



**Parent Information Form**  
**Summer Camp 2021: Piti**  
**WestCare Pacific Islands Summer Camp**  
**August 2 - August 6: Piti Social Hall**

**For Parents to Keep**

*Buenas yan Hāfa Adai!* WestCare Pacific Islands (WPI) is a non-profit organization that provides vital services to the community through its diverse programs. WPI's programs: **I Lina'La-Hu (My Life)** and **Maolek Na Lina'La (Life is Good)** are hosting a collaborative Summer Camp called: Summer Camp 2021: Piti

These programs provide prevention education and intervention services to youth using gender-responsive approaches to promote personal well-being. Various topics such as self-esteem, goal setting, healthy relationships, personal development, positive action, leadership, cultural and gender diversity, and aim towards reduction of risky behaviors.

The summer camp will run from:

- August 2 - August 6 from 8:30am - 3:30pm at the Piti Social Hall

This summer camp will include exciting games and interactive activities that build self-esteem, relationship intelligence, communication skills, leadership development, team building and so much more! WPI would like to extend this invitation to your youth to participate in this 1-week program **free of charge**. **If you would like your child to attend, please complete the attached registration forms with this letter to indicate his/her participation.**

Should you have any questions, please contact *Clarissa Wilson at (671) 688-1336 / clarissa.wilson@westcare.com or Michelle Mafnas at (671) 988-3446 / michelle.mafnas@westcare.com*

**Last Day to Register is by Wednesday, July 29th**

- **Via email or hard copy submitted to our office located in the Reflection Center in Hagåtña (Suite 207)**



**For Parents to Keep**

### EVENT RULES & REGULATIONS

The rules are designed to ensure that all participants in the camp will enjoy maximum learning in an environment that is safe to share ideas and concepts. All participants are expected to adhere to the following rules:

#### DRESS CODE

All participants must wear comfortable clothes; pants or shorts and closed-toe shoes. Absolutely no short-length bottoms when it comes to skirts, dresses, or shorts (2 inches above knee or longer). No sleeveless or low-cut tops or graphic shirts depicting alcohol, tobacco, vaping, e-cigarettes, and other drugs allowed.

#### BEHAVIOR

All participants are expected to conduct themselves in a mature, respectful and orderly manner at all times. Misconduct by any participant will not be tolerated and may result in removal.

No possession or use of weapons, tobacco, vaping, e-cigarettes, alcohol, and/or other drugs/drug paraphernalia are allowed.

#### SUPERVISION

All participants are to remain with program facilitators and camp counselors. If a participant needs to leave the grounds for any reason, the designated coordinator must make prior approval.

#### CHECK-IN & PICK-UP

All participants must be accompanied and signed in & out by their parent/legal guardian or authorized persons indicated on the registration form, during the check-in and pick-up times. If the parent/legal guardian will be more than 15 minutes late for pick-up, they must give proper notice to program facilitators and camp counselors. Otherwise, program facilitators reserve the right to call proper authorities.

### COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS

We want to assure you that the staff are taking the necessary steps to ensure a safe and clean environment for all who are present during this summer camp. Facilities for this series will be cleaned and disinfected on a daily and also throughout the day as part of the scheduled activities. Due to the current COVID-19 situation on our island we have the following protocols in place for the safety of all youth, parents, guardians, visitors, and staff:

#### FACE MASK / SHIELD

All participants, staff, and visitors must have a face mask and/or face shield when arriving or participating in our summer camp. Face coverings are required for all who enter the facility during the camp.

#### HANDS CLEANED

All participants must wash and/or sanitize their hands upon arriving at the facility and throughout the day. This will be reminded throughout the day's schedule of events.

#### SOCIAL DISTANCING

All participants must adhere to the 6ft Social Distancing protocol. Close personal contact such as touching and shaking hands must be refrained from. This will be enforced during all program activities, lunch times, lesson times, free times, and reminded throughout the day.

#### FEELING SICK?

If you are feeling sick, are sick, or have been in contact with someone who is sick or may have COVID-19 please avoid contact with others and STAY HOME. Call your doctor if necessary.

**We look forward to seeing your youth at our event!**



Håfa Adai Parents/Guardians,

WestCare Pacific Island's (WPI) I Lina'la-Hu or "My Life" is a youth prevention program focused on sexual risk avoidance. I Lina'la-Hu utilizes a culturally responsive, medically accurate, and age-appropriate approach with consideration to LGBTQIA+ inclusivity. The overall goal of the program is to educate youth living on Guam on how to voluntarily refrain from non-marital sexual activity and prevent other youth risk behaviors. The program will focus education on preventing teen pregnancies, preventing and reducing sexually transmitted infections (STIs,) preventing intimate partner and dating violence and coercion, and will incorporate education and skill building in sexual risk avoidance, responsible decision making, and the identification of local resources.

I Lina'la-Hu is a 3-year program that will run from October 2020 to September 2023. Its goal is to serve 600 youth on Guam over the course of the program. Each cohort will receive a total of 13 lessons to be administered across 3 to 4 months.

Funding for I Lina'la-Hu is provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Grant #90SR0121-01-00. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. These services are available to all eligible persons, regardless of age, race, gender, disability or religion.

## CODE OF ETHICS

Your child's welfare is our primary concern. All participants are treated in a fair and equal manner and no one is given special consideration or advantage over anyone else. Staff are not allowed to accept monetary gifts from participants or their families. No staff member is permitted to act as a sponsor for a participant for any recognized self-help or peer support group (e.g., Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, etc.). Staff cannot have personal/social relationships with any participant who is receiving or has received services from WestCare.

## ELIGIBILITY

Participants who qualify for this service must be between the ages of 11 and 14. The school-based curriculum instruction services youth in 6<sup>th</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade levels. Summer programming may include youth beyond these parameters to include incoming and outgoing middle school youth.

## SERVICES OFFERED

I Lina'la-Hu provides its services in a school-based setting through closed groups over 13 lessons. Education sessions will take place at the school during a non-instructional period or through various distance facilitated platforms, in accordance with local mandates and Guam Department of Education protocols. Education sessions will last between 30 to 70 minutes. Additionally, a group activity such as a Mentoring Event or Parent/Youth Event will be held for all participants in the program.

To teach the skills and adulthood preparation subjects, the program uses the following curriculum:

Love Notes 3.0 Sexual Risk Avoidance Education is an evidence-based curriculum that promotes abstinence by allowing youth to learn more about themselves: how their past has shaped the present and how to make decisions on what they want for their future. Youth will learn what healthy relationships are and are not while building a set of skills for choosing friends and partners, and for developing and maintaining healthy relationships that do not involve sex, including evidence-based communication and conflict management skills. Trusted adult connection activities offer conversation starters on healthy relationships and on the benefits of leaving sex out of their youthful relationships. There are 13 modules/lessons within the curriculum, each varying in length ranging from 30 to 70 minutes.

I Lina'la-Hu utilizes a person-centered approach with a positive youth development framework and as such makes every effort to be mindful of the varied cultural and linguistic needs of the participants it serves. I Lina'la-Hu will work closely with the curriculum developer and stakeholders to ensure adaptations only serve to enhance participants' educational experience. I Lina'la-Hu acknowledges the sensitive nature of the program's goals and curriculum content, and the cultural taboos that may exist surrounding the topics of sex and sex education and is mindful of addressing these taboos in a way that resonates with participants culturally.

Resource for Additional Referrals: Program Staff can work with individuals to identify needs beyond the scope of the program, if any. If additional service needs are identified, program staff will make the appropriate referrals and support the youth by following up with them and the referred service providers.

## **Surveys and Focus Groups**

Participating youth will complete two surveys and take part in a focus group before their first group session and complete three surveys and a take part in a focus group after completing their final session. At each of the two time points (before and after), the surveys will take approximately 25 minutes to complete. Focus Groups will last approximately 30-45 minutes. The surveys will measure participant learning experience regarding the topics of responsible decision making, goal setting, healthy relationship skills, resisting sexual coercion, other youth risk behaviors as well as their satisfaction with the program. To ensure the confidentiality (privacy) of participant responses on the surveys, there will not be any identifying information on them. Focus groups helps us find out what really matters most to youth and how we can improve our program. Focus groups will be conducted by our Local Evaluator.

An assigned ILH staff will be take notes during the entire focus group session and will record using an audio recording device. The Local Evaluator will not will NOT refer to your child by his/her name. Instead, badges with Participant Numbers will be assigned to each student and will be used to refer to each student throughout the entire discussion.

Survey and focus group participation is voluntary. Participants are not obligated to answer all questions on the surveys and focus groups and may skip any questions at their discretion. If at any time a participant or their parent(s)/guardian(s) feel uncomfortable with participation in the program, they are welcome to cease and discontinue participation.

## **Consent for Services**

Parental consent is required prior to for youth to participate in completing surveys. The parental consent form provides information on the potential benefits and risks youth may experience while participating in the program. A copy of all completed and appropriately signed consent forms will be maintained in participant's individual files. Without the signed completion of this consent form by a parent and/or guardian of the participating minor, no surveys will be administered.

## **POTENTIAL SIDE EFFECTS, RISKS, AND DISCOMFORT**

Your child may be uncomfortable answering questions about his/her personal habits and activities. Your child does not have to answer any question that he/she does not want to answer. Your child may meet friends or acquaintances while in the program, and this may be embarrassing. Your child's knowledge may not increase, and his/her behavior may not improve. It is also possible that your child might share sensitive information during the sessions and that other participants in the group will tell this information to someone who is not in the group. Therefore, other people learning personal information about your child or your family is a risk (loss of confidentiality). If your child discloses to us that someone is abusing or neglecting him/her, that he/she is abusing someone, or that he/she is a danger to himself/herself or someone else, the law requires that we must report this to the proper authorities.

You and your child will be informed in a timely manner if current information is available that may affect your willingness to continue permit your child's participation in the program.

## POTENTIAL BENEFITS

There is no assurance that this program will benefit your child. However, your child may experience increased knowledge of the benefits of responsible decision making, goal setting, healthy relationships, resisting sexual coercion, improved communication skills, and increased awareness of the negative effects of other youth risk behaviors.

## Alternative to Participation

Participation in this program is voluntary. Program staff will honor the participants' and/or parent(s)/guardian(s) decision to withdraw from the program and thus will be discharged from the program and will no longer receive services. Participants' alternative is to not participate in the program.

## Compensation

Neither participant nor parent(s)/guardian(s) will receive any payments for joining the program and/or for answering the surveys.

## Costs

There is no cost to participate in the program. For example, participant's insurance company will not be billed for answering surveys, going to any educational sessions, or going to any events.

## Voluntary Participation/Right to Withdraw

Participation in this program is VOLUNTARY. Should participant's or their parent(s)/guardian(s) choose not to participate, it will not affect their relationship with WestCare Pacific Islands, Inc. or their right to services to which they may be otherwise entitled. If participants or their parent(s)/guardian(s) decide not to participate, they are free to stop their participation at any time. There will be no effect on their care at WestCare Pacific Islands, Inc.

Participation may be stopped without a participant's consent or that of their parent(s)/guardian(s) by the program staff for any reason. For example, participation may be stopped if participants fail to comply with Group Agreements.

## CONFIDENTIALITY

During participation in the program, information will be collected about your child, and the following people will be able to see the information collected:

- a. The program sponsor and its representatives (WestCare Foundation)
- b. The Department of Health and Human Services, Administration of Children and Families, Family Youth Services Bureau
- c. Local or federal agencies who overview or monitor the WestCare Pacific Islands programs. They may review the study information to make sure that it is correct. They may also review your child's information that the study is being conducted properly. However, information that identifies your child will not be on records that are kept.

## Questions and Persons to Contact

Parent(s)/guardian(s) and participants have the right to ask questions about this form or the program at any time. If you have questions, concerns, complaints about the research, would like information, or would like to offer input, or if have questions about rights as a participant, contact:

### **Aja C. Ramos, LICSW, MSW**

Vice President of Operations  
WestCare Pacific Islands  
Tel: (671) 472-0218/9  
222 Chalan Santo Papa  
Suite 102 Reflection Center  
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

### **Dr. Melissa A. Rhea, Ed.D**

Director of Evaluation and Quality  
Western/Pacific Island Regions  
Tel: (559) 708-8172  
WestCare Foundation  
P.O. Box 12107  
Fresno, CA 93776



**Re: Positive Action Cover Letter**

Dear Parent/Guardian(s),

WestCare Pacific Islands and the Maolek Na Lina'La (“Life is Good”) program is dedicated to empowering Central and Northern Guam youth and families. We support and mobilize the community to prevent our youth from being exposed to, or using alcohol, and marijuana. Our vision is a vibrant, safe, and healthy Guam community. To reach our vision, we require community collaboration, which includes facilitating the evidence-based curriculum *Positive Action* to youth.

As such, you will be asked to complete one survey that will take approximately 20 minutes prior to beginning your first lesson, and another survey that will take approximately 20 minutes immediately following your last lesson. The questions will ask about your experiences around self-management and decision making.

Risks and discomforts of completing these surveys are minimal. Participants are only being asked to complete a survey at two time points that will take approximately 20 minutes each to complete. Participants may skip any questions they feel uncomfortable answering.

The information gathered will be kept confidential and stored in password-protected folders on the program staff's computers or in a password-protected web-based database. Only program staff will have access to the data. No names or other identifiable data will be traced back to you, nor will IP addresses be known. The information will be used for evaluation purposes by the program and may be made available to the community without identifying information.

Participation in this survey is completely voluntary. You are free to withdraw at any time.

If you have any questions, please contact the Program Manager Aileen Artero at [aileen.artero@westcare.com](mailto:aileen.artero@westcare.com)

Thank You,

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Dr. Melissa Rhea, Ed.D.  
*Principal Investigator*  
WestCare Foundation, Inc.

CHRS#: 21-44

Approval Date: April 30, 2021

Expiration Date: April 29, 2022