



EARLY HEAD START CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP STATE GRANTEE PROFILE

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Grantee Name	CNMI Public School System
EHS Grantee Status	New EHS Grantee
Annual Award Amount (additional TA funds)	\$943,171 (none)
Proposed Funded Enrollment	64
% of Subsidy Proposed	40% of participating children

Partnership Snapshot

The Northern Mariana Island's (CNMI) Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (Partnership) is administered through a collaborative partnership between the CNMI Public School System and the CNMI Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, the state agency that oversees the state's child care subsidy program. The Partnership is embedded within a broader systemic strategy aimed at strengthening CNMI's comprehensive Birth-5 continuum. Based on the strong relationship the Partnership enjoys with the Commonwealth's public school system, transition planning is incorporated into family plans and maintains a strong focus within the grant initiative.

Subsidy Administration

CNMI's Department of Community and Cultural Affairs administers CCDF in partnership with the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

Subsidy Policy Alignment

The Commonwealth's eligibility periods for subsidy are aligned to be together with the CCDBG Act of 2014's minimum 12-month eligibility requirement.

Funding Strategies

Layering of funding is an essential component of CNMI's Partnership funding strategy. The Partnership leverages CCDF and local funds to supplement EHS funding. The Partnership also relies on additional funding resources, including:

- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) provides reimbursement for nutritious meals and snacks, and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) resources and Women Infant and Children Food and Nutrition Service (WIC) funds support family nutrition;
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part C funds that provide inclusion specialists and other family supports; and

- Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting program (MIECHV) funds that provide professional development on screening and support to families based on referrals and outreach to community services.



- ✓ **Strong Relationship with public schools allows for a strong focus on transition planning:** Based on the strong relationship the Partnership enjoys with the Commonwealth’s public school system, transition planning is incorporated into family plans and maintains a strong focus within the grant initiative.

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLAND’S CHILD CARE POLICY CONTEXT

Policy	State Child Care	EHS-CC Partnerships
Eligibility Period	12 months	
Licensing Standards: Ratios	Centers: Infants 1:4 Toddlers 1:6 Homes: 1:6	Centers: Infants 1:4 Toddlers: 1:4, 2:8 Homes: B-5 1:6 with no more than 2 children under 2 years old B-5 1 teacher/1 assistant
Licensing Standards: Group Size	Centers: Infants 8; toddlers 12 Homes: NA	Centers: 8 children with 2 teachers Homes: 4 infants and toddlers with no more than 2 children under 18 months
Infant/Toddler Teacher Qualifications	Centers: BA Homes: NA	Centers: I/T CDA; or equivalent Homes: I/T CDA; or equivalent