

Oahu Outreach-Emergency Shelter Provider Meeting
December 23rd, 2021

We apologize that there were conflicting meeting links sent out and thank you everyone for your patience!

Call to Order

- [Kamaoku Kauhale](#) has moved in its first two residents! U.S. VETS is still seeking applications, so please connect with them if you are working with eligible clients. For more information and the application, visit either the [US Vets website](#) or the [GCH website](#).
- Due to recent developments and potential changes in the near future, we will continue these meetings on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays in 2022 until further notice.

Government Updates

- DOH AMHD
 - As a reminder, Oahu ISO/Q is being transitioned to the oversight of the City & County of Honolulu, but this transition is still in progress. Admissions to ISO/Q were stopped after 12/17 to ensure everyone would be transitioned out by 12/31.
 - Additional updates will be shared when they are available.
- HPD
 - HONU has almost fully recovered from the storm damage. There is currently a waitlist of over 100 people who have wanted to come into the HONU and are in the process of being called back. HONU is working to get this number down.
 - HONU has just passed 600 placements in 2021. This is around half of the people who have come into the program. KWO has been a great partner at Keaau.
 - There will be new leadership within HPD soon as Assistant Chief Santos is retiring and others within the organization may be shuffled around.
 - As a reminder, people who cannot meet ADLs or who have severe behavioral health concerns are not appropriate for HONU. While there are some light-touch medical services available on-site through I.H.S., those with high mental health needs or active substance use that cannot be managed will not be a good fit.

Presentations and Announcements

➔ **C.O.R.E. – Ian Santee, Honolulu Emergency Services Department**

- C.O.R.E. began its soft-launch in October in the urban core areas (Chinatown and Waikiki). They are still working on building their team and bringing on community services.
- So far, C.O.R.E.'s ambulance has transported 20 people to the hospital. They are working on setting up diversion possibilities with clinics and other providers. They have been meeting with the area CPTs, I.H.S., and PIC so far.
- C.O.R.E. cannot forcibly remove people from a property. Any violent situations are diverted back to 9-1-1 for HPD response. They have limited resources so your patience is appreciated as they work to respond to requests.
- Beginning on January 3rd, C.O.R.E. will be out regularly M-F. They will continue to expand into nights and weekends as they bring on more staff.
- Contact number: (808) 768-CORE

→ SNAP Updates

- DHS has been working with FNS to request an extension of certain waivers that will assist with the processing of applications and recertifications.
- The interview waiver for SNAP applications and recertifications is approved from January 1st – March 31st, 2022. Clients will not be interviewed unless there is information on the application that needs to be verified. Interviews would be done via telephone.
- The work requirement for non-exempt adults is scheduled to end on June 30th, 2022.
- All households will be subject to the regular recertification procedures. It is important to keep mailing addresses up to date to ensure clients receive their Six-Month Review Forms and Eligibility Reviews.
- Please refer to the earlier list of DHS Processing Center email addresses to assist in communication efforts if needed, especially if phone lines are busy.

→ Flood Damages (see attachment)

- The Salvation Army is assisting households who were impacted by recent flood damage. Please refer to the attached press release for information on how to apply.

→ Legal Aid Society Eviction Guide (see attachment)

- LASH, PIC, and GCH collaborated to produce a short guide for people who are in the process of eviction so they can potentially avoid homelessness. The guide is intended for those who cannot avoid being evicted or who need to move out of their current housing to avoid eviction. The handout will be posted on our respective websites.
- If any providers are noticing an uptick in requests for services from people who have been recently evicted, please share with our group.

Provider Updates

- Hale Kipa and YO!
 - YO! holiday party is on December 24th at the Waikiki drop-in center. It is open to any homeless individuals in the neighborhood.
- HHHRC
 - HHHRC is closed from December 24th – January 3rd, reopening January 4th.
- IHS
 - Please continue to reinforce vaccinations for those seeking admission to the shelters.
 - Working with the City and HPD to identify temporary solutions for COVID+ isolation, as the City is working with their departments to figure out a transition plan.
 - Note: The transmissibility of the Omicron variant is so high that providers are encouraged to look at in-house mitigation options.
 - Met with C.O.R.E. yesterday and looking for more ways to partner going forward.
 - Outreach team has been receiving more requests for services near Kuakini, as there seems to be a growing population of people experiencing homelessness in that area.
- KWO

- Currently experiencing challenges with separating COVID+ households due to having shared bathrooms in the emergency shelter.
- Legal Aid
 - Offices are closed next week. Online intakes will be available for emergencies, especially around evictions.
- Project Vision Hawaii
 - Vaccination team is off next week.
- RYSE
 - Next pop-up event is scheduled for December 29th at Aala Park.
- River of Life
 - Serving ham on December 24th, closed on December 25th and 26th.
- Family Promise
 - Unfortunately, shelter space needed to be reduced by half. They are down to 12 units now.
- Waikiki Health
 - Keolahou is still accepting intakes but the facility is at capacity.
 - Trying to enforce mask wearing and other safety precautions. Vaccinations are offered to those who come in without.
- Revive + Refresh
 - Laundry truck is operating in addition to shower trailers. They are continuing to service the HONU and other locations like Waikiki.
 - Noticing that some of the individuals at HONU who were regulars have gotten jobs since entering the program, so they aren't on site when the trailers are there.

Please enjoy a safe and restful holiday, and we look forward to seeing you next year!