



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Department of Community and Cultural Affairs  
**Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program**  
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*Vision for Children and Families:*

*“All children in the CNMI will be safe, healthy, and thriving members of our culturally diverse community. Their families will have access to the high quality supports they need to achieve their potential.”*

### Children’s Health & Safety

On Saturday, January 25, 2025, a total of nineteen (19) participants completed training on *Health and Safety-Child Development*, and twenty (20) participants completed the *Health and Safety-Recognition and Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect*. The participants were a combination of childcare providers and a couple of leaders from various childcare centers.

The Health and Safety-Child Development portion of the training focused on helping the participants develop an understanding of the abilities that children are born with, that help them learn so quickly in the first few years of life. It provided them the opportunity to explore and learn about the five domains of children’s development, and why they should be addressed in early childhood settings. Furthermore, the training offered an opportunity for participants to be able to identify developmental milestones, understand why developmental milestones are important and ways to support it, and identify warning signs or delays to watch for in children who are not meeting developmental milestones. Through this learning experience, participants have elevated their knowledge and have become more familiar with children’s growth and development. This will help support their work, as they continue to provide high quality services to children.

The second portion of the training, Health and Safety-Recognition and Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect focused on exploring the Commonwealth Code, relative to child abuse and neglect. The participants got to learn the definitions and indicators of child abuse and neglect and how to respond when there is a suspicion of possible child abuse or neglect, and what to do to properly report the suspicion.

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