

Pacific Resources for Education and Learning (PREL)

# in the NORTHERN MARIANAS



## Who We Are

Pacific Resources for Education and Learning (PREL) is an independent, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization headquartered in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

Our vision for the Pacific is clear and compelling: to support strong schools, healthy communities, and thriving cultures with Pacific hearts and global minds.

At the heart of PREL is our world-class team: dedicated and experienced professionals who are intimately connected with the communities we serve. We consider this local knowledge and integration one of our strongest assets, allowing us to be a powerful and effective agent of change and partner for the Pacific.

## Who We Serve

PREL is dedicated to working collectively in support of children who live in Hawai'i -- and all Pacific islands -- to live strong and healthy lives in their own language and culture, while also being successful global citizens.

We harness community strengths to serve local educators and students, from early childhood through higher education, with comprehensive, culturally relevant, formal and informal educational supports.

## Our Network

Since 1990, we've been working with hundreds of local and international service-delivery partners and funders to co-create education strategies that are contextualized for each community. Our partners are:

- Community groups
- Corporate and private foundations
- Non-profit organizations
- State education agencies
- U.S. and international government agencies

PREL's work lies at the intersection of place-based research, theory, and practice. Our endeavors include college and career readiness, early learning, education policy, health literacy, standards and curriculum development, evaluation and assessment, and teacher professional development, as well as informal, community-based learning opportunities.

## Why PREL?

PREL is recognized as the leading capacity-building nonprofit research organization in the Pacific region. The depth, diversity, and history of our work, coupled with the strength of our locally based teams and research-based knowledge and products, give PREL a unique advantage for bringing about needs-driven, sustainable change.

## Project Spotlight: Pacific Islands Climate Education Partnership



PCEP is a collaborative network of communities and organizations responding to the impacts of climate change and committed to improving climate education in the Pacific region.

In CNMI, PCEP advisors have worked alongside the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Authority (FEMA) to convene Refaluwasch (Carolinian) and Chamoru (Chamorro) elders with knowledge of their land and sea environments. This team met with CNMI Public School System administrative, science, and cultural leadership to share initial learnings from elders, to develop a plan to collaborate on Practice Briefs, and to align this unique information with current curriculum and PCEP products.

In the aftermath of Typhoon Soudelor, all participants were eager to reflect on extreme weather events that have occurred in CNMI over the past 20 years and to consider how climate variability has interacted with

## Our Work in Action: Youth Storytelling Workshop



Climate change in the Pacific is a complex issue, and so are the stories of those experiencing its impacts. In CNMI, PREL is collaborating with local partners to amplify the voices of young storytellers.

PCEP partnered with the Northern Marianas Humanities Council on “Youth Storytelling through Poetry,” a workshop aiming to empower youth to use digital media and storytelling to promote awareness about important issues in CNMI and discover the value of place and adaptation in their places.

The workshop included 70 high school and college students from CNMI, alongside educators and cultural elders. PREL believes that this generation of storytellers is a crucial part of the legacy of island communities, as they are not only the best suited to share the climate realities of their respective islands, but they are also the most adept with technological advances that are becoming more prevalent in the Pacific Islands.

## Get Involved



If you're interested in supporting PREL as a volunteer, partner, or funder, we'd love to hear from you! You can also learn more about us, or make a tax-deductible gift, at [www.prel.org](http://www.prel.org). We post updates about our work at [Facebook.com/PREL.org](https://www.facebook.com/PREL.org)

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