



GOVERNMENT OF GUAM
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
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PRESS RELEASE
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**GUAM ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION FAIR FOR THE
 "1ST ANNUAL GUAM ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH
 EDUCATION MONTH 2016"**

The Division of Environmental Health (DEH) of the Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) in partnership with the Environmental Public Health Association (EPHA) will be celebrating the 1st Annual Guam Environmental Public Health Education Month (GEPHEM) 2016 this September. The annual GEPHEM replaces the previously-held Guam Food Safety Education Month, which DEH spearheaded for the last ten years to educate the community on preventing foodborne diseases. This change was made to highlight all the environmental health programs of the Division, not just food safety. Every year, DEH will highlight one environmental health program during the month of September for public awareness and education.

With the construction of the new Guam Environmental Public Health Laboratory, also known informally as the mosquito lab, coupled with the heightened concerns about the Zika virus that is infecting many around the world through bites of infected *Aedes* mosquitoes, the 2016 GEPHEM will focus on mosquito bite prevention and control. Our goal is to educate the public about mosquito biology and anatomy, bite prevention, control, mosquito-borne diseases, common predators, and identification and elimination of breeding sites. This year's GEPHEM theme is *Fight the Bite!*

In celebrating our 1st Annual GEPHEM 2016, DEH will be sponsoring a mosquito control and education fair for the public at the Micronesia Mall's Center Court on Saturday, September 24, 2016, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. There will be great entertainment and numerous displays. Come join the fun at this worthy event!

For further information, please contact the Division of Environmental Health at 735-7221.



JAMES W. GILLAN
 Director