



# IMPACT

## COOPERATIVE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION



Sharing the difference CRE makes in people's lives

### 2023 Youth & Families Extension Program Highlights

Measurable results of our youth and family development initiatives, highlighting how we are empowering Micronesia's future generation.



TOTAL EDUCATIONAL CONTACTS



2,020



123

TRAINING SESSIONS

30



YOUTH IN  
CHUUK  
TRAINED IN  
SUMMER  
BOOT CAMP

666



YOUTH IN YAP  
ENGAGED IN  
CRAFT-MAKING

252



YOUTH IN  
POHNPEI  
ENGAGED IN  
VOLLEYBALL  
LEAGUE

\$9,350



INCOME GENERATED  
FROM VOCATIONAL  
TRAINING IN KOSRAE

*"Thanks to CRE sewing training, I can both save and make money - perfect for family finances" - Solome Shrew*



## Relevance

Micronesia boasts a youthful population, with a median age of 21.5 years and over 34% falling within the 15-34 age bracket. This presents a unique opportunity for national development. However, it also strains resources and highlights the need to address young people's challenges. These challenges include limited education and employment prospects, societal changes impacting families, and negative influences like easy access to drugs and alcohol. The Youth and Family Issues in the Communities program addresses these pressing issues, paving the way for a brighter future for Micronesia's youth.

## Extension's Response

The youth extension program implemented various activities across FSM counties, including outreach initiatives, educational workshops, and practical training sessions. Collaborating with local stakeholders and utilizing traditional meeting halls, the program delivers workshops on craft-making, sewing, music, sports, and vocational training tailored to the needs of each community. The program ensured maximum participation and engagement among youth and families by fostering partnerships and employing flexible scheduling.

## The Bottom Line

The youth and families extension program has significantly addressed the multifaceted challenges facing Micronesian youth and families. By equipping participants with essential skills, fostering community engagement, and preserving cultural heritage, the program has laid the foundation for sustainable development and positive social change. Through collaboration, innovation, and grassroots initiatives, the program exemplifies the transformative power of youth empowerment in building resilient communities.

*The extension programs are available to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, gender, religion, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. For questions, contact: Office of the Vice President, Cooperative Research and Extension, College of Micronesia -FSM at: (691) 350 2325.*



**Empowered by Stiches! Kosrae's sewing program helps families save money and even start businesses!**

**"High clothing costs burden families, but our love for uniforms creates a need. Through the CRE sewing program, we empower communities to make their own clothes, save money, and foster self-sufficiency." - Shirley Jackson, Extension Assistant & Sewing Trainer**

## Public Value Statement

The impact of the Youth and Family Issues in the Communities program extends beyond individual participants, enriching communities and contributing socio-economic development across the FSM. By empowering youth, strengthening family networks, and preserving cultural heritage, the program has generated broad public benefits, fostering resilience and promoting positive social change.

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