

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S
OFFICE



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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

Agenda

Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness (HICH)
Monday, July 13, 2020
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA TELECONFERENCE CALL OR OTHER
ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF COMMUNICATION ONLY INCLUDING BOARD MEMBERS,
STAFF, DEPUTY ATTORNEYS GENERAL, AND THE PUBLIC.**

The Governor's Ninth Supplementary Proclamation dated June 10, 2020, suspended Chapter 92, HRS, Part I. Meetings, to the extent necessary to enable Boards to conduct meetings without any board members or members of the public physically present in the same location. Individuals should submit written testimony no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, July 10, 2020, which will be distributed to council members. You may submit written testimony via e-mail to gov.homelessness@hawaii.gov or by U.S. mail to 415 S. Beretania Street, Rm. 415 Honolulu, HI 96813.

The public and members may participate in the HICH meeting as it happens via Zoom at <https://hjwf.zoom.us/j/92112416034?pwd=MXdSS3pnU1RRS3ZtMkVSY2JRRktkdz09> (Please click on this link). When prompted, enter the Meeting ID: 921 1241 6034 and the Password: HICH.

Alternatively, the public and members may also participate in the meeting by calling: 1-253-215-8782 or 1-346-248-7799. When prompted, callers should enter the Meeting ID: 921 1241 6034 and the Password: 416893. It is requested that meeting participants change the display on their device to show their first and last name to expedite rollcall. Please keep in mind that many devices will display your cellphone number if not changed.

- I. Call to Order, Taking of the Roll
- II. Overview and Approval of Agenda (Vote)
- III. Approval of Minutes (Vote)
 - a. Regular Meeting Minutes, December 16, 2019

IV. Public Testimony (One minute per testifier)

- a. Public testimony on any agenda item shall be taken at this time.

V. New Business

- a. Discussion and possible action regarding HICH recommendations regarding strategies to address homelessness in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. **(VOTE)**

Discussion will include information from:

- i. A presentation by the COVID-19 Philanthropic Response Hui.
- ii. An overview of Stimulus Response Core technical assistance provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regarding the use of federal funding related to COVID-19 and the CARES Act.
- iii. A review of efforts to develop community-centered housing for individuals and families transitioning out of homelessness.
- iv. A review of technical assistance and consultation available to address homelessness in Hawaii, including Clutch Consulting, Homebase, ICF, Community Solutions, National Council for Behavioral Health, Collaborative Quality Consulting and Housing Innovations.

VI. Continuing Business

- a. Discussion regarding revisions to the Hawaii State Framework to Address Homelessness and ten-year strategic plan to address homelessness, including specific strategies, tactics, and metrics and examining the intersection between local initiatives and federal initiatives to address homelessness.

VII. Permitted Interaction Group

- a. Report and discussion of the permitted interaction group established pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (H.R.S.) §92-2.5 to review and recommend potential revisions to the ten-year strategic plan to end homelessness, and the Hawaii State Framework to Address Homelessness.
- b. Report and discussion of the permitted interaction group established pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (H.R.S.) §92-2.5 to explore the intersection between homelessness and health, and make recommendations to the full council for action.
 - i. Update on technical assistance efforts provided by the Corporation for Supportive Housing, Clutch Consulting, and the Cloudburst Group.

- ii. Update on technical assistance efforts provided by the National Council on Behavioral Health.

VIII. General Announcements

A. Chairperson and Staff Reports: January / February / March 2020 and April / May / June 2020

- Accomplishments / Highlights
- Planned Activities

B. Written Reports from Council Members. The following written updates are provided for the Council's consideration and review (the full write-ups for each representative will be provided):

- *Department of Human Services (DHS) and Homeless Programs Office (HPO)*
- *Department of Health (DOH)*
- *Department of Labor & Industrial Relations (DLIR)*
- *Department of Public Safety (PSD)*
- *Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT)*
- *Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL)*
- *Department of Defense (DOD)*
- *Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA)*
- *Department of the Attorney General*
- *Department of Education*
- *Hawaii State House of Representatives*
- *Hawaii State Senate*
- *Hawaii Public Housing Authority*
- *County of Hawaii*
- *County of Kauai*
- *County of Maui*
- *City & County of Honolulu*
- *Continuum of Care for Oahu, Partners in Care*
- *Continuum of Care for Hawaii Island*
- *Continuum of Care for Maui*
- *Continuum of Care for Kauai*
- *U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development*
- *U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs*
- *Faith-based community*
- *Business community*

IX. Executive Session

Pursuant to H.R.S. §92-7(a), the Council may, when deemed necessary, hold an Executive Session on any agenda item without the written public notice if the Executive Session was not anticipated in advance. Any such Executive Session shall be held pursuant to H.R.S. §92-4

and shall be limited to those items described in H.R.S. §92-5(a). Discussions held in Executive Session are closed to the public.

X. Topics for Upcoming Meetings

A. Open for Council Suggestion

XI. Meeting Schedule

The following Council meetings are proposed for the 2020 calendar year:

- Monday, September 21, 2020, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Monday, December 21, 2020, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

XII. Adjourn (Vote)

A mailing list is maintained for interested persons and agencies to receive this board's agenda and minutes. Additions, corrections, and deletions to the mailing list may be directed to the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness (GCH) at Hawaii State Capitol, 415 S. Beretania St., Room 415, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813; Telephone (808) 586-0193 Fax (808) 586-0019; or e-mail gov.homelessness@hawaii.gov. Agendas and minutes are also available on the internet at <https://homelessness.hawaii.gov/hch/agenda-and-minutes/>

If you require special assistance, auxiliary aid and/or service to participate in this event (i.e. sign language interpreter; interpreter for language other than English, or wheelchair accessibility), please contact the GCH at (808) 586-0193 or email your request to gov.homelessness@hawaii.gov at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting. We will try to obtain the auxiliary aid/service or accommodation, but we cannot guarantee that request will be filled.

Agenda Item III.

Approval of Minutes

a.Regular Meeting Minutes, December 16,
2019

Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness (HICH)
Honolulu International Airport Conference Rooms 3 & 4

Monday, December 16, 2019

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Council Attendees:

Mr. Scott Morishige	Chair
Ms. Daisy Lynn Hartsfield for	Director of the Department of Human Services (DHS)
Mr. Harold Brackeen III	Administrator of the Homeless Programs Office of DHS
Ms. Yara Sutton for	Director of the Department of Health (DOH)
Mr. Leonard Hoshijo for	Director of the Department of Labor & Industrial Relations
Ms. Jodie Maesaka-Hirata for	Director of the Department of Public Safety (PSD)
Mr. Bruce Oliveira for	Adjutant General of the Department of Defense (DOD)
Ms. Jenifer Jenkins for	Chairperson of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs
Ms. Melissa Lewis for	Attorney General
Ms. Toby Portner for	Superintendent of Department of Education (DOE)
Senator Russell Ruderman	Hawaii State Senate
Mr. Jimmy Hamada for	Hawaii State House of Representatives
Mr. Ben Park for	Executive Director of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority
Mr. Marc Alexander for	Mayor of the City & County of Honolulu
Ms. Sharon Hirota for	Mayor of the County of Hawaii
Ms. Lori Tsuhako for	Mayor of the County of Maui
Ms. Laura Thielen	Continuum of Care for the County of Honolulu
Ms. Brandee Menino	Continuum of Care for the County of Hawaii
Ms. Makana Kamibayashi	Continuum of Care for the County of Kauai
Ms. Maude Cumming	Continuum of Care for the County of Maui
Mr. Andy Taylor	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
Mr. Mark Chandler	U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD), Office of Community Planning & Development
Mr. Dave Rolf	Business Community Representative

Absent:

Representative for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Representative for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Representative for the Mayor of the County of Kauai; and Faith-Based Representative.

Staff:

Mr. Justin Limasa, Homelessness Assistant; Mr. Randy Gonce, Homelessness Administrative Assistant; Mr. Jason Kasamoto, Homelessness Special Assistant and Public Affairs; Ms. Emma Grochowsky, Homelessness Community Development Specialist; Ms. Lily Young, Deputy Attorney General

Special Guests:

Ms. Katy Miller, United States Interagency Council on Homelessness; Ms. Laura Leone, National Council for Behavioral Health; Ms. Kate Davidson, National Council for Behavioral Health

- I. **Call to Order. Taking of the Roll.** Roll taken and there was a quorum established with 22 out of 27 members. The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by the Chair.

Chair Morishige welcomed everyone and noted that all material was sent out electronically. Council members were asked to sign up at the registration desk if they did not receive handouts in advance of the meeting. Members of the public were also asked to request a copy of materials from staff and were advised that a sign-up list was available to receive a copy of the meeting packet and handouts by e-mail. The Chair welcomed special guests Ms. Katy Miller (United States Interagency Council on Homelessness), Ms. Laura Leone (National Council for

Behavioral Health), and Ms. Kate Davidson (National Council for Behavioral Health). The Chair also recognized departing Council member Ms. Jodie Maesaka-Hirata, who will be leaving her role as Deputy Director for the Department of Public Safety, Corrections Division.

- II. **Overview and Approval of Agenda.** The Chair presented the agenda for review and recommended a revision to the order of agenda items. The Chair recommended to move item VIII(a) ahead of item V. The Chair asked for a motion to approve the revised agenda.

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Ms. Tsuhako and seconded by Mr. Alexander. The Chair opened the floor for discussion, and seeing none, the Chair called for the question. The motion passed unanimously.

- III. **Approval of Minutes.** The Chair reminded members that the September 16, 2019, meeting minutes were included in the members' packets. The Chair provided time for members to review the minutes and asked if there were any additions/corrections.

Seeing no additions or corrections at this time, the Chair asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2019, Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Portner and seconded by Ms. Maesaka-Hirata. The Chair called the question. The motion passed unanimously.

- IV. **Public Testimony.** Chair Morishige opened the floor to public testimony. No members of the public elected to provide testimony.

Mr. Jimmy Hamada arrived at 10:13 a.m. Quorum was revised to reflect 23 out of 27 members present.

- V. **General Announcements**

a. **Chairperson and Staff Reports: October / November / December 2019.**

The Chair provided a recap of the State's overall progress toward ending homelessness through key data metrics over time. The Chair highlighted that the State cannot do this work alone, and thanked the Counties, housing agencies, service providers, Native Hawaiian agencies, and Continua of Care for their ongoing efforts to target resources toward people experiencing homelessness.

The Chair identified several trends and correlations in the following system performance indicators:

Exits to permanent housing

- Both the number and percentage of households exiting homeless programs to permanent housing has increased in recent years.
 - Permanent housing exits are reported directly by homeless service providers.
- Significant increases in exits to permanent housing were observed during the following time periods:
 - 2009 – 2012: HUD increased homelessness prevention and diversion resources by providing an infusion of Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing (HPRP) funds into local communities
 - 2014 – 2015: Hawaii received assistance from national technical assistance providers, including the 25 Cities Initiative and Built for Zero, and began to develop a Coordinated Entry System.
 - 2018 – 2019: Rapid Rehousing programs received increased local and national support. DHS Homeless Programs Office began implementing performance

metrics in State contracts for homeless services.

Point-in-Time Count

- After several years of consistent increases through 2016, statewide PIT numbers have consistently decreased.
- Prior to 2009, the PIT Count was performed using a sampling method and was conducted every two years. PIT Counts now implement a census-style survey methodology to increase accuracy.
- Beginning in 2017, the State's homeless housing inventory began to shift its concentration from transitional housing toward permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing.

Housing Inventory Count

- Both State and federal priorities have emphasized the importance of permanent housing and rapid rehousing inventory.
- Prior to 2017, the PIT raw numbers have consistently exceeded the HIC. The State is coming closer to closing the gap between individuals experiencing homelessness and resources to meet their needs.

Continuum of Care Funding

- HUD increased federal funding to Hawaii's CoCs beginning in 2016, resulting in statewide federal funding increases from around \$11M to more than \$12M in 2019.
 - HUD has continued to prioritize permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing programs in their annual CoC program competitions.
- Both CoCs are receiving increased federal funding to meet resource needs for HMIS services and CoC planning.
- The State dedicated funding to homeless civil legal services after HUD eliminated funding for non-housing services from its CoC funding competition.

Department of Education Homeless Students

- While the DOE uses a different definition of "homeless," which includes families who are "doubled-up" or living in transient accommodations, data trends for students who were living in shelters, transitional housing, or in places not meant for human habitation were consistent with statewide PIT data.
- DOE tracked an increasing number of homeless students as defined by HUD until 2016, and the numbers began to decrease annually after 2016.

Chronically Homeless Households

- The statewide number of chronically homeless households began to decrease after 2016 after a decade of annual increases, although the number of chronically homeless households on Oahu has remained largely stable.
- In general, individuals are considered "chronically homeless" if they have been homeless for more than one year and have been diagnosed with a disabling condition.

The Chair noted that despite ongoing concerns regarding homeless data quality and reliability, data trends from multiple sources are generally consistent with each other. Physical copies of the key data trends were distributed to members.

Discussion and Questions.

The Chair opened the floor to questions from the Council and, seeing none, the Chair moved forward to the next agenda item.

VI.

New Business

- a. Discussion and possible action regarding strategies to address the intersection

between homelessness and health, and the formation of a working group pursuant to H.R.S. § 92.-2.5 to explore this intersection further and make recommendations for action to the full council. (Vote)

Overview of work by the National Council for Behavioral Health (NCBH)

The Chair introduced special guests Ms. Laura Leona and Ms. Kate Davidson, representing the National Council for Behavioral Health, to discuss their work with the Department of Human Services and the Department of Health regarding homeless individuals with severe mental illnesses.

Ms. Leone introduced herself and described the National Council for Behavioral Health's role in supporting Hawaii's efforts to meet the needs of homeless individuals with serious mental illnesses. NCBH will be working closely with DHS, DOH, and other key stakeholders to create a core implementation team and an eventual steering committee to oversee progress. NCBH began their work in October with an environmental scan and a series of interviews, and will be continuing with site visits on Oahu and Hawaii island during this visit. Ms. Leone welcomed input from any interested parties.

Overview of work by the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH)

The Chair described the scope of work being performed by consultants with the Corporation for Supportive Housing surrounding Hawaii's Medicaid 1115 waiver amendment and data sharing between systems. Hard copies of an earlier report produced by CSH was included in the packet distributed to members.

The Chair provided an overview of some of CSH's high-level recommendations to the State, including continuing to implement HMIS best practices, data sharing exploration, and collaboration between funders of homeless programs and services. CSH also recommended that the State explore a data warehouse to store data from multiple systems, and encouraged the HICH to adopt a stronger role in facilitating collaboration and discussion across systems.

The Chair shared that several of CSH's recommendations are in the process of being implemented, including mapping out the costs and resource requirements of a statewide data warehouse and establishing a monthly homeless outreach funders' meeting.

Overview of Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) expansion

The Chair briefly summarized the results of the initial evaluation of the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion pilot program on Oahu, which is funded by the Department of Health, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division. The program connects individuals who have both a chronic history of substance abuse and heavy law enforcement involvement with case management and triage services. The initial LEAD evaluation showed a 55% reduction in citations among participants, along with reduced time on the streets and reduced methamphetamine use.

The State is expanding the LEAD pilot program to the neighbor islands, where services provided by DOH providers will be paired with shelter and stabilization beds for participants experiencing homelessness. Ohana Zone funds will provide dedicated shelter beds located on public lands.

Discussion and Questions.

To further the Council's understanding of efforts to address the intersection between homelessness and health systems, the Chair recommended the formation of a Permitted Interaction Group, pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (H.R.S.) §92-2.5, consisting of members from the following groups:

- Department of Health
- Department of Human Services
- Partners in Care

- Bridging the Gap
- Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness

The Chair opened the floor to discussion, and seeing no further questions or comments, the Chair entertained a motion to form a Permitted Interaction Group, pursuant to H.R.S. §92-2.5, to explore the interaction between homelessness and health systems. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Rolf and seconded by Senator Ruderman. The Chair called for the question. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Discussion and possible action regarding the adoption of legislative advocacy priorities for the upcoming 2020 session of the Hawaii State Legislature, including alignment with the Hawaii State Framework to Address Homelessness and the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness strategic plan. (Vote)

The Chair introduced Ms. Katy Miller, representing the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness.

Presentation by Ms. Katy Miller

Ms. Miller addressed Hawaii's accomplishments and expressed gratitude for the community's continued teamwork and dedication to serving people experiencing homelessness. Ms. Miller affirmed Hawaii's focus on increasing access to permanent housing, and praised recent projects, such as the City & County's Kumuwai project with Ohana Zone funding and the Hawaii Public Housing Authority's Section 811 Mainstream vouchers for non-elderly disabled individuals, that increase affordable housing inventory.

Ms. Miller also commended Hawaii's increased partnerships with law enforcement, health plans, faith-based groups, and other partners who may not traditionally intersect with the homeless service system. Specifically, Ms. Miller highlighted the impacts of tenancy supports through the Medicaid 1115 waiver amendment, LEAD, the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project through PIC, two new shelters and safe parking sites on Hawaii island, Honolulu Police Department's Health, Efficiency, and Long-term Partnerships (H.E.L.P.) and the HONU program funded as an Ohana Zone project.

Ms. Miller encouraged Hawaii to continue to work across systems and use data to quickly help people exit homelessness into permanent housing.

The Chair thanked Ms. Miller for her ongoing support and representation of Hawaii's interests at the federal level.

Discussion of Existing Programs Funded through Ohana Zones and Other Sources

The Chair provided an overview of existing and upcoming Ohana Zone projects funded by the 2018 session of the Hawaii State Legislature. All \$30M of the appropriation has been encumbered and contracted. Ohana Zone programs support and expand the work being done by the homeless service system.

Ohana Zone programs focus on three general areas related to the State's framework to address homelessness: emergency shelter and outreach capacity, affordable and permanent supportive housing, and evaluation and training.

The Chair also shared information received from the Hawaii Tourism Authority concerning programs funded through Act 86, SLH 2018, which were intended to address homelessness in tourism and resort areas. Hard copies of the data collected by HTA were distributed to members.

The Chair noted, for the Council's review, that over 100 grantees received awards ranging from \$97.00 to \$99,000. Many of the programs funded were for food pantry and school supply donation programs, and many recipients struggled to demonstrate the impact of their programs on homelessness in tourist and resort areas. Act 86 funds also supported some programs that were already funded by other sources of State funds.

To ensure new programs are in alignment with existing programs and funders, the Chair suggested that the Council be given an opportunity to provide feedback to the Legislature when new funding opportunities arise in the future.

Discussion and Questions.

Ms. Tsuchiko asked which agency determined how Act 86 funds were allocated.

- The Chair stated that the Hawaii Tourism Authority, with input from the Hawaii Lodging and Tourism Association, determined how the funds were awarded.

Mr. Alexander noted that the City & County of Honolulu was not consulted regarding any awards for Oahu, and suggested that the Legislature consider making collaboration with County partners a future requirement. Mr. Alexander also suggested that recipients be required to enter data into the HMIS, or to partner with another provider who can assist with data entry.

The Chair emphasized that the intent of the discussion is to raise awareness generate solutions that will strengthen collaboration between both funders and providers, as well as reduce duplication of services.

Review of Legislative Priorities for HICH

The Chair asked Mr. Alexander to provide a summary of the recommended legislative priorities for the full Council.

Mr. Alexander identified several key priority items for the 2020 legislative session, including:

- Stabilization beds on all islands for homeless individuals with serious mental illness and/or substance abuse disorders, including repurposing unused public buildings to support stabilization beds
- Transportation for non-emergency purposes
- Expansion of the CARES program to address specific substance abuse needs in Hawaii (e.g. methamphetamine, alcohol, etc.)
- Continued support of programs that successfully transition people out of homelessness
- Sustained funding for affordable housing for those earning 60% AMI and below (estimated need is \$200M)

Mr. Alexander stated that this year's goal is to increase the number of signatories on the unified advocacy priorities from 100 to 150.

Discussion and Questions.

Ms. Cumming asked for additional information on the CARES program.

- Ms. Sutton explained that the CARES program was launched by DOH on October 1, 2019 and is intended to assist anyone with substance abuse needs. Individuals can call the existing crisis line at (808) 832-3100 and ask to be connected to the CARES

program. CARES staff can provide referrals to clean and sober housing, treatment, and other related services.

Seeing no further questions, the Chair entertained a motion to approve the suggested legislative priorities, with an amendment to include recommending that any new funding streams for homeless programs consult with the Council and the counties prior to implementation. Motion to approve was made by Ms. Tshako and seconded by Mr. Brackeen III. The Chair called for the question. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. **Continuing Business**

- a. **Discussion and possible action regarding revisions to the Hawaii State Framework to Address Homelessness and ten-year strategic plan to address homelessness, including specific strategies, tactics, and metrics and examining the intersection between local initiatives and federal initiatives to address homelessness. (Vote).**

The Chair referenced the written materials distributed to members concerning the State's ongoing efforts to support community-centered housing, strengthen provider capacity through both Ohana Zone funds and additional procurement training through the State Procurement Office, and continued engagement with technical assistance providers and consultants to remain in alignment.

The Chair addressed specific updates regarding the Pu'uuhonua O Waianae and Lieutenant Governor Green's kauhale initiative. Both types of projects are seeking to add permanent housing inventory at low cost, specifically designed to promote a sense of community among residents. Lt. Governor Green has identified several State-owned sites that are in the process of being vetted for suitability. The Chair has also assisted Lt. Governor Green's office in partnering with the Department of Land and Natural Resources to grant a Right of Entry to HomeAid for the purpose of conducting site assessments. The Chair noted that all identified sites are still in the process of being vetted and discussions with land management agencies are ongoing.

Mr. Alexander requested that updates be made available to the Council as they occur, noting that the Council only meets quarterly and media reports may not be aligned with the information being provided by parties involved in these processes.

- The Chair noted Mr. Alexander's request for the record.

The Chair asked Mr. Park to provide an update on any recent decisions made by the Hawaii Public Housing Authority board regarding a potential kauhale site on HPHA property.

- Mr. Park stated that the HPHA board will be discussing the issue at their upcoming meeting on December 19, 2019.

The Chair asked Ms. Sutton if the Department of Health has any updates to share with the Council regarding lease of space on Hawaii State Hospital property.

- Ms. Sutton had no updates to provide on behalf of DOH.

The Chair referenced the draft report to the Legislature regarding the task force established by HCR 36. The initial report is being revised due to numerous changes occurring simultaneously, including the transfer of park jurisdiction from the State to the City & County of Honolulu. The report highlights the importance of understanding jurisdiction and building stronger relationships between providers and encampment residents.

The Chair commended Ms. Thielen and the work done by PIC providers to offer targeted resource fairs and workshops for encampment residents. In a census conducted in June 2019, only 14 of the 60 individuals counted were connected to a service provider, and only 10 had

been assessed for housing. Through ongoing outreach efforts, providers were recently able to assist approximately 10 residents with transitioning to Hale Mauiola.

VIII. **Permitted Interaction Group**

- a. **Report and discussion of the permitted interaction group established pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (H.R.S.) §92-2.5 to review and recommend potential revisions to the ten-year strategic plan to end homelessness, and the Hawaii State Framework to Address Homelessness.**

This agenda item was addressed in earlier discussions.

IX. **General Announcements**

A. Chairperson and Staff Reports: October / November / December 2019

The Chair shared the staff report for the period from October through December 2019 and noted that a copy of the report is included in the meeting packet.

The Chair also reminded members that both CoCs are soliciting volunteers and donations for their respective Point-in-Time Counts. Detailed information is available through PIC and BTG. The Chair also added that Mr. Kanehiro, who was unable to attend the meeting, provided updates regarding The Shelter, a transitional housing program for 14 families on the First Assembly of God campus in Kahalu'u. The Chair is seeking to include these units in the 2020 Housing Inventory Count and to ensure residents are counted during the Oahu PIT Count.

Mr. Alexander distributed copies of the City & County of Honolulu, Mayor's Office of Housing brochure outlining key efforts and strategies to end homelessness.

Ms. Maesaka-Hirata introduced incoming Deputy Director of Corrections, Ms. Shari Kimoto. Ms. Kimoto will be replacing Ms. Maesaka-Hirata as the Department of Public Safety representative to the Council.

B. Written Reports from Council Members.

The following written updates are provided for the Council's consideration and review (the full write-ups for each representative will be provided):

- *Department of Human Services, Homeless Programs Office*
- *Department of Public Safety*
- *Department of Defense*
- *Department of Education*
- *Department of Health, Adult Mental Health Division*
- *Hawaii Public Housing Authority*
- *County of Hawaii*
- *City & County of Honolulu*
- *County of Kauai*
- *Continuum of Care for Oahu, Partners in Care*

- *Continuum of Care for Balance of State, Bridging the Gap*
- *U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs*
- *Faith-Based Community*

X. **Executive Session**

Pursuant to H.R.S. §92-7(a), the Council may, when deemed necessary, hold an Executive Session on any agenda item without the written public notice if the Executive Session was not anticipated in advance. Any such Executive Session shall be held pursuant to H.R.S. §92-4 and shall be limited to those items described in H.R.S. §92-5(a). Discussions held in Executive Session are closed to the public.

The Chair stated that an Executive Session is not necessary at this time.

XI. **Topics for Upcoming Meetings**

The Chair asked members to contact his office with additional suggestions for upcoming meetings. The office can be reached at 586-0193 or by e-mail at gov.homelessness@hawaii.gov.

XII. **Meeting Schedule**

The following Council meetings are proposed for the 2020 calendar year:

- Monday, March 16, 2020, 10 a.m. to noon
- Monday, June 15, 2020, 10 a.m. to noon
- Monday, September 21, 2020, 10 a.m. to noon
- Monday, December 21, 2020, 10 a.m. to noon

XIII. **Adjourn**

Chair Morishige entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Ms. Maesaka-Hirata and seconded by Ms. Cumming. The Chair called the question. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

MINUTES CERTIFICATION

Minutes prepared by:

Emma Grochowsky
Homelessness Community Development Specialist

Date

Approved by the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness at their Regular Meeting on April 29, 2019:
[] As Presented [] As Amended

Scott S. Morishige, MSW
Chair

Date

Agenda Item V.

New Business

- a. , ii. Overview of Stimulus Response Core technical assistance provided by HUD regarding the use of federal funding related to COVID-19 and the CARES Act.

Stimulus Core Response Technical Assistance

Background. The CARES Act provides much needed resources to support community efforts, and the HUD Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPs) are mobilizing Technical Assistance (T.A.) providers to work directly with communities to support the transition from a crisis response to an accelerated rehousing strategy utilizing additional resources provided for the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and other federal programs.

The Goals of the HUD TA are to:

- Spend resources quickly, strategically, and in a coordinated manner.
- Implement best practices.
- Build system and grant management capacity.

The Objectives of the HUD TA are:

- *Strategy* – Promote integrated planning and smart choices that leverage all available funds to urgently re-house individuals and families out of shelters, non-congregate temporary residential settings, and unsheltered environments.
- *Grant & Financial Management* – Support recipients in meeting all grant requirements and putting processes/contracting structures in place to promote success.

TA Assigned to the City & County of Honolulu, and to the State of Hawaii.

- **TA for City & County of Honolulu:** Ms. Heather Muller, Clutch Consulting
- **TA for State of Hawaii:** Ms. Darlene Mathews, DARLENE MATHEWS, Inc.

State TA Provider Meetings with Counties, Government Funders, and Other Key Stakeholders.

Ms. Mathews has participated in a series of initial community stakeholder meetings to share information about the purpose and goals of the HUD TA, and to gather input and feedback from key community stakeholders. The following community meetings have been convened to date:

1. **Friday, June 10, 2020, 9:00 a.m.** – Meeting with State and County government stakeholders, including the DHS Homeless Programs Office, DHS Med-Quest Division, OYS, DOH, HUD Honolulu Field Office, County of Hawaii, VA, County of Hawaii, and City & County of Honolulu.
2. **Monday, June 22, 2020, 10:00 a.m.** – Meeting with the City & County of Honolulu, County of Maui, County of Hawaii, County of Kauai, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, and Aloha United Way to discuss county plans for ESG-CV Round 1, CDBG, and Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF), as well as general purpose of ESG-CV Round 2 and HUD TA.
3. **Thursday, June 25, 2020, 9:00 a.m.** – Meeting with James Koshiba of the House COVID-19 Select Committee and Sub-Committee on Housing, as well as staff from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) and Partners in Care. The purpose was to

enable sub-committee leaders to ask questions of HUD TA, and to discuss alignment between ESG-CV Round 2 and other State efforts related to the CRF and specifically the legislative proposal for Renter Relief using CRF monies.

4. **Friday, June 26, 2020, 9:00 a.m.** – Meeting with State and County government funders, as well as representatives from Weinberg Foundation, Harold KL Castle Foundation, Consuelo Foundation, Liliuokalani Trust, HMSA, Frost family Foundation, Zilber Family Foundation, American Savings Bank, First Hawaiian Bank, Hau`oli Mau Loa Foundation, KL Felicitas Foundation, Hawaii Community Reinvestment Corporation, H.T. Hayashi Foundation and Hawaii Investment Ready.
5. **Tuesday, June 30, 2020, 10:00 a.m.** – Meeting between DHS, the Governor’s Coordinator on Homelessness, Honolulu Office of Housing and Honolulu Department of Community Services regarding general alignment of efforts related to ESG CV Round 2.

General Areas of Exploration for Investment in ESG TA:

Based on discussions with community stakeholders, the HUD TA Provider for the State identified a number of potential areas of exploration related to the use of ESG funds:

- 1) *Integrated Street/Encampment Outreach*: Housing focused outreach designed to target hot spots that includes public health and housing based services. Integrated outreach approaches are often funded through a variety of resources including public health funds.
 - a. Best practice example: [PHILADELPHIA \(https://dbhids.org/community/cross-system-collaboration/homeless-outreach/\)](https://dbhids.org/community/cross-system-collaboration/homeless-outreach/)
- 2) *Specialized Shelter Models* : Shelter designed to fill a gap in bed availability for a vulnerable population. Examples include recuperative care beds, stabilization beds, safe haven, sobering centers.
 - a. Best practice example: [Houston model to prevent incarceration \(https://houstonrecoverycenter.org/\)](https://houstonrecoverycenter.org/)
- 3) *Targeted Prevention and Diversion*: Focused on serving a marginalized population that often falls into homelessness. Examples include those released from incarceration or mental health institutions.
 - a. Best practice example: [Shelter Diversion in NC \(https://www.samhsa.gov/homelessness-programs-resources/hpr-resources/shelter-diversion-north-carolina\)](https://www.samhsa.gov/homelessness-programs-resources/hpr-resources/shelter-diversion-north-carolina)
- 4) *Rapid Re-Housing*: Potentially funding innovative things like landlord engagement strategies, risk mitigation funds etc.
- 5) *Strengthening Administrative Capacity*: Using funds for administration to expand staffing that can support training, education, monitoring and outcomes.

CARES Act Funding

- \$4 Billion for Emergency Solutions Grants Program funding
- SNAPs will issue a notice to further define program requirements
- No Emergency Shelter/Street Outreach cap
- Increase of admin from 7.5% to 10%
- Increase of income limit from 30% to 50% AMI for Homelessness Prevention component
- Eliminates matching requirement

CARES Act Funding (continued)

- Allows deviation from applicable procurement standards when procuring goods and services to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus;
- Prohibits using any funds to require people experiencing homelessness to receive treatment or perform any other prerequisite activities as a condition for receiving shelter, housing, or other services.
- No citizen participation or consultation requirements
- No minimum period of use for emergency shelters

Agenda Item V.

New Business

- a. , iii. Review of efforts to develop community-center housing for individuals and families transitioning out of homelessness

Agenda Item V.

New Business

- a. , iii. Review of efforts to develop community-center housing for individuals and families transitioning out of homelessness

*May 26, 2020 Memorandum from HUD
Honolulu Field Office Regarding Minimum
Construction Standards for Permanent
Housing for Persons Experiencing
Homelessness (Hawaiian Village / Tiny
Homes)*




U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Honolulu Field Office – Region IX
1132 Bishop Street, Suite 1400
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
www.hud.gov
espanol.hud.gov

May 26, 2020

MEMORANDUM

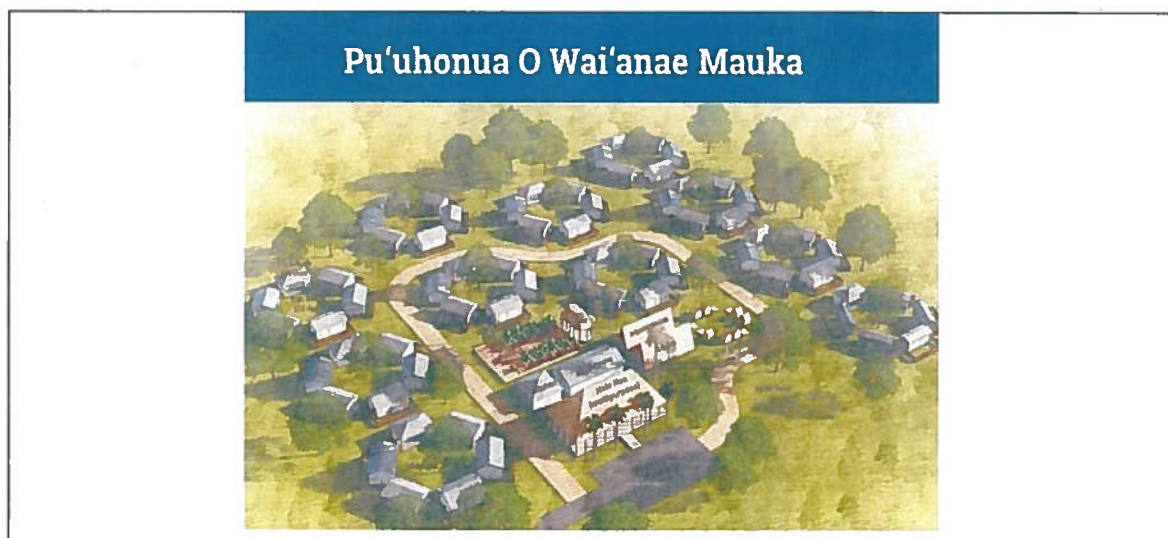
For: HUD Honolulu Field Office Jurisdiction
Formula/Competitive Grantees
Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Recipients/Grantees

FROM: 
Mark A. Chandler, Director, Office of Community Planning and Development
HUD Honolulu Field Office, 9CD

SUBJECT: Minimum Construction Standards for Permanent Housing for Persons Experiencing Homelessness (Hawaiian Village/Tiny Homes)

This memorandum addresses recent questions raised by the Honolulu Field Office CoC and Homeless Program Recipients/Grantees regarding the HUD Homeless Program's Minimum Construction Standards for Permanent Housing.

In June 2019, a grassroots organization, named *Hui Aloha*, assisting persons experiencing homelessness in Leeward Oahu, presented to Hawaii funders, including the HUD Honolulu Field Office, its concept of constructing a unconventional housing project for persons and families experiencing homelessness, called Pu'uhonua O Wai'anae Mauka (pictured below).



The housing units and facilities will be built as a “communal village” with a common bathroom, shower and kitchen facility. The initial plan presented to the funders was that the

housing units would be constructed in a Hawaiian-style circle with six to eight shed size housing units/buildings (Tiny Homes) per circle that may or may not meet the Hawaii building code. Each village would have about forty Tiny Homes with no electricity (unless they go solar) and no water. Water is available on-site via the communal kitchen and bathroom facility.

HUD acknowledges that the initial Pu‘uhonua O Wai‘anae Mauka concept plans may have changed since June 2019. However, to be responsive to Aloha Hui, HUD (Field Office and Headquarters) assessed the Pu‘uhonua O Wai‘anae Mauka concept for HUD Program eligibility and reviewed the following factors:

- Pu‘uhonua O Wai‘anae Mauka is intended to provide housing units for persons experiencing homelessness without a designated length of stay.
- HUD’s Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS) was asked to provide guidance on whether SNAPS accepts the Pu‘uhonua O Wai‘anae Mauka description as meeting CoC standards for classifying the clients as living in a place “not meant for human habitation and whether or not the Tiny Homes meet the CoC Permanent Housing or sheltered standards.
- HUD’s published minimum Housing Quality Standards that may impact the Pu‘uhonua O Wai‘anae Mauka for HUD funding.

In response to HUD Honolulu’s request for guidance, HUD Headquarters SNAPS initially provided the following guidance:

CoC Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point in Time Count (PIT)

To determine a person’s housing/shelter situation for the CoC the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point in Time Count (PIT), the following factors are considered:

- Does each unit have electricity? The lack of electricity/illumination would mean that the units **would not** count as any form of housing/shelter to be included on the HIC.
- Is there access to plumbing (it does not necessarily have to be in the unit, but it must be reasonably accessible all year round to all participants)?
- Is there access to running water (it does not necessarily have to be in the unit, but it must be reasonably accessible all year round to all participants)?
- Is there appropriate heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) for the climate?
- Are the participants sheltered (i.e., covered by walls on all sides)?
- Is there at least one working smoke detector in each unit.
- Do the units meet local building code? (must meet local building code)

- HUD defines CoC Permanent Housing as community-based housing **without a designated length of stay** in which formerly homeless individuals and families live as independently as possible.
- HUD CPD Notice 18-08, Notice for HIC and PIT Data Collection for Continuum of Care (CoC) Program and the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program, provides guidance that for a housing unit to be considered Other Permanent Housing (OPH), the provider must provide long-term housing that is not otherwise considered permanent supportive housing or rapid re-housing.
- HUD CPD Notice 18-08 advises that HUD's HMIS Data Standards defines two project types that represent the Other Permanent Housing category – **PH: Housing with Services** and **PH: Housing Only**.
 - **PH: Housing with Services** projects provide long-term housing and supportive services for homeless persons, but do not limit eligibility to persons with a disability.
 - **PH: Housing Only** projects provide long-term housing for homeless persons, but do not make supportive services available as part of the project.
- In conclusion, Tiny Homes must have electricity and include the other standards noted above to be considered Permanent Housing for HUD's CoC Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point in Time Count (PIT).

CoC Program Rental Assistance Funding

As a follow up to the HIC and PIT guidance, the HUD Honolulu Field Office asked SNAPS about the possibility of using HUD CoC rental assistance funding to assist clients residing in the described Tiny Homes to pay rent for the units. The following summary is provided:

- Initial verbal guidance provided by SNAPS and subsequently reported by me in a Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness Meeting was that CoC Rental Assistance was eligible for the Tiny Homes, as presented. However, because the State of Hawaii Governor's Office on Homelessness asked several times for HUD to issue the verbal guidance in writing, despite the State having recorded the guidance in the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness Meeting Minutes, the Honolulu Field Office elected to seek SNAPS' confirmation of its verbal guidance in writing.
- After several months, SNAPS replied to the HUD Honolulu Field Office's request for guidance and advised that the Tiny Homes, as presented (lacking, its own cooking area, bathroom, running water) do not meet HUD's Housing Quality Standards (HQS) and therefore are **not eligible** for CoC Rental Assistance.

- In addition, the HUD Honolulu Field Office confirmed that the Tiny Homes are **not eligible** for HOME Tenant Based Rental Assistance or HUD's Section 8 assistance because the Tiny Homes do not meet the HQS.
- In conclusion, to be eligible for HUD rental assistance funds the Tiny Homes must meet HUD's HQS requirements.

Should you have questions regarding this memorandum, please email me at mark.a.chandler@hud.gov.

Agenda Item V.

New Business

- a. , iv. Review of technical assistance and consultation available to address homelessness in Hawaii.

Entity Receiving Technical Assistance (T.A.)	Organization Providing T.A.	T.A. and Consulting Staff	Active T.A.?	Scope of Work
Partners in Care (HI-501 CoC)	Homebase	George Martin Matt Olsson Piper Ehlen Gillian Morshedi	Yes	Homebase has been contracted by HUD to provide TA to the Honolulu CoC focused on four main areas: (1) CoC Governance; (2) CES for Youth and Domestic Violence; (3) CoC Grant and Financial Management; and (4) Assistance with implementation of the Youth Homeless Demonstration Program (YHDP) grant.
Partners in Care (HI-501 CoC)	ICF	Chris Pitcher Heather Dillashaw	No	ICF is contracted by HUD to provide TA to the Honolulu CoC through its Priority Community Initiative since 2013. The TA is focused on re-establishing an HMIS governance structure, developing governance documents to formalize the HMIS governance structure, assisting with the HMIS LEAD and System Administration transition process, and creating an HMIS funding plan that includes HMIS user fees.
Mayor's Challenge Team (Honolulu)	Community Solutions	Habiba Rotter Laura Leone	Yes	Community Solutions provides coaching and support related to the Built for Zero initiative to end veteran homelessness. Specifically, coaches provide help in working towards the use of comprehensive, real-time, by-name data for everyone experiencing homelessness; as well as the use of real-time data to secure housing resources and target them for the greatest possible reductions in homelessness.
Hawaii Department of Human Services (Office of the Director)	National Council for Behavioral Health	Shannon Mace Michael Carrone Ayla Colella Frannie Yin	Yes	To provide consultation on improving shelter services for homeless individuals with severe mental illness (SMI), with or without a co-occurring substance use disorder.
Hawaii Department of Human Services (Med-QUEST Division)	Corporation for Supportive Housing	Sue Augustus Ian Costello Heather Lyons Rae Trotta	No (Ended June 30, 2020)	To develop an implementation plan for Med-QUEST Division's Community Integration Services (CIS), including next steps, milestones, clear timeframes, workflow and process maps, and driver diagrams for the various combinations of homeless members and the CIS they may need. The development of an implementation plan also includes assistance with data definitions, data collection modalities and output requirements, global quality reporting, outcome measurement of CIS success, and CMS reporting. In addition, CSH shall develop a workflow/process map for the Queens' Emergency Department initiative, including workflow/process and driver diagrams for the multiple member populations and circumstances. CSH is also working to develop a comprehensive inventory of housing resources, including homeless preferences and set-asides for specific sub-populations.

Hawaii Department of Human Services (Homeless Programs Office)	Collaborative Quality Consulting and Housing Innovations	Heather Henderson Suzanne Wagner Andrea White	Yes	CQC shall evaluate the State DHS/HPO's shift from "housing readiness" to Housing First (HF) strategy, including pros/cons of each strategy, recommendations to improve HF requirements, assessment of what other states/communities learned from shifting a HF approach, and identification of best practices used by other communities to address homelessness. CQC shall also assess how the Ohana Zone program aligns with State DHS/HPO homeless service system, and provide recommendations of further services to implement/incorporate in other existing services.
State of Hawaii	HUD Stimulus Response Core T.A.	Darlene Mathews	Yes	The goals of the t.a. are to: (1) Spend resources quickly, strategically, and in a coordinated manner; (2) Implement best practices; and (3) Build system and grant management capacity. Specific objectives are related to strategy (promoting integrated planning and smart choices that leverage all available funds to urgently re-house individuals and families); and grants and financial management (supporting recipients in meeting all grant requirements and putting processes/contracting structures in place to promote success).
City & County of Honolulu	HUD Stimulus Response Core T.A.	Clutch Consulting (Mandy Chapman Simple and Heather Muller)	Yes	The goals of the t.a. are to: (1) Spend resources quickly, strategically, and in a coordinated manner; (2) Implement best practices; and (3) Build system and grant management capacity. Specific objectives are related to strategy (promoting integrated planning and smart choices that leverage all available funds to urgently re-house individuals and families); and grants and financial management (supporting recipients in meeting all grant requirements and putting processes/contracting structures in place to promote success).
Hawaii Health and Harm Reduction Center	LEAD National Support Bureau	Kris Nyrop Lisa Daugaard Najja Morris Brendan Cox	Yes	The LEAD National Support Bureau is providing training and assistance - including facilitating provider and law enforcement calls with other communities with high rates of homelessness - for the LEAD hubs on Oahu, Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii Island.

Agenda Item VIII.

General Announcements

a. Chair person and Staff reports.

Highlights of Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness Staff Activities

Report for January to June 2020

This report summarizes highlights of Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness (HICH) staff activities and publications for the months of *January through June 2020*. Please feel free to share any of this information with your agency leadership and colleagues. For more information, please contact Scott Morishige, Coordinator on Homelessness, at 586-0193 or by e-mail at scott.s.morishige@hawaii.gov.

Response to COVID-19 Pandemic and Impact on Homelessness.

Much of the effort of the Chair and Staff during this period has focused on building community capacity among service providers to respond to the changing situation during the COVID-19 pandemic. Working collaboratively with HICH members, the following key actions were undertaken:

- **Established the Behavioral Health and Homelessness Statewide Unified Response Group (BHHSURG) to streamline communications, centralized guidance, and catalyze increased collaboration.**
The BHHSURG is a partnership between the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness, Hawaii Department of Health (DOH), and the DHS Homeless Programs Office (HPO), and is intended to streamline communications and access to information for the providers of behavioral health and homeless services statewide. Weekly zoom webinars are conducted every Monday on a broad range of topics with participation ranging from 150 to a high of 400. A centralized website also includes guidance specific to COVID-19 screening, social distancing and workplace practices, the use of telehealth, as well as an online forum for questions and answers. The website is at <https://bhhsurg.hawaii.gov> and is updated regularly. In addition to the website and weekly webinars, GCH, DOH, and HPO staff meet regularly to exchange ideas and problem solve as issues arise.
- **Ensured Access to Hygiene and Basic Sanitation Services, including opening State Harbor restroom facilities 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.**
Staff worked with the Department of Land & Natural Resources (DLNR) to reopen all restrooms statewide at State small boat harbors and boat ramps. In addition, DLNR partnered with community group Hui Aloha and individuals in established homeless camps to maintain State bathroom facilities and collectively work to prevent vandalism through a 'Bathroom Brigades' program. The Chair also connected Hui Aloha with other nonprofit partners, such as ALEA Bridge, to aid the expansion of the Bathroom Brigade program to other areas of Oahu.
- **Partnered with the City to Establish a Temporary Quarantine and Isolation Center (TQIC).**
The TQIC utilizes a City-owned facility and services are funded by DOH and directly provided through a hui that includes the Institute for Human Services, Hawaii Health and Harm Reduction Center, and Unite Here! Local 5. Between April 1, 2020 and July 6, 2020, the TQIC served a total of 74 people. More information about TQIC can be found at <https://health.hawaii.gov/bhhsurg/tqic>.
- **Quickly established additional sites to temporarily expand shelter options for homeless individuals.**
Staff worked with the four counties to allow amendments to Ohana Zone contracts to enable the development of new programs, such as the City's POST, the use of hotel rooms at the Kona Holiday Inn and Kamuela Inn on Hawaii Island, and the use of tiny homes at the County of Hawaii's Hale Hanakahi and Na Lamaku facilities. These contracts utilized existing monies, and did not require new funding.

- **Gathered and distributed Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to keep providers safe.**
In collaboration with DOH and DHS, staff collected donations of PPE (e.g. masks, gloves, sanitizer, etc.) through the BHHSURG Community Resilience Hubs, and distributed these items to homeless service providers – including outreach and emergency shelter programs – statewide.
- **Convened coordination meetings to support provider outreach efforts, and facilitate information sharing among funders.** Staff also convened a series of weekly online meetings with select groups of providers and government funders to streamline communications. For example, weekly outreach calls with providers on Oahu identified gaps in service, such as a lack of food distribution points in Leeward Oahu. As a result of the weekly coordination calls, staff worked to form new partnerships – such as a partnership between The Salvation Army, Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center, and Kealahou West Oahu – to address these gaps. Staff also worked to coordinate mini-outreach events in different regions on Oahu to facilitate connection to outreach providers and shelter during the pandemic.

Reports and Plans

Staff produced the following documents to illustrate efforts to address homelessness in Hawaii:

- **Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness – Systems Performance Benchmarks (March 2020 and July 2020).**
These documents provide an overview of four measures that can be used to evaluate implementation of the State Framework to Address Homelessness and the ten-year strategic plan. The measures include – Count, Capacity, Housing Placement, and Length of Stay. Staff intends to update this document quarterly, and for the document to be reviewed at regular meetings of the council. Overall, the 2020 PIT count data remained relatively level compared to 2019, but the number of exits to permanent housing has been steadily decreasing – down from 53% in December 2019 to 44% in May 2020.
- **Legislative Report in Accordance with Provisions of Section 346-381(9), HRS, and Part I of Act 209, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, Relating to the Ohana Zone Program (December 26, 2019).**
This report summarizes the efforts of HICH, provides an overview of available data related to homelessness, identifies promising strategies to address homelessness, and makes recommendations to sustain effective efforts. In addition, this report summarizes a number of initiatives in reducing the number of people experiencing homelessness and increasing the number of homeless people connected to permanent housing. The report can be viewed online at: <https://humanservices.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Ohana-Zones-Pilot-Program.pdf>.
- **Legislative Report in Accordance with the Provisions of Section 346-378, Hawaii Revised Statutes, on the Housing First Program (December 26, 2019).** This report provides an update on the implementation of the State Housing First (HF) program, including: (1) Total number of participants in HF program; (2) Annual costs of the programs; (3) Types of support services offered; and (4) Duration of services required for each person. The report can be viewed online at: <https://humanservices.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Housing-First-Program.pdf>
- **Governor’s Coordinator on Homelessness – Current Status of Homelessness in Hawaii (January 7, 2020).** This is a powerpoint presentation that was shared at the 2020 Legislative Homeless Summit, and provides an overview of data trends related to homelessness, as well as an update on the implementation of Ohana Zone funding provided by the Legislature. This presentation can be found online at: <https://homelessness.hawaii.gov/hich/hich-reports/>.

- **Homelessness 101 Session for DLNR Training Academy (May 2020).** In partnership with DLNR, staff developed a training curriculum on issues related to homelessness for DLNR conservation officers. The objectives of the curriculum include reviewing emerging case law impacting enforcement of “no camping” and “trespass” enforcement, reviewing State guidelines for trespass enforcement, reviewing current DLNR processes for encountering homeless individuals, and learning about housing, mental health, and social service programs to assist homeless individuals.

Staffing Update

The Governor’s Coordinator on Homelessness is in the process of recruitment for the Administrative Assistant on Homelessness position. However, SB126 removed funding for the position, and added two new unfunded Community Development Specialist positions to assist with homeless coordination.

Travel Reports

There was no travel that took place during this reporting period.

Ongoing Activities

The HICH Chair and staff continue to support efforts to address homelessness through a variety of activities as follows:

- **Program development and monitoring of Ohana Zone funded programs.**
The Chair and staff assisted in supporting efforts related to the program development, monitoring, and implementation of various Ohana Zone funded programs. These efforts included attending meetings related to the Homeless Outreach and Navigation for Unsheltered Persons (HONU) program, modification of contract terms for the Honolulu Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) program, attending monthly conference calls with the Department of Health related to neighbor island LEAD expansion, and discussions with the Hawaii Housing and Finance Development Corporation (HHFDC) and counties related to Ohana Zone funded housing programs on Hawaii Island, Maui, and Kauai.
- **Participation in HUD technical assistance efforts related to unsheltered homelessness in Honolulu.**
The Chair and staff participate in regular weekly phone calls with HUD technical assistance providers, as well as staff from the City & County of Honolulu’s Office of Housing and Department of Community Services, Partners in Care Executive Director and board members, and staff from the DHS Med-QUEST Division.
- **Facilitation of Homeless Outreach Funders Group.** The Chair and staff facilitate regular monthly meetings of a Homeless Outreach Funders group that will convene on the third Friday of each month. The funders group includes representatives from the four counties, the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, the Hawaii Department of Health, Hawaii Department of Human Services, and the Office of Youth Services. The initial discussions of the group will focus on data sharing strategies, as well as capacity building efforts for service providers.
- **Support for partnerships with the healthcare and behavioral health sectors.**
The Chair and staff continued support the strengthening of partnerships between the homeless services system and the healthcare and behavioral health sectors, including participation in phone calls and in-person meetings with consultants from the National Council for Behavioral Health and the Corporation for Supportive Housing. In addition, the Chair and staff continue to meet regularly with the Queen’s Care Coalition, as well as meetings with DHS Med-QUEST Division staff tasked with implementation of the 1115 Medicaid waiver amendment for tenancy supports. Staff have also been engaged in active

referrals to the Queen's Care Coalition, and assisted with coordination between shelter providers, outreach providers, and the emergency department navigation staff to facilitate better coordination of care.

- **Support for partnerships with law enforcement and the criminal justice systems.** The Chair and staff continue to meet regularly with law enforcement officers from the Honolulu Police Department, Hawaii Department of Public Safety's Sheriff Division, and the Department of Land and Natural Resource's Division of Conservation and Resource Enforcement (DOCARE). In addition, the Chair's office worked with the four counties to establish a monthly call for state and county law enforcement officers addressing homeless issues, and conducted the first meeting in February 2020.
- **Coordination of homeless outreach and land management/public safety actions.** The Chair and staff continue work in collaboration with State agencies, county staff and legislators to respond to concerns about unauthorized encampments on public lands. Staff worked closely with the Hawaii Department of Transportation, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, Department of Land and Natural Resources, and the University of Hawaii to support coordinated outreach and enforcement actions on Oahu and the neighbor islands. In particular, staff facilitated coordination with the counties of Maui, Hawaii, and Kauai to arrange enforcement of unauthorized camping/trespass on State lands in those respective counties. Staff has also begun circulating the State of Hawaii's monthly enforcement schedule to the Continuum of Care. Initial enforcement efforts have focused primarily on Oahu, but enforcement actions on the neighbor islands have been shared with the County Homeless Coordinators and local CoC contacts to increase awareness of these activities.

The Coordinator also regularly receives and responds to correspondence from members of the general public via telephone, e-mail, and letters.

For more information, please contact the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness and HICH staff at (808) 586-0193 or by e-mail at gov.homelessness@hawaii.gov.

HAWAII INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS SYSTEMS PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS (JULY 2020)

The following four performance benchmarks are used to evaluate the implementation of the Hawaii State Framework to Address Homelessness and ten-year strategic plan to end homelessness:



COUNT
Number of people experiencing homelessness according to the statewide Point in Time Count.

6,458 people
(As of June 15, 2020)



CAPACITY
Number of permanent housing beds for people experiencing homelessness in Hawaii.

4,553 beds
(2019 data)



HOUSING PLACEMENTS
The percentage of people exiting a homeless program that are placed into permanent housing.

44% housed
(As of May 2020)



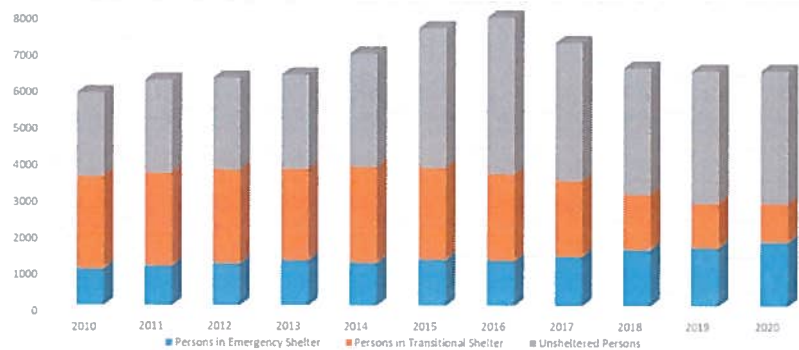
LENGTH OF STAY
The average number of days a person is enrolled in a homeless program, such as shelter.

164 days
(As of May 2020)

COUNT – ESTIMATED NUMBER OF HOMELESS PERSONS IN HAWAII

The statewide Point in Time count **decreased by 18.4% since 2016**. The number of individuals in transitional shelter has steadily declined since 2016 – from 2,387 to 1,067. Meanwhile, the number of individuals in emergency shelter has steadily increased during that same period – from 1,226 to 1,741.

The number of unsheltered individuals has decreased 15% since 2016, but still represents over half of individuals (56%) in the count and had a slight increase between 2019 and 2020..



CAPACITY – NUMBER OF BEDS FOR HOMELESS PERSONS

The number of **permanent housing beds for people experiencing homelessness increased 250% between 2014 and 2019**—from 1,298 to 4,553.

The overall number of beds in the statewide Housing Inventory Count, including shelter and permanent housing beds, increased over 43% during that same period. Housing inventory for 2020 is not yet available.

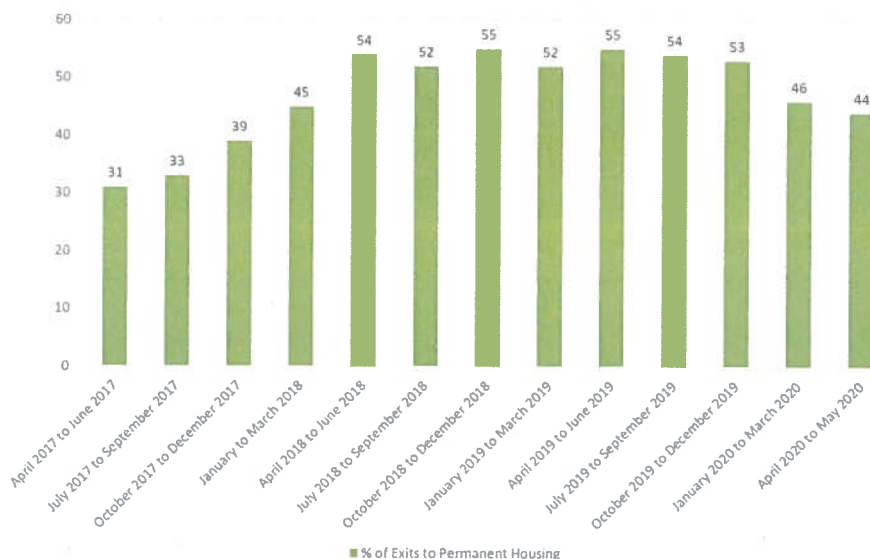
The increased capacity reflects increased levels of state, county, and federal support.

HOUSING PLACEMENTS – NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO ARE PERMANENTLY HOUSED

Between April 1, 2020 and May 31, 2020, 44% of individuals exited homeless programs to a permanent housing placement.

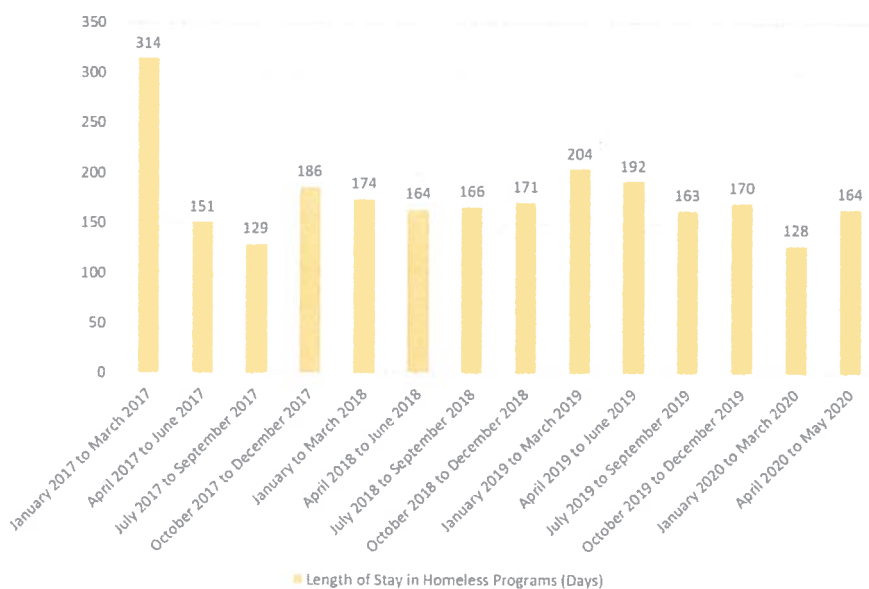
The total number of individuals exiting to permanent housing during this time period was 856 out of a total 1,967 individuals.

On Oahu, the percentage of exits to permanent housing was 40% for the period of January 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020 and 42% for the period of April 1, 2020 to May 31, 2020. On the neighbor islands, the percentage of permanent housing for the same periods were 58% and 47% respectively.



LENGTH OF STAY – TIME SPENT IN HOMELESS PROGRAMS

Since the first quarter of the calendar year 2017, the average length of stay in homeless programs decreased from 314 days to 164 days. For the month of May 2020, the average length of stay in emergency shelter is 105 days for Oahu and 116 days for the neighbor islands. For transitional shelter, the average length of stay is 392 days for Oahu and 298 days for the neighbor islands. Length of stay is a key measure of efficiency within the homeless service system.



KEY DATA SOURCES

Data for the performance benchmarks are obtained from the following key sources:

Statewide Point in Time Count. The count is an unduplicated count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single night in January, and is conducted annually. Data is submitted annually to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Housing Inventory Count. The count is an inventory of programs that provide beds dedicated to people experiencing homelessness. Data is submitted annually to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The HMIS is a local data system used to collect client-level data for programs providing housing and services for people who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. Data related to permanent housing placements and length of stay in homeless programs are derived from the HMIS.

For more information, please contact 586-0193 or gov.homelessness@hawaii.gov.

Agenda Item VIII.

General Announcements

- a. Written reports from Council members.

Written Updates to the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness
Orig. Submitted for March 16, 2020 Meeting – 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 Director's Office

- DHS-DIR's Office continues to work with Governor's Homeless Program and HPO on issues related to homelessness, as needed.
- DHS-DIR's Office assisted with procuring the contract to provide support services to residents of the Kauhale-Kalaeloa Tiny Homes Project once there are residents on that property.
- To provide consultation on how to best address the service system for the homeless severely mentally ill population, DHS and DOH contracted with the National Council on Behavioral Health who will be coming to Honolulu on May 26 and 27 for ½ day meetings to work with key stakeholders on identifying the goal of the project and then developing the project plan to attain that goal. The Core Implementation Team is in the process of securing a venue and identifying key stakeholders. Invites will be sent out at a date that has yet to be determined.
- DHS-DIR's Office is actively involved in developing a disaster emergency management plan for the homeless related to COVID-19.

Department of Health

L.E.A.D.

- Currently implemented in 4 counties: Oahu, Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui through contracts with ADAD. All LEAD contracts have been extended to September 31, 2020. ADAD has not received notice of funding continuation past June 31, 2020.
- ADAD is executing contract modifications to the LEAD contracts for BISAC (Hawaii County) and Women In Need (Kauai County) for program evaluation and technical assistance from National Lead Bureau.
- HI State LEAD continues to meet monthly.

HI CARES:

- Kathryn Boyer has been hired as the Program Director for HI CARES.
- HI CARES and ADAD continue to conduct treatment provider contract orientation.
- HI CARES are developing a waitlist management system for residential and clean and sober housing availability for SUD treatment and recovery services statewide
- SUD and MH integration is underway via HI CARES. More to come as the system continues to develop.

Project Summary Report

- On December 30, 2019, Queens Medical Center began providing Mental Health Emergency Worker (MHEW) services, MHEW are qualified mental health professional designated by the Department of Health. The MHEW can determine if the individual is suffering from a behavioral illness and is imminently dangerous to themselves or others and can authorize involuntary transportation to a licensed psychiatric facility for further evaluation, a process known as "MH-1".
- The current process for MH-1 patients has been to transport individuals experiencing a mental health emergency to a designated psychiatric facility where they receive a psychiatric evaluation and may require involuntary hospitalization. Psychiatric hospitalization is the treatment option of last resort for individuals with acute or chronic serious mental illness who need intensive inpatient care. As of Feb 29, 2020, Queens Medical Center has received 554 calls which they

have provided assistance for individuals suffering from a behavioral illness and is imminently dangerous to themselves or others

- The AMHD homeless outreach providers continues to provide homeless outreach statewide with the contracted providers increasing their staff. The statewide coverage assists with providing homeless outreach in areas that were previously difficult to reach due to limited staff. Homeless outreach case managers have also received training to complete SSI/SSDI applications in the SOAR program to increase the application approval rates. The homeless outreach workers on Oahu are also participating in the Joint Outreach Center in China town with efforts to increase their engagement with homeless individuals. While continuing to link individuals with appropriate services in the community.
- The AMHD provides statewide group home and independent housing with various levels of care for 693 consumers statewide. level of housing for adults with a serious mental illness or co-occurring disorder. The housing services are 24-hour, 8-16 hour, Semi-Independent and Supported Housing.

Current Housing Activities

- Total Bed Capacity in housing programs-701
 - 24 Hour group homes-205
 - 8-16 Hour group homes-260
 - Semi-Independent group homes- 145
 - Support Housing-91

Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA)

- In November 2019, OHA and Lili'uokalani Trust co-hosted a Native Hawaiian Homelessness Breakout Session at the Homeless Awareness Conference. OHA's research team worked hard to disaggregate the PIT Count data by Native Hawaiians. The session sought to get qualitative data to help tell stories around the quantitative data. The Breakout Session began with a data walk around the room with four separate topic boards where small groups of advocates and stakeholders rotated around each stand to discuss the data from the point of view of their experiences. Then, as a larger group, we processed our impressions. OHA's research team and Queen Lili'uokalani Trust are in the process of finalizing data brief, and OHA will provide it to HICH when available.
- OHA participated in the January 2020 Point in Time Count.
- OHA is in discussion to convene Native Hawaiian serving organizations to collaboratively and strategically address Native Hawaiian homelessness in late March or early April.

Hawaii Housing Finance & Development Corporation (HHFDC)

Village 9:

- The Governor approved the release of \$4M in DURF for the County to use for the planning, design, construction and dedication to the County of the public access road which will serve the County and HHFDC Projects at Village 9;
- HHFDC executed Amendment #1 to the ROE with the County extending the ROE under the Emergency Proclamation to April 4, 2021;
- The County is reviewing amendments to the MOU and ROE for the disbursement of the \$4M in DURF for the public access road.

Kahului Emergency Housing:

- This is a 3-Phase project. HHFDC's involvement is to administer disbursement of a \$5M appropriation for Phase 1.
 - Phase 1: Renovation of former UH dorms into approximately 12 units. Pursuant to Governor's Emergency Proclamation in addition to Ohana Zone.
 - Phase 2: Planning & Entitlements.
 - Phase 3: Construction of approximately 40 new units. Pursuant to Ohana Zone only.
- Maui County is currently working on terminating the UH lease, executing a contract with a General Contractor, and preparing pre-development items such as plans and permits.
- Maui County published a RFP for an EA for all 3 Phases of the project.

County of Hawai'i

Current Initiatives

- Keolahou Emergency Shelter and Assessment Center on Hawaii Island opened in early October and had its formal blessing on November 8, 2019. The shelter currently provides 32 emergency shelter beds for single men. The County continues to work through the final phase of the renovation work. Upon completion of all work, the shelter will provide a total of 50 beds. HOPE Services Hawai'i is the Service Provider.
- The first neighbor island Family Assessment Center in Hawaiian Paradise Park (Puna) opened in July 2019 and is operated by Neighborhood Place of Puna. The FAC provides emergency shelter "tiny homes" for up to 9 families. As of February 26, 2020, the FAC has served 30 families, of which 10 have exited to permanent housing and 4 to transitional housing. To date, the FAC has served a total of 54 adults and 46 children. Of the 46 children, 32 have been between the ages of 0 and 5. 55 of the totals individuals served has self-identified themselves as a Native Hawaiian.
- Kukuioia. The County continues its work with its design and construction partners in finalizing the design of the community and access roadways. The County anticipates construction to begin in Spring 2020.
- Assessment Center at Ulu Wini. In February 2020, the County entered into a contract with the Hawaii Affordable Properties, Inc. to manages its first Assessment Center for families in West Hawai'i at its Na Kahua Hale O Ulu Wini (Ulu Wini). Ulu Wini has 23 transitional units, 5 of which are dedicated for families who are fleeing domestic violence and 72 permanent housing units.
- LEAD Program – Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Program is in full implementation as of early January 2020. In partnership, the providers and the Police Department conduct weekly outreach sessions. LEAD is an innovative program, supported by Hawaii County's Police Chief and Prosecuting Attorney will give law enforcement officers a non-arrest option when dealing with minor offenses by homeless individuals. Big Island Substance Abuse Council is the lead agency.

Office of Senator Russell Ruderman

Senate HMS Committee:

- **SB 2344, SD1:** This measure expands conditions in which a minor can consent to no-cost emergency shelter and services and provides the accepting shelter to hold certain requirements. HMS passed SB 2344 with amendments to JDC. The amendments that HMS made were:
 - 1) Expanded the original bill from covering minors the age of 16 years or older to all minors
 - 2) Directs DHS to make every effort to ensure that each island has a proper shelter for unaccompanied minors

- 3) This measure passed through JDC unamended. This bill was passed over to the House on 03/03/2020.
- SB 2465, SD2: This measure would allow DHS to procure services of a master contractor to implement and operate a transitions clinic network pilot program. This program would serve chronically ill individuals following their release from prison to allow for continuity of care and ultimately help to reduce homelessness and recidivism rates for these individuals. HMS and WAM have passed SB 2344 with routine and technical nonsubstantive amendments to continue discussion. On 03/03/2020, this bill was passed over to the House.
 - SB 2893, SD1: This measure would align Hawaii's definition of "chronically homeless" with the federal definition and will help to reduce confusion with this term among providers. This bill is within the Governor's priorities. HMS passed SB 2893 with technical nonsubstantive amendments and CPH passed this measure unamended. On 02/28/2020, this measure was passed over to the House.
 - SB 2942: This bill would require the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness to develop and implement separate regional plans in coordination with the counties and communities. HMS and WAM both passed this measure unamended. On 02/19/2020, this measure was passed over to the House and on 02/27/2020, it was referred to HSH, FIN.
 - SB 3117, SD1: This measure would extend the Emergency Department Homelessness Assessment Pilot Program and then Medical Respite Pilot Program until December 31, 2021 in order to continue these needed services as well as collect more data and experience to better understand how these pilots would work as regular State programs. HMS passed this measure unamended and WAM passed it with routine and technical amendments to continue discussion. This bill was passed over to the House on 03/03/2020 and has a House companion bill that is also still alive (HB 2525, HD2).
 - SB 2459, SD2: This measure would restore certain adult dental benefits to Medicaid enrollees, a benefit which was cut in 2009. Medicaid enrollees currently have to wait until they have a dental emergency to be able to receive dental services under the coverage. Poor dental health linked to a variety of diseases and health conditions. CPH/HMS passed this measure with amendments including language requiring DHS to pursue all funding sources possible to restore this benefit. WAM passed this measure with routine and technical amendments to continue discussion. This bill was passed over to the House on 03/03/2020 and has a House companion bill that is also still alive (HB 2249, HD2).
 - SB 2951, SD1: This measure would establish a short-term rental assistance fund and short-term rental assistance program within the Hawaii Public Housing Authority. HOU/HMS passed this measure unamended and WAM/JDC passed it with amendments, which changed the source of funding for the monies to legislative appropriation, added a definition of the term "assisted unit", and included routine and technical nonsubstantive amendments. This bill was passed over to the House on 03/03/2020.
 - SB 2952, SD2: This measure would provide funds to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority for the State Rent Supplement Program. This program would provide shallow rent supplements to struggling households as a safety net to keep them from becoming homeless. HOU/HMS passed this measure, amending the appropriation amount to \$5 million. WAM passed this measure with routine and technical nonsubstantive amendments. This bill was passed over to the House on 03/03/2020.
 - SB 2469, SD2: This measure would require DHS to purchase, staff, and operate 2 mobile clinics to serve homeless persons, with one of the mobile clinics being allocated to the county with the largest land mass. HMS/PSM passed this measure with the amendment of authorizing DHS to

contract with nonprofit medical service providers for this service. WAM passed this measure with the following amendments:

- 1) Clarification that mobile clinics shall provide certain listed services
- 2) Deleting a provision specifying that procurements for mobile clinics are subject to Chapters 103D and 103F HRS
- 3) Routine and technical nonsubstantive amendments

This bill was passed over to the House on 03/03/2020.

Some measures related to homelessness that came to HMS committee that are no longer alive:

Bill #	Title	Description
SB 2220	Relating to minors	Expands the circumstances where a minor may consent to no cost emergency shelter and related services to include cases where the provider is coordinating with child welfare services.
SB 2741, SD1	Relating to sex trafficking	Authorizes DHS to establish, or contract with a victim service provider to operate or manage, an emergency shelter for victims of sex trafficking, subject to available funding. Exempts compensation received by a victim service provider for operating a sex trafficking emergency shelter from the general excise tax.
SB 2442, SD1 (did not come to HMS, but monitored)	Relating to homelessness	Establishes the kauhale pilot program to provide shelter and certain services to homeless individuals. Appropriates funds for the kauhale pilot program. Appropriates funds for two FTE employees for the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.
HB 2112, HD1 (did not come to HMS, but monitored)	Relating to homelessness	Requires the office of the lieutenant governor to convene a working group to examine the feasibility of establishing and implementing a kauhale pilot program based on specified criteria to provide shelter and other services to homeless individuals in the State and to submit a report of the working group's findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the legislature prior to the regular session of 2021. Takes effect on December 31, 2059.