military affiliates to develop and agree upon one orientation program for all military personnel and their families;
- Focus on groundbreaking for the new Guam Museum to happen sometime 2009;
- Finalize plans for a building to house DCA, CAHA, and traditional artist in the Chamorro Village location; and
- Plan for the ceremonial burial of Chamorro ancestors through *Naftan Manainata*.