

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 Tshako	DHS Homeless Programs Office
Lynn Fallin	DOH
Elaine Young	DLIR
<i>Mark Mitchell</i>	<i>DPS</i>
<i>Max Otani</i>	<i>DPS</i>
Deja Ostrowski	OHA
Nalani Wilson-Ku	Dep. Attorney General
Cassandra Bennett	DOE
<i>Jo Jordan</i>	<i>House of Representatives</i>
<i>Bertrand Kobayashi</i>	<i>House of Representatives</i>
<i>Karen Awana</i>	<i>House of Representatives</i>
<i>Karl Rhoads</i>	<i>House of Representatives</i>
Suzanne Chun Oakland	Senate
<i>Pam Witty Oakland for</i>	<i>Mayor of Honolulu</i>
<i>Jun Yang for</i>	<i>Mayor of Honolulu</i>
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

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 on going.

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.

Hawai'i Interagency Council on Homelessness (HICH)  
Meeting  
August 7, 2013  
1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
Minutes

Council Attendees:

Colin Kippen	Chair
Barbara Yamashita	DHS
Lori Tsuhako	DHS Homeless Programs Office
Lynn Fallin	DOH
Mark Mitchell	DPS
Janice Takahashi	DBEDT
Kamana'o Mills	DHHL
Aulii K. George	OHA
Russell Suzuki	First Dep. Attorney General
Nalani Wilson-Ku	Dep. Attorney General
Steve Shiraki	DOE
Jo Jordan	House of Representatives
Suzanne Chun Oakland	Senate
Ben Park	HPHA
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)
Andy Dahlburg	DVA
Brian Johnson	HUD
Dave Rolf	Business Representative
Absent:	Representatives From DLIR, DOD, Honolulu County, Kauai County, Hawaii County, and Faith Community

Guests: Chris McNair DVA, Ryan Borges HPD, John DeMello HPD and Brian Matson HICH

1. 1:00 p.m. The Chair Called the Roll and established Quorum.
2. 1:05 p.m. Meeting was called to order by HICH Chair Colin Kippen, who gave welcoming remarks. The Chair announced that there are two action items on the Agenda: Approval of the Agenda, and Approval of the Amended Minutes of the May 23, 2013 meeting.
3. 1:10 p.m. First Order of Business: Action on Agenda. Motion to Approve the Agenda was made by Lori Tsuhako and Seconded by Janice Takahashi. The Chair opened the floor for discussion seeing none the Chair Called the Question. The Motion passed unanimously.
4. 1:12 p.m. Chair gave an overview of the meeting agenda.
5. 1:15 p.m. Second Order of Business: Approval of the Minutes of the May 23, 2013 Meeting. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Janice Takahashi and seconded by Dave Rolf. The chair opened the floor for discussion. Member Dave Rolf inquired about the figures in item 6 regarding the SAMHSA grant. After discussion it was agreed that the minutes should be amended to read “...if the grant is for \$2.0 million and the number of chronically homeless is currently 600, does that equate to spending roughly \$1,000 per

person, per year, over the three years of the grant?" Chair called the question. The motion to approve the minutes as amended passed unanimously.

6. 1:20 p.m. Chair Kippen opened the floor to Public Testimony. 10 individuals spoke
  - a. 1:20 p.m. Michael Peacock, Peer to Peer Counselor and founding member of the Vet2Vet Program and a SAMHSA/HICH volunteer working group member, spoke regarding the need to reduce the stigma associated with being homeless.
  - b. 1:22 p.m. Shannon Wood, spoke about her history as an advocate in the community as founder of Family Promise and involvement with Beacon of Hope. She also spoke about the issue of the lack of availability of shelter beds and housing units in the community and urged the HICH to take time to identify a media representative and educate the media about the lack of shelter beds and affordable housing.
  - c. 1:27 p.m. Bruce Kehaulani, Living Life Source Foundation, spoke regarding about his organization's work in the community and their involvement with, foster kids, runaways, homeless youth and "YO" within the Manoa to Waikiki Ahupuaa on Oahu.
  - d. 1:29 p.m. Cynthia Rezendes, Leeward Housing Coalition, spoke about the numerous initiatives that the HICH and the homeless service providers are involved in. She asked the HICH to take the lead to improve coordination amongst all of the new initiatives being created at various levels of government to avoid loading more non-funded work on existing homeless service providers. She described new work assignments from the continua of care, from the 100,000 homes initiative, from the Homeless Assistance Working Group of the Hawaii State Legislature, and from the four working groups of the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness. She also mentioned "data envy" and double counting to achieve results engaged in by various service providers who have no additional resources to accomplish new initiatives. She commented that this leads to inaccurate data and incorrect conclusions about the efficacy of these "new" initiatives.
  - e. 1:33 p.m. Erik Butler, volunteer, formerly homeless attending meeting to get involved in the solution...and discuss his shelter prototype.
  - f. 1:35 Rev. Andrew Large, Waikiki Baptist Church spoke about his efforts to help end homelessness over the years and to show support.
  - g. 1:37 Don Creseimanno, advocate for homeless and homeless individual, made a brief presentation on his shipping container project. He is enthusiastic about the potential to convert existing shipping containers into suitable self-sustaining housing opportunities. He mentioned how frustrating the regulatory system (building department, permitting and zoning) is to those who are trying to build low cost housing.
  - h. 1:40 Alex Santiago, Partners In Development, spoke of the fact that he is hopeful that a project which has been a dream for many years may now be able to be built. He is enthusiastic about the potential to build a Kauhale in Waianae which will house homeless Hawaiians and utilize culturally relative practices in their day to day life.
  - i. 1:43 Jenny Lee, Esq., Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice, presented their anti-poverty legislative initiatives to help generate income and establish more equitable taxes in Hawaii. The initiatives include: (1) a poverty tax credit; (2) a State Earned Income Tax Credit for working families; (3) Refundable Tax Credits e.g. (a) a GET Food Tax Credit and (b) a Low Income Renter's Credit; (4) Increasing the State's minimum wage.

HI Appleseed has written papers on the subjects of poverty and affordable housing which are available on their website. (See attached).

(1:47 p. m. Janice Takahashi departed)

j. 1:48 p.m. Ken Akinaka, HSHN, spoke about the prevalence of hepatitis in Hawaii.

7. 1:50 p.m. Chair Kippen opened the floor for Voluntary Updates by members. Five individuals spoke.
  - a. Captain Borges, HPD Waikiki, explained that they are receiving an increased number of complaints concerning homelessness in Waikiki and relayed the fact that being homeless is not a crime. He indicated his support and his willingness to help.
  - b. Officer DeMello, HPD Waikiki, informed the attendees that they have valuable experience from working with homeless individuals and coordinating with outreach service providers. The officers know many of the individuals they encounter and reiterated that homelessness is not a crime. He indicated his support and his willingness to help.  
(1:52 p.m. Senator Chun-Oakland arrived)
  - c. 1:53 p.m. Lori Tsuhako, DHS Homeless Program's Office director, acknowledged the hard work of her division and their recent completion and execution of 80 new service provider contracts.
  - d. 1:56 p. m. Andy Dahlburg, DVA, recognized the hard work of his staff and the VA commitment to ending Veteran homelessness by 2015. They held 3 neighbor island homeless summits and hired an additional staff person so they now have one on Maui and one on Kauai. He announced the Mental Health Summit which will be occurring at Tripler on 9/5 & 6/2013. He committed to support the Rapid Results Boot Camp which is being planned for 10/3 & 4/2013 in Honolulu to deal with the issues mentioned by Cynthia Rezentes during open testimony. He also announced an upcoming Stand Down scheduled for 11/9/2013 at McCoy Pavilion and encouraged the HICH to support the efforts of Judge Kubo's Veteran's Court.
  - e. 1:58 p.m. Lynn Fallin, DOH, spoke very briefly about the work of the DOH and deferred to her presentation scheduled for later in the agenda.
8. 2:00 p.m. Chair Kippen opened the floor for discussion by members of potential legislation related to preventing or assisting in ending homelessness. 2:02 p.m. Chair Kippen called upon Senator Chun-Oakland who discussed legislation she is drafting which will help the working poor...RHTF...DHHL policy shift...HPHA(housing for those earning  $\leq$  60% of AMI) increased CIP \$\$\$ (last year's legislature only gave 50% of what was requested)...DURF. Chair Kippen discussed the need for funding for the building of more affordable housing and permanent funding for the State's Housing First Program because if it is not funded permanently, it cannot be considered permanent housing consistent with the requirements of the national Housing First Program. It was also opined that funding the program on a year to year basis may increase the costs of administration and may have the effect of making people homeless who previously were enrolled in a Housing First program for which annual funding has lapsed.



9. 2:10 p.m. Chair Kippen discussed the current Kakaako development plans and circulated copies of a handout prepared by the Hawaii Community Development Authority which illustrates the need for affordable, low-income, housing. (see handout)
10. 2:15 p.m. Chair Kippen discussed the need for increased involvement from HPHA and a recent June 2013 memorandum from HUD Secretary Donovan which encourages PHA's to work to end homelessness and to team up with local CoC's (see handout) Lynn Fallin, DOH, opened the discussion of how to address the needs of the homeless population. She stated that Housing First requires that a person be immediately housed and that their treatment and other needs should be addressed after that person is first housed. She said there are many homeless people who have specialized needs and that delivering these services to them may be difficult. Some examples are the need for behavioral health services, drug and alcohol treatment, probation and other criminal justice services, and other counseling and mentoring programs. ... She questioned how the homeless fit into different kinds of housing options we are now able to provide. She concluded that we need a better understanding of the specific needs of each homeless individual so that we can provide housing options that are a good 'fit' for that person. She opined that our present approach to housing our homeless is very fragmented, and must improve. Lynn Fallin proposed the formation of a working group to examine and identify the various kinds of special housing that is generally available in Hawaii.. Mark Mitchell, DPS, spoke about the special housing supports required for someone in housing, saying the focus should be on specialized services for those we house rather than providing specialized housing in the first place. He cautioned against creating ghettos of special housing units and instead suggested we need to find housing for those people with special needs, that we need to house them, and that we need to retool our service delivery system so that we can support them wherever they are. He concluded by saying this is the Housing First model which is presently being touted and supported at the National level as a housing best practice. Chair Kippen opined that in order to be successful, we must involve the Public Housing Authorities and the Section 8 government subsidized housing voucher programs in these efforts. Sen. Chun-Oakland agreed with Mr. Mitchell noting that many people with Mental Health issues are living in homes with their families...in the private sector. She mentioned we need to look at where people are living now. We also need to identify who the homeless are, what they need, and then locate housing to meet their needs. She mentioned we need to look at building more affordable housing, including building Single Room Occupancy Structures. (see handout provided by HICH)
11. 2:20 p.m. Senator Chun-Oakland gave a report on the Homeless Assistance Working Group created by the Legislature this last legislative session. She mentioned the idea of co-locating services with existing food distribution sites. She mentioned the work of the UH Arch Students in designing innovative and inexpensive housing modular units that may be built as individual or as clustered units. She announced that the HAWG was conducting training on 8/14/2013 from 5-7 pm for block captains and volunteers who want to be engaged in outreach. She also announced that the next meeting of the WG will be on 9/3/2013 at 6:00 p.m.
12. 2:35 p.m. Chair Kippen gave a brief update on the work of the SCR 137 Kauhale group and announced that the WG would be meeting on 9/8/2013 at 10:00 a.m. (see handout)

13. Chair Kippen discussed the 100K homes initiative and announced the Rapid Results Boot Camp scheduled for 10/3-4/2013. The Boot Camp will work on getting people aligned, breaking down silos and barriers in order to house as many as possible within a 100 day timeframe.. The boot camp will be conducted in collaboration with the City & County of Honolulu Housing Office. (see handout)
14. Chair Kippen called upon staff member Brian Matson to discuss a Questionnaire /Data Collection Tool which each HICH member will be requested to complete and return to the HICH. The Questionnaire should help to identify the ways various agencies/divisions, members are currently addressing homelessness within their departments/organizations. (see handout)
15. 2:45 p.m. Chair Kippen called on the working group team leaders to present progress reports and announce upcoming meetings.
16. 2:47 p.m. Connie Mitchell, IHS, reported on the work of the Retooling the Crisis Response System team. The team is working in collaboration with the PIC and the HUD TA efforts to design Coordinated Assessment Tools for comprehensive assessment and screening...PSH...transitional housing. Dave Rolf asked if the existing 211 phone number currently works for Intake, Assessment and Referral. Ms. Mitchell explained that the goal of the pilot project was to improve the referral...create a warmer handoff so people don't bounce from service provider to service provider to connect with available resources. She explained that the 211 service was not a 24 hr. referral system and currently is not capable of conducting the assessment and screening necessary for an appropriate referral to relevant and necessary services. Dave Rolf asked if retooling will eliminate the necessity of 211. The group response was "no". Connie Mitchell also announced the IconLocal event which Burt Lum is facilitating on 8/17/13 which will be useful in the retooling work. (see handout provided by HICH)
17. 2:50 p.m. Chair Kippen read a report prepared by Janice Takahashi, DEBT, concerning the Increasing Access To Stable and Affordable Housing Team. The team is working on 2 pilot programs. One for individuals earning below 50% of AMI and the Second for homeless and special needs individuals and families in order to improve their access to Public Housing.... (see handout)
18. 2:53 p.m. Brian Matson gave a brief update on the Increasing Economic Stability Team.
19. 2:55 p.m. Lynn Fallin, DOH, presented an update on the work of the Improving Health and Stability Team. She has convened 3 meetings and the team is focusing on drilling down and looking at intensive case management, in connection with the Housing First model, to test the efficacy of scattered site Housing First with Assertive Case Treatment. This is a multi-system approach focusing on a group of 60 high use utilizers, from an HPD list, in the geographic areas of Waikiki, Downtown and the Capitol. They are drafting a timeline to coordinate with Federal funding and expect a case worker/client ratio of 1:15 or 1:10 depending on funding and specific success measures. Dave Rolf asked what success will look like. Lynn Fallin replied that the individuals won't show up at the ER. Dave Rolf asked when it will be known how many times the 60 visit the ER. Mark Mitchell replied that they already know and are looking at those who use the ER 4 or more times per year based on their MH1, their BH, Physical health, and incarcerations. It is a matter of cross walking there three lists. Dave Rolf asked about core case management and the goal asked what the expected cost savings will be. Lynn Fallin replied that the cost savings will be substantial just through eliminating their ER

visits. Don Cresceimanno gave an example of the savings he has seen with the care he is facilitating for an 86 year old. Maude Cumming relayed her experience with a client who had numerous issues. She housed the client in supportive housing through shelter plus care. Prior to housing the client was billed \$100,000 for 1 stay in the hospital, not including costs of ER visits. The client was housed at a cost of \$1,200/mo. with no hospitalizations. Michael Peacock relayed a story of a client he worked with who was connected with Medicaid, SSI/SSDI through a SOAR trained individual and the savings to this person was \$450,000.

20. 3:15 p.m. Chair Kippen reported on the Community Forum regarding the Integration and Expansion of Behavioral Health Services for Medicaid Beneficiaries which was held on July 29, 2013, and City and National efforts to reduce habitual 911 calls (see attached handout).
21. 3:20 p.m. Chair Kippen gave a brief presentation on the work of the Data Team.
22. 3:22 p.m. Chair Kippen entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dave Rolf made the motion and Lori Tshako seconded the motion. The floor was opened for any discussion, seeing none the Chair called the question and the motion to adjourn passed unanimously.
23. 3:25 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

## HIGH PRIORITIES FOR LEGISLATION IN 2014

- **Increase funding for the Rental Housing Trust Fund (RHTF) to 50% of conveyance tax, and increase conveyance tax rate on purchases of residential and commercial property, and tax land acquisitions made via stock transfers (a loophole utilized to avoid paying conveyance taxation).** RHTF is the most efficient way to channel funds into development of low-income rentals. It also stimulates the economy and provides the State with a permanent legacy of affordable housing. Request an appropriation of **\$50 Million/year**.
- **Establish more equitable economic and tax policy to increase the ability of the working poor to survive and live in Hawaii.**
  - **Create a State Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC),** to provide a tax refund for eligible workers to promote employment, financial literacy and asset-building as a means to realizing a higher level of economic security. The State EITC could be modeled after the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) which is presently a refundable tax credit for low-income working families. If Hawai'i created a state EITC equal to 10 percent of taxpayer's federal EITC, a family receiving a \$1,250 federal EITC would receive \$125 from the state of Hawai'i.
  - **Update the Low-Income Household Renters Credit.** The Low-Income Household Renters credit provides a refundable \$50 credit per exemption to filers earning less than \$30,000 in Hawaii adjusted gross income. This credit has not been increased since 1981 and should be adjusted for inflation to a \$128 credit, with households earning up to \$56,000 federal AGI made eligible for the credit.
  - **Update the Food/Excise Tax Credit.** The Food/Excise Tax Credit provides a sliding-scale refundable credit (maximum \$85) per exemption to low-to-moderate income households making less than \$50,000 federal AGI. This credit should also be made consistent with inflation up to \$95, with an increase in eligibility to \$56,000 federal AGI.
  - **Create a Low-Income Worker Credit.** Create a new, non-refundable tax credit that would eliminate any remaining state income tax burden after applying all other refundable credits for filers whose federal adjusted gross income is below the federal poverty guidelines. For households who are close to poverty, create a credit eliminating half of the remaining state income tax burden for those making up to 125 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.
  - **Increase the minimum wage.** Hawaii is one of the most expensive places to live in the country and our wages are disproportionately low in relationship to these costs. An increase in the minimum wage would help workers transition out of homelessness and to be able to stay in stable housing.
- **Continue Housing First at \$1.5 Million As A Standing Budget Item.** The State's Housing First program is presently an annual appropriation and should be converted to a permanent program. This action would reduce the costs of administration and would guarantee that individuals participating in the program would have access to permanent

housing so long as they met the income and other requirements. Housing First targets the chronically homeless who are the most vulnerable and often the most visible and most difficult to serve homeless in our communities.

- **\$1 Million in Appropriation for Matching Funds** from general revenues for fiscal year 2014-2015 for Shelter + Care and Supportive Housing.
- **Establish a Safe Place for Unaccompanied Youth**, where minors may safely access support services, emergency shelter, medical care / referrals to medical care, and 24-hour crisis intervention without the presence of an adult parent or guardian.
- **Establish a Veteran Court** to provide early intervention and diversion from incarceration; individualized assessment of problems, judicial tracking, monitoring treatment participation; encouragement of veterans to accept responsibility for their conduct; and provide rehabilitation of veterans and their successful reintegration into society. The VTC will serve those individuals who have served in any branch of the military or activated military reserves, regardless of their discharge status. It currently serves felons. The VTC accepts individuals with substance abuse, mental illness, and co-occurring disorders. The unique features of this court include a strong partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs who attends court and assesses discharge status, benefit eligibility and service delivery through DVA programs. The VTC will also provide a mentor program developed in partnership with the DVA that will match as closely as possible the veteran with a mentor from the same war, same branch of service, and same rank. The court will also provide targeted treatment for veterans with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). The staffing needs for the VTC include a Coordinator, a Probation Officer, and positions for the Public Defender and Prosecutor.
- Continue the **Rental Assistance Program**, also known as the Shallow Subsidy Program, with an appropriation of **\$1.0 million** consistent with the 2013 SB 515 CD1.