

# 2nd Quarter

## NEWSLETTER



April - June 2024

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### The System of Support

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program initiative is to develop and implement a system of support for CCDF License-Exempt Family, Friend, or Neighbor (LEFFN) and Licensed Family, Friend, or Neighbor (LFFN) home child care providers in meeting the CCDF program's requirements.

### Training and technical assistance

DICE Pacific, LLC provides an extensive range of training programs and technical assistance tailored for LEFFN and LFFN providers. Our dedicated team is readily available to support applicants throughout the application process and facilitate registration for online webinars, among other services. Our comprehensive training offerings encompass the 12 Health and Safety Pre-Service Training Topics, Strengthening Business Practices, The Growing Brain, and Mind in the Making.

### Materials Distribution to Support Child Care Business Start-Up

Family child care providers receive start-up materials from the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs's Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF). These materials are given to all new license-exempt and licensed Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers to help their child care businesses. Items distributed include diapers, educational materials, and toys for children in the CCDF program.



### Family child care providers participate in the baseline BAS assessments

The Business Administration Scale or BAS was introduced to family child care providers through a pilot program. The BAS is a tool used for measuring and improving the overall quality of professional and business practices in the family child care setting. In the month of May, a small group of providers participated in the assessment to help set guidelines for all family child care providers in our community.

### Shedding Light on the System of Support through Numbers

TOTAL PROVIDERS: ..... 54  
 TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED: ..... 142  
 TOTAL NUMBER OF FAMILIES SERVED: ..... 70

### Breakdown by Island

|                                  | SAIPAN | TINIAN | ROTA |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------|------|
| TOTAL PROVIDERS:                 | 30     | 09     | 15   |
| TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED: | 77     | 31     | 34   |
| TOTAL NUMBER OF FAMILIES SERVED: | 33     | 14     | 23   |



## 2nd Quarter Statistics



## Over \$65,000 in grant funding is allocated to build playgrounds for family child care providers

A small group of family child care providers were awarded the opportunity to have a playground built for their businesses. Over the past few months, the awardees were visited by the grant manager and playground engineers to map out the type of playground that would be suitable for the identified space.

Recently, the providers received the designs from the engineers, and the project will continue to progress throughout the rest of the year 2024.

**For more information on how you can become a family child care provider, contact us at the information printed below**

## Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale (FCCERS-3) reaches CNMI homes

The Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale, Third Edition (FCCERS-3), is an assessment tool used to evaluate the quality of family child care environments, ensuring that children in the Commonwealth are nurtured and grow in developmentally appropriate settings.

A small group of family child care providers in our community was selected to be part of the FCCERS Pilot Program and completed their observations in May 2024.



**A family child care provider in the CNMI assists the children in her care with a painting activity**

## 2024 Cohort 1 completes Mind in the Making training

The Mind in the Making (MITM) learning journey continues to spread within the family child care community. As the number of family child care providers grows, more of them are becoming interested in the opportunity to participate in child development trainings.

MITM is a learning journey designed to be both useful and inspiring for adults and children. It is not just another training that participants forget about afterward. Through exercises and discussions, participants learn how to promote essential life skills in their own lives. Additionally, they examine research on how to foster these life skills in the children they care for and love.

The participants of cohort 1 recently completed their learning journey in May 2024. Mind in the Making: The Seven Essential Life Skills is presented by Mr. Marvin Ngeskebei.



**MITM participants focus on the presentation being displayed**



**Cohort 1 gathers for a group photo on the final day of the MITM sessions**





# Photos around family child care in the Commonwealth



Listening in during one of the grant information sessions



Family child care providers during the MITM training session



June

## System of Support Activities

2024

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
|        |        |         |           |          |        | 1        |
| 2      | 3      | 4       | 5         | 6        | 7      | 8        |
| 9      | 10     | 11      | 12        | 13       | 14     | 15       |
| 16     | 17     | 18      | 19        | 20       | 21     | 22       |
| 23     | 24     | 25      | 26        | 27       | 28     | 29       |
| 30     |        |         |           |          |        |          |

- SOS ACTIVITY**
- 06/07/24 Ongoing Provider Orientation
  - 06/14/24 Mandatory Provider Orientation
  - 06/21/24 Ongoing Provider Orientation
  - 06/28/24 Mandatory Provider Orientation
- HOLIDAY**
- 06/19/24 Juneteenth



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