

Hawai'i Interagency Council on Homelessness (HICH)
Meeting
October 19, 2015
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Honolulu International Airport Conference Facilities
International Terminal Conference Room 2
Minutes

Council Attendees:

Scott Morishige	Chair
Director Rachael Wong	Department of Human Services
Jim Westphal	Department of Health
Elaine Young	Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
Director Nolan Espinda	Department of Public Safety
Director Luis Salaveria	Department of Business Economic Development & Tourism
Kamana'o Mills	Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Keoki Leong	Department of Defense
Deja Ostrowski	Office of Hawaiian Affairs
Attorney General Doug Chin	Department of the Attorney General
Debra Farmer	Department of Education
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland	Senate
Representative Jo Jordan	House of Representatives
Hakim Ouansafi	Hawaii Public Housing Authority
Jun Yang / Gary Nakata for	City and County of Honolulu, Mayor's Office
Sharon Graham for	Kauai County, Mayor's Office
Susan Akiyama for	Hawaii County, Mayor's Office
Jan Shishido for	Maui County, Mayor's Office
Greg Payton	Partners in Care
Maude Cumming	Bridging The Gap
Andrew Dahlburg	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Mark Chandler	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Dave Rolf	Business Representative
Present on Phone:	Mariam Chase, SAMHSA
Absent:	Representatives from DHS Homeless Programs Office, Faith Community

1. 10:10 am Welcome by Scott Morishige, HICH Chair, roll taken, quorum established, meeting called to order.
2. 10:15 am First Order of Business: Action on Agenda. Motion to approve the Agenda was made by Director Salaveria and Seconded by Director Wong. Chair Morishige opened the floor for discussion seeing none Chair Morishige called the question. The motion passed unanimously. (See attached copy of agenda).
3. 10:20 am Second Order of Business: Calendar Meetings for Remainder of the Fiscal Year: Chair Morishige deferred this matter for the time being.
4. 10:25 am Chair Morishige presented overview and context on the complex situation followed by an overview of the State Plan adopted by HICH on September 10, 2012. Chair Morishige will refer to the attached PowerPoint (PPT) presentation. Homelessness is a statewide issue and data highlights the urgency and illustrates the fact that every community is effected by homelessness and therefore the issue touches every

member of the HICH. (See slide 2 and 3 of attached ppt) Overview: 2015 Statewide Point in Time Count.

Structures adopted to address homelessness (see slide 4 of attached ppt) A Coordinated Approach to Addressing Homelessness.

5. 10:30 am Chair Morishige called upon Greg Payton, Chair of Partners In Care (PIC), the continuum of care for Oahu, to provide background on the important role they play in our state's efforts to address homelessness. Mr. Payton explained that PIC is a coalition of over 30 non-profit service providers on Oahu and their mission is to end homelessness on Oahu. He explained that PIC has joined the 25 Cities Initiative which is a national effort to end homelessness in the 25 cities across our country that are experiencing the highest rates of Chronic homelessness by adopting a Coordinated Entry Housing Placement System that implements evidence based best practices such as Housing First and relies on data gathered through the use of a common assessment tool (VI-SPDAT).
6. 10:32 am Chair Morishige called upon Maude Cumming, Chair of Bridging the Gap (BTG), which is the continuum of care for the balance of state. She discussed the unique challenges the 3 island members of BTG face due to geographic separation. BTG is developing their Coordinated Entry System on each island and as a whole.
7. 10:35 am Strategic Plan to End Homelessness (see slide 5 of attached ppt and the attached Hawai'i Interagency Council on Homelessness Plan Adopted September 10, 2012 With Supporting Actions) which aligns with the priorities of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) Plan.
8. 10:45 am What Have We Accomplished? (See slide 6 of attached ppt).
9. 10:50 am Chair Morishige highlighted 3 specific examples of how the efforts of HICH have helped facilitate change in our state.
 - a. Example: 25 Cities Initiative (see slide 7 of attached ppt). Chair Morishige called upon VA representative, Andy Dahlburg, and HUD representative Mark Chandler, to discuss this collaborative VA / HUD initiative which provides technical assistance to focus on data, set goals and work together as a team to end homelessness. Chair Morishige further explained that the 25 Cities Initiative changed the practice of service providers in our community through increased collaboration and coordinated outreach, introduction of bi-weekly case conferencing, a commitment to serve high needs chronically homeless individuals and families in our community, and a willingness to change the culture and capacity to serve at the ground level. He thanked VA and HUD for supporting our state by providing the technical assistance necessary to provide tools necessary to help us replicate the success of peer communities across the country.
 - b. Example: Hawai'i Pathways Project (see slide 8 of attached ppt). Chair called upon Heather Pierucki, Director of Behavioral Health for Helping Hands Hawai'i, and Dr. Sarah Yuan, UH Center on the Family, to provide an update on the SAMHSA funded initiative to provide Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) services to homeless individuals with fidelity to the evidence based Pathways Housing First program and to leverage Federal/State/City housing vouchers to provide permanent housing to eligible clients. (See attached hand out "Hawai'i Pathways Project Progress Highlights"). Chair Morishige acknowledged the Dept. of Health, Helping Hands Hawai'i and Catholic Charities Hawai'i for the work they've done to serve these high need individuals and for showing how HICH can look at State funded services and continue to examine the data collected and how the current shelter system can be adapted to support a Housing First approach.
 - c. Example: The Kakaako Model (see slide 9 of attached ppt). Chair called upon Brian Matson to share information about the approach and lessons learned. Brian highlighted the coordinated outreach efforts and focus on data collection to drive

the decisions and facilitate the movement of individuals and families in Kakaako to shelter and permanent housing. Of the 293 individuals residing in Kakaako in early August 158 moved into shelter or permanent housing and 80% of the families identified in Kakaako Makai in early August moved into shelter or permanent housing. This model of State, City, Service Provider and community collaboration can be replicated in other areas across our state and through coordinated outreach and data collection policy decisions can be made to meet the needs of the individuals and families experiencing homelessness in alignment with USICH guidance on responding to encampments.

10. 11:15 am Chair Morishige solicited questions/discussion from the members of the HICH.
 - a. Greg Payton stated that he is very encouraged by the coordinated effort to shelter and house individuals who were experiencing homelessness in Kakaako during the recent enforcement efforts which aligned with the USICH approach to encampments. The model relied on coordinated outreach, collection and analysis of data which was used to make informed decisions that responded to the population needs, e.g. families and children.
 - b. Senator Chun Oakland stated that there is a need to focus on special homeless subpopulations, such as the elderly and formerly incarcerated. She mentioned other sub populations including youth and individuals with substance abuse and/or mental health issues. She noted that our community needs to restore capacity and services for people with mental health challenges.
 - c. Scott Morishige shared that significant numbers of the chronically homeless are seniors and that the data shows the average age of the chronically homeless on our streets and beaches is 61.5 years old. He mentioned that conversations are ongoing with Hale Kipa and youth services network as well as criminal justice re-entry programs and reiterated that HICH will be forming a working group to examine medical respite.
 - d. Representative Jordan asked how many of the Kakaako homeless who had gone to shelter had already fallen out? She stated that she heard that many had already exited Lighthouse Outreach Center.
 - e. Scott Morishige replied that the recent Hawaii News Now story was inaccurate. He emphasized that 50% of the Kakaako population made the choice to accept shelter or permanent housing. He reminded the HICH members that many homeless individuals have been unsheltered for a long time and that outreach workers have worked over time to build trusting relationships with the homeless.
11. 11:24 am Chair Morishige shifted the focus of the discussion to the future by returning to the PowerPoint presentation, specifically slide 10 titled Aligning Our Plan with the Data/Identified Needs (see slide 10 of attached ppt). Expanding Data Collection Across Communities. The information is broken out into 3 geographic areas. (See slide 11 of attached ppt). As we look at homeless populations in different communities, the approaches will differ from community to community. In Wahiawa there is a need for a Housing First approach, more case management, and supportive services. On the Waianae side the data shows the will be on an economic approach. Moving Forward (see slide 12 of attached ppt). HICH will be forming four working groups to continue the momentum and implementation of the goals of the strategic plan.
12. Chair Morishige turned the presentation over to Jun Yang, Mayor's Office on Housing, City and County of Honolulu, to talk about efforts to engage local landlords. A Landlord Summit was convened in the beginning of July, when landlord were invited to attend and listen to the Secretary of the Department of Veteran Affairs. Mr. Yang stated that 85 new units were set aside to be used by the City as a result of the July summit. He also

announced that the State, City and, the Hawaii Association of Realtors (HAR) are working with the service providers to host a landlord summit in mid-November. HAR expects about 400 landlords and property managers to attend the event. He stated that through this effort we are building capacity in our community and working closely with the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority (HPHA) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to house veterans and achieve the goal of the 25 Cities Initiative and the Mayors Challenge to end veteran homelessness by December 31, 2015.

13. Chair Morishige moved to the PowerPoint slide titled The Next 60-Days (see slide 13 of the attached ppt) which articulates immediate, intermediate and 60 day goals.

14. 11:37 am Public Testimony

Chair Morishige opened the floor for public testimony, 7 individuals spoke.

- a. Michael Peacock testified that as a peer working with the SAMHSA grant and Judge Kubo's Veteran Treatment Court he is researching ways to bill Medicaid and health care plans for peer recovery services and enlists the assistance of HICH.
- b. Belinda Lau testified that she is affiliated with Hoomaukapo and helps individuals regain self-sufficiency through public private partnership and she is honored to attend the HICH meetings and seeking increased opportunities for partnership.
- c. Bob Nakata testified on behalf of F.A.C.E. and encouraged HICH to form a working group to address the shortage of affordable and low income housing since in order to end homelessness we need more housing.
- d. Connie Mitchell, Executive Director of the Institute For Human Services, thanked Scott Morishige for the work he has done and suggested the community exercise caution regarding data collection, and encouraged less aggregation of data and recommended a micro look at communities.
- e. Andrea, a VISTA volunteer with Hawai'i Community Assets reported that at a recent public forum the community encouraged increased utilization of DHHL resources and Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU's).
- f. Colin Kippen, testified that he is encouraged by the relocation of the office of the Governor's Homelessness Coordinator to the Capitol and resulting increased exposure of the issue. He applauded the continued use of the data and system re-design work that has been ongoing since October 2013. And he encouraged continued focus on permanent housing and engagement of landlords. He was discouraged that the Governor's Emergency Proclamation did not address or facilitate the development of more permanent housing. Mr. Kippen was encouraged that HPHA is working to prioritize homeless families for section 8 vouchers.

15. 12:00 pm Third Order of Business: Adjournment. Chair Morishige entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion to Adjourn was made by Luis Salaveria and Seconded by Greg Payton. Chair Morishige called the question. The motion passed unanimously.