



GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY

ATURIDÁT ESPETÁT MIMURIÁT GUÅHAN

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For Immediate Release

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GMHA Signs Educational Affiliation Agreement with Hawai'i Pacific University PA Program

(Tamuning, Guam; February 13, 2026) — The Guam Memorial Hospital Authority (GMHA) formally signed an Educational Affiliation Agreement with the Hawai'i Pacific University Physician Assistant Program, expanding clinical training opportunities at Guam's public hospital and strengthening healthcare workforce development for the island.

The agreement establishes GMHA as a clinical training site for physician assistant students from Hawai'i Pacific University. Under the partnership, students will complete supervised clinical rotations at the hospital, gaining hands-on experience in patient care while working alongside GMHA providers and staff.

The collaboration was facilitated through the leadership of the Department of Public Health and Social Services, which helped connect the institutions to advance regional workforce development efforts.

"Opening our doors to physician assistant students is about more than training," said GMHA Interim Chief Executive Officer and Administrator Dr. Joleen M. Aguon. "It is about building a stronger healthcare system for our island. Many of us who serve here were trained by mentors who believed in investing in the next generation. This partnership continues that tradition. By supporting clinical education at our hospital, we are helping shape skilled providers who understand our community and are prepared to care for it."

Director Therese Arriola of the Department of Public Health and Social Services emphasized the importance of regional collaboration in rebuilding Guam's healthcare workforce.

"This partnership with Hawai'i Pacific University is an exciting step forward for our region," she said. "Any opportunity to strengthen and grow our healthcare workforce is something to celebrate, especially as we continue rebuilding after the challenges brought on by the pandemic. Having a program so close to home creates a meaningful pathway for students in Guam who aspire to become physician assistants and serve their own communities."





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Governor Lou Leon Guerrero highlighted the broader impact of healthcare education partnerships.

“Developing the next generation of healthcare professionals is critical to the future of our island,” she said. “Partnerships like this create pathways for training, collaboration, and long-term workforce sustainability.”

Lieutenant Governor Josh Tenorio added that collaboration across agencies and institutions strengthens opportunities for Guam.

“When our hospital, Public Health, and academic institutions work together, it strengthens the foundation of our healthcare system,” he said. “This agreement represents thoughtful coordination that supports both education and patient care.”

GMHA looks forward to welcoming Dr. Conlon and representatives from Hawai'i Pacific University for the signing and meet and greet, marking the beginning of this collaborative effort.

For more updates on GMHA partnerships and workforce initiatives, follow GMHA on Facebook and Instagram at @GMHA_Guam.

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