

Hawai'i Interagency Council on Homelessness (HICH)

Meeting

September 4, 2013

1:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Minutes

Council Attendees:

Colin Kippen	Chair
Barbara Yamashita	DHS
Brian Matson for Lori Tsuhako	DHS Homeless Programs Office
Lynn Fallin	DOH
Elaine Young	DLIR
Max Otani	DPS
Deja Ostrowski	OHA
Nalani Wilson-Ku	Dep. Attorney General
Cassandra Bennett	DOE
Jo Jordan	House of Representatives
Suzanne Chun Oakland	Senate
Pam Witty Oakland for	Mayor of Honolulu
Sharon Hirota for	Mayor of Hawaii Island
Jan Shishido for	Mayor of Maui County
Darryl Vincent	Partners in Care (Continuum of Care for Honolulu)
Maude Cumming	Bridging the Gap (Continuum of Care for Neighbor Islands)
Tracey Betts	DVA
Mark Chandler	HUD
Dave Rolf	Business Representative

Absent: Representatives from DBEDT, DHHL, DOD, HPHA, Kauai County, and Faith Community

Guests: Debbie Shimizu Governor's Office, John DeMello HPD, Councilmember Carol Fukunaga, Louis Galdeira for Councilmember Kymberly Pine, Representative Kobayashi Representative Awana, Representative Rhoads, Jun Yang for Mayor of Honolulu, Mark Mitchell for DPS

1. 1:10 p.m. The Chair Called the Roll and established Quorum.
2. 1:11 p.m. Meeting was called to order by HICH Chair Colin Kippen, who gave welcoming remarks. The Chair announced that there are four action items on the Agenda: Approval of the Agenda, and Approval of the Minutes of the August 7, 2013 meeting, Adoption of Legislative Initiatives, Set next Meeting and Adjourn.

3. 1:12 p.m. First Order of Business: Action on Agenda. Motion to Approve the Agenda was made by Sen Chun Oakland and Seconded by Mark Chandler. The Chair opened the floor for discussion seeing none the Chair Called the Question. The Motion passed unanimously.
4. 1:13 p.m. Chair gave an overview of the meeting agenda.
5. 1:14 p.m. Second Order of Business: Approval of the Minutes of the August 7, 2013 Meeting. Motion to Approve the Minutes was made by Barbara Yamashita and Seconded by Dave Rolf. The chair opened the floor for discussion. Member Mark Mitchell requested that the minutes be corrected and the following be stricken from item #19 of the minutes "Mark Mitchell answered that the individuals will be identified as they move through the system with a goal of housing 90% in scattered site housing by the end of the pilot". After discussion it was agreed that the minutes should be corrected to strike the above language. Chair called the question.
6. The Motion to Approve the Minutes as corrected passed unanimously. (see attached).
7. 1:15 p.m. Chair Kippen opened the floor to Public Testimony. 10 individuals spoke
  - a. Dan Purcell discussed the potential of video conferencing or teleconferencing future meetings.
  - b. Don Creseimanno relayed a story concerning a 60+ y.o. homeless man whose granddaughter, in NYC, went on Google and found her grandfather was listed 16 times for criminal trespass for sleeping in the park and now she thinks he is a criminal.
  - c. Michael Peacock, Peer to Peer Counselor and founding member of the Vet2Vet Program and a SAMHSA/HICH volunteer working group member, spoke regarding the importance of integrating peer support into our approach. He announced an upcoming 9/17/13 SAMHSA meeting being held at the Armory.
  - d. Burt Lum, E.D. Hawaii Open Data, spoke regarding the Icon Local that was held on 8/17/13. He reported that the group's next step would be to get their sketches digitized for use in a brochure/website/decal to be distributed by service providers with a goal of using the symbol to inform the public and spread the word. Burt stated that this is a community effort with no public funding focusing on increasing communication with new individuals and that the design/tech innovation community was embracing the idea.  
(1:25 pm Pam Witty Oakland, City and County of Honolulu arrived.)
  - e. Betty Lou Larson discussed the draft legislative plan...shallow rent subsidy is missing in the draft plan – Legislation needs to be ongoing. Chair Kippen commented that a discussion of legislative priorities was scheduled for later in the agenda.
  - f. Erik Butler, volunteer, formerly homeless passed out his business card and discussed his shelter prototype and video. He commented on HPD's actions to "move" the homeless and officer DeMello interjected that it is not their job to "move" homeless individuals but rather to "enforce the laws".
  - g. Shannon Wood commented on the number of meetings concerning homelessness being held by other agencies and requested more coordinated scheduling in the future.

h. Bruce Kehaulani, Living Life Source Foundation, spoke about his organization's work in the community and their emphasis on cultural based teaching. They are currently working in Kalihi Valley to provide a safe place for homeless youth. He mentioned the Kauhale Program focused on cultural practice and showing children a path to self-sustainability. Chair Kippen commented on his Kauhale Task Force in connection with SCR 137 that this work is ongoing.

i. Sophina Placencia, E.D of Waianae Community Outreach, reported on a meeting held in late August with the Leeward Housing Coalition/Waianae and HPD. They are working on building a relationship/partnership to find solutions that are community and culturally sensitive. She mentioned that HPD is collecting basic information on the individuals they encounter and then sharing the information with service providers who can then conduct follow-up outreach and assessment to the individuals.

j. Cynthia Rezendes, Leeward Housing Coalition, followed up on Sophina's comments concerning the process. Their meeting was valuable as a result HPD has a better understanding of outreach and the service providers have more empathy for HPD and the pressure they receive from the public.

8. 1:47 p.m. Chair Kippen opened the floor for Voluntary Updates by members. Pam Witty Oakland reported on City Council Resolution 13-172 and their CDBG priorities. The first priority is to fund Housing First in the sum of \$7.7 million. The proceeds of the HAHPI sale, scheduled to close on 3/31/14, will set aside CDBG/HOME money to DCS to implement the HF program. The RFP will go out in mid-September, followed by an information session with all proposals due by 10/31/13. The City is collaborating with the State to align their HF with the State's HF. Chair Kippen mentioned that the State DHS/HPO is working on their RFI and emphasized that extensive wrap around services are necessary to make HF successful. Sen Chun Oakland asked for a clarification of the breakdown of CDBG and HOME funds being allocated to the city's HF. PWO answered that approximately 15% of the HAHPI sale proceeds will go to DCS for the HF model; \$5.2 Million in CDBG funds will be for services and \$2.5 million in HOME funds will be for tenant based rental assistance. Connie Mitchell inquired about the funding and whether it will be for a certain period or ongoing. PWO replied that the conversations are ongoing and the RFP is the first step.

9. 1:53 p.m. Chair Kippen opened the floor for discussion by members of potential legislation related to preventing or assisting in ending homelessness. A copy of the draft priorities for legislation in 2014 was distributed.

Chair Kippen Entertained a Motion to Adopt the list as drafted. A Motion to Adopt the list was made by Sen. Chun Oakland and Seconded by Brian Matson.

The Chair opened the floor for discussion. Lynn Fallin asked for a clarification regarding the funding requested for the Vets Court. Chair Kippen responded that the spirit of the proposal was to augment the funding that exists (fill the gap) and acknowledge that this program currently lacks permanency. LF stated that the proposal makes sense to her and that she sees them as things to pay attention to as we go forward.

Rep. Rhoads stated that the House passed a Vets Court bill last year. The bill is currently with the Senate and still alive. Sen. Chun Oakland added that they requested an appropriation last year and advocated for funding in conference.

Chair Kippen called on Jenny Lee and Victor Geminiani, of Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice, to comment on the five priorities related to establishing a more equitable economic and tax policy to increase the ability of the working poor to survive and live in Hawaii. Mr. Geminiani stated that all five initiatives are directed at individuals in Low – Moderate Income Brackets. Dave Rolf asked how many earn minimum wage right now. VG stated this was a good question but that he had no immediate answer. DR was concerned with scoring. VG replied that initiatives 1 through 4 will pump \$75 million into the economy for low-moderate income residents. DR shared his 3 universal questions: 1) what costs? 2) who pays? 3) what will it do?

Mark Chandler asked a question regarding the use of “Shelter + Care” in the language about the \$500,000 Appropriation for Matching Funds. He said that the programs formerly known as “Shelter Plus Care” (SPC) and the “Supportive Housing Program” (SHP) funded by HUD, are now known as the “Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Grant Program” under the terms of the HEARTH Act. He suggested designating the matching funds required by the state for these two grant programs as follows: “Continuum of Care Grant Programs, formerly known as SPC and SHP.”

Darryl Vincent acknowledged that the name of this federal grant program has changed, and that the name should be updated in the state bill providing for the match. Sen. Chun Oakland Moved to Amend the list by inserting a) an Appropriation of \$50,000,000 to the RHTF and b) increase S + C appropriation for matching funds from \$500K to \$1.0 million. The motion was seconded by Dave Rolf.

Chair Kippen opened the floor to discussion on the Motion to Amend. Pam Witty Oakland asked what the cost associated with Safe Place was. Sen Chun Oakland answered \$400K. PWO asked what the cost associated with Vets Court was. SCO answered \$300K. Chair Kippen asked for additional discussion, seeing none he called the question on the motion to amend. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Kippen opened the floor to discussion on the Motion as Amended. Louis Galdeira mentioned that tax credits only helped those who were employed/earning income. He feels there needs to be an incentive to hire those who are houseless since those who have no address and no current job are often screened out by employers. Chair Kippen asked for additional discussion, seeing none he called the question. The Motion to Adopt the amended list passed unanimously with Dave Rolf abstaining, (see attached).

10. Chair Kippen called on Brian Matson to discuss Data Collection Initiative and follow up to the Questionnaire for Members of the HICH which was distributed on 8/7/13.
11. 2:55 pm Chair Kippen called on the working group team leaders to give brief updates.
  - a. Connie Mitchell discussed the re-tooling group's progress.
  - b. Colin Kippen discussed the housing group's progress and collaboration with UH SOA to design a micro unit, modular, prototype building.
  - c. Colin Kippen discussed the economic stability group's progress.

d. Lynn Fallin discussed the health group's progress and their development of two pilot programs with ADAD and AMHD to target the high utilizers, chronically homeless individuals. The group is looking at potential funding and the connection with Housing First model.

e. Paul Ruddell discussed the data group's progress. The group has a goal of shortening the intake process, improving the data quality standards and mechanisms for sharing information regarding client history, recidivism, cycling though to meet the HUD, State and City requirements. The group will be facilitating more training regarding data quality with a goal of making the data more complete, accurate and consistent, removal of duplication so true numbers will be represented. They will be integrating PATH (DOH) into HMIS to consolidate the data with no duplication. The group will be looking at the Homeless Service Utilization Report specifically focusing on recidivism, housing first data and outreach program outcomes. The group will support future data sharing initiatives and universal consent forms so that the DOH, DHS, DLIR and VA can share client data to streamline and coordinate the delivery of services.

12. Chair Kippen apologized for running over on the time. He notified the group of upcoming meetings and announced that an invitation only Rapid Results Boot Camp is scheduled for early October.

13. 3:15 p.m. All parties left. Quorum lost. Meeting adjourned.

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- Overview and Approval of Agenda (Vote Required.)
- Approval of Minutes (Vote Required.)
- Public Testimony Taken (Approximately 3 minutes per person.)
- Voluntary Updates By Members of Recent Activities Relating to  
Addressing Homelessness.
- Discussion and Adoption of Legislative Initiatives to Prevent or Assist in  
Ending Homelessness. (Vote Required.)
- Review of Data Collection Initiative by Staff.
- Progress Reports & Review of Calendars by Working Group Team  
Leaders.
- Retooling the Crisis Response System  
                  Increasing Access to Stable and Affordable Housing  
                  Increasing Economic Stability  
                  Improving Health and Stability  
                  Data
- 3:00 p.m.      Set Next Meeting Date and Adjourn. (Vote Required.)

\*Special thanks to the Speaker of the House Joseph M. Souki for Making this Meeting Room Available to the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness.

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