



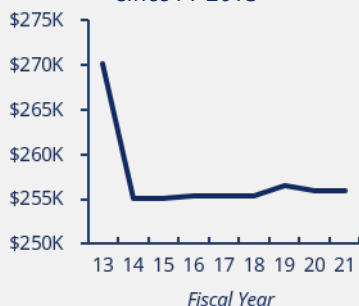
Office of the Assistant Secretary for
Preparedness & Response

HOSPITAL PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

REPUBLIC OF PALAU

HPP FUNDING

5% decrease in funding since FY 2013



HIGHLIGHTS

- Palau uses HPP funding to build and maintain a strong emergency preparedness and response foundation for the country's 18,000 residents.
- The Palau Ministry of Health and Human Services (MHHS) increased preparedness and response by improving isolation ward capacity, increasing staff training on proper personal protective equipment (PPE) use and infection prevention and control, and providing necessary equipment and supplies, such as ventilators, beds, and PPE.
- The Palau MHHS aided its communities by providing stress debriefing sessions and counselling services to all hospital workers.

SPOTLIGHT ON RESPONSE

Palau's proactive whole-of-government approach to the COVID-19 response allowed Palau to stay COVID-free until August 2021. The political and community leadership quickly took control of coordinating the response. The brisk decision was made to close borders early on and implement a strict travel screening, which had a major economic impact but prevented the introduction of COVID-19 into the country. Through the support of community elders and the collaboration with US Pacific Command and the National Disaster Medical System, over 99% of Palau's eligible population is fully vaccinated.

COVID-19 RESPONSE

- The Palau MHHS worked with emergency medical services to establish transport protocols for persons under investigation for COVID-19 encountered at the nation's point of entries.
- The Palau MHHS established protocols on how to identify, isolate, and transport persons under investigation encountered at the airport, outpatient clinics, emergency room, and other areas of the hospital.
- The Palau MHHS set up and maintained an alternate care site with capacity for 50 beds for mild COVID-19 cases.
- The Palau Emergency Operations Center implemented a rigorous travel screening and testing strategy for COVID-19.



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**Health Care
Coalition**

HCC CORE MEMBER PARTICIPATION



of acute care
hospitals



of emergency
medical services



of public health
agencies



of emergency
management
agencies

FY20 end-of-year data and HCC count as of 6/30/2021. Participation rate equals # of HCC member organizations divided by the total # of organizations in PW.

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[ASPR Health Care Readiness Programs Website](#)