



GUAM LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION  
DISABILITY LAW CENTER



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DISABILITY LAW CENTER (DLC)

"The Protection and Advocacy System of Guam"  
Telephone No.: (671) 922-4571/2  
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32-13-664  
Office of the Speaker  
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed. D.

Harold F. Parker, Executive Director

Date: 8/5/13  
Time: 9:30am  
Received by: [Signature]

Staff Attorneys  
Renita M. Taimanao  
Matthew E. Wolff  
Alisha L. Molyneux

August 2, 2013

Dear Senators of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Guam Legislature:

As part of our continuing efforts to address the issues and service needs of individuals with disabilities, Guam Legal Services Corporation – Disability Law Center (GLSC-DLC) submits for your review and input our FY2014 Proposed Goals and Objectives for the following programs:

- Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI)
- Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PADD)
- Protection and Advocacy for Individuals Rights (PAIR)

It is important for us to hear from the community groups that are most knowledgeable about our work as well as about the needs of the individuals we serve. Please take some time to read the goals and objectives and let us know your thoughts.

There will be a public input session on the proposed goals and objectives on Saturday, September 14, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., at the Sinajana Community Center. You are invited to give verbal input at that time. Otherwise, written comments will be accepted at the GLSC-DLC main office or you may comment directly at [information@guamlsc.org](mailto:information@guamlsc.org) until September 23, 2013.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at 477-9811 or TDD/TTY No. 477-3416. Once again, thank you for your continued support of our efforts to address the needs of individuals with disabilities on Guam.

Sincerely,

[Signature of Harold F. Parker]

HAROLD F. PARKER  
Executive Director

664

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2013 AUG - 5 AM 8:41 [Signature]

Target Population: PAIMI-eligible persons receiving care in treatment facilities and residential recovery group homes.

Numerical target: 30 monitor visits in treatment facilities and residential recovery group homes.

Objective 2: GLSC-DLC will investigate allegations of abuse, neglect and exploitation that are reported to or discovered by GLSC-DLC, and when appropriate, initiate litigation.

Target Population: PAIMI-eligible persons receiving care in treatment facilities and group homes.

Numerical target: 3 investigations/cases.

Objective 3: GLSC-DLC will ensure that it obtains access to all records required to investigate any reported incidents of abuse, neglect, or all other circumstances GLSC-DLC deems to constitute probable cause. Additionally, GLSC-DLC will seek to develop or update a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with appropriate agencies and/or facilities to resolve access issues.

Target Population: PAIMI-eligible persons receiving care and treatment in facilities, hospitals, and any other entities to which GLSC-DLC may require access to confidential records.

Numerical target: 3 investigations/cases

**PRIORITY 2:** PAIMI-eligible individuals shall be protected from rights violations, such as, but not limited to: financial exploitation, discrimination in housing, education, employment, accommodations, transportation, Social Security Administration denials and other government services.

Objective 1: GLSC-DLC will review and investigate allegations of rights violations, and litigate against unlawful discrimination.

Target Population: PAIMI-eligible individuals, including those receiving care in treatment facilities and residential recovery group homes.

Numerical target: 3 investigations/reviews

Objective 2: GLSC-DLC will conduct investigations or advocacy on reported incidents of inappropriate admission, placement, and commitment procedures to prevent unwarranted institutionalization.

**PRIORITY 4:** GLSC-DLC shall pursue legal, administrative or other appropriate remedies and advocacy to promote systemic change within the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center (GBHWC) and all other Government of Guam agencies providing treatment and services to individuals with disabilities on Guam.

Objective 1: GLSC-DLC will monitor and coordinate with GBHWC and their vendors on issues related to all consumer populations receiving mental health services, including case management, treatment and medication in the least restrictive environment. GLSC-DLC will pursue available remedies including filing administrative actions and filing actions in court, together with drafting correspondence with GBHWC.

Target Population: PAIMI-eligible individuals and all GBHWC inpatients, outpatients, and juvenile consumers.

Numerical Target: 4 cases

Proposed FY2014

2. GLSC-DLC will provide legal advice or will represent individuals with developmental disabilities who are being abused and neglected to obtain and enforce protective orders.
3. GLSC-DLC will regularly monitor organizations providing care and treatment to PADD-eligible persons to prevent practices and policies that may harm individuals with disabilities, and to support appropriate practices and policies for their care
4. GLSC- DLC will continue to distribute publication to guardians to inform them of their fiduciary duties.
5. GLSC-DLC will inform clients of their rights and advocate on behalf of those clients if their guardian is abusing guardianship powers.

## II. **PRIORITY: Education**

Goal: Children and Youth with Disabilities Receive a Free Appropriate Public Education in the Least Restrictive Environment.

Objectives:

1. GLSC-DLC will conduct outreach activities throughout the fiscal year for the general community including students, parents/guardians, teachers, and service providers on the rights of students with disabilities under IDEA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. These outreach activities will be held at venues accessible to individuals with disabilities and will be posted on the GLSC-DLC website.
2. GLSC-DLC will provide direct services to clients by consultation or representation in mediation, administrative meetings, due process hearings or court hearings to ensure the provision of appropriate education and related services for students with disabilities.
3. GLSC-DLC will provide legally based advocacy on behalf of students with disabilities to safeguard against arbitrary and inappropriate suspensions, expulsions, and placement in an out-of school environment or alternative education programs pursuant to IDEA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

**Guam Legal Services Corporation-Disability Law Center (GLSC-DLC)  
Protection and Advocacy for Individual Rights (PAIR)**

**FY 2014 PROPOSED PROGRAM PRIORITIES**

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MISSION STATEMENT

*"GLSC-DLC will provide legal assistance, and will advocate and promote equal rights and equal access to justice for the underserved communities of Guam."*

FACTORS AND CASE SELECTION

In order for the GLSC Disability Law Center to provide assistance, a client must be a person with an eligible disability by physician's certification and the problem to be addressed must be directly related to the disability. If these requirements have been met, then the following factors will be considered in determining whether the case will be accepted:

- The degree to which the problem has an immediate and/or significant impact on the person's life, health, or safety;
- The degree to which the client has the capacity to advocate for himself or herself;
- The level of resources available (such as finances, personnel, or expertise) to GLSC-DLC to provide adequate representation;
- The likelihood of successful resolution;
- And the availability of other community resources that may be appropriate for handling the problem.

**Priority One: Personal Decision Making**

**Goal:** To provide information to persons with disabilities and the general community about maintaining personal authority in decision-making and options for assigning personal and decision-making powers.

**Objective:** GLSC-DLC will assist persons with disabilities who require third party assistance in performing management of their fiscal and personal needs using the least restrictive form of agency agreement, such as Powers of Attorneys and Legal Guardianships when appropriate.