



CITIZEN-CENTRIC REPORT

SAKKAN FISKÁT 2025
(10/2024 - 9/2025)



PUT HAMI

PRUYEKTO
SIHA

FONDON-MÂMI

I CHALAN-MÂMI
PARA MO'NA

PUT HAMI

ABOUT US

The Kumisión i Fino' CHamoru yan i Fina'nâ'guen i Historia yan i Lina'la' i Taotao Tâno', was reestablished through the [CHamoru Heritage Act of 2016](#) (P.L. 33-236). The Kumisión is charged with the critical mandate of developing and maintaining a standardized orthography, producing and approving CHamoru resources, guiding language policy across educational and government institutions, and ensuring the revitalization of the CHamoru language, history, and culture.

TINANGA

OUR VISION

"U cha'lâni u su'on mo'na yan u hotkonuyi i lina'la' CHamoru; u ta atitútuyi i kinahulo' tinaotao yan u petsigi i fino' CHamoru, i lina'la', yan i finaloffan i Taotao Tâno' Guåhan.

We lead nation-building efforts to ensure the continuity of our CHamoru peoplehood and nationhood by fostering the restoration and revitalization of our language, culture, and history as Guåhan's Taotao Tâno'."

ALIGAO HAM

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TATTIYI HAM

FOLLOW US



INENKÂTGA

OUR MANDATES

- Regularly study and update CHamoru orthographic rules; notify public and private institutions of changes.
- Collaborate with CNMI leaders to standardize CHamoru orthography and address regional differences.
- Advise media, institutions, and individuals on aligning content with CHamoru grammar and orthography.
- Provide updates to the CHamoru-English Dictionary.
- Establish a CHamoru translation service with a structured fee system for public/private use and media.
- Develop standardized, culturally relevant curricula for Guåhan's schools and higher education institutions.
- Conduct research and produce multimedia and print materials on CHamoru language, history, and culture.
- Coordinate with educational institutions and businesses to ensure proper use of standardized orthography and grammar.
- Provide training to enhance understanding of CHamoru heritage.
- Act as a clearinghouse for accurate representations of CHamoru language, history, and culture.
- Partner with the Bureau of Statistics and Plans to survey CHamoru language use and intergenerational transmission.
- Serve as the Guam Place Names Commission, to promote culturally and historically accurate naming criteria.
- Study and restore ancient CHamoru terminology and pronunciation of place names using current orthography.

ATMENESTRADORA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MARIA DUENAS-CONCEPCION



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MEMBRO SIHA

BOARD MEMBERS



LEFT TO RIGHT: DR. LAURA M. TORRES SOUDER (GÉ'HELO'). HOPE A. CRISTOBAL (BISA GÉ'HELO'), ROSA S. PALOMO (SIKRITÁRIA), TERESITA C. FLORES, DR. ROBERT UNDERWOOD, PÂLE' FELIXBERTO LEON GUERRERO, RUFINA F. MENDIOLA, JIMMY S. TERIA, MELVIN WON PAT-BORJA

I HINAGO'-MĀMI YAN PRUYEKTO SIHA

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

DIGITAL READ-ALONG SERIES

The Kumisión converted existing educational publications, such as Tinanumi, along with additional instructional materials, into interactive digital read-alongs featuring CHamoru narration. This format supports accurate pronunciation, strengthens learner confidence, and increases accessibility for teachers, parents, and students in Guåhan and throughout the diaspora.



DIGITAL READ-ALONG BOOKS FEATURING CHAMORU AUTHORS

As part of the digital read-along series, the Kumisión expanded its offerings to include CHamoru authors and their publications. This initiative promotes CHamoru literacy, uplifts indigenous storytelling, and strengthens community partnerships and engagement.



NINA'FITME INEYAK CHAMORU

CHAMORU IMMERSION TEACHER CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Building on the success of the first two cohorts, the Kumisión and its partners continued the Nina'fitme Ineyak CHamoru Certificate Program with Cohorts 3 and 4. Across all cohorts, the program has provided a total of 60 scholarships through the ANA-funded initiative. You can learn more about this program and each cohort [here](#).

NINA'FITME INEYAK CHAMORU

CHAMORU IMMERSION TEACHER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM



COHORT 3

TI ATRASĀSAO, SIÑA HA'!

IT'S NOT TOO LATE, YOU CAN! INTERVIEW SERIES

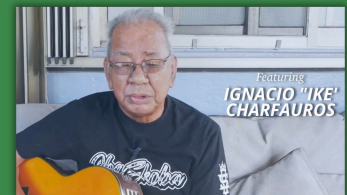
As part of its revitalization campaign funded by an ESF grant, the Kumisión produced **Ti Atrasāso, Siña Ha'!** *It's Not Too Late, You Can!* The series features 11 second language learners who share their personal journeys learning CHamoru. Their stories offer powerful encouragement and inspiration for current and future learners. You may view the interviews [here](#).



LINAKNGOS LINAKSE'

CHAMORU EXPERT INTERVIEW SERIES

Through ESF grant support, the Kumisión produced **Linakngos Linakse'**, an initiative that documents and showcases traditional cultural experts as they share indigenous knowledge, cultural practices, and their fluency in the CHamoru language. You may view the first interview [here](#).



I HISTORIA PUT I HINANAO I TAOTAO TĀNO'

INDIGENOUS HISTORIOGRAPHY PROGRAM

As part of the *Lumå'la' I Estorå-ta: History Comes Alive* celebration, and inspired by Dr. Souder's presentation, this program presents CHamoru history and culture from the perspective of the Taotao Tāno'. It highlights indigenous knowledge, language, and lived experiences and challenges conventional historical narratives. You may view the program [here](#).



KINALAMTEN PARA I DIRECHON I TAOTAO TĀNO'

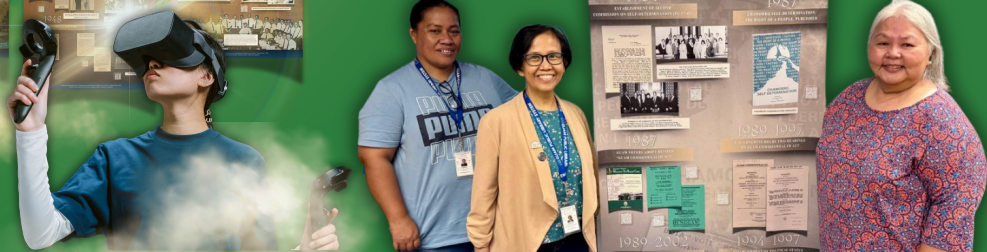
THE QUEST FOR CHAMORU SELF-DETERMINATION EXHIBIT

Based on the original panel exhibit, this immersive 180-degree digital experience brings the story of CHamoru self-determination to life. Through virtual reality, audiences step into key moments of the movement and hear directly from the leaders who shaped it. This iteration encourages reflection, dialogue, and a deeper connection to the resilience and aspirations of the CHamoru people. You can experience it [here](#).



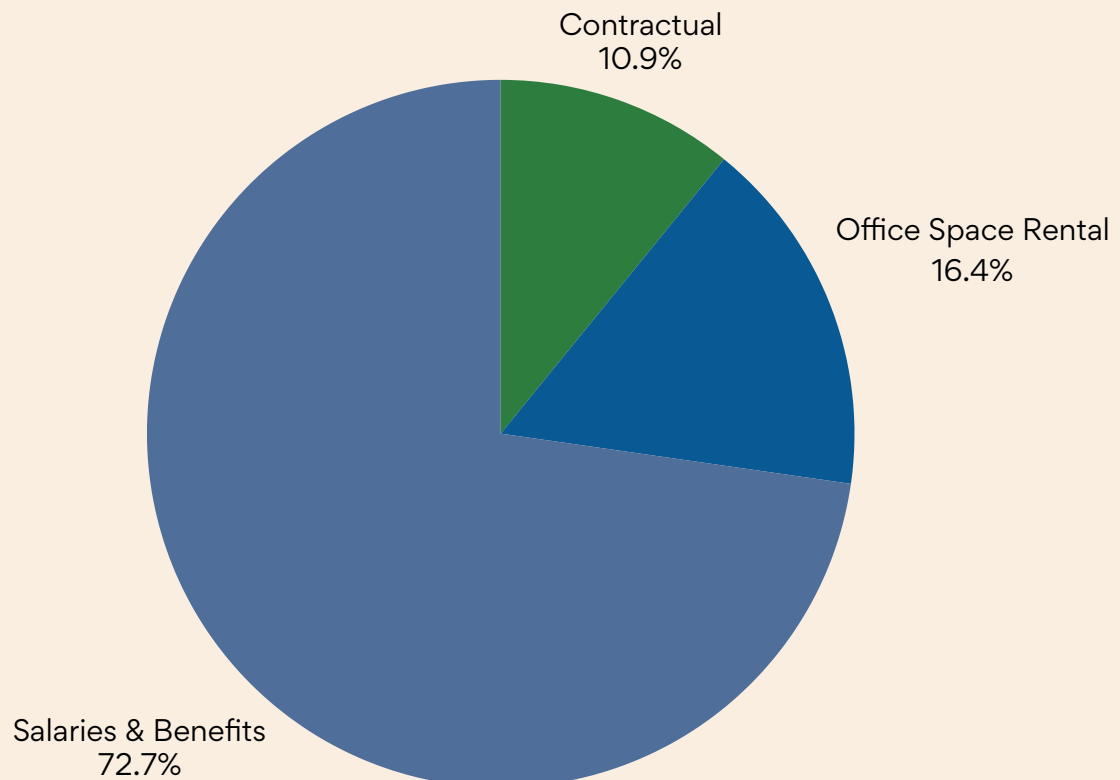
TRAVELING EXHIBIT

Funded by Senator Joe and Mrs. Joanne San Agustin and built from the original exhibit, the traveling version brings key stories of CHamoru self-determination to communities across Guam through dynamic interactive panels and historic narratives. This iteration has been displayed at the Guam Congress Building, the Seventh Marianas History Conference, the RFK Memorial Library, and the Nieves Flores Memorial Library.



GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION	
GENERAL FUND FY2024	\$489,637.00
GENERAL FUND FY2025	\$726,566.00

FY2025 EXPENDITURES		
	SALARIES & BENEFITS	\$519,718.00
	CONTRACTUAL	\$77,698.00
	OFFICE SPACE RENTAL	\$117,150.00
	TELEPHONE	\$0.00
	TOTAL:	\$726,566.00



I CHALAN-MÂMÎ PARA MO'NA

CHALLENGES AND MOVING FORWARD

MINAPOT YAN CHINÁTSAGA CHALLENGES

- We continue to seek a change in our legal status to become a public non-profit corporation. This will allow the Kumisión to seek funding from non-governmental sources and enable us to acquire donations from private entities. We would also be able to sell our products for the purpose of maintaining a revolving fund for future productions.
- The Kumisión has had to relocate multiple times since its establishment in 2017. We are still in need of a permanent facility to house our staff and programs, recording studio, training rooms, archives, genealogy lab and research center, and to provide adequate space for community outreach and collaboration with partners.
- The process of compensating our traditional experts and knowledge-bearers for their wisdom and service is cumbersome and requires licensure and vendor status that our elders do not have access to. Creating alternative procurement procedures that meet compliance requirements while acknowledging and honoring traditional cultural practices is another major hurdle we constantly encounter.
- These issues continue to be an ongoing challenge.

PARA MO'NA GI SAKKAN FISKÁT 2026

MOVING FORWARD IN FY2026

DIGITAL READ-ALONG FEATURING CHAMORU AUTHORS

- The Kumisión will continue to expand its digital read-along series by featuring CHamoru authors and their publications. Seeking CHamoru literature for all levels of learners.



I KINALAMTEN PARA I DIRECHON I TAOTAO TÂNO' EXHIBIT

- The Kumisión will continue to seek partnerships with government and nongovernment organizations to display its traveling exhibit to maximize community access.



KUMISIÓN KIDS

- Launch "Kumisión Kids", a digital CHamoru language and culture series featuring songs from its earlier publication entitled "Tiniroron Neni" in collaboration with CHamoru schools and classes throughout Guåhan. This project supports young learners, fosters collaboration with the community, and aligns with its mandate to develop accessible CHamoru learning materials for early education.



STUDENTS OF
MAGA'LÂHEN HURAO
CHARTER ACADEMY

