



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WHO: WestCare Pacific Islands

WHAT: WestCare Pacific Islands Receives \$2.5 Million Grant from Bezos Day 1 Families Fund

WHEN: December 2, 2025

WHERE: Hagåtña, Guam

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PHOTOS: For additional photos, please send request to pacificislands@westcare.com

WestCare Pacific Islands to Expand Support for Guam Families Experiencing Homelessness with \$2.5 Million Grant from Jeff Bezos and Lauren Sánchez Bezos

32 organizations across the U.S. receive a total of \$102.5 million from the Bezos Day 1 Families Fund to connect families with housing and hope

HAGATNA, Guam – (December 2, 2025): WestCare Pacific Islands (WPI), a culturally grounded nonprofit serving Guam and the wider Micronesian region, today announced that Jeff Bezos and Lauren Sánchez Bezos are recognizing the organization with a \$2.5 million grant from the Bezos Day 1 Families Fund. WPI is part of the eighth annual cohort of organizations across the country receiving funding from the Day 1 Families Fund to deepen their work to help every family have a safe, stable place to call home.

“This grant is a transformational investment for Guam,” said Aja Ramos, chief operating officer of WestCare Pacific Islands. “It allows us to expand existing housing and services as well as strengthen our partnerships in our island community, ensuring more families can move from crisis to stability with dignity and culturally responsive support.”

WPI will use its Day 1 Families Fund grant to serve even more families experiencing homelessness in Guam and the Pacific Region, with the goal of ensuring no child in our community sleeps outside. Specifically, WPI plans to use this one-time grant over the next five years to expand youth and family shelter capacity through WPI and its Sanctuary program, master-lease additional units for families facing housing crises, hire staff to accelerate placements and renovate existing WPI shelter facilities to provide safe, short-term stays.

WPI was identified to receive this grant by a group of national advisors who are leading advocates and bring expertise on homelessness, housing policy and effective approaches and solutions to family homelessness.

Since its inception in 2018, the Day 1 Families Fund has awarded 280 grants totaling more than \$850 million to organizations serving families in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Guam. The Day 1

Families Fund grant recipients have tremendous flexibility to use the funds in the ways that are most impactful in their communities, making the grant a game-changer for organizations on the frontlines of the family homelessness crisis. Recipients will use their funds to support families experiencing homelessness to access critical services, regain stable housing and achieve well-being.

This year, the Fund issued a total of \$102.5 million in grants to 32 organizations. The full list of awardees is available at <https://bezosdayonefund.org/day1familiesfund>. Case studies of the impact selected grantees have made with their funds are available at <https://www.bezosdayonefund.org/case-studies>.

About WestCare Pacific Islands

WestCare Pacific Islands (WPI) was founded in 2009 to provide culturally grounded housing, behavioral health and supportive services for families, youth, veterans and underserved communities across Guam and the Pacific Islands. WPI offers a continuum of care that includes emergency and permanent housing assistance, counseling and case management designed to promote long-term stability. With commitment to dignity, compassion and the CHamoru value of inafa’maolek (“to make good”), WPI works to uplift the human spirit and strengthen island communities.

About the Bezos Day 1 Families Fund

Through the Bezos Day 1 Families Fund, Jeff Bezos and Lauren Sánchez Bezos issue annual leadership awards to organizations doing compassionate, needle-moving work to help families experiencing homelessness. For more information, visit www.BezosDayOneFund.org/Day1FamiliesFund.

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