

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Department of Community and Cultural Affairs

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Inclusive Practices

On April 8, 2023, the training continued for *Inclusive Practices*. This two-part series was presented by *Ms*. *Nerine Villagomez* at the Evergreen Learning Center in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan. Twenty childcare providers from five Saipan centers participated.

Within this eight-hour training conducted over two consecutive Saturdays, attendees discussed the effectiveness of inclusive teaching practices and skills and learned the significance of federal and local laws, the different disability categories, and the current CNMI regulations and standards from Caring for Our Children (CFOC) offered to children with special needs. Community resources were also shared through a guest speaker who gave first-hand experiences of how to include children with a disability, the barriers they may face, and possible solutions that can be taken. The training helped participants broaden their mindset to use People First Language and guided them to a more inclusive teaching approach for all children.

This training is made possible through funding from the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child Care, CNMI CCDF Program under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

