

Hawai'i Interagency Council on Homelessness (HICH)

Meeting

June 9, 2015

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Minutes

Council Attendees:

Colin Kippen	Chair
Kayla Rosenfeld	DHS
Lori Tshako	DHS Homeless Programs Office
Wendy Nihoa	DOH
Mark R. Mitchell & Max Otani	DPS
Janice Takahashi	DBEDT
Kamana'o Mills	DHHL
Deja Ostrowski	OHA
Lila King	Dep. Attorney General
Cassandra Bennett	DOE
Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland	Senate
Rep. Jo Jordan	House of Representatives
Ben Park	HPHA
Jun Yang and Thayer Goya for	Mayor of City and County of Honolulu
Kaloa Robinson for	Mayor of Hawaii County
Jan Shishido for	Mayor of Maui County
Greg Payton	PIC
Maude Cumming	BTG
Andrew Dahlburg	DVA
Rebecca Borja	HUD
Major Dave Harmon	Faith Community
Karen Wataro Nakaoka	Business Representative

Absent: Representatives from DLIR, DOD, and Kauai County

1. Welcome by Colin Kippen, HICH Chair, Roll taken, quorum established, meeting called to order.
2. First Order of Business: Action on Agenda. Motion to approve the Agenda was made by Lori Tshako and Seconded by Kamanao Mills. The Chair opened the floor for discussion seeing none the Chair called the question. The motion passed unanimously. (see attached copy of agenda)
3. Second Order of Business: Action on November 19, 2014 Minutes. Chair gave a brief overview/summary of the minutes and entertained a motion. Motion to Adopt the Minutes from the November 19, 2014 Meeting was made by Lori Tshako and Seconded by Kaloa Robinson. The chair opened the floor for discussion, seeing none the Chair Called the Question. The motion to adopt the minutes from the November 19, 2014 Meeting passed unanimously. (see attached copy of 11/19/14 minutes)
4. Honolulu Aim. Chair Kippen called upon Scott Morishige, Executive Director of PHOCUSED, Greg Payton, Chair of Partners In Care, and Andy Dahlburg, Hawai'i Director of Homeless Programs, Department of Veterans Affairs to discuss the work being done locally to align with the National Goals and National Support we have been receiving. Scott Morishige Introduced the Power point of the shared vision of ending homelessness in Hawai'i. (see slides 1 and 2 of the attached PowerPoint). Andy Dahlburg discussed our progress toward ending veteran homelessness (see slide 3 of

the attached PowerPoint). Greg Payton discussed our progress toward ending chronic homelessness on O'ahu (see slide 4 of the attached PowerPoint). Scott Morishige discussed what we have learned and the importance of data (VI-SPDAT, HMIS and PIT) that can be used to target specific populations and set goals and measure our progress (slide 6 of the attached PowerPoint). Scott explained how the VI-SPDAT data helps in Understanding the Needs of Homeless Families (see slide 7 of the attached PowerPoint). Scott drew our attention to data in the O'ahu Point in Time Count: 2009-2015 and the increasing number of unsheltered homeless (see slide 8 of the attached PowerPoint). He moved to the final two slides in the PowerPoint which represent Other Data Points that PHOCUSED has been compiling and how the data can impact decisions regarding the continued investment in shelter facilities versus different interventions that address housing affordability, a shift toward a Housing First approach and lower barriers to shelter and housing and how resources are being utilized (see slide 9 of the attached Power point) and Exit Destination from Emergency Shelter (see slide 10 of the attached Power point).

5. Senator Chun-Oakland commented that one out of every five people experiencing homelessness is a veteran. She asked if there has been clear communication to the military and veterans organizations at the federal level that there is a need to build new housing units/ She shared that even with the VASH vouchers and other money sources, there is not enough housing stock for people to move in to. Senator Chun-Oakland said the Interagency Council MUST make a continued priority to have funds allocated from the public sector (federal, state and counties) and private sector to build new housing stock.
6. Jan Shishido reported that on behalf of the mayor of Maui she is pleased with the progress and focus on data and coordinated policies.
7. Public Testimony

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

- a. Dave Cannell testified that he has been homeless for 9 years and that he has been watching the dysfunctional system for years. He is optimistic now that things will begin to change and that there is momentum. He is hopeful that the State and City will continue to put money into the system.
- b. Katherine Xian is thankful that the council is focusing on true data which is essential to social service work. She went on to discuss her work with the Kapalama Canal and Kakaako communities and the impact that media coverage has on the lives of the homeless in those communities. She recommended a media taskforce be formed to improve the accuracy of the media coverage.
- c. Don Cresciammano stated he has been homeless since 2009, he acknowledged that Greg Payton, Mental Health Kokua, needs our support since such a high proportion of homeless individuals have mental health issues. He also opined that the current city polices (particularly the use of hpd in enforcement actions) has served to inadvertently criminalize homelessness in the public's mind. Mr. Cresciammano also shared that he is continuing to work with an architect to build container housing despite the NIMBY response of many communities.
- d. Michael Peacock testified that providing wrap around service is difficult because individuals are seeing multiple service providers instead of one specialist that faces each possible resource that a client needs.

- e. Luana Meyer urged the council to focus on children, youth and family homelessness
 - f. Marlen Sommers advocated for homeless families and encouraged collaboration for wrap around services among organizations.
 - g. Jun Yang announced that the city had reprinted additional Homeless Health Cards and urged people to contact him at 768-7799 to receive a supply of cards. He also gave a brief overview of the project that the city will be opening on Sand Island.
8. Third Order of Business: Adjournment.
Chair Kippen entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion to Adjourn was made by Lori Tsuhako and Seconded by Jun Yang. Chair Kippen called the question. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm.