

## Transformation Transfer Initiative Final Report: Guam



Interview conducted on: June 21, 2021

Interviewees:

Barsen Adelbai, MAIII/Medical Record Supervisor, Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center  
Samuel Ilesugam, Executive Director, Guma' Mami, Inc.

*1. When did you launch your 2020 TTI, and how long has it been operational?*

We have not launched yet. Our purchase order only went through in May.

We are now in the process of recruiting for the staff who will be working on this project. We wish to recruit, train, and certify peer specialists with lived experience of mental illness. One of the specific challenges we face in Guam is that once a peer specialist gets certified, they will then move to the mainland for better opportunities.

*2. How has COVID-19 impacted your project? What adaptive practices or efforts have aided you in overcoming these challenges?*

COVID-19 played a big part in our delay in launching. Many workers were sent home, and the staff at the financial office for behavioral health was limited. Procurements for anything that were not an emergency were put on hold for almost a year, and this included our purchase order for this TTI grant.

*3. How many individuals have participated in your TTI at time of this interview?*

No one has participated yet.

*4. How much has been paid in incentives at time of this interview?*

Nothing has been paid out yet.

*5. Have there been changes to your key partners and/or target population?*

There have been no changes.

6. *Do you plan to make incentives a part of your behavioral health system moving forward? If so, how will you achieve sustainability?*

At the end of this project, if we see that incentives make a positive impact in consumers' participation in services, we will see what can be done to continue the program. Our plan, all along, has been to collect data and then to present that data to policy makers.

It is too soon, though, to think about sustainability.

7. *Do you have any meaningful anecdotes regarding your programs that you can relay to us? (I.e., testimonials from participants, creative solutions)*

We have no anecdotes yet.

8. *Do you see the incentives working to help individuals make follow-up appointments?*

It is too soon to tell.

9. *What has this federal investment given your state system that would not have happened without it?*

This investment is giving us an opportunity to pilot this incentive project. We are hoping we will have some positive impact on consumers' deciding to receive services. Most of our consumers are on a fixed income, such as public assistance, and they have their priorities when it comes to the limited cash they have for accessing transportation or things like that. Thus, their participation in services is not consistent. We experience many missed appointments among our consumers. We are hoping incentives will improve participation and, in turn, that consumers' symptoms will start to stabilize.

10. *What will you do with any residual funding?*

We are hoping there will not be any residual funding. We plan to keep spending on this project until the funding is exhausted.