WHEREAS, PEACE has made significant accomplishments during the first two years since Guam’s receipt of the Strategic Prevention Framework/State Incentive Grant award to include the official compilation and release of the first-ever Guam Substance Abuse Epidemiological Profile (Epi Profile). This profile resulted from the collaborative efforts of the various agencies and institutions that comprise Guam’s State Epidemiological Workgroup (SEW); and

WHEREAS, Guam’s SEW oversees the strategic use of Guam data to inform and guide substance abuse prevention policy and program development on Guam for which this Profile is intended to serve as a planning guide for the PEACE SPF-SIG community partners; and

WHEREAS, some of the key findings from the work of Guam’s SEW indicate that Guam has the highest adult smoking rate among all U.S. States and Territories and that smoking among Guam’s youth parallels the high rates of smoking among adults; and

WHEREAS, the prevalence of alcohol use, heavy drinking and binge drinking among adults on Guam is similar or lower than national averages and that heavy drinking appears to be more prevalent among the younger adults, and among youth, in 2003, 71.3% of high school students have had at least one drink of alcohol, with 8.5% of all high school students having their first drink at 8 years old or younger; and

WHEREAS, the prevalence of lifetime and current marijuana use among high school students on Guam are higher than national averages and more Guam youth have tried marijuana prior to the age of 13 than youth in the U.S. in general; and

WHEREAS, Inhalant use appears to be decreasing among U.S. youth, but not among Guam youth and among court-involved youth, marijuana and inhalants were reported as the illicit drugs most frequently used; and

WHEREAS, our island community recognizes the need to improve the quality of life of our people, as reflected in a vision of good health, long life, and the assurance that the basic needs of our citizens will be met; and

WHEREAS, we share a vision that defines who we are as a people, our direction, as well as a desire for good health and long life, and a health care system that meets the basic needs of our people, including a focus on prevention efforts to create a healthier Guam; and

WHEREAS, through the SPF SIG implementation grant, key stakeholders in the Guam community have joined in partnership to rebuild and sustain a cohesive substance abuse prevention and early intervention system to better serve the identified, specific needs of our community; and
WHEREAS, a strategic planning and implementation process will be utilized to drive the promotion of evidence-based health programs and policies to prevent and/or decrease the progression of substance use and abuse, including tobacco, alcohol and other drugs, with a resultant decrease in the attendant consequences and related problems, and morbidity and mortality on Guam; and

WHEREAS, PEACE now stands for Prevention and Early-Intervention Advisory Community Empowerment and continues to accomplish its stated goals and objectives of the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant, to include building and sustaining Guam’s community capacity and infrastructure for substance abuse prevention, by overseeing its implementation and evaluation; and

WHEREAS, all members of the PEACE Council who represent key stakeholder organizations in related fields of prevention are strongly encouraged to utilize the principles of outcomes-based prevention for addressing Guam’s identified drug consumption patterns and consequences officially reported in the PEACE Epi Profile.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FELIX P. CAMACHO, I Maga’ Lagen Guåhan Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, do hereby order:

1. The Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant, also known as the Prevention and Early-Intervention Advisory Community Empowerment (“PEACE”) Council, shall continue to serve, consisting of the members representing:

   a) Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse
   b) Department of Public Health and Social Services
   c) Center for Substance Abuse Prevention
   d) Regional Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)
   e) Mayors’ Council of Guam
   f) Guam Memorial Hospital
   g) Department of Youth Affairs
   h) Guam Public School System
   i) Guam Head Start Program
   j) Guam Police Department
   k) University of Guam, Cooperative Extension Services
   l) Guam Community College, Student Support Services
   m) I Lihteslaturan Guåhan, Committee on Health and Human Services
   n) Superior Court of Guam, Family Court Division, Juvenile Drug Court
   o) U.S. Probation Office
   p) Inafa’ Maolek Mediation Center
   q) Sanctuary, Inc.
   r) Youth for Youth Organization
   s) Guam Youth Congress
   t) Catholic Social Service
   u) Guam Medical Society
   v) Bureau of Statistics and Plans
   w) Mothers Against Drunk Driving
   x) Rotary Club of Tumon Bay
   y) Six Members from The Community-at-Large
2. The Council shall elect a Chairperson and Co-Chairperson from among its members;

3. The Council shall revise, as necessary, its Sub-Committees, and support the Epidemiological Workgroup to meet the identified SPF SIG goals; and

4. The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse shall remain the lead agency for the administration of the SPF SIG and its implementation.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam this 6th day of November, 2006.

FELIX P. CAMACHO
I Maga’ Låhen Guåhan
Governor of Guam