



2013 Annual Report

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Vision

Cancer Free CNMI...

Mission

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's mission is to advocate for a cancer-free CNMI through early detection, public education and awareness about cancer prevention and screening, and to provide hope and support for cancer patients, survivors, and their families through community partnerships and programs.

The COMMONWEALTH CANCER ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

Message from the President:

On the whole, 2013 was a year of increased collaboration, awareness and advocacy for early detection and prevention to save lives in our community. The Commonwealth Cancer Association (CCA) remained focused in its pursuit of providing direct services and hope to people who are fighting cancer.

We have reasons to be thankful as we move forward to our 9th Anniversary as a community-based 501 C (3) non-profit corporation for relieving the financial burdens of cancer patients through donations of funds and supplies.

The 11th Anniversary of the Marianas March Against Cancer (MMAC)--the CCA signature fundraiser-- was an extraordinary and resounding success. We acknowledge the board of directors, MMAC committee members and other individuals who were involved in raising funds toward relief of needed patients.

Our partnerships with government agencies and private non-profit corporations continued and our participation at various outreach events was being recognized. However, the reality for hundreds in our community, who live with the disease today, is that they are often in dire need of financial help in order to overcome their immense struggles.

We are pleased to report that we have continued to enhance both our visibility and programs, to support and engage in providing direct assistance and services to our people in need.

The bond between Donors and Charity can be an actual lifeline of HOPE and HEALING to cancer patients. We are confident that our mission will remain relevant. Let's help cancer patients focus on healing, hoping and living, for TOGETHER, we are relieving the burden of cancer patients.

Sincerely,




DAVID B. ROSARIO, President

2013 CCA Board of Directors



David B. Rosario
President



Lauri B. Ogumoro
Vice-President



Roman "Bo" T. Palacios
Secretary



Maggie C. Camacho
Treasurer



Vivian S. Taitano
Member



Jocelyn Songsong
Member



Bobbi Grizzard
Member



Dr. Jack Hardy
Medical Advisor



Nancy Gottfried
Legal Advisor

About the Commonwealth Cancer Association

The Commonwealth Cancer Association (CCA) is a community-based 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The association provides support services, including equipment usage, and education to promote awareness and prevention to people with cancer, their families, and other caregivers.

The organization consists primarily of volunteers who are committed to reducing the burden of cancer in the Northern Mariana Islands. The Board of Directors makes policy and provides services to our clients. The daily operation and financial accountability are contracted out to professionals. The Board consists of seven volunteers and has medical and legal advisors.



The CCA board had a busy year and a productive one, providing advise and guidance on programs, and financial matters. The board met regularly, every month and participated in the outreach and educational events throughout the year, setting up information tables and welcoming invited contributing guest

to CCA monthly support group meetings. All Board monthly meetings were opened to the public.

- The Board sanctioned fundraising events such as Bingo, and worked continuously through the year to develop ideas and plans for fundraising opportunities and events. The Board also worked to improve existing fundraising events and improve relationships with historic donors.

The Board actions included:

- Facilitating the gathering of survivors and caregivers in a “Celebrating of Life” event.
- Supporting the passage H.B.17-320. The legislation that taxed unhealthy items known to contribute to cancer.
- Invited Ronald Sablan, director Medical Referral to address a meeting.
- Pursue for funding for Chemotherapy Nurses training at CHC.
- Reviewed proposal on Peaceful Warrior Yoga for cancer survivors (presently under consideration).
- Successfully garnered Take Care Foundation grant for public awareness.
- Presented visiting expert, Dr. Namkung, to the membership.

- Hosted a recognition and farewell event for Dr. Jack Hardy who was a senior board adviser and constant contributor to the activities of the association. Special mention should be made of Dr. Hardy's many hours of volunteer services and commitment to the organization. He was known as an oracle to CCA and to the

Marianas March Against Cancer. Dr. Jack Hardy was honored with a luncheon at which a plaque of appreciation and many statements of recognition were presented. He is recognized as one of the founding fathers and a driving force behind the CCA & MMAC.



Administration

In 2013 the CCA continued to maintain a high level of performance and service. Some of the achievements and activities in 2013 are as follows:

- CCA developed an Office Standard Operating Procedure Manual which is currently under final review. This will assist the organization in ensuring that regularly recurring work is guided by sound and fair processes.
- CCA collaborated with Marianas Health Services and Marianas Healthcare Specialties on the development of Hospice Care in the CNMI.
- CCA held fundraisers throughout the year designed to raise funds needed to carry out its work.
- It collaborated with partners such as Commonwealth Health Corporation, non-governmental organizations and private businesses to provide services.
- CCA assisted the Marianas March Against Cancer (MMAC) Executive Committee. The CCA continued to play a key role in the organization of this important annual event.
- The organization disseminated 10 press releases to the media regarding services and programs. This was done to keep the community apprised of association activities.
- The office was renovated to facilitate meetings and functions in support of the organization's objectives.
- Over 5,000 brochures on cancer prevention, donated by Xerox Corporation, were disseminated in the community.

- CCA renewed and updated its Website with Dan S. Camacho Consulting Services who provided “pro bono” services. The CCA website has proven an important tool in disseminating information about the organization.
- Submitted a grant proposal for Residual Funds under Civil Case No. CV-01-0031, DOE I, et al., v. THE GAP , INC., et al. (garment settlement litigation)



MMAC information and updates were posted on the Website. Additionally the CCA distributed flyers, attended team and committee meetings, answered questions from media on how funds were expended, and provided assistance during the MMAC event. Letters were sent to members of the legislature requesting funding.

CCA compiled, wrote and published the 2012 annual report. The Workforce Investment Agency (WIA) approved the extension of training for Ms. Patricia Kaipat for six months. Corporate documents were filed with the CN MI Department of Commerce and the Department of Finance. CCA was also well represented on live interviews at KKMP radio, John Gonzales Show television and Power 99.



Patricia Kaipat,
PNO Coordinator

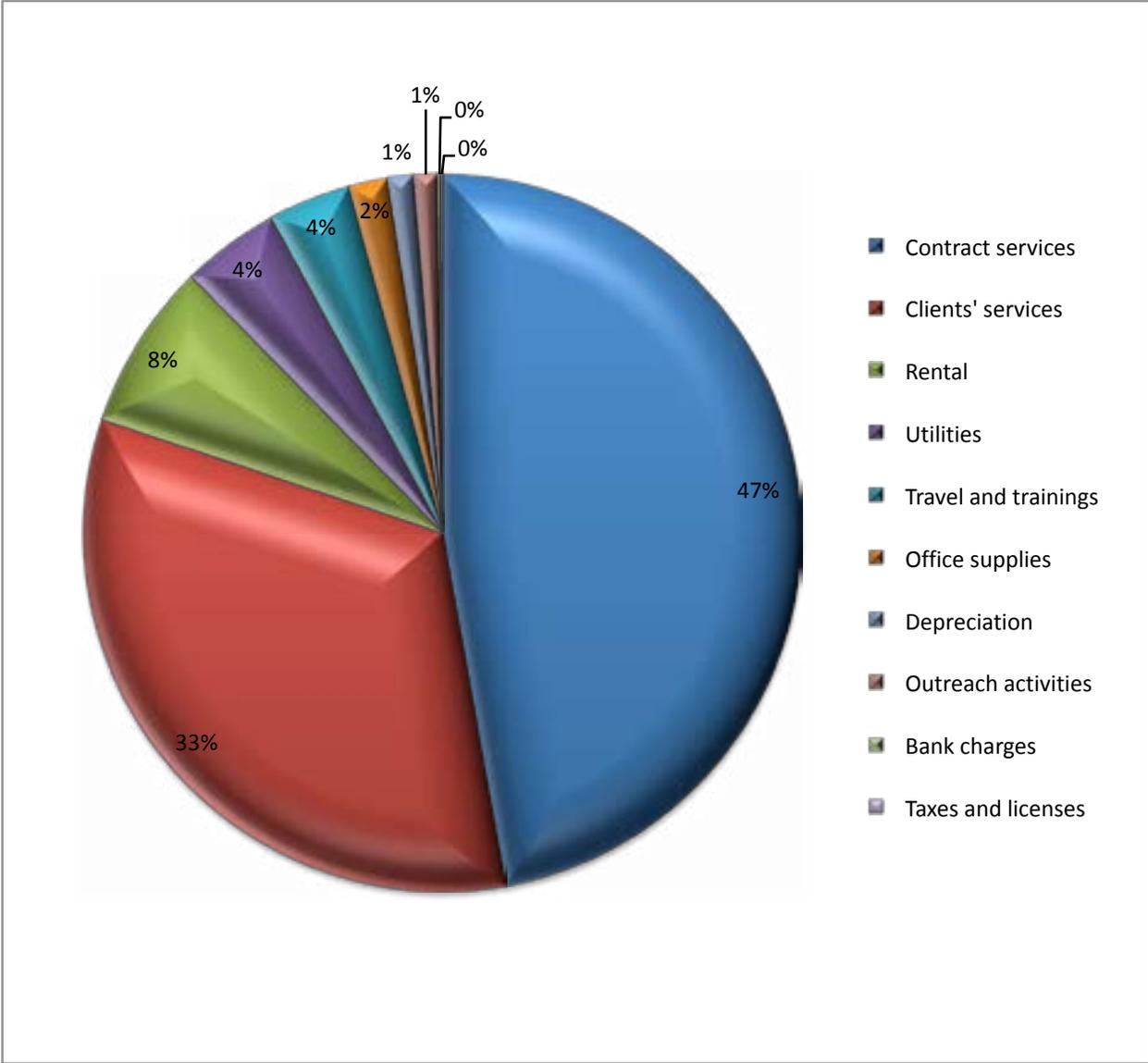


Juan L. Babauta
Program Manager

**COMMONWEALTH CANCER ASSOCIATION
(A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION)**

**Statement of Functional Expenses-UNRESTRICTED
For the Year Ended December 31, 2013**

Contract services	\$ 36,300.00
Clients' services	25,333.98
Rental	5,800.00
Utilities	3,403.94
Travel and trainings	2,844.00
Office supplies	1,352.76
Depreciation	892.12
Outreach activities	820.00
Bank charges	120.00
Taxes and licenses	<u>50.00</u>
 Total	 <u>\$ 76,916.80</u>



Provided Hope and Healing

Survivors/caregivers and family members support group meetings were held on a monthly basis to give people with cancer a safe and confidential place to meet others in similar circumstances. Common experiences and practical successes are shared at these meetings. Each meeting includes an educational presentation followed by a question and answer session.

In 2013, 12 meetings were held attended by 187 survivors, caregivers and family members.

The following were the special presentations in 2013.

- "Medical Referral policies and procedures updates" by Ronald Sablan, Medical Referral Director.
- "How cancer affected my life" by Joe Seman Epina.
- Healthy Lifestyle Promotion" by Tina Sablan, Healthy Lifestyle Coordinator
- Supportive Resources available in the CNMI and Guam for people facing cancer including the 2012 Annual Report and C-Change Cancer Patient Navigation DVD, was presented by Juan L. Babauta, Program Manager.
- "Promoting Supportive Environment for Healthy Lifestyle" by Russ Mason, free lance Writer

- Experience with Cancer Treatment of America and Patient Navigation Program presented by former First Lady Grace Tenorio and Vice-President Lauri Ogumoro on a survey questionnaire entitled: "Name one thing that you wish you had known or someone had told you when you or a loved one was diagnosed with cancer.
- Promoting Supportive Treatment/Lab by Joe C. Santos, President and Joe C. Guerrero, Vice-President of Precision Medical Imaging Center LLC
- Promoting MMAC 2013 Signature Fundraising Event by Nola Hix and Bo Palacios, Chairs, MMAC Survivors Sub-Committee
- Nutrition & Health called "Drink To That" by Patricia Coleman, NMC-CREESE

On average, support meetings were usually attended by 17 to 20 survivors and caregivers. The support meetings were held at the Chamolinian room of Hyatt Regency Saipan. The meeting venue was supported by a federal grant awarded to CHC -Division of Public Health under the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program.



Provided Direct Client Assistance

In 2013, CCA provided financial assistance of up to \$500 per client yearly for nutritional, therapeutic, and medical supplies needed to support cancer treatment. Additionally, certain types of medical equipment were granted at no charge or on short term rental.

Total number of Nutrition, Personal Care and Equipment vouchers issued: 294

Total number of new clients served in 2013 was 45

Total number of clients served in 2013 (ongoing + new clients) was 91

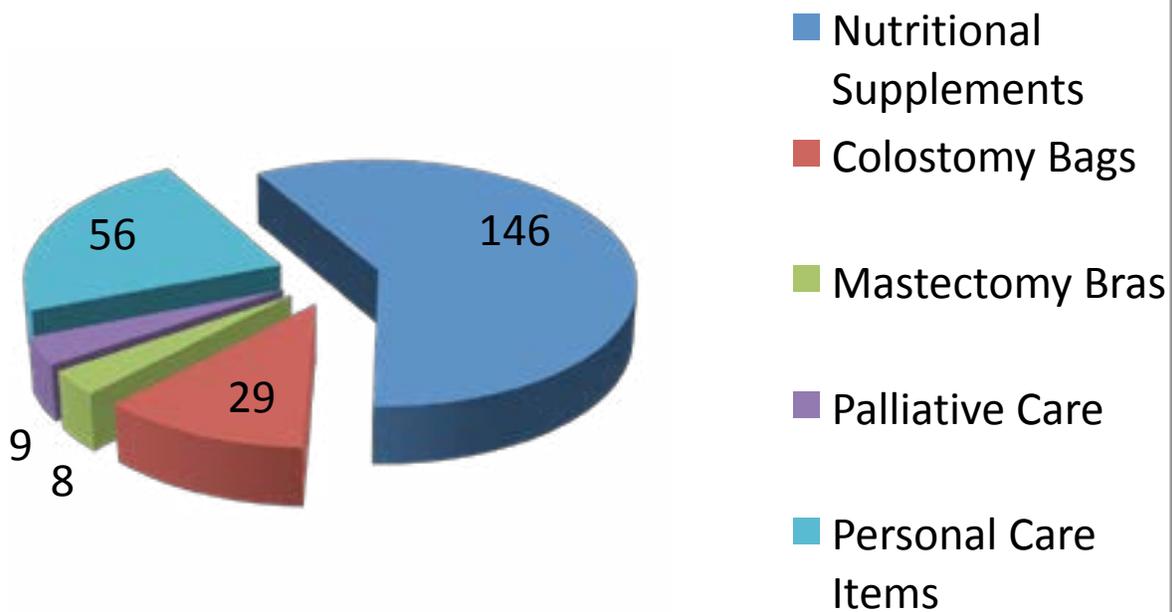
Clients Nutritional /Personal Care Assistance

CCA provided the following nutritional/personal care assistance: 146 Nutritional Supplements or vouchers; (Ensure, Glucerna, fruits & vegetables); provided 29 Colostomy Bags; provided 8 Mastectomy Bras; provided 9 Palliative Care Items (Medicine for relieving

& preventing the suffering of cancer patients); provided 56 Personal Care Items (Depends, wipes, bed pads, etc.

(All assistance listed were prescribed by a licensed physician in the CNMI.)

Clients Nutritional / Personal Care Assistance

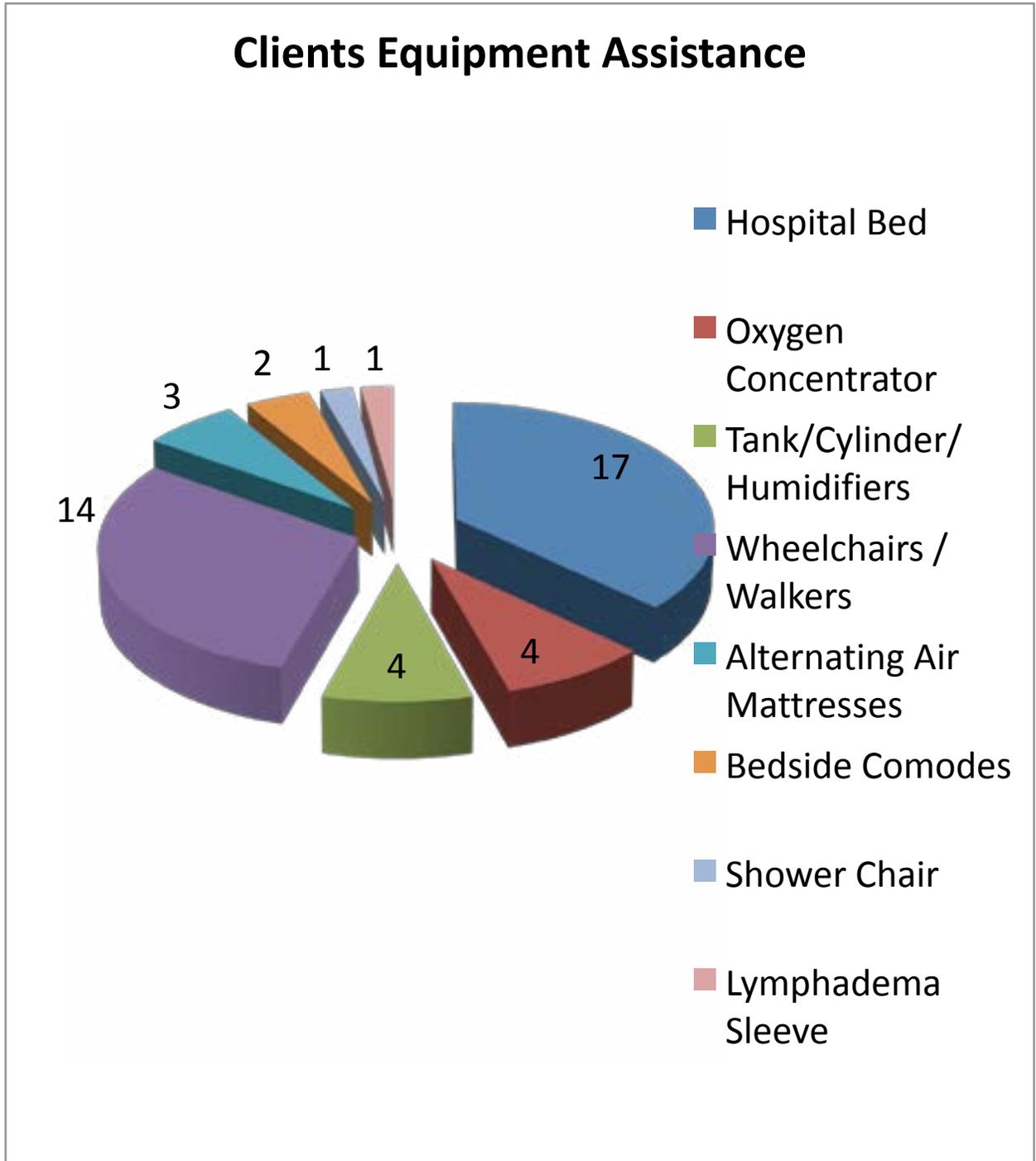


Clients Equipment Assistance

In 2013, CCA provided the following equipment assistance: 17 hospital beds; 4 oxygen concentrators; 4 tank-cylinder-humidifiers; 14 wheelchairs/ walkers;

3 alternating air mattresses.

(All assistance listed were prescribed by a licensed physician in the CNMI.)



Provided Education and Awareness

The more we learn and understand about cancer, including its risk factors, prevention, treatment, and available supportive resources, the better equipped we are – as individuals, and as a community to reduce cancer risk, detect cancer early, and fight the disease.

2013 was a very productive and busy year for outreach, education and awareness. CCA provided an opportunity to share more knowledge about cancer, including its risk factors, prevention, treatment, and available supportive resources. Promoting awareness about cancer and available resources in the community is an important part of the mission of CCA, and includes a range of activities, from social media and press releases, proclamations, health fairs and community presentations.

The CCA continued to update, and expand resources in its user-friendly Website. The CCA Facebook page attracted nearly 2500 fans, and CCA continues to send electronic mail to clients, family members, caregivers and partners. Information on posted links to cancer treatment, education outlets, and prevention strategies are made available.

The CCA encouraged awareness of, and participation in, the regular survivor support meetings. They provide a venue and forum to people facing cancer in the community. Free announcements on KKMP radio as well as other media has furnished an important communication link. This outreach activity was conducted with support from the CHC-NCD Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, which covered the meeting venue costs.

CCA also garnered a significant amount of support from the media through proclamation, press releases, articles, and coverage of the corporation's participation in health fairs and other outreach events in collaboration with partners, including:

Cervical Cancer Awareness Month – CCA collaborated with the CHC -Division of Public Health-Non-Communicable Disease Bureau (NCD) on Cervical Cancer Awareness Month activities. Governor Inos signed the proclamation on January 11, designating the month of January as Cervical Cancer Awareness Month.



JP Walk - CCA joined the JP Walk on February 23. There were several hundred participants during the walk. Tan Holdings Group of Companies partnered with CCA for the event.

4th Annual NMC Health Fair - CCA joined the 4th Annual NMC Health Fair as a sponsor of the event. An information table was set and a slide show was shown through out the event at the multi-purpose Building on February 23.

CCA was also a guest speaker and did a power point presentation on the 2012 annual report to the attendees of the event. CCA donated 20 cases of bottled water for the event. The NMC Nursing Club was a partner.



8th Annual Kick Butts Day – CCA joined the Kick Butts Parade on Saturday, April 6. The parade went from the Mount Carmel Cathedral grounds to Hopwood Junior High School. The Kaipat family members carried CCA banner during the parade. An information table was set up and distributed fact sheets to over 100 participants. The CHC Division of Public Health, NCD Bureau, partnered with CCA for the event.



American Red Cross Walk-A-Thon - CCA joined the American Red Cross Walk-A-Thon on April 13, at the

Civic Center area. An information table was set up to distribut cancer fact sheets to over 100 participants who were able to visit the booth. The CCA partnered with the CNMI Chapter of the American Red Cross.

SOPHIA Walk – CCA joined SOPHIA Walk on May 18. A table was set up to distribut flyers and brochures about CCA programs and services. Partners were Fiesta Resort and Marianas Walking Association.

National Cancer Survivors Week/Day Proclamation – CCA sponsored the National Cancer Survivors Week/ Day Events. Governor Inos signed the Commonwealth National Cancer Survivors Day-Week Proclamation on Monday, May 20. CCA organized a committee and met thrice to garner support for the celebration of the National Cancer Survivors Day slated for June 2. CCA partnered with CHC Division of Public Health-NCD Bureau.

CCA went live on air for an interview at Power 99 radio station on May 20 and KKMP on May 21. CCA continued visiting the station KKMP and Power 99 on May 28 for interviews. Meanwhile, the Rainbow Ribbon island-wide tying was held on June 1.

For its educational outreach program, CCA visited Garapan Elementary School on May 22, Tanapag Elementary School on May 29, and at Oleai Elementary School on May 30.

A Healing Mass was held at Kristo Rai Church on May 24 and the Celebration of Life Mass on June 2. After the mass, CCA sponsored brunch for survivors and spouses. Invited guests were the 2013 MMAC Executive Committee members. There were about 120 in attendance for the Survivor’s Gala held at Pacific Islands Club, Charlie’s Cabaret.

Summer Youth Empowerment “Sports and Wellnes - CCA participated at the Summer Youth Empowerment Camp (SYEC) held at the Susupe Sports Complex (Major League Field) on June 25, and gave a presentation to about 180 youths. The CCA program manager talked to the three groups about the CCA programs and services. CCA partnered with DYS, NMC, AHEC , DPH -NCD Bureau.

Summer Youth Program - CCA participated at the Summer Youth Program at the Garapan Community

Development Center on August 1. The event was co-sponsored by the office of Felicidad Ogomoro, Representative, 18th CNMI Legislature.

Women's Summit - CCA set up an information table at the CNMI Women's Association Summit on August 1-2, held at the Pedro P. Tenorio Building in Susupe. The two day Summit garnered a significant number of women and men concerned with women's issues. CCA partnered with the CNMI Womens Association. Normita A. Cabalbag assisted us during the Summit

Childhood & Prostate Cancer Awareness Month Proclamation - CCA partnership with CHC-NCD Bureau continued with CCA involvement in the planning of the Childhood Cancer and Obesity Awareness program, as well as, Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. We provided the LMM Committee with the Proclamations and on August 30 Governor Eloy Inos signed the three Proclamations declaring the month of September

as Childhood Cancer and Obesity Month followed by Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Secretary Bo Palacios and Member Bobbi Grizzard of the board were in attendance for the signing. Secretary Palacios read the Prostate Proclamation. John Blanco Jr. read the Childhood Cancer Proclamation. We compiled a handful of information about Prostate and Childhood Cancer for distribution during the ceremony. The schedule of events was prepared for distribution during the signing ceremony. There were about 30 people in attendance at the signing ceremony.

Educational Outreach The CCA in partnership with the CHC-NCD Bureau conducted presentations by the program manager and board members during the month of September. A series of educational outreaches was held during this month beginning with the visit to Brilliant Star School on Navy Hill on September 2.





There were 20 students from Grades 3-6 who received our Brochures. CCA went to K-5 Koblerville, September 13. The group spent an hour with the students, explaining the roles of CCA in the community. CCA brochures were distributed for the kids to take home for their parents to read. Then CCA visited GES where it met the Sixth grade students at the school cafeteria. A total of about 180 students were in attendance. CCA gave a power point presentation on CCA programs and services and discussed what cancer is about, its stages, and some terms to know about this disease.

A similar presentation was conducted on September 18, to 120 5th graders at GES. Then in the afternoon of September 18, CCA went to Dandan Elementary School and presented before the combined 4th, 5th and 6th grades at school cafeteria. WIA Trainee Patricia Kaipat, participated at the Recycling planting at Micro Beach area on Saturday, September 7.

The program manager appeared at John Gonzales's Live Show on September 18. Invited to the show were Mr. & Mrs Lee and Vickie Guerrero, joined by son Angel Ray. They shared their stories for the first time.

Information table was set up at the Street Market in



Garapan Sept. 5, Sept. 12, Sept. 19, and Sept. 26. WIA trainee Patricia Kaipat, was at the Market distributing brochures and cancer fact sheets, as well as giving out blue and gold ribbons combined. CCA also assisted CHC -NCD Bureau in the screening services at the Market.

The program manager appeared on Air at KKMP and Power 99 to talk about, cancer awareness programs and services offered by CCA.

On Saturday, September 28, information table was set up at the Let's Move Marianas Expo at the Oleai Sports Complex. WIA Trainee Patricia Kaipat, and family members were at the Expo to distribute CCA brochures, Childhood and Prostate fact sheets. CCA also had a Trivia game that gave away prizes.

PSS-MHS Career Fair - CCA was well represented on September 17 at the Sand Castle at Hyatt Regency Saipan for the PSS MHS Cooperative Ed Career Day. The CCA program manager set up an information table and distributed brochures to MHS and Kagman High School students and guests. CCA partnered with MHS and KHS Cooperative Ed. Program

KKMP Talk Live - CCA participated in a live interview at radio station KKMP several times during the program year. Such events included the National Cancer

Survivors Day/Week, Prostate Cancer Awareness, Childhood Cancer and Obesity Awareness, Breast Cancer Awareness and the Marianas March Against Cancer

Breast Cancer Awareness Month Proclamation:
On October 1, Governor Inos and Lt. Governor Hofschneider signed the Proclamation declaring the month of October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The team distributed hundreds of pink ribbons to bring awareness regarding Breast Cancer.

Nora Mae R. Sablan read the proclamation. Survivors, family members and supporters were in attendance.

The Tanapag Elementary School STUCO Officers attended the signing ceremony.





A series of events were held during the month. A hundred or more pink ribbons were distributed and were pinned on the golfers' hats at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament held on Saturday, October 5 at the Laolao Golf Resort. CCA was interviewed by radio station KSPN.

Healthy Mother's, Healthy Babies, and Fathers too: CCA partnered with MarPac and set up an Information table at the MarPac Expo held on October 12 at the Pedro P. Tenorio Building in Susupe. WIA Trainee Patricia Kaipat and family members distributed brochures and pink ribbons, as well as other fact sheets about cancer. The Expo lasted for about 6 hours.

Celebrity Bagging. This event took place at the Joeten Garapan, Susupe, Dandan and Twins Market at Kanatabla on Saturday, October 19. The celebrities who participated were the Lt. Governor Hofschneider, CCA President Rosario, Senator Joaquin Borja, Representative Felicidad Ogumoro, Representative Edmund Villagomez, Representative Larry Deleon Guerrero, Representative Christopher Guerrero, Delta Air Lines Manager Christopher A. Concepcion. CCA staff was on Hand with brochures and ribbons to be made available to the shoppers.

Pink ribbon distribution was held at the intersection at the Bank of Guam and DFS on October 24. Members of the community participated and cars passing by "honked their cars against cancer". The campaign against breast cancer lasted for about two hours. Treasurer Maggie, secretary Bo Palacios, Somia Quan, Nola Hix, Hard Rock Café staff, friends and supporters of CCA participated.

On November 9 the program manager distributed pink ribbons to golfers at the Joeten Golf Classic held at Laolao Golf Resort.





PINKTOBER: In partnership with Hard Rock Café Saipan, fundraising event was held on Friday, October 25 at the Hard Rock Café Saipan. Several hundred people showed up in support for the event. Vice President Lauri Ogumoro participated. CCA raised \$3,484.00. On Saturday, October 26 an information booth was set up at the Get-Fit CNMI Fundraising event held at its work-out gym in Chalan Kiya. Ms. Patricia Kaipat, administrative assistant was at the fundraiser to distribute CCA brochures and breast cancer fact sheets. President Dave and Secretary Bo were there to lend a hand.



KSPN interviewed on October 31: Two of our breast cancer survivors were interviewed at the KSPN 2 studio in Susupe. They both shared their experiences and their successes at battling breast cancer from treatment to recovery. Now they are 10 and 20 years cancer free.



Christmas Tree Lighting December 7 - CCA partnered with Friends of Paseo De Marianas. We were given a Christmas Tree to decorate in celebration of the Christmas season and sent a press release inviting survivors, caregivers and family members to hang a ribbon in memory and honor of a loved one.

Donation/ Fundraising

CCA extends its heartfelt appreciation to our 2013 Donors.

Donations:

Get-Fit CNMI LLC Supports Breast Cancer Awareness

-CCA received a \$1000 donation from the owners/trainers of Get-Fit CNMI LLC, namely Jose T. Quan, Jason T. Sablan, Jayson Tarkong, trainer, and media coordinator Bo. T Palacios. Juan L. Babauta, program manager and Patricia Kaipat, PNO Coordinator were on hand to accept the donation. The presentation was held on November 2, 2013 at the Get-Fit CNMI Gym in Chalan Kiya.



Bridge Capital LLC - CCA received a \$1,000 donation from the Chief Executive Officer John Baldwin of Bridge Capital LLC. CCA board President David B. Rosario, Vice-President Lauri B. Ogumoro, Member Bobbi Grizzard and Advisor Jack Hardy were present to accept the donation. The presentation was held at the governor's conference room on Capital Hill.



Fundraising:

Hard Rock Café-Pinktober - CCA raised a \$3,484 in partnership with Hard Rock Café in its Pinktober fundraising event held on October 25. The outpouring support from our community made it happen. CCA was able to double the amount raised over the previous year's fundraiser.



Bingo Bonanza - CCA raised \$5,160 in partnership with Ben M. Babauta, owner of Massive Bingo, Inc. on two bingo fundraising events held in January and August. The support was overwhelming.

BIBA SUSU T-Shirt Sales - CCA raised \$235 through a partnership with Nora Mae R. Sablan and Nola Hix during the October Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The t-shirt sales were a success.



2013 Marianas March Against Cancer - Chairperson Manny P. Borja of the MMAC 2013 event presented a check for over \$63,000 to the CCA. Present at the presentation were, standing L-R: Jesse T. Tudela, Juan L. Babauta, Secretary Bo Palacios, Treasurer Maggie Camacho, Manny Borja, President David B. Rosario, Member Bobbi Grizzard, Vice President Lauri B. Ogumoro, and Leticia Reyes.

Grant:
Take Care Foundation - CCA received \$3,920 in grant funds from the Take Care Foundation in early April for its outreach, education and prevention. The goal is to conduct monthly education, prevention and awareness in the community through the distribution of brochures, cancer fact sheets(in five different languages), exhibits, banners and live interviews on radio stations KKMP, Power 99 and the John Gonzales Show.





Marianas March Against Cancer

April 26-27, 2013

Theme: "One Community, One Journey"

CCA was extremely grateful and thanked MMAC 2013 Committee Members for their exemplary performances.



MMAC 2013 Signing Ceremony April 18, 2013

Sitting were: L-R Grace Tenorio, CCA Treasurer Maggie C. Camacho, Mayor Donald Flores, Ben M. Babauta, Governor Eloy Inos, Lt. Governor Jude Hofschneider, Chairperson Manny P. Borja, and CCA President David B. Rosario. Others in photo are supporters, friends and partners of CCA.

The MMAC 2013 planning process began early in October, 2012 and continued until event night on April 26, 2013. The following are the highlights of the planning process.

The process considered sponsorship as an important element. It was determined that sponsorship commitments be made in writing and that strict datelines be adhered to. A new level of sponsor, supporting sponsor, was created. More in-kind contributions were sought to lower operating expenses.

Fourteen teams committed and successfully participated during the event. Team Meetings were held, for the first time, in the CCA Conference Room. The incentive prize system was changed for MMAC 2013 with the purpose of decreasing MMAC's expenses while improving the visibility of MMAC throughout the year. Instead of offering gift certificates as rewards for the teams' fund raising efforts, MMAC paraphernalia, including shirts, coffee mugs, and bags were awarded. The teams had responded positively to the change, and the yearly cost for incentive prizes has been reduced by approximately 45%.

The accounting went smoothly as the Overall Chairperson and volunteers helped to ensure funds were collected and monitored during the event for accountability. Hopwood Jr. High School remained the venue for the event. Although, there were particular challenges that were realized and were overcome, one of these being the negotiation for the use of an additional room for accounting. MMAC donated pencils to Hopwood Jr. High for SAT-10 testing as an in-kind contribution for the use of the accounting room.

Early registration began some six months prior to the MMAC event. The Survivor Chairperson attended several survivor meetings. In addition, some survivors walked into the CCA office to sign up for the event. The survivors were allowed to participate in the event, and walk-ins were always entertained before the event. These procedures allowed many survivors to be included and recognized during the Survivor Ceremony with names read aloud and medallions were proudly presented to everyone.

MMAC 2013 Luminaries proved to be the highlight of the event. Finding luminary bags proved to be a real challenge due to shortage of bags on island. Given

this shortage of bags, Committee members stepped up to the plate and offered to buy bags from Guam.

The entertainment which moved to a more centralized location took center stage. A tug-of-war competition amongst the team was also included in the program.

The sea of support from the community by several thousand attendees contributed to making this an even more extraordinary event for the CNMI. There was a tremendous community participation as the MMAC event continues to draw thousands of community members. Even after 11 years, the event has become one of the big crowd drawers in the CNMI.

The night of the 12 hour marathon of hope, celebration of life, and challenges brought everyone together as one. The 11th MMAC kicked off at 6:00 p.m., on April 26 at Hopwood Junior High School field. The theme, "One Community, One Journey," signified everyone's commitment and devotion to join the battle against cancer. Thousands of people gathered to witness the cancer survivors received recognition and their Medals of Courage. The community cheered as each survivor made a victory lap.

Father Ryan Jimenez, Apostolic Administrator, Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, stakeholders and survivors were present and the kick one was off. The parade of teams was a wonderful opportunity to recognize all of the individuals who contributed their time and effort to raising funds and awareness in the community.

The event's Inspirational Speaker Ms. Maggie Wonenberg summed up the mission of the MMAC, the CCA, the volunteers, and all of the teams and individuals, who put great effort into making the event a resounding success. Her successful journey resulted from having her husband, children and family members supporting all the way. She said, "Remember that there is no secret to being strong. You just have to be there for yourself and coach yourself that you will be well again. I say to all of you, take the driver's seat and see your journey to success, visualize your return to good health, and make the days count."

The cancer survivors were presented with Medals of Courage, a token of their hard won battle, and in cases continuing fight against cancer. Following the presentation of the Medals of Courage, survivors were honored by the community as they walked a lap around the event track. This was followed by a commemorative and celebratory dinner. The Lighting of the Luminary to honor survivors and to those that have succumbed to the disease is always both emotional and solemn occasion at the MMAC. No less was true in 2012, as the many individual candles were lit. A host of musicians and contemporary and traditional dance groups provided entertainment for the event. The 12 hour congregation culminated with presentation of team awards. Everyone was recognized for their hard work and commitment. Gathered behind their banners, the teams anxiously waited for the various awards. Awards such as Most Decorated Booth, Most Laps, Most Money Raised, Most Luminaries Sold and Team Spirit were presented to the winning teams. The 12 hour congregation ended at 6:00 a.m. on April 27.





Standing Bottom-Up were: L-R Atdao Rosario (Accounting); Monissa I. Blas (CCA); Juan L. Babauta (CCA); LJ Castro (Entertainment); Jenyppy Sambile (Luminary); Christopher A. Concepcion (Public Relation); Krizia Mendoza (Luminary); Rachel Roque (Vice-Chairperson); LaReina Camacho (Sponsorship); Catherine M. Attao-Toves (Team Recruitment); Nola Hix (Survivor); Dave Guerrero (Accounting); Manny P. Borja (Overall Chairperson); Vinycia Seman, (Site/Logistics); David B. Rosario (Advisor); Not Photographed were: Bo Palacios (Survivor); Janine Nogis & Ricky Itibus (T-shirt); Betty Kosam, (Team Recruitment); Patricia Kaipat, (CCA)

CCA thanked our 2013 Title Sponsors



Joeten Charitable Foundation



DFS Galleria Saipan



Bank of Guam



IP&E



Take Care-FHP



IT&E



Sorensen Media Group Saipan



Delta Air Lines



Marianas Variety



Saipan Apparel

CCA thanked our 2013 MMAC Major Sponsors



Traders Insurance Company

PROTECTION AND COMMITMENT

Fire • Homeowners & Tenants • Workers Compensation • Automobile
Bonds • Liability • Personal Accident • Marine



FIVE STAR WHOLESALE FOODS



**HYATT
REGENCY**
SAIPAN

xerox



i'm lovin' it™

**NTT
docomo**

DOCOMO PACIFIC

Brabu
Pharmacy and Wellness Center

Images Saipan, Ltd



SAINT MICHAEL'S
MEDICAL  RESPONSE

CCA thanked our 2013 MMAC Supporting Sponsors



Mariana Resort & Spa

Ledge Light Technologies, Inc.



MP Kennels/Team Exotic

RR & Associates

CCA thanked our 2013 MMAC Teams, Captains, Family Members and Friends



FREEDave
Robert Travilla, Team Captain



Team BODIG
Bridgette Camacho, Team Captain; Best Baton, Most Luminaries and Most Money Raised (PULAN)



Aschoscho
Alfreda Odoshi, Team Captain; Most Laps



Pacific Islands Club
Evan Hunsberger, Team Captain; Most Money Raised (PUT'ON)



Korason
Robert T. Torres & Diego T. Benavente Team Captains



Tan Holdings-KHS
Maggie Sablan, Eric Magofna and Becky P. Tenorio, Team Captains



Take Care/FHP-GCA
Elsa D. Nieto, Beth Ann Nunez, Team Captains



Team Rog
Jennie Igisomar, Team Captain



DHS
Dora Topasna, Shawn White, Ron Muna Raymon Salas, Team Captains (Most Money Raised (Atdao))



IT&E-SSH
Shirley Dotts, Jean Ballesteros, Arisa Sakai, Team Captains, Most Spirits



JC Tenorio Enterprises-MHS
Somia T. Quan & Gretchen Decker, Team Captains



Marriage Encounter
Jaimie & JJ Laniyo, Team Captains



Talaabrwooh StaR
Vinny F. Sablan, Team Captain Best Tent



Team Knights
Jimin Ryu, Team Captain Most Money Raised (NAPU)

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A large, stylized number '2013' is positioned in the background. The '2' is light green, the '0' is yellow, the '1' is orange, and the '3' is blue. The '0' is a thick ring that frames the central text.

Acknowledgement

The Commonwealth Cancer Association recognizes the valuable support of statesmen, government partners, businesses, non-profit organizations, community groups and individuals who have helped advance the program and services of CCA in 2013. For those families whom loved ones have succumbed the disease, we extend our deepest sympathy and condolences, and for those families whose loved ones are fighting cancer, our hope, inspiration and support will continue.

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