

Oahu Outreach-Emergency Shelter Provider Meeting
March 25th, 2021

Call to Order/Client Success Stories

- Emma: An older couple in Kapena falls that had lived there for a long time with several pets (dogs, cats, pigs, chickens) - we have engaged with this couple for years. Multiple outreach providers and shelters have offered services with some success, but the couple continued to return to homelessness. LEP assisted them to connect to housing, the collaborative consistent efforts in reaching this couple for years helped to build to this point that they were just able to get into housing.
- Scott: The advocacy of the health plan was really critical as was the work of CES staff. Were ready to unassign this person, but health plan coordinator advocated for this couple to keep the voucher a bit longer, which made all the difference. Value of case conferencing, case management, and collaborative work across orgs.

Government Agency Updates

- DHS-SSD
 - DHS SSD has funding available for former foster youth. If anyone aware of homeless young adults that have been through foster system, let us know so that we can connect with financial resources. Need to be aware of them by the end of September this year.
 - Note: this is a client-specific benefit, so DHS cannot award funds to a provider in the form of a contract.
- VA
 - Follow up vaccination event at Barber's Point is occurring on 4/9. Still accepting referrals for HUD-VASH, emergency and transitional housing.
- PIC
 - Vaccination clinics still continuing for those experiencing homelessness, if you have an area you'd like us to visit, please let Laura know. Tomorrow will be in Central Oahu with ALEA Bridge and will also go to some DV shelters. Contact for Laura: laurat@partnersincareoahu.org
 - Next Tuesday 3/30 from 6-9pm night outreach --- going to Piano Park on King Street - will set up tent and services there. We are hoping to connect to people that we don't normally see during the day

Presentations and Discussion

- HPD
 - Corporal Hayden Schmidt - HPD-CPT District 7
 - Used to work in D1 when HELP Honolulu first started, but is now in D7
 - D7 is everything east of Punahou Street all the way to Makapuu Lighthouse
 - Working with DLNR along with DFM on side of Diamond Head crater, will be working on that entire week 4/5 - 4/9.
 - SPO/NPO, done on a bi-weekly basis, we have some people that have been relocated to HONU through these enforcement efforts.
 - There are 6 officers in our CPT team, try to help as much as we can.
 - Scott: Team has been very helpful in collaborating with outreach. Not enforcement arm, but the face of HPD in their district. Try to find better options for homeless individuals. We receive a lot of requests for assistance with missing family members and we collaborate with CPT for that.

- Emma: Good situational awareness for upcoming evening outreach/vaccination event so CPT is aware of resources that providers are bringing to the community.
 - Officer Alan Ibrao – H.E.L.P. Honolulu/HONU
 - We are glad that the CPT are utilizing the outreach partnerships.
 - Looking to reactivate what we had going pre-COVID - want to restart the H.E.L.P. Honolulu outreach efforts. In process of scheduling one, will be in contact soon about preferences for that (e.g., times, locations).
 - If anyone would like to have an outreach in a particular area, please let us know. Looking at mid-April somewhere in leeward Oahu.
- DOE
 - Our F/T liaisons connect with service providers when homeless families with school-aged children are identified.
 - Last year piloted the YES Project, which underwent changes due to COVID-19. Plan to pilot again this summer on all islands, including more locations on Oahu.
 - Google Doc to information about YES Project and list of Homeless Liaisons statewide: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1vZzu43-d2lTrhsQmW_Hg5SLqgi6_co-lJqEvLlVcyb8/edit?usp=sharing
 - Scott: Importance of notifying DOE when providers learn of changes in families' locations.
 - Brianna: We offer a ton of support. Can get support to still attend the "school of origin" so don't have to change schools. Connections to access to tutoring, medical, dental, early learning, etc. Trying to remove as many barriers as possible.
 - Scott: Liaisons partner with HPD, SPO, and C+C parks staff on Leeward side --- provide resources for when children are encountered during enforcement or other activities. If anyone doesn't know who to contact, GCH office can help connect the dots.
 - Brianna Levy's contact info: brianna.levy@k12.hi.us 808-348-0308
- IRS Economic Impact Payments – Round 3
 - Several providers have reached out to PIC, LASH, etc. with questions about how to help clients qualify for the third round of economic impact payments. Per IRS website, individuals who did not file a 2019 or 2020 tax return *and* did not complete the non-filer registration last year for rounds 1 and 2 must file a 2020 tax return in order to claim the payment.
 - Filing federal taxes is free for those with less than \$72,000 annual income, but many of the free tax prep services through VITA or TCE have reduced or eliminated in-person assistance services.
 - IRS free volunteer tax services: <https://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep/jsp/vita.jsp?zip=96813&lat=21.3136151&lng=-157.8480364&radius=50>
 - Hawaii Tax Help: <https://www.hawaiitaxhelp.org/>
 - Laura: We will try to do some Lunch-and-Learns about this and reach out to anyone who is interested in gathering information about these resources.
 - Connie (LASH): <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/more-economic-impact-payments-set-for-disbursement-in-coming-days-taxpayers-should-watch-mail-for-paper-checks-debit-cards>

Provider Updates

- I.H.S. outreach: Collaborating with PIC to do the night outreach and vaccinations.
- I.H.S. shelters: In light of decreasing COVID cases, have made it easier for people to enter the shelters - use of the quick test. If person coming from public safety or out of state, will keep stricter procedures and will quarantine them in the hotel until get the results back.
- Legal Aid
 - Connie: We are looking for cases where people are being threatened with eviction. Let us know if come across any of these issues. Also now have online intake in addition to our phone line.
https://lashoi.legalserver.org/modules/matter/extern_intake.php?pid=129&h=daa817&
- Revive and Refresh
 - Still go to HONU Monday Wednesday and Friday. HPD does a wonderful job there and moving people into shelter. Not getting many people when go out to Waimanalo b/c of COVID. Have been continued partnership at St. Augustine's on Thursdays.
- RYSE
 - We have about 6 beds open, 2 female, 4 male. Contact number for Mobile Crisis Outreach is 808-861-6606. This is a 24/7 number to call for any young person in crisis. RYSE has a van, able to go out whenever and wherever. Going to participate in the night outreach next week.
- Family Promise
 - Have a few openings at our shelter, can give us a call if want to refer for intake.
- Gregory House
 - Starting to work with Project Vision for vaccines; no openings b/c major plumbing and sewage issues going on.
- Waikiki Health
 - Next Step is at capacity. Humane Society is conducting a pet event, including classes for pet owners, at Keauhou on 4/12, and will also be in the Moiliili area.
- Hawaii CARES
 - Two current isolation facilities/hotels will be offline at end of month (Pearl and Harbor Arms) so will greatly reduce our capacity for isolation and quarantine.

Closing Discussion

- Scenario: Unsheltered individual has small dog, but no documentation as emotional support animal. Individual is connected to case management but does not have access to a psychiatrist. Anyone have any thoughts on how to address the situation?
 - Connie: Maybe Hawaii CARES could assist? Would like to have mental health specialist and indicate therapeutic animal.
 - Stephen: Will talk to team and get back to you
- Emma: This is a scenario that comes up a lot. Difficult b/c it can be a grey area when the animal lacks documentation or qualification as a service animal.
- Carolina: <https://usaservicedogregistration.com/> For service, comfort, or emotional support animals.
- Scott: Recently KPHC reached out to Suzi at Humane Society to provide temporary shelter for the animal until the individual could get into housing. This may be an option on a case-by-case scenario.