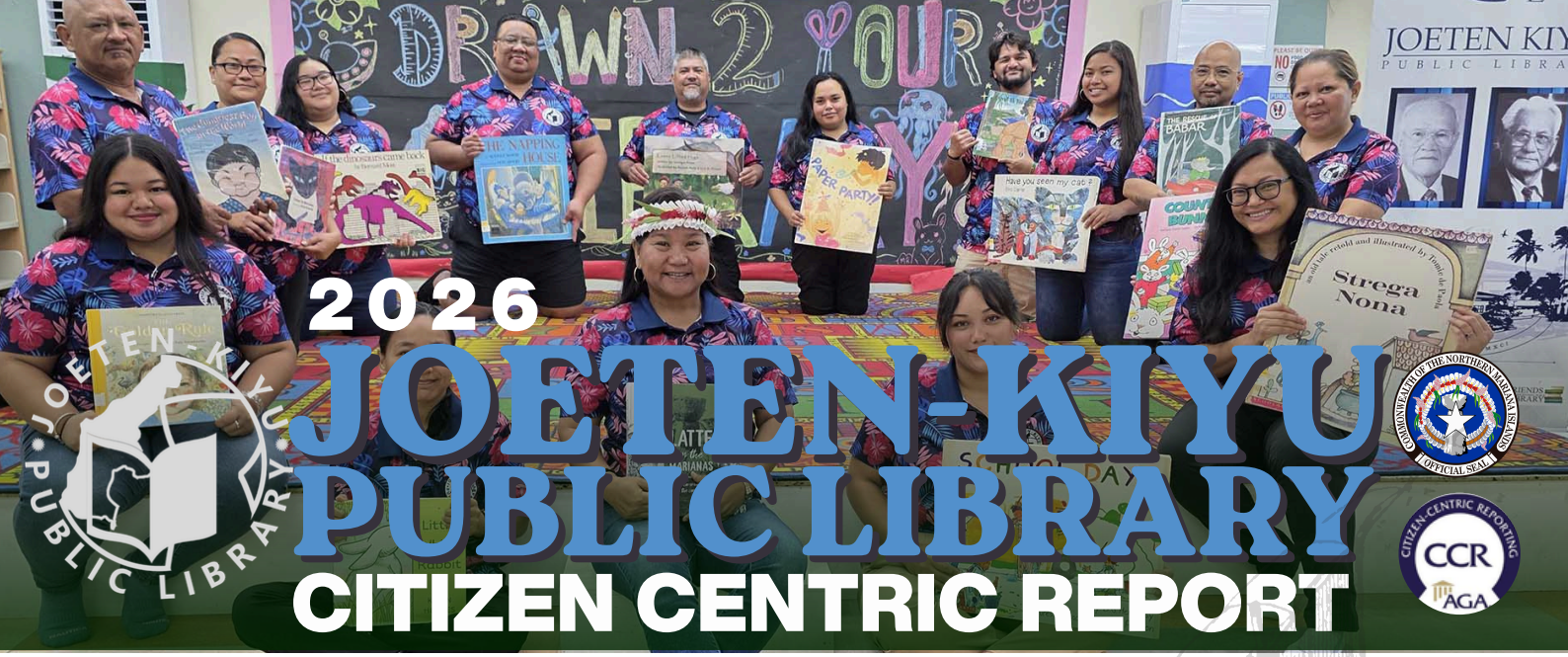


2026 JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY CITIZEN CENTRIC REPORT

MISSION

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library is the NMI's information hub, preserving NMI's cultural heritage and connecting people, libraries and government to the resources and tools they need to succeed and to build a stronger community.

ESTABLISHED

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library (JKPL) was established by Public Law 7-18 in 1991, which also created the Commonwealth Library Council and designated JKPL as the NMI's State Library.

LSTA FIVE YEAR PLAN STRATEGIC GOALS:

1. Promote Literate CNMI
2. Strengthen Institutional Capacity
3. Enhance and Maintain NMISL Technology
4. Provide Welcoming Library Environments

ABOUT

Welcome to YOUR Library! The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library (JKPL) was established in December 21, 1991. NMI PL 7-18 established the Commonwealth Library Council (CLC) and Joeten-Kiyu Public Library as the CNMI State Library. As the designated State Library Administrative Agency (SLAA), JKPL oversees the technical aspects of library operations for the Fernando M. Benavente Memorial Library, the Bookmobile/ Technology Mobile Express, the Antonio C. Atalig Memorial Library on Rota (RPL) and the Tinian Public Library (TPL) in collaboration with the respective mayors of both municipalities, leveraging both annual CNMI government appropriations and federal funds primarily from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).









Honoring Service, Building Resilience: Celebrating America 250 and Community Progress

In FY2026, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library (JKPL) achieved profound national recognition when Library Director and NMI State Librarian Erlinda C. Naputi was honored as an America 250 Public Service Champion by the National Academy of Public Administration. Selected as one of only 250 leaders nationwide, Library Director Naputi proudly represented the Northern Mariana Islands in the birthdplace of American freedom and our nation's capital, underscoring JKPL's enduring commitment to freedom, literacy, culture, and community. Driven by this award-winning leadership, JKPL utilized federal investments to create safer, more welcoming learning environments, completing multi-island furniture upgrades funded by U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) congressional earmarks at locations across Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. The library also continued major facility enhancements at its Saipan flagship location using $1.6 million in congressional earmarked funding secured by Congressman Gregorio "Kilili" Camacho Sablan, while advancing a proposed 174-kilowatt solar photovoltaic (PV) parking lot carport project with the Department of Public Works (DPW). Furthermore, JKPL proactively collaborated with numerous local and national organizations to secure critical disaster relief support and specialized grant funding to strengthen library resources and protect public collections.

Following the destructive impacts of Super Typhoon Sinlaku and Super Typhoon Bavi, JKPL proved its profound civic value as a vital community disaster relief anchor. The library partnered extensively with local and national agencies, providing dedicated personnel to assist the American Red Cross: NMI Chapter with disaster supply distribution and supporting the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) in collaboration with the Disaster Nutrition Assistance Program (DNAP) to distribute food, clothing, and essential aid. JKPL also coordinated with Samaritan's Purse to facilitate emergency medical relief, while simultaneously securing vital recovery items directly for the library staff. While managing these extensive community relief efforts, JKPL worked closely with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to advance project worksheets for content damages and the emergency procurement of three replacement 20-ton HVAC units, all while the Antonio C. Atalig Memorial Library on Rota successfully served as a FEMA Disaster Command Center.

COMMONWEALTH LIBRARY COUNCIL



Charles V. Cepeda
Chairman (Kiyu)



Ivan Mereb
Vice Chair (Rota)



Patrick P. Sablan
Secretary



Shigeki Tenorio
Treasurer (Joeten)



Lareyna Camacho
Member



Julie B. Sablan
Member (Tinian)

LEADERSHIP



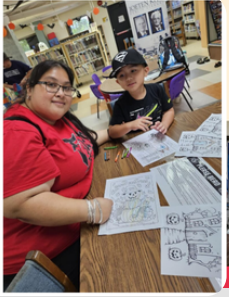
Erlinda C. Naputi
Library Director

website: www.cnmilib.org
tiktok: jkpl670
twitter: joetenkiyu
facebook, instagram, youtube: joetenkiyupubliclibrary











PROGRAMS

JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY

GOAL 1: PROMOTE LITERATE NMI

Literacy Programs & Activities

- 1,000 books before Kindergarten & Beyond
- After School Reading & Homework Help
- AmeriCorps Week
- Anniversary Celebration
- Arts & Crafts Adult Classes
- Autism Family Fun Day
- Birthday Literacy@ My Library
- Book-a-Treat
- Book Launch
- Bookmobile & Technology Mobile Express Outreach Program
- Chamorro & Carolinian Cultural Heritage Month Celebration
- Chinese New Year Celebration
- Community Garden
- Community Sea Aquarium
- Community Service Program
- Computer classes
- Co-Op Program
- CSLP Completion Celebration Fun Day
- Cultural Self Defense Class
- Easter Read Aloud and Craft
- Great Stories Teen Book Club
- Happy Birthday Amelia Earhart
- Library Assistant Internship Program
- Library of Congress (LOC) NMI Center for the Book
- Library tours
- Literacy Fair
- LOC Center for the Blind and Print Disabled
- Local Author Meet & Greet
- Movie Day
- National Library Week
- NSF 75th Anniversay STEM DAY
- Pacific Cultural Corner
- Read Aloud
- Reading Challenges
- Reading for Fines
- Roy D. Rechebei Game Day
- Saturday Storytime & Craft
- Sensory Corner
- Sensory Night
- Stations (Math, Arts and Crafts, Literacy, Coloring, Games)
- Summer Reading program
- STEM@My Library
- Teen Trivia
- Teen Movie Night
- Trunk or Treat
- Women's Night
- Writer's workshops
- Volunteer Program

PERFORMANCE SNAPSHOT

213,106
NMI Visitors to the Library
208,622 SAIPAN
3,094 TINIAN
1,390 ROTA

124,737
Library Items (Books, E-Books, CDs, DVDs, etc.)

255,101
Engagements on FB
5.9K FOLLOWERS FB & IG

1,140
Summer Reading Program Participants on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota

50+
Library Programs

147
Volunteers

2,203
Volunteer Hours

GOAL 2: STRENGTHEN INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

- Volunteer Program
- Intern Program
- Community Partnerships
- Professional Development Training
- Computer Classes & Digital Literacy

GOAL 3: ENHANCE AND MAINTAIN NMI TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE

- Wi-fi
- Upgrade ILS Horizon
- Upgrade Technology
- E-Books
- Virtual Learning Resources
- Rota Bookmobile



Patron Information Technology Usage	
Island	**FY 2026**
Saipan	
Joeten-Kiyu Public Library	13,960
Bookmobile Outreach Services	907
Fernando M. Benavente Memorial Library	3,238
Tinian	
Tinian Public Library	17,670
Rota	
Antonio C. Atalig Memorial Library	2,239
Total	**38,014**

GOAL 4: PROVIDE WELCOMING ENVIRONMENTS

- Solar Power PV Project
- Furniture Upgrades
- JKPL Beautification















BUDGET JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY Citizen Centric Report

Major developments of Joeten-Kiyu Public Library (JKPL) FY 2026 budget include the following:

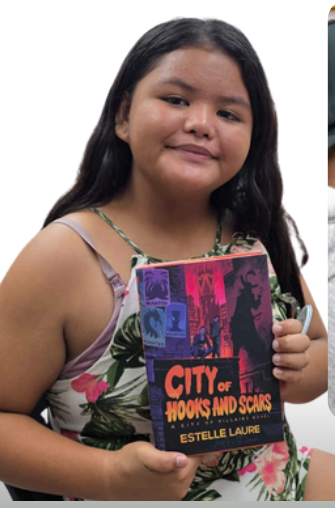
- A total of $539,404.00 was appropriated in local funding for JKPL under P.L. 24-20. The General fund allocated $534,063.00 for 16 personnel and $5,341.00 for operations. Federal funding from IMLS LSTA and LSTA LB21 grants were used to offset the General fund for personnel ($128,451.97) and operations ($190,471.00) respectively.
- Faced with CNMI government austerity measures via Directive 2025-008A, JKPL actively sought funding from various sources:

1. Through the assistance from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) LSTA and Laura Bush 21st Century grants, JKPL was able to carry out library programs and services. Despite the budgetary constraints, JKPL met challenges in efficiency, public service hours of operation, and systematic compilation of performance indicators in line with NMI State Library LSTA Strategic 5-Year Program Goals: Promote Literate NMI, Strengthen Institutional Capacity, Enhance and Maintain NMISL Technology, and Provide Welcoming Library Environments.
2. JKPL was awarded $30,000.00 from the American Library Association's (ALA) Libraries Transforming Communities (LTC): Accessible Small and Rural Communities for accessibility for JKPL's Sensory Corner. Due to the damages sustained during Super Typhoon Sinlaku and Super Typhoon Bavi, JKPL was able to pivot funding to combat urgent mold remediation testing of the Children's Library.
3. The 24th Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation (SNILD) allocated $15,000.00 via SLL 24-02 for beautification of the JKPL. Under SLL 24-27, the 24th SNILD allocated $80,000.00 for the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Solar Power PhotoVoltaic Parking Lot Project; $35,000.00 for the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library facility; and $15,000.00 to assist with JKPL operations.

- Additional donations through the Educational Tax Credit (PL 15-120)in the amount of $23,175.00 assisted JKPL with operational funding support for library programs and activities for Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.
- Utilities budget: As per P.L. 24-20, JKPL did not receive a utilities allocation.

FY 2026 BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY

Description	Bus. Unit	Personnel	Operation	Utilities	Total
General Fund (P.L. 24-20) FY' 26	11880900	$ 534,063.00	$ 5,341.00		$539,404
Revolving Fund-Fees	3070		$ 3,163.07		$3,163
Education Tax Credit	3071		$ 23,175.00		$23,175
JKPL-ALA small & Rural Libraries Grant	3072		$ 30,000.00		$30,000
JKPL-Chief Officer's of State Library Agencies	3073		$ 82,250.00		$82,250
Saipan Local Law 24-02 - Beautification JKPL	SL108		$ 13,600.00		$13,600
Saipan Local Law 24-27 - JKPL Solar PV	SL181		$ 80,000.00		$80,000
Saipan Local Law 24-27 - JKPL Structure/Facility	SL182		$ 35,000.00		$35,000
Saipan Local Law 24-27 - JKPL Operations	SL183		$ 15,000.00		$15,000
NSF-SSI Expanding Partnership with JKPL	FG88090011		$ 24,821.00		$24,821
IMLS LSTA State Grant	FG88090012	$ 11,196.00	$ 107,727.00		$118,923
IMLS LSTA State Grant Laura Bush 21st CLP	FG88090013	$ 117,255.97	$ 82,744.00		$200,000
Total		**$662,514.97**	**$502,821.07**	**$0**	**$1,165,336**















OUTLOOK

2026 Citizen Centric Report
JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY

As the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library (JKPL) looks ahead, its priorities are firmly anchored in recovery, resilience, and sustainable community service following the severe impacts of Super Typhoon Sinlaku and Super Typhoon Bavi, alongside the ongoing challenges of climate change. Operating within the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands' (CNMI) highly constrained economic climate, JKPL is deeply committed to fiscal responsibility. The Library will navigate facility recovery, collection protection, and emergency preparedness by seeking economical, cost-saving strategies that optimize every local dollar. Concurrently, the library will focus on maintaining efficient staff operations and building infrastructure—such as the green energy Solar Power PV Parking Lot Project—to reduce long-term utility overhead and guarantee the continuity of essential, free library services across Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

To provide maximum community access for all without straining the local budget, JKPL will lean on strategic cost-sharing. The Library remains dedicated to expanding literacy and lifelong learning opportunities for children, families, students, and adults. Rather than working in isolation, JKPL will amplify its impact by strengthening zero-cost partnerships with schools, educators, community organizations, and families to dynamically address evolving educational needs. A primary vehicle for growth will be the external maximization of federal funding. Through its FY2026 Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program planning grant of $200,000.00, JKPL will focus on the development of family literacy initiatives incorporating Chamorro and Carolinian storytelling traditions, while boosting the community's educational capital.

Preserving and promoting the cultural heritage of the Northern Mariana Islands also remains central to JKPL's vision. The Library will continue to drive cultural programming, Indigenous storytelling, exhibits, and collection preservation by leveraging volunteer networks, civic groups, and local talent. These collaborative, low-cost efforts will safeguard community knowledge, fortify cultural identity, and ensure that future generations stay deeply connected to their languages, histories, and traditions at no added financial barrier to public patrons.

Finally, ensuring long-term institutional sustainability means transforming JKPL into a highly resourceful digital hub. By aggressively pursuing federal, national, and local grants, sponsorships, and digital equity initiatives, JKPL will modernize its technology infrastructure, incorporate innovative programs, and develop staff capacity without heavily burdening local public funds. Through these creative economic avenues, JKPL will bridge the digital divide, safeguard public access, and remain a vital, resilient, and universally accessible cornerstone of the CNMI.



Thank you for your interest in the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library!

We welcome your comments on how we can make this report more informative for our readers. Please send your comments to:

ADDRESS:
Joeten-Kiyu Public Library
P.O. Box 501092-CK
Saipan, MP 96950

EMAIL:
cnmilib.info@gmail.com

WEBSITE:
www.cnmilib.org

PHONE: (670) 235-7323 (READ)

How can you help the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library?

http://cnmilib.org

We also welcome and encourage businesses to please consider donating cash contributions to the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. Pursuant to NMI Public Law 15-120, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library is able to receive cash contributions under Educational Tax Credit (ETC). Please make checks payable to: CNMI Treasurer. You are also welcome to contribute directly to the Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library via MUNIS vendor id#100404

"Thank you for sharing the Chamorro language with me. Thank you for teaching me about your culture and being present here! Si Yu'us Ma'asi!" – National Book Festival participant (Washington, DC)