Supporting the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island's COVID-19 Dislocated Workers

Territory-wide

Project Summary (Need)

The proposed DWG project will serve the CNMI island wide. Grant participants will be dislocated workers impacted by the significant downturn of the hospitality and tourism industries, in light of COVID-19 travel restrictions. The proposed funds will employ eligible individuals in disaster-relief positions to monitor those quarantined, assist with the distribution of goods and information, and assist with cleanup activities related to COVID-19.

Disaster Relief Employment

The pandemic caused a global shut down of travel, thus causing an economic downward effect to the island’s tourist industry. The closure of the tourism industry has created a significant downturn in the hospitality industry, thus creating the need for the CNMI to apply for NDWG funding. These funds will allow for the creation of temporary jobs to provide the following qualifying services: Humanitarian Assistance, Clean Up Activities, and Employment Recovery. These new temporary positions will also allow for the monitoring of quarantined areas, the prevention of further spread, and the provision of goods and information.

Eligible Participants

Workers laid off due to quarantine orders or business closures related to disruptions caused by the outbreak are eligible participants. Also eligible are workers unable to go to their regular workplace due to social distancing requirements, as well as those missing work to care for a family member.