

CNMI FY24 Compliance Data Submission and Racial Ethnic Disparities (R/ED) Plan

Year 2 Update of CNMI's 2024 R/ED ACTION PLAN OVERVIEW

- The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Criminal Justice Planning Agency (CJPA) is the Designated State Agency who is both a prime recipient and pass through entity of the OJJDP Title II Formula Grant Program.
 - Important Notes Regarding this R/ED Action Plan:
 - This is a Year 2 Update of the CNMI's FY2024 3-Year R/ED Action Plan
 - The following sections were revised/added to/from the original FY2024 R/ED Action Plan
 - FY22-23 Numbers for the Diversion Contact Point
 - FY22-23 Numbers for the Pre-Trial Detention Contact Point
 - FY23-24 Numbers for the Diversion Contact point that were indicated on the original FY2024 (Year 1) R/ED Action Plan
 - Added a section describing the Youth Advisory Council
 - Added 2020 Census data as the original 2024 (Year 1) R/ED Action Plan used the 2010 Census data; At the time the Year 1 R/ED plan was submitted, 2020 Census data was difficult to obtain as the CNMI gets its juvenile population numbers from the Census. With assistance from the Centers for Coordinated Assistance to States (CCAS) team, we were able to find a way to extrapolate data from the 2020 Census many data sets.
 - The way percentages were calculated has been redone on this Year 2 Update. On the original 2024 R/ED Action Plan, the total number of a given contact point was divided by the total juvenile population for that particular ethnic group. However, upon further guidance received, the calculations have been corrected (i.e. total number of arrests for ethnic group A is divided by the total number of arrests for the year across all ethnic groups, instead of the total juvenile population number for ethnic group A, for instance).
 - The CNMI Youth Advisory Council (hereinafter referred to as the "Advisory Council) is the council that advises the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Council for the Improvement of the Criminal Justice System (hereinafter referred to as the "Supervisory Council") and the CJPA on all issues relating to the improvement of the juvenile justice system and its services to youth in the CNMI. Under its Bylaws, the Advisory Council advises the Governor and the Legislature of the CNMI on issues of concern to juvenile justice and delinquency prevention...on the status of the CNMI's compliance with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP). The Advisory Council also participates in the development and review/approval of the JJDP portion of the comprehensive state plan and its annual update as well as seeks annual input from juveniles currently under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system and review progress and accomplishments of programs funded with the JJDP grant funds.
- I. **Red Identification: Identify statewide data at research-based points of potential disparity. Data collection must occur for at least four of the five points below. At each data point, your state**

must provide the percent distribution of race or ethnic groups compared to the general population distribution in the most recent U.S. Census data.

In order to assess disparity among the racial and ethnic juvenile population in the CNMI, data collection is chosen for the following five points:

- Arrests
- Diversion (Filing of Charges)
- Pre-Trial Detention
- Disposition Commitments (Secure Confinement)
- Adult Transfer

The population data for Juveniles below was obtained by subtracting the “18 & Over” ([Table P4](#)) population data from the “Total Population” ([Table P3](#)) data from the 2020 DECENNIAL Census for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). For example, according to [Table P3](#), the total Chamorro population is 12,001. The total Chamorro population according to [Table P4](#) (for those 18 & Over) is 8,391. By subtracting 8,391 from 12,001 we arrive at 3,610, which is the Juvenile population—or those individuals below the age of 18.

Note about the categories of ethnic groups: For the purpose of reading the data contained in the tables below, certain ethnic groups have been grouped into one category. The following categories are comprised of multiple ethnic groups:

- Federated States of Micronesia (FSM): This category comprises the Yap, Chuukese, Pohnpei and Kosraean ethnic groups.
- Asian: This category comprises the Bangadeshi, Chinese (Except Taiwanese), Filipino, Japanese, Korean, Nepalese and Thai ethnic groups.
- ROP: This refers to those individuals from the Republic of Palau (“Palauans”)
- Minority groups within the CNMI according to the Census Data: African Americans (6), Caucasians (136), Palauans (147), Carolinians (714) and FSM (741) represent the minority groups. The majority ethnic groups would be the Chamorros (3,610) and Asian (7,438) juvenile population as they account for more than 90% of the overall juvenile population.

Ethnic Groups by Percentage of population:

Ethnic Group	Chamorros	Carolinians	FSM	Asian	ROP	Caucasian	African-American	Total
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Number	3,610	714	741	4,738	147	136	6	10092
Percentage	36%	7%	7.3%	47%	1.5%	1.3%	0.06%	

Chamorros and Asians represent the majority ethnic group, as when combined, they account for 83% of the juvenile population. The Carolinians, Federated State of Micronesia (FSM), Republic of Palau (ROP), Caucasian and African-Americans represent the minority ethnic groups. The goal of this R/ED plan is to determine from the numbers below, for each contact point, whether the minority ethnic groups of the CNMI’s Juvenile population are over-represented at each contact point and subsequent analysis and discussion of what the numbers mean.

NOTE: When reading the tables below, percentages are calculated by dividing the number at each contact point by the total number on the last column under “Totals.” For example, when looking at the number of arrests for the year beginning October 01, 2023 - September 30, 2024, for Chamorros (11), we divide that number by the total number of arrests (33). So $11/33 = .3333 \times 100 = 33.33\%$, rounded down to 33%.

Statistics At A Glance (October 01, 2023 - September 30, 2024):

R/ED Identification		Chamorro	Carolinian	FSM	Asian	ROP	Caucasian	African-American	Totals
	Population Data	3,610	714	741	4,738	147	136	6	10092
Arrests/Referrals	Number	11	5	13	2	2	0	0	33
	Percentage	33%	15%	39%	6%	6%	0	0	
Diversion	Number	11	2	7	7	0	0	0	27
	Percentage	41%	7%	26%	26%	0	0	0	
Pre-Trial Detention	Number	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Percentage	100%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disposition	Number	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Percentage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adult Transfer	Number	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Percentage	0	0	0	100%	0	0	0	0

Statistics At A Glance (October 01, 2022 - September 30, 2023):

R/ED Identification		Chamorro	Carolinian	FSM	Asian	ROP	Caucasian	African-American	Totals
	Population Data	3,610	714	741	4,738	147	136	6	10092
Arrests/Referrals	Number	18	10	11	11	1	0	0	51
	Percentage	35%	19.6%	21.5%	21.5%	2%	0	0	
Diversion	Number	5	0	3	0	6	0	0	14
	Percentage	35%	0	21.4%		43.6%	0	0	
Pre-Trial Detention	Number	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	3
	Percentage	0	0	33.3%	0	66.6%	0	0	
Disposition	Number	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Percentage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adult Transfer	Number	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	5
	Percentage	60%	0	0	0	40%	0	0	0

Figure 1.1: October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024 Arrest Data

Month	Male	Female	Cham	Car	FSM	Asian	ROP	Caucasian	African-American	Total
October 2023	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
November 2023	7	0	0	2	5	0	0	0	0	7
December 2023	4	1	1	0	2	1	1	0	0	5
January 2024	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
February 2024	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
March 2024	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
April 2024	2	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
May 2024	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	3

June 2024	6		2	1	2	0	1	0	0	6
July 2024	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
August 2024	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
September 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	29	4	11	5	13	2	2	0	0	33

Figure 1.2: October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024 Diversion Data

Month	Cham	Car	FSM	Asian	ROP	Caucasian	African-American	Total
October 2023	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	4
November 2023	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
December 2023	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
January 2024	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
February 2024	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	4
March 2024	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	3
April 2024	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
May 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June 2024	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
July 2024	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
August 2024	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	3
September 2024	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	11	2	7	7	0	0	0	27

Figure 1.3: October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024 Pre-Trial Detention Data

Month	Cham	Car	FSM	Asian	ROP	Caucasian	African-American	Total
October 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
November 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
December 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
January 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
February 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
April 2024	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
May 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
July 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
August 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
September 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

Figure 1.4: October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024 Secure Confinement (Disposition) Data

Month	Cham	Car	FSM	Asian	ROP	Caucasian	African-American	Total
October 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
November 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
December 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
January 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
February 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
April 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
May 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
July 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
August 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
September 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Figure 1.5: October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024 Transfer to Adult Court Data

Month	Cham	Car	FSM	Asian	ROP	Caucasian	African-American	Total
October 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
November 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
December 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
January 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
February 2024	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
March 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
April 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
May 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
July 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
August 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
September 2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1

Figure 2.1: October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023 Arrest Data

Month	Male	Female	Cham	Car	FSM	Asian	ROP	Caucasian	African-American	Total
October 2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
November 2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
December 2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
January 2023	3	3	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	6
February 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March 2023	6	2	2	3	1	2	0	0	0	8
April 2023	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
May 2023	4	3	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	7
June 2023	3	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	3
July 2023	5	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	5
August 2023	6	0	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	6
September 2023	14	0	5	1	5	3	0	0	0	14
TOTAL	43	8	13	11	16	10	1	0	0	51

Chamorro (Cham) and Carolinian (Car) are the primary ethnic group in the CNMI. The Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) comprises Chuuk, Yap, Pohnpei and Kosrae. Asian, will comprise Chinese, Filipino, Japanese etc. ROP refers to the Republic of Palau.

Figure 2.2: October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023 Diversion Data

Month	Cham	Car	FSM	Asian	ROP	Caucasian	African-American	Total
October 2022	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
November 2022	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	3
December 2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
January 2023	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
February 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
April 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
May 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
July 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
August 2023	3	0	0	0	4	0	0	7
September 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	5	0	3	0	6	0	0	14

January 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
February 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
April 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
May 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
July 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
August 2023	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	5
September 2023	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	5

II. CNMI's Year 1 R/ED Action Plan

1. **What do R/ED numbers tell you about your jurisdiction?**

Arrests: For the two largest ethnic groups (the “Major Ethnic Groups”), the total number of arrests decreased, from 51 in FY22-23 to 33 in FY23-24 a 35% decrease. The number of arrests for chamorros decreased from 18 in 2022-2023 to 11 in 2023-2024, a decrease of 39%. The number of arrests for the Asian ethnic group saw a steep decrease, as well—from 11 in 2022-2023 to 2 in 2023-2024, an 82% drop. These are numbers for the majority ethnic group.

But of course for R/ED and in order to offer a glimpse into whether disparity exists we must look at the numbers for the minority ethnic groups. The minority ethnic groups (Carolinian, FSM, Republic of Palau, Caucasian and African American) accounted for 43.1% of arrests in 2022-23. In 2023-24 this number increased to 60% of total arrests with the highest percentage coming from the Federated States of Micronesia ethnic group. In contrast, the majority ethnic groups (Chamorros and Asians) accounted for 56.5% of arrests in 2022-23 and dropped to 39% in 2023-24. Of the total arrests for just the minority ethnic groups, FSM represented 65% (13 arrests out of 20 for just the minority ethnic group).

Diversion: For 2022-2023, the Chamorro ethnic group represented 35% of total diversions. Within the same year, FSM and Republic of Palau ethnic groups represented 64% of total diversions. This indicates that although the minority ethnic groups accounted for 43.1% of arrests within the FY22-23 year, there was attention given to divert these youth to diversion programs.

For 2023-2024, the majority ethnic groups composed of Chamorro and Asian youth accounted for 67% of diversions. The minority ethnic groups accounted for 33%. As discussed under the arrests section above, those from the FSM accounted for 65% of arrests for the minority ethnic group. 26% of diversions for the year were focused on the FSM group, so there is some focus there.

Pre-Trial Detention: For 2022-2023, those for the FSM and ROP accounted for the only two pre-trial detentions during the year. This number dropped to none for 2023-2024. There was only 1 pre-trial detention, which comes from the Chamorro ethnic group.

Disposition: There were no secure confinements for both 2022-2023 and 2023-2024.

Transfer to Adult Court: For the transfer to adult court cases in 2022-2023, the Republic of Palau (ROP) ethnic group accounted for 40%, while Chamorros from the majority ethnic group accounted for the remaining 60%. There were no cases of transfers to adult court for the minority ethnic group in 2023-2024.

Recreational programs' and activities have also been the focal point of our legislature. In order to deter juveniles from committing offenses, some of our legislators have set aside funds to renovate/repair basketball courts, for instance to provide recreational activities for youth to partake in. This provides an opportunity for the juvenile population to spend their time with friends and family, engaging in fun physical activity with the ultimate goal of deterring them away from committing crime(s) and coming into contact with the justice system. The Division of Youth Services (DYS) Juvenile Probation Office (JPO) manages the administrative functions related to juveniles housed in the Manhoben Care Center (formerly the "Juvenile Detention Unit" which was collocated within the correctional facility), and also works closely with the CNMI Public School System to provide instruction to the juvenile population within the JDU.

2. **What would success in R/ED look like for your state?** Emphasize more prevention activities with FSM juvenile populations. A reduction in juvenile arrests for the FSM ethnic group would be considered a success. By reducing this number it would be reasonable to expect a drop in percentage of total arrests for the minority group considering FSM juvenile arrests have consistently accounted for the majority percentage of arrests year-over-year for 2022-2023 to 2023-2024. A long-term, sustainable approach is key to ensuring that juveniles remain out-of-contact with the juvenile justice system. In order to continue reducing the number of juvenile arrests being made, several strategies have been outlined:

- *Data Collection and Analysis:* Collecting data and analyzing that data are integral to decision-making on what programs are effective and sustainable. This also ensures that progress can be tracked. After five long years, the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) was able to hold their first meeting. It is hoped that the various representatives on the YAC would be able to lend their knowledge and expertise in analyzing the data, leveraging their strategic partnerships with all agencies within our commonwealth that work with youth with the goal of understanding where the overrepresentation lies and which programs deserve the most funding. As one of its first initiatives, the YAC authorized the Criminal Justice Planning Agency (CJPA) to disseminate entity surveys to various agencies in order to gauge where funding priorities should be focused.

- *Networking Partnerships with Key Agencies:* Funds are subgranted to various agencies whose primary focus is on helping youth stay out of contact with the juvenile justice system and contributing members to society. These collaborative discussions are also opportunities for our key partners to discuss data collection and to conjure ideas, plans and—subsequently—programs that ensure a sustainable approach of ensuring juveniles remain law-abiding citizens of society and with the ultimate goal of keeping them out of contact (prevention) with the juvenile justice system. These agencies include the CNMI’s Division of Youth Services (DYS)—who handle the administrative functions with respect to juveniles, Department of Corrections (who operate the Manhoben Care Center) and who, along with the NMI Judiciary Marshal Service Division, also collect compliance monitoring data, Community Guidance Center and Systems of Care, among others. Youth Risk Behavior Surveys and DYS continued partnership with the CNMI Public School System (PSS), as well as continued support from our legislators also play a key role in keeping R/ED numbers low, especially for those minority groups who may be overrepresented at any of the five contact points discussed at the beginning of this R/ED plan.
 - *Continued Implementation of Youth-Centric Programs:* The Division of Youth Services, CNMI Public School System and the Community Guidance Center (CGC) provide programs with the focus of assisting youth stay out of contact with the juvenile justice system.
3. **How much do you want to reduce R/ED next year?** —The goal is to reduce the numbers for both the indigenous populations to the CNMI—Chamorros and Carolinians—as well as to reduce the number of juvenile arrests for those from the FSM as they represented the highest percentage within their ethnic group (the “Minority Ethnic Group”) for both FY22-23 and FY23-24. The continued partnership between the DYS Juvenile Probation Unit and Family Youth & Enhancement Program, the Public School System, Community Guidance Center, and the legislature will undoubtedly have an impact on how we deter the juvenile population(s) from committing misdemeanor or even violent offenses. It is hoped that by looking at the numbers year-over-year on what recreational programs work, and by continuing to invest in the renovation and upkeep of recreational sports facilities that these will provide these juvenile populations with an avenue to engage with friends and family and ultimately deter them from committing future offenses. With the recent funding provided to DYS programs, for example, summer camps are being held to provide activities for youth to engage in. The minority group accounted for 60% or 13 out of the 33 total arrests made in 2023-2024. We hope to reduce those youth numbers to less than half of total arrests made for 2024-2025.
 4. **Is the Reduction reasonable?** By continuing to work with agencies that foster youth-centric programs targeted at juveniles—and focusing on the philosophy of long-term sustainability—a 50% reduction is a reasonable goal. A reduction in the numbers of arrests across all the ethnic groups would also be reasonable, as well as an increase in diversion numbers. However the

ultimate goal is always prevention, keeping at-risk youth out-of-contact with the first point-of-contact, arrests. With the amount of Title II funding that has been put to use and subawarded to agencies spearheading youth change, and continuing outreach, we believe a 50% reduction in arrests for the minority group, or even a 25% reduction for overall youth arrests would be reasonable.

5. **What do you need from OJJDP to be successful in your plan?** —The CNMI is always open to training that focuses on R/ED reduction strategies, particularly those that deal with youth populations in the Pacific coastal areas and our neighboring islands, such as the Federated States of Micronesia and Guam. As such, the CNMI Criminal Justice Planning Agency welcomes the opportunity to receive training alongside its pacific counterparts. Training provided by the Centers for Coordinated Assistance to States (CCAS) has proved extremely beneficial to CJP in the past. Although the CNMI currently receives training and assistance from the Territories Financial Support Center (TFSC), a diverse set of minds to meet with (CCAS and TFSC) has always been beneficial in the past.

6. **What safeguards will you put in place to ensure that as you work to reduce R/ED, you are still protecting the public.** —It will always be the goal for Juvenile Probation that every juvenile who enters the juvenile justice system, will be held accountable but, at the same time, rehabilitated to where they can one day become productive members of society. The CNMI courts' ultimate aim is to assist the juvenile to become a wholesome member of the community. This is evidenced in the CNMI Commonwealth Code Crimes and Criminal Procedure for Juvenile Justice where juveniles are not restricted to placement in juvenile detention facilities; other placements include, but are not limited to, parents of the juvenile, relatives of the juvenile, foster care, group care, among others. This represents a shift from a “punitive” approach to one that focuses on rehabilitation. The increase in diversion numbers clearly supports this approach. By diverting first-time, non-violent offenders, it is hoped that this will begin their journey to becoming non-offense-committing, contributing members of society.

III. Year 2 Update of CNMI's R/ED Action Plan

1. **What are your new numbers?** Arrests: In comparing FY22-23 to FY23-24 R/ED numbers, there was a decrease in the total number of arrests made. The total number of arrests dropped by 39% from 2022-2023. There was a slightly higher number of FSM youth arrested in 2023-24 (39%) than in 2022-23 (21.5%). The percentage of carolinian youth arrested in 2022-23 (19.6%) decreased to 15% in 2023-24. Diversions If we look at the diversion numbers, they increased by 48% from FY22-23 (14) to FY23-24 (27), overall. The minority groups of Carolinians and FSM combined to account for 33% of diversions in 2023-24, down from 65% in 2022-23. However, when we look at the FSM numbers (as they accounted for the highest number of arrests in 2023-24), they also accounted for 26% of total diversions.

For the pre-trial detention contact point, it dropped by 50%, from 2 in FY22-23 to 1 in FY23-24. There were no dispositions (secure confinement) for both FY22-23 and FY23-24. For transfer to adult court, there were 5 in FY22-23 and 1 in FY23-24, an 80% drop at that contact point.

- 2. Did you meet your goals?** The goal in year 1 of the FY24 R/ED Plan was for a 5% reduction in arrests. As discussed with our new numbers, there was a decrease of 39% at the arrest contact point. Focusing on just the minority groups, there was a 5% reduction, from 22 in FY22-23 to just 20 in FY23-24. Seeing how this trend is going, it is believed that by the continued implementation of youth-centric programs and continued key partnerships amongst various agencies that this number will only decrease further not only for the FSM juvenile population, but across all ethnic groups, as well. It is the goal that by reducing the rate of arrests, that the overall number among all contact points will be reduced, as well. We believe that for Year 2 we met our goals that we set in Year 1 as there was steep decrease at the first contact point (arrests), as well as a 5% reduction of arrests for the minority group numbers, combined.
- 3. If yes, what worked? What drove success? If not, what were the barriers? How did you overcome them? What partners do you need?** It is believed that the continued diversion of juvenile offenders has helped drive success, as well as support from a proactive legislature in investing to renovate old, dilapidated facilities, such as basketball courts and playgrounds for youth in the community to engage in prosocial activities. It is also believed that assistance from the Community Guidance Center and the Division of Youth Services (DYS) various youth-centric programs have helped deter youth from engaging in criminal behavior. The DYS Juvenile Probation Office, for instance, offers Diversion, probation supervision, and pre-trial supervision. The DYS Family and Youth Enhancement Program (FYEP) offers Youth-to-Volunteer, Summer Camp, Matrix, and Anger Replacement Training programs.
- 4. How can OJJDP help you next year?** OJJDP can help by continuing to provide training and informing the territories on trends of what the other states are implementing and how those programs are reducing their R/ED numbers, especially for the minority ethnic groups that may be overrepresented in their juvenile holding facilities.
- 5. How did you protect the public, hold juvenile offenders accountable, and equip them to live a crime-free life?** As mentioned earlier, the diversion program for first-time offenders is believed to be working well. It comes down to what activities juveniles can engage in that will ultimately result in deterrence from committing crimes. For example, the DYS Juvenile Probation Office Diversion and Probation programs help provide youth with skills to be successful in the workforce by referring juveniles to the CNMI's Department of Labor's Workforce Investment Agency (WIA) as well as the Northern Marianas Technical Institute (NMTI). NMTI offers programs that offer supportive and opportunistic environments for goal-oriented minds to learn and grow. This partnership offers youth career pathway opportunities through NMTI's numerous programs, ranging from construction, culinary arts, cosmetology, baking & pastry, automotive and self-paced online certification.

6. What are your goals for next year? Our goal is to reduce the number of arrests for the Carolinian, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Republic of Palau (ROP). It should also be noted that although there were no caucasian and african-american juveniles at any of the contact points, the goal is to maintain that. These are the minority ethnic groups so the goal is to keep these numbers low to non-existent for the minority youth. But a reduction in arrests for the FSM group would be a major milestone as they accounted for 39% of arrests in FY23-24. By reducing the number of FSM arrests it is hoped that the overall minority group would represent only a fraction of the numbers amongst all the contact points, starting with deterrence from engaging in criminal behavior leading to a life away from crime and filled with activities centered around positive youth involvement and family. Therefore, we believe that a 5% reduction for the minority group would be reasonable for Year 3 of this R/ED Action plan.