



**LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO**  
MAGA'HAGAN GU'AHAN  
GOVERNOR OF GUAM

**JOSHUA F. TENORIO**  
SEGUNDO MAGA'LAHEN GU'AHAN  
LT. GOVERNOR OF GUAM

GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES**  
**DIPATTAMENTON SALUT PUPBLEKO YAN SETBISION SUSIAT**



**THERESA C. ARRIOLA, MBA**  
DIRECTOR

**PETERJOHN D. CAMACHO, MPH**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**AMANDA LEE SHELTON, MPA**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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*Håfa Adai!*

As Director of the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services, I am deeply concerned by recent remarks suggesting that the United States cannot sustain investments in Medicaid, Medicare, and Child Care due to competing national priorities such as war spending.

The current federal landscape already reflects significant uncertainty this fiscal year. Guam is experiencing delays in the release of federal funds, including second and third quarter allotments for the Child Care and Development Fund, which directly impact our ability to administer programs effectively and provide timely support to the families we serve. These delays are affecting provider payments for January, February, and March, participant reimbursement cost of 300 families, program stability, and overall service delivery across critical areas, including child care assistance.

Recent public comments from the Trump administration, as reported in national media, further underscore this uncertainty by signaling a potential shift in federal priorities away from domestic programs. Statements from President Trump indicate that it may not be possible to sustain funding for programs such as Medicaid, Medicare, and Child Care raise serious concerns for Guam as we rely heavily on federal support to meet the needs of our community.

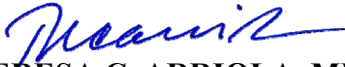
Given these developments, we must prepare for the possibility of significant reductions in federal funding for child care—or even the elimination of such support. The consequences of such actions would be immediate and severe, affecting working families, child care providers, and the broader economy.

While we recognize the importance of national defense, it is equally critical to understand that the health and well-being of our people are foundational to a strong and resilient nation. Programs like Medicaid, Medicare, and child care are not optional—they are essential services that support public health, economic participation, and community stability.

The Department will continue to advocate for the resources necessary, including seeking local remedy from our 38<sup>th</sup> Guam legislature to sustain these vital programs and to protect the well-being of the people of Guam. We continuously seek updates from our federal counterparts and will remain transparent with the public as new information regarding our funding status becomes available.

For further information, please contact the Bureau of Child Care Services Office at (671)969-7259 or email [childcare@dphss.guam.gov](mailto:childcare@dphss.guam.gov). You may also visit our website for periodic updates at [guamchildcare.com](http://guamchildcare.com). Thank you for your understanding and continued partnership in serving Guam's children and families.

*Un Dangkulu na Si Yu'os Ma'åse,*



**THERESA C. ARRIOLA, MBA**  
Director