

National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program

PARTNER 101

CNMI HOMELAND SECURITY & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Presentation Overview:

- ▶ Who We Are
- ▶ Our Mission
- ▶ Facilitating Alert & Warning Messages
- ▶ Evacuation
- ▶ Educational Resources & Community Outreach
- ▶ Challenges & Highlights



WHO WE ARE:

CNMI HOMELAND SECURITY & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- ▶ **CNMI Governor Ralph Torres & Lt. Governor Arnold Palacios**
 - ▶ Special Assistant: **Gerald Guerrero**
 - ▶ Emergency Ops Manager: **Joey Dela Cruz**
 - ▶ Lead Grants Planner: **Naomi Ada-Tagabuel**
 - ▶ Tsunami Planner: **TJ Manglona**
- ▶ **Lead agency responsible for disseminating warnings, coordinating recovery efforts during disasters, and managing a number of federal grants awards including the CNMI NTHMP award.**



An illustration of a massive tsunami wave crashing over a mountain range. The wave is dark blue with white foam, and the mountains are dark grey. The sky is a mix of yellow and orange, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall style is a stylized, painterly illustration.

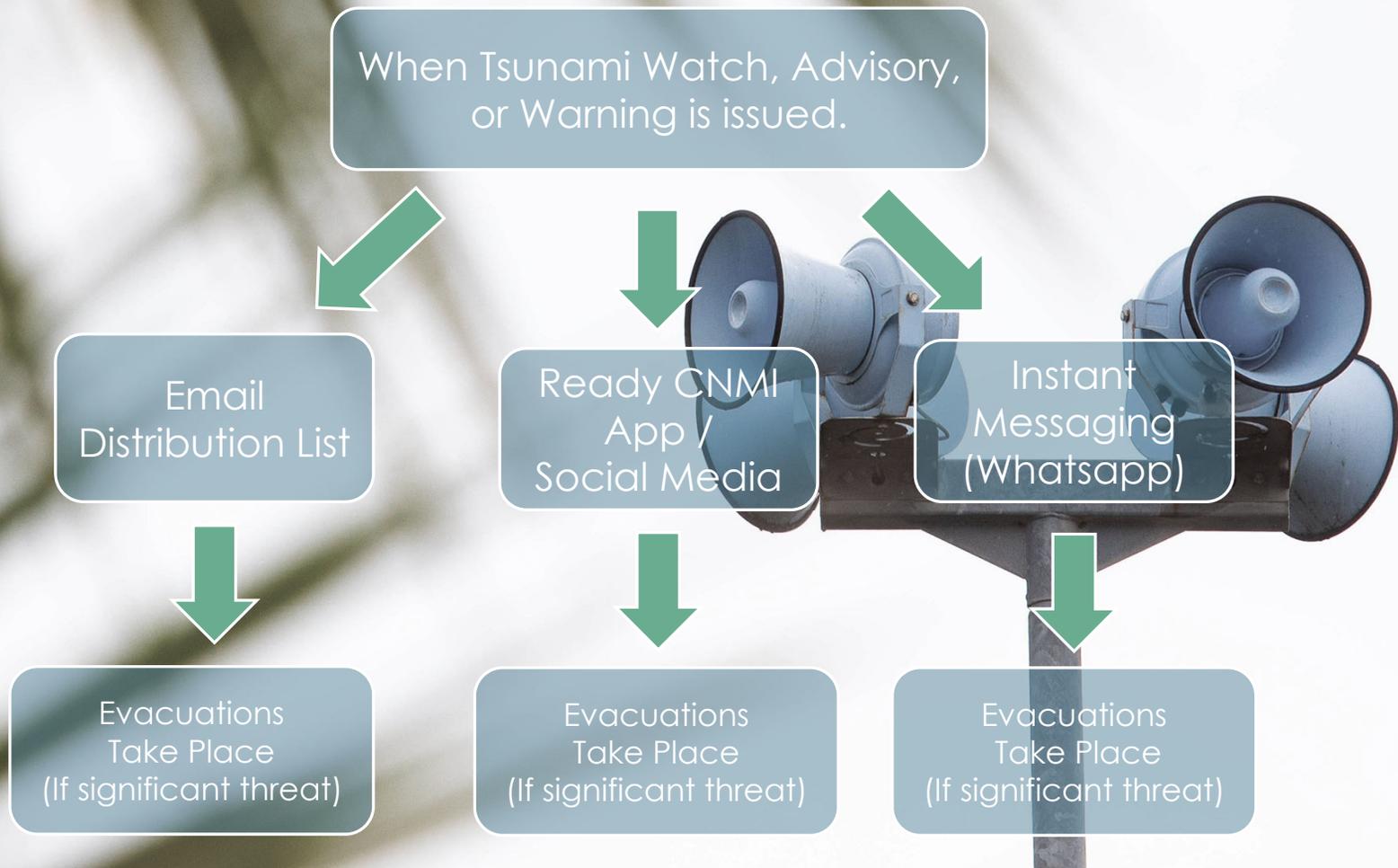
OUR MISSION:

- ▶ Our mission is to protect lives and property by effectively preparing for, preventing, responding to and recovering from all threats, crimes, hazards and emergencies by coordinating the efforts of the first response community to effectively manage incidents, and to collaborate with public, private, and community partnerships.
- ▶ In terms of tsunami hazard mitigation, our goal is to effectively prepare the CNMI for the threat of a major tsunami through maximizing disaster alert efficiency, proper planning, training and exercise, and through community awareness, education, and outreach.

FACILITATING WARNING & ALERT MESSAGES:



FACILITATING WARNING & ALERT MESSAGES:



ZONE

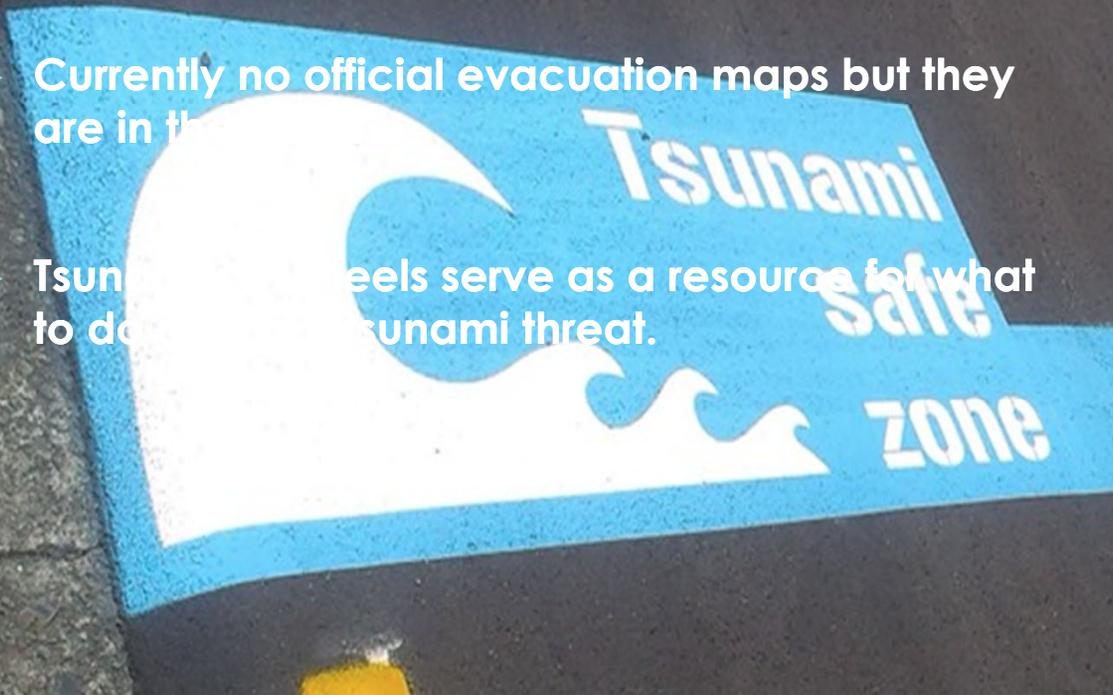
FACILITATING WARNING & ALERT MESSAGES:

- ▶ CNMI follows standard procedures and messaging for tsunami alerts
- ▶ Residents in high risk areas advised to evacuate during an advisory
- ▶ All other residents advised to evacuate during a tsunami warning.
- ▶ If local earthquake lasts more than 20 seconds, residents advised to evacuate immediately.



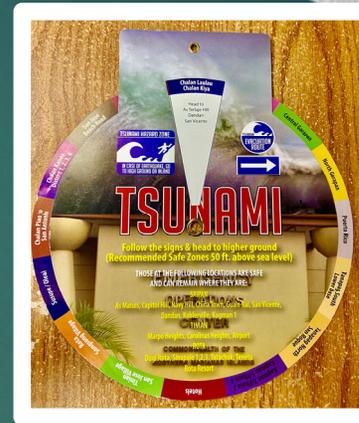
EVACUATION:

- ▶ CNMI has been able to install Tsunami Evacuation signage on Saipan, Tinian & Rota which residents can use to identify safe zones.
- ▶ Currently no official evacuation maps but they are in the process of being developed.
- ▶ Tsunami relief funds serve as a resource for what to do in the event of a tsunami threat.



Educational Resources & Community Outreach:

- ▶ Pinwheels have useful information explaining the basics of tsunami preparedness.
- ▶ Informational playing cards fun and educational tool.
- ▶ Drills conducted at schools when possible and information booths set up at community events.
- ▶ In the process of exploring alternative forms of outreach such as educational advertisements.



CHALLENGES OF TSUNAMI PROGRAM:

- ▶ Two major typhoons in the last 6 years
- ▶ The Covid-19 Pandemic
- ▶ Limited resources on the islands
- ▶ No meteorologists on island
- ▶ Isolated location



CHALLENGES

HIGHLIGHTS OF TSUNAMI PROGRAM:

- ▶ Installation of tsunami evacuation signage on all the islands.
- ▶ Successful composition of outreach material and successful outreach events.
- ▶ Near completion of tsunami siren project Phase I & Phase II.