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**NORTHERN PACIFIC NATIONAL HEALTH PROMOTION LEADERSHIP
(PROLEAD) WORKSHOP, JULY 11-13, 2016**

The World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for the Western Pacific in partnership with the Department of Public Health and Social Services hosted a Northern Pacific National Health Promotion Leadership (ProLead) Workshop from July 11 to 13, 2016. Participants in this workshop were senior public health officials and non-communicable disease (NCD) prevention community partners from Guam, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

The ProLead workshop introduced systems thinking and foresight tools to address priority health problems. The goal was to accelerate implementation of the NCD prevention and control plans from each of the United States Affiliated Pacific Islands (USAPIs), by using health promotion approaches and principles. The objectives of the ProLead workshop are to: (1) expand knowledge and competencies in health promotion including strategic health communication, and apply these to NCD prevention; (2) build leadership skills for effective advocacy and strategic implementation of evidence-based health promotion and NCD prevention and control strategies; and (3) accelerate implementation of the current NCD prevention and control plan.

Across the Northern Pacific, the rate of preventable non-communicable diseases such as heart disease, stroke, cancer and diabetes continues to rise. The WHO and the USAPIs recognize the need for building capacity in NCD prevention, through approaches that change social determinants of health.

About the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for the Western Pacific

The mission of the WHO is to support all countries and peoples in their quest to achieve the highest attainable level of health. This is defined in the WHO Constitution as "a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity."

For more information about the ProLead workshop, please call the Department of Public Health and Social Services Bureau of Community Health Services at 735-7265.



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