



## OFFICES OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND CIVIL DEFENSE

*Inasiguran I Tano' Guahan/Ufisinan Difensia Sibet*

221-B Chalan Palasyo, Agana Heights, Guam 96910

Tel: (671) 475-9600 / Fax: (671) 477-3727

Website: [www.ghs.guam.gov](http://www.ghs.guam.gov)

Esther J. C. Aguigui  
Homeland Security Advisor  
Charles V. Esteves  
Administrator

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**For Immediate Release**  
**August 28, 2023 (ChST)**

### **GHS/OCD Promotes September as National Preparedness Month**

The Offices of Guam Homeland Security and Civil Defense (GHS/OCD) invite the island to celebrate September as National Preparedness Month (NPM). To commemorate the month, Governor Lou Leon Guerrero will declare NPM with a virtual proclamation signing on Friday, September 1, 2023 at 11:30 a.m., which will also be streamed live on the Governor's Facebook page.

The 2023 NPM theme is **“Preparing for Older Adults.”**

NPM is an observance each September to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time.

“We recognize the importance of preparedness for the whole community and appreciate the focus for this year's theme as older adults can face greater risks when it comes to the multitude of extreme weather events and emergencies we now face, especially if they are living alone, have a disability, or live in hard to reach areas,” said Charles Esteves, Civil Defense Administrator. “What is great about our community is that in times of emergency, our island pulls together – neighbors support each other, communities react with compassion, and afterward, we emerge stronger and more resilient.”

Along with building an emergency preparedness kit and making a family communication plan, the community is encouraged to follow GHS/OCD online on Facebook and Instagram to view preparedness tips and activities by emergency management partners. The community can also participate by promoting individual and community activities and preparedness tips with resources available at <https://www.ready.gov/september>.

Learn more about event details and ways you can participate throughout the month:

- GHS/OCD Website: <https://ghs.guam.gov/>
- GHS/OCD Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GHSOCD/>
- GHS/OCD Instagram: @ghsodc

For more information, contact GHS/OCD Public Information Officer, Jenna Blas at (671) 478-0208 or via email at [jenna.g.blas@ghs.guam.gov](mailto:jenna.g.blas@ghs.guam.gov).

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