About the Council

The Federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (U.S. PL. 106-402), authorizes the CNMI to establish and maintain an independent State Council on Developmental Disabilities to undertake advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities. Established in 1984, the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities was created to serve as an independent advocate for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. A voice in Government, the Council undertakes and may support programs, projects, and activities that promote the independence, productivity, integration & inclusion of people with developmental disabilities and their families. To accomplish its responsibilities, the Council works through its members, staff, consultants, contractors & grantees. Executive Order 91-01 and local PL 12-10 designated the responsibilities of the DSA to the Office of the Governor to provide support and fiscal management to the Council.

Executive Committee

Officers:
Mariano K. Camacho, Chairman
Francisco D. Cabrera, Vice Chairman
Margaret Torres-Aldan, Board Secretary

Members:
Lydia M. Sablan, Chair, Fiscal Committee
Suzanne W. Lizama, Chair, State Plan Committee
Serafin M. Dela Cruz, Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaws

Membership Representation of Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

1) Ada, Johanna (I)
2) Aichi, Julie (P)
3) Arriola, John D. (I)
4) Camacho, Daniel L. (P)
5) Camacho, Mariano K. (I)
6) Cabrera, Francisco D. (P)
7) Dela Cruz, Ramon C. (P)
8) Dela Cruz, Serafin M. (IMR/G)
9) Manglona, Aerial (I)
10) Palacios, Augusta H. (G)
11) Sablan, Lydia M. (P)
12) Springer, Robert L. (I)
13) Julian A. Concepcion (IMR/G)

LEGEND:
I - Individuals with Developmental Disabilities
P - Parents of Children with Developmental Disabilities
G - Guardians of Children with Developmental Disabilities
IMR/G - Immediate Relatives or Guardians of adults with mentally impairing developmental disabilities who cannot advocate for themselves.

State Agencies Representatives:
14) Antonio R. Agulto, Title V of Older Americans Act of 1965, Office of Man Amko, Dept. of Community & Cultural Affairs (DCCA)
15) Margaret Torres-Aldan, Title V of Social Security Act, Maternal & Child Health Services, Dept. of Public Health (DPH)
17) Robert Erickson, University Centers for Excellence on Developmental Disabilities Education, Research & Services (or UCE), Part D of DD Act, Northern Marianas College (NMC)
18) Suzanne W. Lizama, Part B&C, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Early Childhood Program, Public School System (PSS)
19) Helen C. Sablan, Title XIX of Social Security Act, Office on Medicaid, DPH
20) Felicitas P. Abraham, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, DPH

Other Required State Agencies & Organizations Representatives Concern with Services for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

21) Frank Rabauliman, Local Governmental Agency
22) Eleanor T. Cabrera, Local Governmental Agency
23) (Vacant), Non-Local Governmental Agency
24) (Vacant), Private Non-Profit Organization

Council Programs

Developmental Disabilities Basic State Grant
Developmental Disabilities Basic State Grant
*Assistive Technology Project (STRAID)
*Americans with Disabilities Act Technical Assistance
*Real Choice Systems Change Community Living Project
*Ed Roberts Partners in Policymaking Academy

Council Staff

Thomas J. Camacho, Executive Director/AT Project Director
(C vacant), Program Officer
Celia B. Lamkin, M.D., Asst. Technology Coordinator
(Vacant), Planner (Policy & Training)
Dyna J. Diaz, Administrative Officer
(Vacant), Executive Secretary
(Vacant) Systems Change Agent
(Vacant) Administrative Assistant