

# Written Updates to the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness

March 20, 2017 – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

(Reports consolidated by the office of the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness)

## Department of Human Services (DHS) and Homeless Programs Office (HPO) Update

As requested please see HPO summary of key points and highlights below:

1. HPO is participating in the 2017 legislative session.
  - a. HPO provided testimony to 18 Senate bills and 27 House bills.
2. HPO hired and filled another position, and currently has 9 staff members.
  - a. HPO has 2 vacant Program Specialist IV positions.
  - b. HPO currently is working to fill vacancies with upcoming interviews.
3. HPO completed the procurement and executing contracts for State Homeless Shelter Program, State Homeless Outreach Program, State Homeless Emergency Grants (SHEG), and State Housing Placement Program (HPP).
4. HPO posted the following RFPs on February 10, and submittals were due March 10:
  - a. State Rapid Re-Housing Program
  - b. State Housing First Program, Oahu and Neighbor Islands
5. HPO is in the process of
6. HPO in the process of revising Admin Rules to align with RFP's, future contract services, and Act 234, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016 (SB2559).
7. HPO continues to work with the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (V.A.) regarding HUD VASH program and data collection in HMIS

## Department of Health

The Department of Health, Adult Mental Health Division has the following written updates:

- The Adult Mental Health Division will be launching an Intensive Case Management (ICM) Pilot Project Program for our homeless consumers in the Pre-Booking Jail Diversion and Central Receiving Division program. The ICM team will consist of a Case Management team leader, Psychiatrist or Advanced Practice Registered Nurse with Prescriptive Authority (APRN-Rx), registered nurse (RN), and a peer support worker (i.e. Hawaii Certified Peer Specialist). The ICM team will provide ongoing assessment and interventions to assist homeless consumers with symptoms that may impair each consumer's ability to function at their highest level and become successful in the community. This program will assist with consumers with the risk potential of:
  - Hospitalization at the Hawaii State Hospital (HSH)
  - Visit to the ER for psychiatric care
  - Arrest
  - Suicide
  - Violence and deterioration in psychiatric status

One of the programs goals is for the development of personalized strategies for empowering consumers to manage their mental illness and to educate and utilize their support system to assist in a knowledgeable and informed manner.

- On April 1, 2017, The AMHD will increase homeless outreach on Oahu with the contracted providers increasing their staff. This increase will assist providing homeless outreach coverage in areas that were previously difficult to reach due to limited staff.

*(Please also refer to attached written update for the Hawaii Pathways Project)*

#### **Department of Public Safety**

The department has no further updates at this time.

#### **Department of Defense**

The department reports the following updates:

1. **Progress since last report:** Homeless within the State Department of Defense.
  1. Hawaii Army National Guard reported one homeless family (decrease of one).
  2. Hawaii Air National Guard reported no homeless families (decrease of one).
  3. Youth Challenge Academy reported one homeless family (no change).
  4. State Office of Veteran Services reported contacting 15 homeless families
2. **Plans:** Continue to identify and support homeless concerns in the State Department of Defense.
  1. Work with the Hawaii Office of Veterans' Services to support homeless programs related to veterans.
    - 02/22/17 - Homeless Coalition at the Kona Salvation Army – 125 attendees.
    - 02/16/17 - OVS participated in No Wrong Doors (NWD) Pilot Program Webex network training. The program streamlines the process of making/receiving referrals within the NWD network agencies.
  2. Coordinate with youth outreach programs to identify homeless 16-18 year olds that would benefit from the Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge Program.
  3. Participate in Homeless Veterans Task Force meetings.
  4. Coordinating with Defense Commissary Agency to bring case lot sales to the neighbor islands for veterans on a predictable schedule. Next case lot sale is scheduled for March 17, 18, and 19. Barking Sands Pacific Missile Range, Facility in Kekaha, Hawaii. Volunteers from the Vet Center will provide information and outreach to the Veterans attending the sale.
3. **Problems:** No concerns at this time.

#### **Department of Hawaiian Home Lands**

At DHHL, our mission is to place beneficiaries into homes within Hawaiian Homestead communities throughout the State of Hawai'i. DHHL is continuing to focus on the development of permanent affordable housing for beneficiaries.

For those beneficiaries facing financial arrears, and are in threat of losing their homes on Hawaiian home lands, DHHL created the HALE Program, which aids beneficiaries with financial literacy services, homebuyer education classes, foreclosure prevention management, and one-on-one counseling.

DHHL is also exploring rental housing in La'i 'Opua on Hawaii island, and Waimanalo for Kupuna. DHHL will be awarding 45 lots in Waimanalo.

### **Department of Defense**

The department reports the following updates:

4. **Progress since last report:** Homeless within the State Department of Defense.
  1. Hawaii Army National Guard reported two homeless family (increase of one).
  2. Hawaii Air National Guard reported one homeless families (increase of one).
  3. Youth Challenge Academy reported one homeless family.
  4. State Office of Veteran Services reported contacting 14 homeless families
5. **Plans:** Continue to identify and support homeless concerns in the State Department of Defense.
  1. Hawaii Office of Veterans' Services to support homeless programs related to veterans.
    - a. The State Office of Veterans Services (OVS) supports homeless Veterans by accomplishing outreach visits and by co-sponsoring Homeless Stand Down Events.
      1. Planning for 3 Nov 16 Maui Veteran Stand Down 2016 at the Hawaii Army National Guard's Pu'unene Armory.
    - b. Also supported Veteran jobs resourcing as an Hawaii Hires Heroes (H3) advocate, tie into the Veterans Treatment Court as a facilitator, and we're part of the State's No Wrong Door Program as one of the major doors for Veterans.
  2. Coordinate with youth outreach programs to identify homeless 16-18 year olds that would benefit from the Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge Program.
  3. Participate in Homeless Veterans Task Force meetings.
6. **Problems:** No concerns at this time.

### **County of Maui**

The County of Maui shares the following written updates:

- In an effort to tackle Maui's homeless issues, Maui County has recently hired a Homeless Coordinator. David Nakama will be charged with overseeing the County's Coordinated Entry

System; coordinating HUD funding and designations; assessing, researching and making recommendations of new programs to address housing needs and gaps relating to homeless; addressing homeless impacts, prevention & public outreach/education.

- Representatives from Maui County participated in the Coordinated Entry System and HMIS training presented by Iain DeJong of Org Code, and the Hawaii HMIS training by Carlos Peraro.
- Maui County is planning for its Second Annual Landlord Summit, which will take place this summer. The summit's goal is to increase the availability of affordable housing, which will also assist with homeless issues.

#### **County of Kauai & Kauai Continuum of Care (aka Kauai Community Alliance)**

The County of Kauai and the Kauai Community Alliance share the following written updates:

- KCA participating agencies assisted with Kaua'i Island's homeless Point-In-Time Count during the week of January 23-28. Agencies dispersed island wide to be able to get an accurate count. All survey's were entered into the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) by the lead agency KEO.
- KCA continues to do our best with Coordinated Entry System (CES), there has been some unforeseen issues that arose for BTG (Kauai, Maui & Hawaii Counties), and we are currently working with HPO and BTG to resolve these issues in order to proceed with the CES process.
- The Oahu Continuum, Partners In Care, convenes the Advocacy Committee, follows and recommends legislative bills, and the neighbor islands participates in this committee. The Advocacy Committee (Oahu, Kauai, Maui and Hawaii Islands) urges providers and groups to submit testimony in support of the following bills (see attached for description and funding allocation for each bill):
  1. Homeless Outreach bill (HB 1195/SB 1214)
  2. Housing Subsidy and Support bill (HB 100 Budget bill)
  3. Affordable Rental Unit Housing Units bill (HB 488)
- RFP for Housing First and Rapid Rehousing grants through HPO are currently open, the close date is Friday, March 10.

The following trainings were provided to agencies island-wide on behalf of KCA:

- Org Code – VI-SPDAT/CES by Iain De Jong – December 14 – 15, 2016 at Piikoi Conference Room A & B
- Point-In-Time Count – Survey training by Homeless Programs Office – January 13, 2017 at Piikoi A & B
- Coordinated Entries for Families Kick off Event – Org Code Iain De Jong – February 16, 2017 – Oahu

The following in-service training opportunities are upcoming within the next few months:

- Trauma Informed Services- April 12, 2017 from 1pm – 4pm at Piikoi Conference Room A
- Org Code Training - CES – May 24 – 25, 2017, at Kauai Veterans Center and June 21 – 22, 2017 at Piikoi A & B

### **County of Hawaii**

The County of Hawaii shared the following written updates:

- Affordable Rental Housing Projects
  - Mohouli Senior Phase II. Thirty (30) one-bedroom, one-bath affordable rental units under construction in Hilo designated for individuals who are at least 62 years of age. Units scheduled to be ready for occupancy in October 2017. The County has committed thirty (30) Project Based Vouchers to the Development. The County began accepting on-line applications on March 6, 2017.
  - Kamakana Villages – Senior Housing Community Development. Eighty-five (85) affordable rental unit under construction in Kailua-Kona designated for individual who are at least 62 years of age. First phase of units scheduled to be ready for occupancy in early October 2017. The County has committed fifteen (15) Project Based Vouchers to the Development, focusing on serving those individuals and families whose income is equal to or less than 30% of the Average Median Income. On-line applications to be available in April 2017.
  - Kamakana Villages – Family Housing Community Development. Eighty-five (85) affordable rental units under construction in Kailua-Kona designated for “families”. First phase of units scheduled to be ready for occupancy in early October 2017. The County has committed twenty (20) Project Based Vouchers to the Development, focusing on serving those individual and families whose income is equal to or less than 30% of the Average Median Income. On-line applications to be available in April 2017.
- Inter-Faith Community Partnership
  - Family Promise. The group continues to work on bringing the Family Promise program to Hawaii Island.
  - Asset Mapping. The group is working on developing an “asset map” to determine resources (to address family homelessness) on the Island.
  - Second Annual Inter-Faith Summit to end Family Homelessness has been scheduled in Kona on September 22, 2017, and in Hilo on October 4, 2017. The committees has begun to meet to start the event planning.
- Coordinated Entry System
  - The County is working on finalizing its implementation plans. The County, along with the its community partners have set an implementation goal of April 6, 2017, with the first convening.

**U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (V.A.)**

The VA began a 60-day “surge” on February 27<sup>th</sup> where for the next 8 weeks, the VA will set a target of housing 1-12 veterans a week and also identifying 20 new housing units per week. This would also merge with the Mayor’s Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness.

The summary of key decision, actions and notes is provided below:

1. Leadership team agreed to merge case conferencing for veterans and chronically homeless; first merged meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup>
2. Leadership team agreed to change the surge dates from February 13 – April 17 TO **February 27 – April 30**
3. Surge goals agreed upon:
  - a. Increase housing placements – from 25 to 45-50 placements/month; 10/11 per week
  - b. Increase coordinated landlord outreach – 22 units/month
  - c. Outreach Coordination – increase to 10 total veterans/week, getting unsheltered veterans enrolled in housing programs

**Bridging the Gap – Neighbor Island Continuum of Care**

*(Please refer to attached written updates from Bridging the Gap)*

**Faith-Based Representative**

The Faith-Based Representative provided the following written updates:

1. Working on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Faith Based Conference that is scheduled for April 28-29, 2017.
  - a. Friday, April 28 is designed for clergy and senior church leaders (7:30 – 11:30)
    1. Three topics to be covered:
      - i. Initiating ministries to homeless persons.
      - ii. Faith-based responses and opportunities.
      - iii. Activating congregations.
    - b. Saturday, April 29 is designed for church members that are working with our homeless community (8:00 – 2:00)
      1. Eight topics to be covered:
        - i. Case management – navigation services
        - ii. Current initiatives
        - iii. Collaborative outreach
        - iv. Economical housing development
        - v. Community re-entry
        - vi. Advocacy
        - vii. Special considerations with chronic homelessness
        - viii. Special populations (e.g. seniors, kupuna, women, domestic violence, and veterans).

# HAWAII PATHWAYS PROJECT (HPP)

March 6, 2017

## CURRENT PROJECT STATUS

### 1. Transition Actions



- Since October 2016, HHH, ADAD, the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness (Scott Morishige), and the Mayor's Office on Housing (Jay Parasco), have collaborated to utilize Winston Hale and Pauahi Hale as single site housing for the Hawaii Pathways Project clients. Pauahi Hale is set up to house 12 clients, while Winston Hale is set up for 18 clients.
- Since December 2016 HHH has coordinated with Mental Health Kokua, the CHOW Project, and U.S Vets for case management services, tenancy support services, and background checks. This collaboration has resulted improving the process of moving 30 clients into Pauahi Hale and Winston Hale.
- The 30 clients have been identified and are in various stages of move-in process. The City Housing Office and HHH project the first clients will move in during March 2017.
- Catholic Charities Hawaii (CCH) staff has been further modified. Rona Fukumoto will no longer work with HHH in transitioning clients. All client related services have been retained by HHH. HHH has subcontracted tenancy support services, housing specialist services and employment services to the CHOW Project and Mental Health Kokua.
- The CABHI Grant Project Officer at SAMHSA has been notified of ADAD's plan to extend the project service date, originally designated March 31, 2017 in the No Cost Extension, to July 31. This would allow for 60 days (August 1-September 30, 2017) for project close out. ADAD's Hawaii Pathways Project Coordinator has discussed this plan with HHH and ADAD's fiscal branch to ensure coordination and timely submission and reconciliation of all HPP invoices and FFRs for submittal to SAMHSA.
- HICH, HPP, MedQuest Division (MQD), AMHD, and Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) continue to collaborate on the statewide plan for homelessness: -MQD's 1115 waiver, that defines Tenancy Support Services and the target population, is in final stages for submission, review and approval. This is an important piece in the sustainment plan for Housing First in Hawaii as it provides a means for tenancy support services to be implemented in the community without the requirement of CABHI funding. MQD expects a response by September 2017.  
  
ADAD and Scott Morishige have coordinated to provide "Bridge Funding" to HHH until MQD's waiver may allow for independent provider billing.
- HHH's transition process is in implementation. Case management services have begun with other providers and the "warm handoff" process is underway. Those

clients that have been identified and connected to case management services other than HHH have begun working with those organizations.

- The technical assistance for the Hawaii Pathways Project sustainment plan is being provided by Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) and is currently underway. CSH has made two visits to Oahu and has met with multiple stakeholders one on one and in a group setting. This service is set to continue until September 30, 2017.
- HHH and HPP Coordinator have also retained the services of Dr. Sam Tsemberis, founder of Housing First, Inc. His technical assistance is being utilized by the project service team. HHH is the primary coordinator for Dr. Tsembaris.

## 2. Permanent Housing



- 66: Total placed
- 60: Total Housed; includes those with **neutral exits** (03-deceased in housing; 01-transitioned to care home)
- 56: Total housed currently

## 3. Vouchers



- 75 vouchers total provided by 7 sources (State, City, Shelter Plus, HUDVASH, U.S. Vets, Gregory House)
- 63 of those have been accounted for, as in a there is a name linked to that voucher
- 13 of the 63 are in the process of housing placement or rapid rehousing
- 12 are in the balance, no name linked to the voucher
- 03 awaiting referral by the VA through HUD VASH program
- 09 awaiting referral by US Vets program
- 73 of the 136 are awaiting a “flexible” housing voucher

## **Bridging the Gap Update Report**

March 11, 2017

### **Capacity Building Efforts**

- From Dec 8 -15, 2016: Iain DeJong of OrgCode conducted training on Hawai'i Island, Maui and Kaua'i.
  - Thinking and & Acting Like a System of Services and Supports
  - VI-SPDAT
  - Diversion
  - Coordinated Entry & Prioritization
  - Measuring Performance & Making Program Adjustments
  
- BTG leadership is coordinating additional two-day learning clinics in May & June 2017 to be held on each island. Service offer will include the following and connecting its relevance to the CES:
  - Rural Homelessness Solutions
  - Street Outreach to Housing
  - Being an awesome shelter
  - Housing Stabilization that works and
  - Effective Continuum of Care

### **Coordinated Entry System for Families**

OrgCode staff Erin Wixsten engaged with homeless family providers from October 2016 to Feb 2017 on Kauai, Maui and Hawaii Island to gather input from providers of what the Family CES could look like. 20 representatives from BTG traveled to Oahu on February 16 and participated in the kickoff event of Hawaii's Coordinated Entry System for families. BTG joined PIC members at this event. Participants received a copy of the operating manual. This event was sponsored by Hawaii Community Foundation. Next Steps for BTG include HMIS training for CES conveners/managers on each island. County government is taking on the leadership role to be the conveners of the CES for BTG on each island.

### **Homeless Point in Time Count 2017**

HPIT count was conducted the week of January 23, 2017 with the question, where did you sleep on January 22? Surveys were entered into the new Caseworthy HMIS & shelter census have been confirmed. Intention is to conduct a joint press release with PIC as was done in 2016. BTG will work with PIC to generate data highlights for a joint press release.

### **BTG, National Spotlight at National Alliance to End Family & Youth Homelessness Conference**

National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) invited, Bridging the Gap Chair, Brandee Menino, to be a speaker at this year's conference held in Houston, Texas regarding Continuum of Care Leadership. (February 23, 2017)

*Respectfully Submitted, Brandee Menino – BTG Chair*

