OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HAGATNA, GUAM
U.S.A.

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2012 -16

RELATIVE TO THE CREATION OF THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR SYSTEM OF CARE

WHEREAS, that Guam envisions opportunities for all children, from birth-to-21 with mental health challenges, a seamless linkage to coordinated, comprehensive and effective services resulting in positive outcomes for children and stronger families. It is therefore the policy of the Territory of Guam to promote a stable, safe and healthy environment for children and families;

WHEREAS, Guam recognizes that the needs of children with serious mental health challenges are multiple, complex and cut across agency system boundaries served by education, child welfare, juvenile justice, mental health and substance abuse, disability, vocational rehabilitation, health and other agencies;

WHEREAS, Guam recognizes in these severe economic times that public funds available are limited, and that no one agency alone can provide for the myriad of health and related needs of these children and their families;

WHEREAS, Government child-serving agencies serve many of the same children and youth needing mental health related services, but services and programs are often fragmented, lack coordination and collaboration, creating gaps in services;

WHEREAS, For the past 12 years since Public Law 25-141, which created the Guam System of Care Council, (GSOCC), to support the development and implementation of Guam's first Child Mental Health Initiative Cooperative Agreement, known as I Famagu'on-ta (Our Children, ages 5 to 21), government child-serving agency representatives, families and other members have come together to define and develop a comprehensive and seamless system of care network;

WHEREAS, in 2009, Guam's second Child Mental Health Initiative Cooperative Agreement known as Project Kariñu (Loving Our Babies, birth to five), joined the system of care network;

WHEREAS, in 2011, Guam received the System of Care Expansion Planning Grant known as Para Todu (For Everyone), to develop a unified, island-wide Guam System of Care for children birth-to-21 years of age, by developing a 4-year Comprehensive Strategic Plan based on collective community work of over 12 years. The Guam System of Care Expansion,

4-year Plan (hereinafter the Guam Plan), embraces the following principles: 1) Implementing regulatory changes and system-wide care standards and protocols based on System of Care values and principles; 2) Developing and supporting a home-and community based system of care; 3) Attaining sustainable funding sources; 4) Providing System of Care training and promoting workforce development; and 5) Implementing an anti-stigma social marketing campaign; and

WHEREAS, to successfully implement the Guam Plan, it is essential that the directors of the government child serving agencies work collaboratively with the Guam System of Care Council (GSOCC) and the Expansion Planning Team (EPT) to ensure the goals and objectives in the Guam Plan are carried out.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EDWARD J.B. CALVO, *I Maga'lahen Guahan*, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, do order:

1. An Executive Committee on System of Care (ECSOC) is hereby established consisting of Members of the Governor's Cabinet from the following Departments/Agencies: the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (DMHSA), Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS), Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities (DISID), Department of Education (DOE), Department of Youth Affairs (DYA), Department of Administration (DOA), the Guam Police Department (GPD).

2. The ECSOC will provide coordinated, comprehensive, interagency approach to the development of a continuum of care that is child-centered and family-focused which emphasizes prevention, early intervention, and home-and community-based services for children with mental health challenges along with their families. Special attention shall be given to children who are at high risk.

3. The Guam System of Care Council (GSOCC) shall work with the ECSOC and the EPT in implementing the goals, objectives, and action items in the Guam Plan.

4. The Governor's Chief-of-Staff, or his designee, shall meet on a quarterly basis with the ECSOC.

5. The Governor's Chief-of-Staff, or his designee, will provide Process Improvement Team support to the child-serving agencies. Said Process Improvement Team will examine, and if necessary streamline, the services provided by the agencies that would link up in a seamless manner to improve the outcomes that families endure as they access services across agencies.

6. The ECSOC shall provide an annual report as to compliance with the Guam Plan.

7. Except as otherwise provided by law or this Executive Order, all existing policies and procedures, contracts, property, and other duties and responsibilities associated with the children, youth and families shall continue in effect under the ECSOC, respectively, unless completed, withdrawn canceled, modified or otherwise changed pursuant to law.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagatna, Guam this 8 day of November 2012.

EDWARD J.B. CALVO
I Maga Lahen Guahan
Governor of Guam

COUNTERSIGNED:

RAYMOND S. TENORIO
I Segundu na Maga Lahen Guahan
Lieutenant Governor of Guam