

HURAO INC.'S EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

The proposed station will be used to advance an educational program that will further Hurão Inc.'s Chamoru language and culture education objectives. Census and language surveys indicate that Chamoru, the unique and indigenous language of Guam and the Marianas Islands, is in danger of being lost and in dire need of preservation and sustainable development efforts. In addition to Hurão summer cultural camps, after-school language immersion programs, and family immersion classes, we at Hurão Inc. see the opportunity to host a radio station as one that will enhance the ongoing efforts to preserve and develop the Chamoru language in our young children and students, and one that will benefit our entire Guam community.

With the proposed radio station, Hurao will be able to integrate our language immersion efforts and curriculum in partnership with the public and private schools curriculums to enhance, reinforce, and expand on the lessons learned in the classroom. Other objectives that will be greatly enhanced through an FM radio station include: 1) outreach by our *manhoben* (the young) to the *manâmkô'* (the elderly) asking to continue passing on our language and traditions to them; 2) history lessons to include live oral history interviews with our elderly that will educate the community, especially the young which will enhance and support self-identity; 3) traditional storytelling by our *manâmkô'* and others which will educate and tell of our people, their traditions, and culture; 4) language lessons for all levels of proficiency to support growth in comprehension and fluency, to include opportunities for students to practice their Chamoru language skills together with other creative talents on air; 5) special Chamoru lessons and song line-ups for all ages including children's songs to provide motivation in the use of the language and allow for impact on very young non-school age children; 6) a forum to positively address current issues facing the people of Guam and allow for live dialogue about these issues to be heard in the Chamoru language; 7) and special programs that will assist in bridging the gaps between old and young Chamoru language speakers and will transcend village boundaries and transportation issues which currently limit interaction between Chamoru language speakers.

Hurão's educational objectives are based on evidence from other countries and specifically with immersion language programs that the exposure of young children to a sustained language educational program has a tremendous positive impact on language use, retention, and preservation.