



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

Caller Box 10007
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
Tel. (670) 664-2587 Fax (670) 664-2571



Child Care Providers Cohort 6 Complete Mind in the Making Training

On June 10, 2023, a total of 10 child care providers from Northern Marianas International School and Loving Hands Daycare completed a training series on *Mind in the Making (MITM) – Seven Essential Life Skills*. These training sessions were facilitated by Evergreen Learning Training and Development Specialist, Grace M. Mallari, at Evergreen Learning Training Center in Chalan Kanoa.

Mind in the Making (MITM) is a program of the Families and Work Institute. It provides opportunities for adults to examine child development research and themselves to create strategic actions they can take to promote executive function-based skills in children ages 0-8. Each Mind in the Making module includes learning goals and outcomes, research videos of leading child development experts, practical teaching tips, and activities that providers complete individually, with a partner, or in small groups.

Mind in the Making training is offered to child care providers in support of the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program's vision that "All children in the CNMI will be safe, healthy, and thriving members of a culturally diverse community. Their families will have access to the high quality supports they need to achieve their potential." The training series consists of Seven Essential Life Skills that are based on the executive functions of the brain. They bring together our social, emotional, and cognitive capacities to solve and achieve goals. Studies have found they are critical to success in school and life. The Seven Essential Life Skills of MITM are focus and self-control, perspective taking, communicating, making connections, critical thinking, taking on challenges, and self-directed, engaged learning.

Providers from MITM Cohort 6 who have successfully completed the training include Oliver F. Gragasin, Eloisa A. Alvarez, Reyshell Anne C. Avellanoza, Charytie C. Castro, Marlyn G. Gutierrez, Mary Donna Belle D. Valdez, Shella Jean M. Espinar, Josephine C. Romero, Angelica Shane M. De Ocampo, and Alvaro Santos Jr.

This training is available through CCDF's Science of Early Learning Initiative, also known as *CNMI Brain Builders*. It 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.

