



GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIPATTAMENTON SALUT PUPBLEKO YAN SETBISION SUSIAT



EDDIE BAZA CALVO
GOVERNOR

RAY TENORIO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

MAY 10 2013

JAMES W. GILLAN
DIRECTOR

LEO G. CASIL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

PRESS RELEASE No.: 2013-032

Flu Vaccines Donated to Guam

The Department of Public Health and Social Services is pleased to receive over 1,700 doses of influenza (flu) vaccine from the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) who is donating excess influenza vaccines to its pacific island partners through the U.S./Pacific Islands (US/PI) Vaccine Program. Transportation of the vaccines to Guam and the other pacific islands in Micronesia was made possible through the generosity and partnership of United Airlines.

In the U.S. alone, seasonal influenza kills approximately 36,000 Americans on average each year. Invariably, despite efforts to have all service members and beneficiaries receive the vaccine, DoD ends up with excess vaccine that is destroyed at the end of the influenza season. Joint Task Force Homeland Defense (JTF-HD), recognized the need in the pacific for influenza vaccine and the excess influenza vaccine available through DoD and began the US/PI Vaccine Program during the 2006-2007 flu season in the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI). The US/PI Vaccine Program is a collaborative effort between DoD, Pacific Islands Health Officers Association (PIHOA), U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), pacific island public health communities and the private sector airline industry. Without them this important program would not be possible.

Headquartered at Fort Shafer, Hawaii, JTF-HD maintains situational awareness of all domains within the Joint Operations Area; executes mission command of assigned forces in the land domain to conduct Homeland Defense operations to deter and defeat threats to critical infrastructure and key resources and when requested/validated, conducts Civil Support operations in response to all hazards to mitigate human suffering and reduce infrastructure damage.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 735-7102. *Dangkolo na Si Yu'os Ma'ase.*



JAMES W. GILLAN
Director