



Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness

SEPTEMBER 20, 2021 REGULAR MEETING

10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. HST

General Housekeeping Items

1. Please kindly mute the audio functions on your device when you are not speaking.
2. For purposes of minutes, any person speaking should identify themselves by first and last name and office before speaking.
3. Please mute your speaker if you are not speaking in order to cut out any ambient background noise. Also make sure to close doors and windows as appropriate to reduce background noise.
4. Participants should identify yourself by using the **raise hand** feature on MS Teams. If you are joining by computer, click on the Participants tab and then the “More” icon that looks like three dots (...). Click on the **raise hand** and control the function when appropriate.



Housekeeping Items Cont.

5. Council members needing to excuse yourselves, please raise your hand to let the Chair know or speak up if on the phone.
6. If you involuntarily disconnect, please call Justin Limasa at **(808) 342-1174** for assistance to reconnect.
7. If you voluntarily disconnect, please announce that you are leaving the meeting and staff will record the time for the meeting minutes.



II. Overview and Approval of Agenda

☐ New Business

1. Presentation from USICH on current federal efforts and solicitation of input for new federal strategic plan.

☐ Continuing Business

1. Presentation from Med-QUEST Division on implementation of Community Integration Services (CIS).
2. Presentation from the Corporation for Supportive Housing on supportive housing need estimates in Hawaii.
3. Presentation from the CoCs – Partners in Care and Bridging the Gap – regarding the implementation of new Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHVs).



III. Approval of Minutes

- ☐ Review and approve minutes for the June 21, 2021 regular meeting.
- ☐ Minutes can be found online at:
<https://homelessness.hawaii.gov/hich/agenda-and-minutes/>



IV. Public Testimony

1. Members of the public wishing to testify should signal your intent to testify by **raising your hand** so staff can notate the names and order of testifiers.
2. Testimony will be provided **in the order that hands are raised**.
3. Please state your first and last name and organization for the record before starting your testimony.
4. Please try to mute your speaker before you are ready to speak to cut out any ambient background noise.
5. Testimony should be limited to **one minute**.



V. New Business



- **Katy Miller, USICH Regional Coordinator**
- **New Guide to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding -**
Making the Most of the American Rescue Plan: A Guide to the Funding that Impacts People Experiencing Homelessness
- **Help Envision the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness** – USICH is accepting public input on the process of creating a new Federal Plan through Tuesday, November 30, 2021 at: <https://usich.gov/fsp>



VI.a.i. MQD Updates



- **Judy Mohr Peterson, MQD Administrator**
- **Overview of MQD Community Integration Services (“CIS,” also known as “Supportive Housing Services”)**
- **Med-QUEST Division website:**
<https://medquest.hawaii.gov/>



Community Integration Services – Med-QUEST Update

Judy Mohr Peterson, PhD
Med-QUEST Administrator, DHS
Hawaii Interagency on Homelessness



Beyond Clinic Walls: Social driver of health – Housing

Community Integration services

- Whenever Medicaid wants to pay for services that are not “traditional” medical services, need to get a waiver/approval
- CMS approved MQD’s §1115 renewal 7/31/2019 to provide supportive housing services or “tenancy support services”.
- Health plans and providers to provide services that will help obtain and retain housing.
- Supports for individuals that are homeless and at-risk of homelessness that meet a needs-based criteria:
 - A mental health or substance use disorder (SUD) need; or
 - A complex physical health need.
- Supports for people to transition from homelessness or institutions like moving costs, utilities and rent deposits (payer of last resort)



Aloha United Way Homeless Program



Beyond Clinic Walls: Supportive housing benefit

- MQD changed Managed Care Plan contracts in 2019 and new 7/1/2021
- Issued Guidance documents and new reporting requirements
- Health plans have hired “Housing supports Coordinator(s)”
 - Participate in Homeless Coordinated Entry Meetings.
 - Connect with the agencies and help coordinate medical, Home/Community based care, Community Care Services (CCS)
 - MQD meets weekly with Housing Coordinators weekly to provide ongoing support.
- Partners in Care: Total = 1303 households
 - Case Conferencing: 228 - Number of cases where the QI health plans have flagged a homeless household for assistance to connect them to a homeless service provider.
 - Number Next List: 335 – Number of cases where the QI health plan is providing assistance in getting documentation or helping to get a family “ready” for a referral through Coordinated Entry System.
 - Post-Referral: 740 – Number of cases where the QI health plan is engaged in post-referral follow up for households that have received a housing referral through CES.



Beyond Clinic Walls: Connecting QUEST Integration Health Plans

- Meet and Greet on 7/8/2021 for Health Plans and Agencies/Community homelessness providers.
- Enrolling Homeless agency/community providers
 - 8/6/2021 Medicaid 101 training with for homeless provider agencies. Medicaid 102 dvlpt in process
 - 9/1/2021 New provider type A3 – community was made available in for homeless agencies applying to become Medicaid providers.
 - 9/3/2021 Training on Provider Enrollment system, HOKU.
 - Work with Provider Enrollment to identify agencies that have applied to HOKU, id where they are in the process and establish a projected timeline for approval.
- Health Plans can contract with agencies/community providers once they are enrolled with MQD as Medicaid providers.



Beyond Clinic Walls: Next steps/challenges

- Continue to meet, collaborate and coordinate to complement, strengthen and expand services
 - Analyze already existing homeless services and the new Medicaid services for overlaps and gaps
 - Supplement but not supplant (extreme challenges given vastly different payment systems)
- Work with homeless community agencies/providers to enroll as Medicaid providers which can be a lengthy and challenging process
- Paying for services to maximize effective leveraging of federal dollars but not “supplanting”
- New guidance – workflow, screening and management processes are new, detailed and challenging
- New reporting structure for health plans – detailed and challenging
- As an 1115 waiver service – evaluation is required and underway

VI.a.ii. CSH Updates

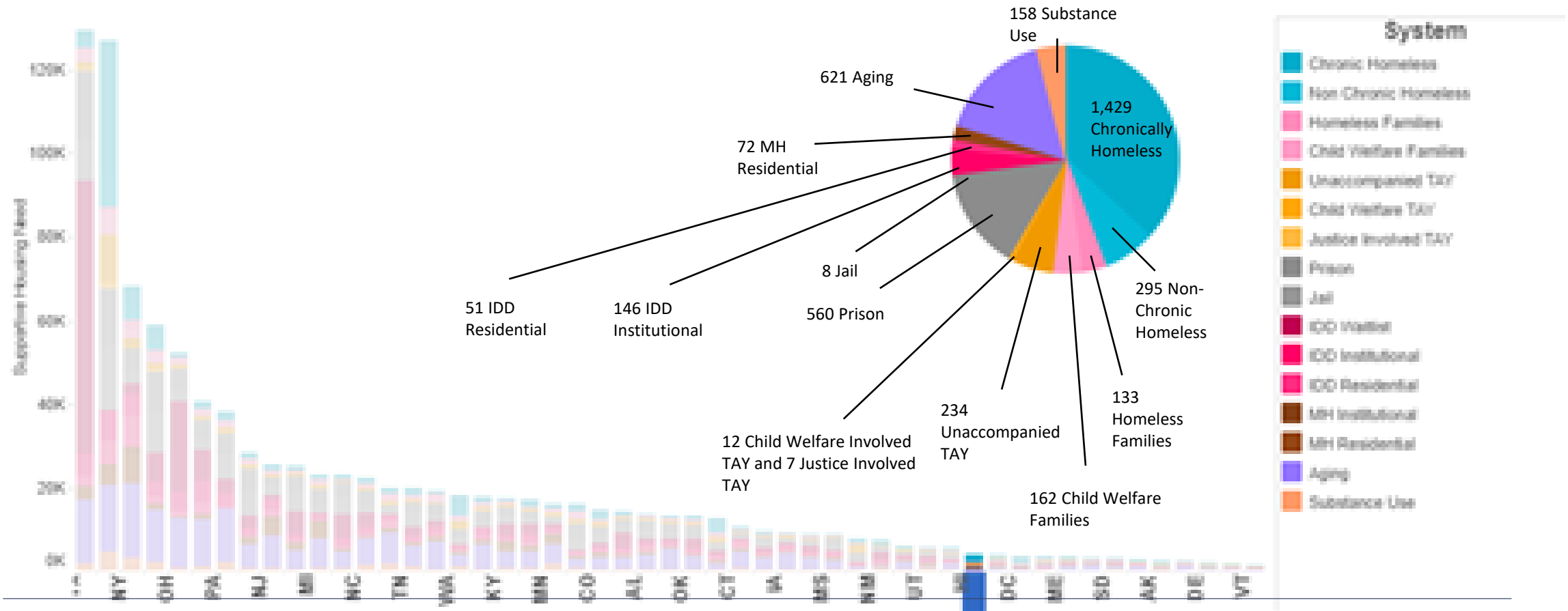


- **Heather Lyons, Director**
- **Estimate of Supportive Housing Need in Hawaii**
- **Supportive Housing Needs in the U.S.:**
https://public.tableau.com/shared/GDPRYGH3F?:display_count=y&:origin=viz_share_link&:embed=y
- **For more information:**
<https://csh.org/data>

Supportive Housing

3,888

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VI.b. Update on EHV Implementation

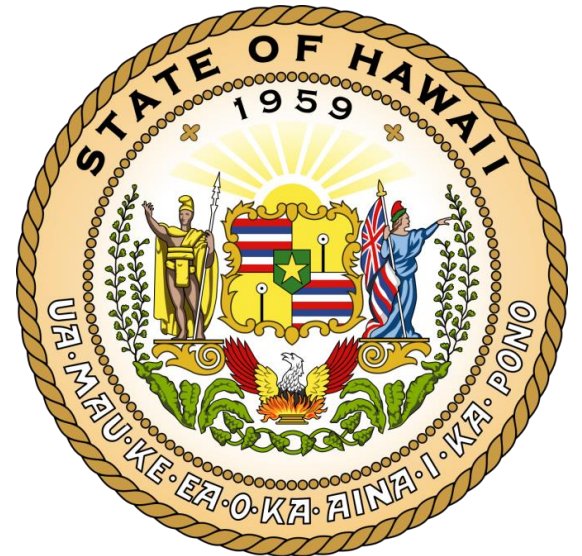


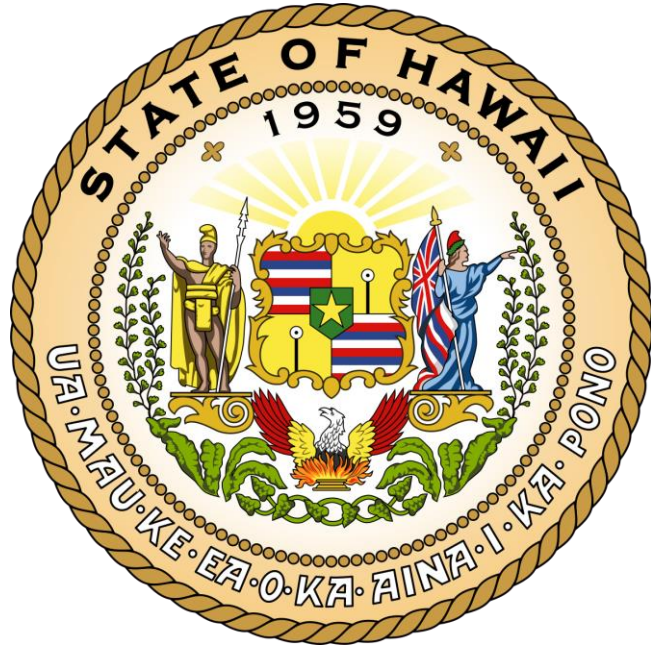
Partners in Care – Oahu's Continuum of Care





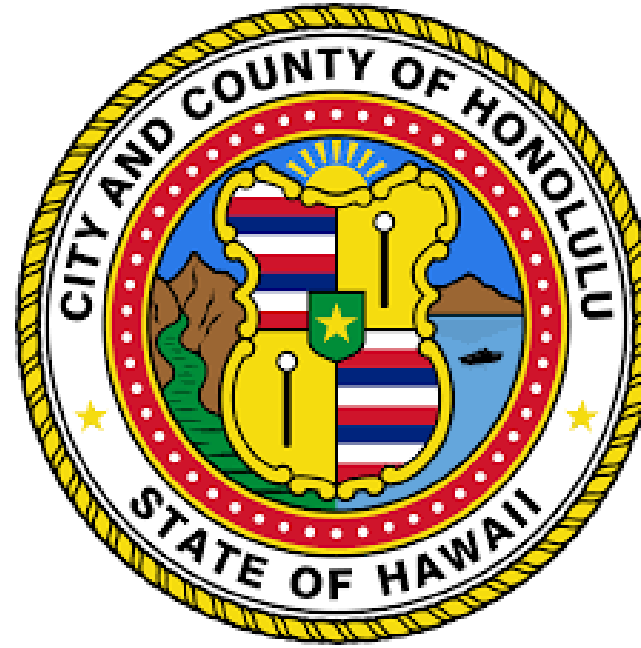
Emergency Housing Vouchers





182 Vouchers

+



312 Vouchers

= 494

Proposed EHV Utilization Pathways

Move-On

Transitioning those that are stable in PSH to an EHV and moving on without intensive services long term

Transitioning those who are stable in RRH to an EHV at RRH exit without intensive services long term

PSH Expansion

House those currently experiencing homelessness into a PSH intervention with long term intensive services

EHV Priorities



Homeless

At risk of Homelessness

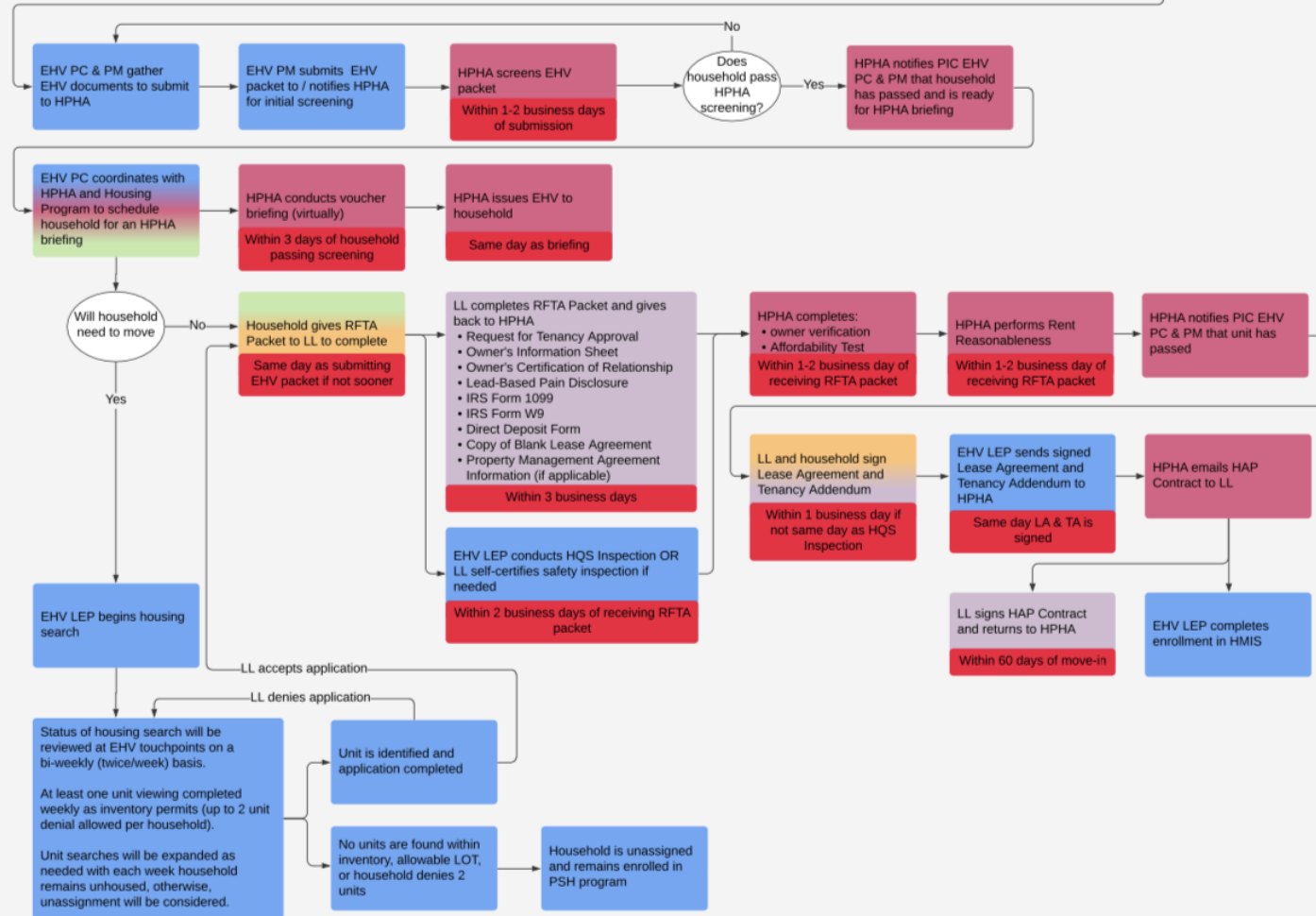
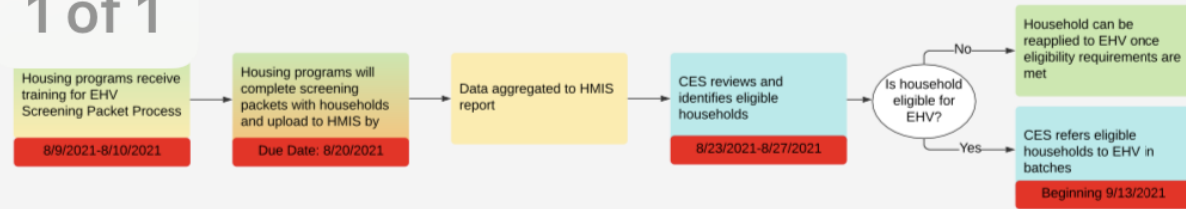
Domestic Violence Victims

Dating Violence

Sexual Assault

Stalking

Human Trafficking



Legend

Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA)

Coordinated Entry System (CES)

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

Partners In Care (PIC) Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV)
• Landlord Engagement Program Specialist (LEP)
• Program Coordinator (PC)
• Program Manager (PM)

Landlord (LL)

Housing Program

Household / Tenant

EHV Referral Schedule

	Week 1- 08/30-09/03	Week 2 09/06-09/10	Week 3 09/13-09/17	Week 4 09/20-09/24	Week 5 09/21-10/01	Week 6 10/04-10/08	Week 7 10/11-10/15	Week 8 10/18-10/22	Week 9 10/25/10/29
<i>Batch 1</i>	21 (+ any households in need of relocation up to 36 total)								
<i>Batch 2</i>		21+							
<i>Batch 3</i>			21+						
<i>Batch 4</i>				21+					
<i>Batch 5</i>					21+				
<i>Batch 6</i>						21+			
<i>Batch 7</i>							21+		
<i>Batch 8</i>								Additional households as needed	



Period from referral to lease up

Program Goals

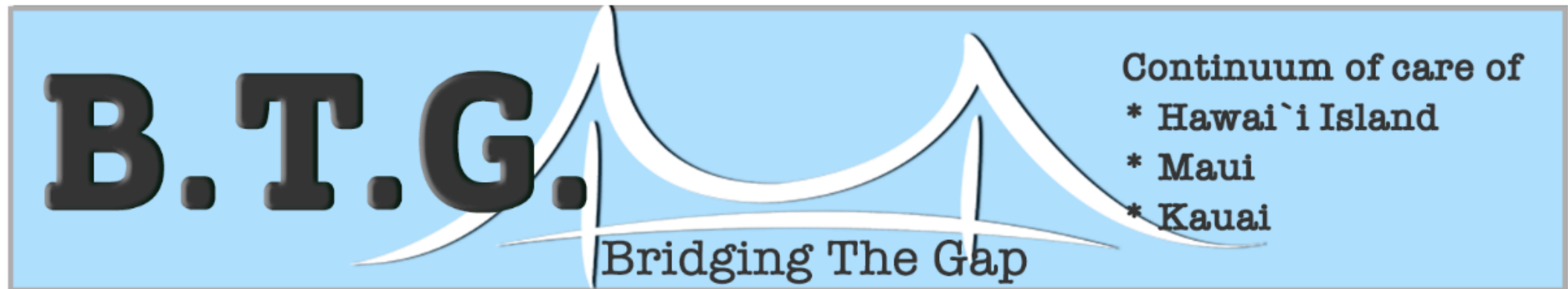
- 146 (80% of participants) leased up by 10/31/21
- Period from referral to lease up = 1 week - 2 weeks max (unless move required)
- Ideal LEP caseload at any given time =10-21 max (unless household requires move)
- CES will automatically replace unassignments
- Households who require a new unit will be assigned immediately with up to 2 unit viewings or unassignment

NEXT STEPS

- COMPLETE HIRING FOR EHV TEAM
- START BATCH REFERRALS
- HQS INSPECTION TRAINING
- COMPLETE EHV PROCESS FOR ALL QUALIFIED PERSONS
- RE-HOUSE THOSE WHO REQUIRE
- CONTINUE WORKING WITH THE CITY IN PREPARATION FOR THEIR PROGRAM IN 2022



VI.b. Update on EHV Implementation





Emergency Housing Voucher Program

Presentation to the Hawai'i
Interagency Council on
Homelessness (HICH)

Bridging the Gap

Counties of Hawai'i, Maui and Kaua'i

September 2021

Emergency Housing Voucher Program

General Overview

- Managed by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development
Reference Document: PIH Notice 2021-15 (HA)
- Vouchers Allocation by County
 - Hawai'i: 110 Maui: 76 Kaua'i: 28
 - Initial funding for program through December 2022. Renewal of vouchers will be done for calendar years 2023 and 2024.
 - Vouchers not in use as of September 30, 2023, will be recaptured by HUD.

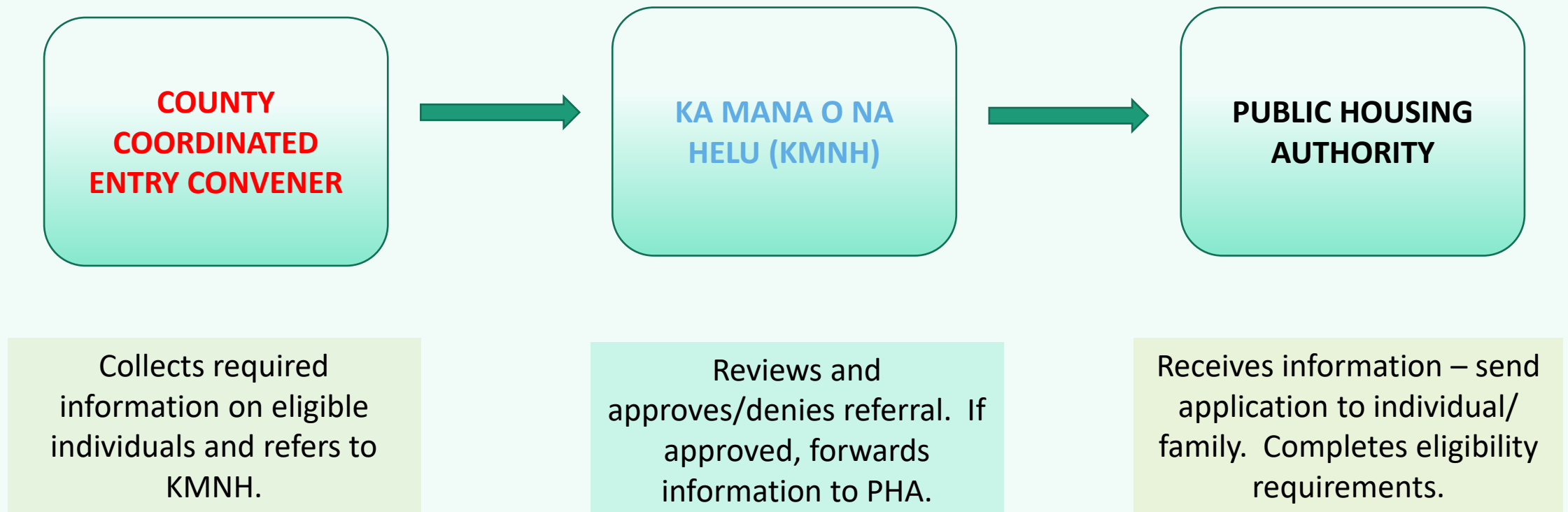
Emergency Housing Voucher Program

General Overview

- Assist individuals and families who are
 - experiencing homelessness,
 - at risk of experiencing homelessness;
 - fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking;
 - or were recently homeless and for whom providing rental assistance will prevent the family's homelessness or having high risk of housing stability.

Emergency Housing Voucher Program

Referral Process



Emergency Housing Voucher Program

Prioritization per Bridging the Gap

- Recently homeless and for whom providing rental assistance will prevent the family's homelessness or having high risk of housing instability
 - PRIORITY 1: Rapid Re-Housing Recipients
 - PRIORITY 2: Permanent Supportive Housing
- Homeless
- Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking
- At Risk of Homelessness

Emergency Housing Voucher Program

Required Forms

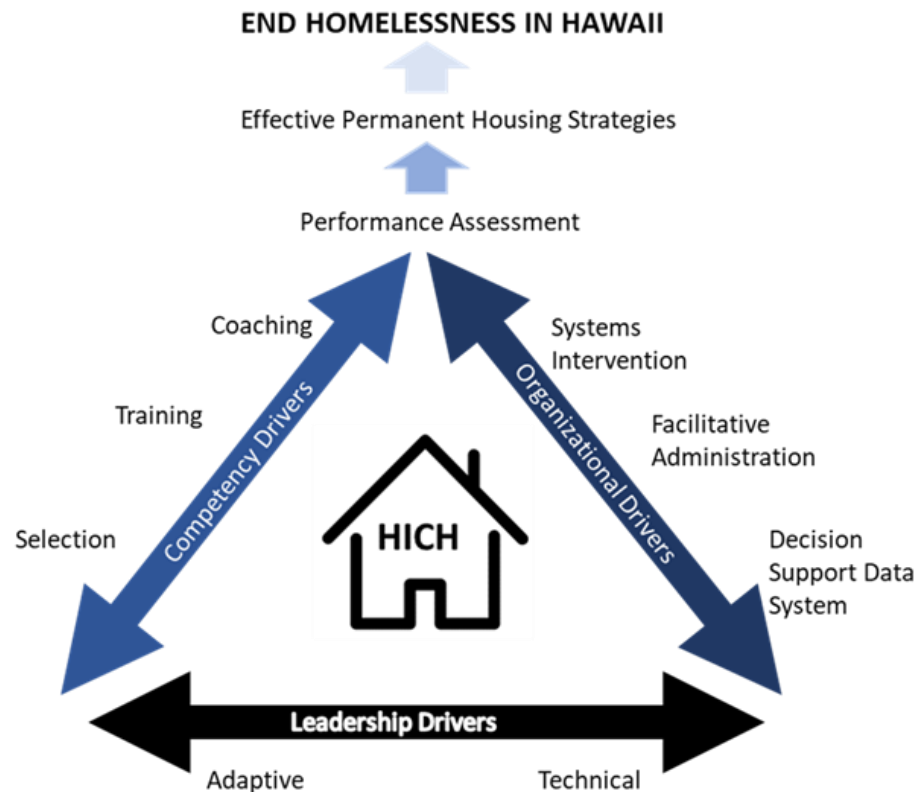
- All individuals/households referred to the EHV program must have their information in the Homeless Management Information System
 - Community Access Points
- Eligibility Certification
- Human Trafficking Certification
- EHV HMIS Entry / Exit Forms

Emergency Housing Voucher Program

Thank you and we appreciate your patience as we learn through the implementation process.

Questions?

VII. Permitted Interaction Group



- Continuing to solicit feedback on development of draft ten-year plan for 2021-2031.
- Initial feedback underscores the need to:
 - Create spaces for collaboration and sector innovations.
 - Expedite identification and development of facilities – not just for housing, but also for treatment and to maintain current shelter capacity.
 - Address the intersection between the criminal justice system and homelessness, particularly related to re-entry.
- Invest in strengthening the capacity of our ***housing-focused system***.
 - Integrating a clear housing focus into different aspects of the homelessness system.



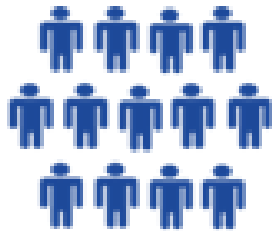
VIII.a. Chairperson & Staff Report

- ☐ **COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing Resources:**
<http://homelessness.hawaii.gov/covid/>
- ☐ **Identification and Vital Documents Resources:**
<http://homelessness.hawaii.gov/id-assistance/>
- ☐ **Eviction Prevention Resources:**
<http://homelessness.hawaii.gov/eviction-moratorium-resources/>
- ☐ **Landlord Engagement:**
<http://homelessness.hawaii.gov/landlord-engagement/>



HICH Performance Metrics (September 2021)

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
(2020 PIT Count)

1398 people
(2021 PIT Count – Sheltered Only)



CAPACITY

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

3964 PH Beds
(2021 HIC Inventory)



HOUSING PLACEMENTS

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

48% Exits to PH
(July 2021)



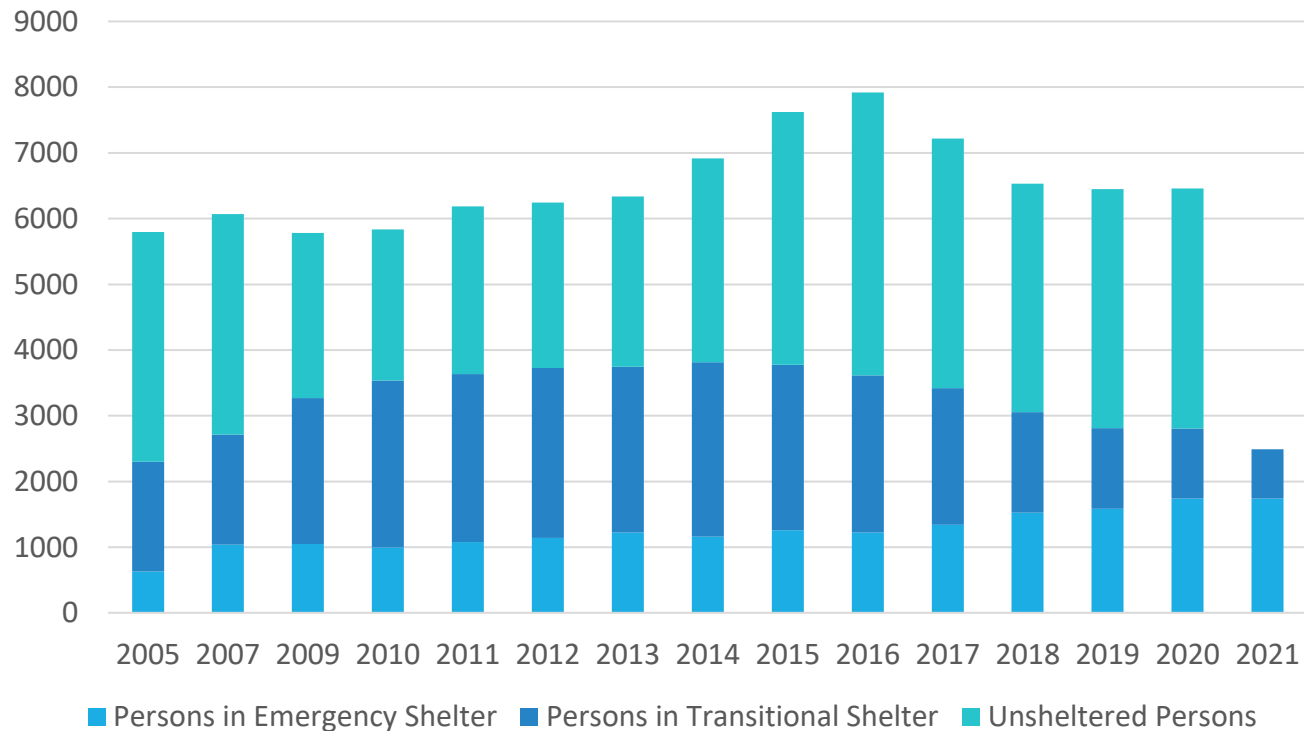
LENGTH OF STAY

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

210 days
(May 2021)

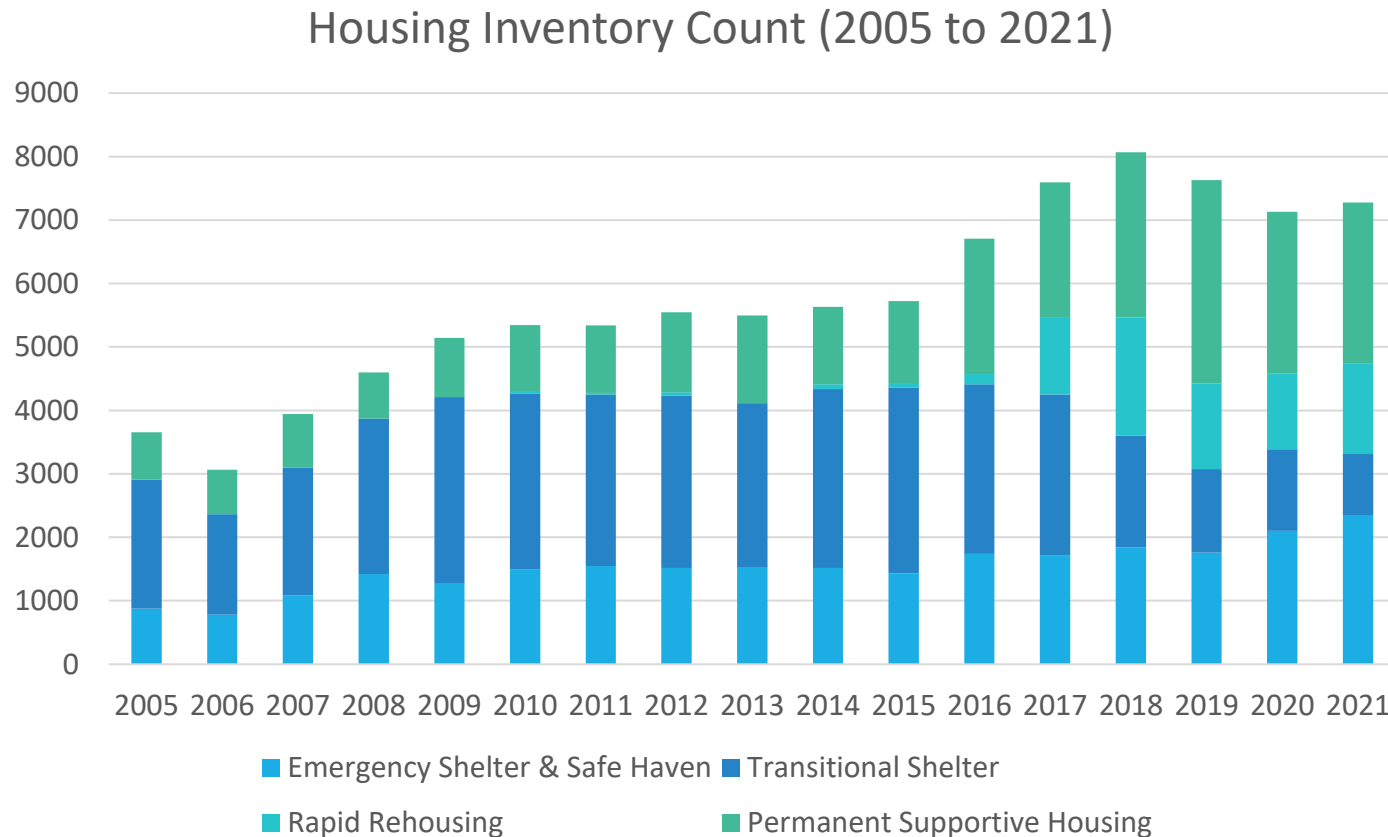
HICH Performance Metrics: PIT Count

2005 – 2021 Point in Time Count



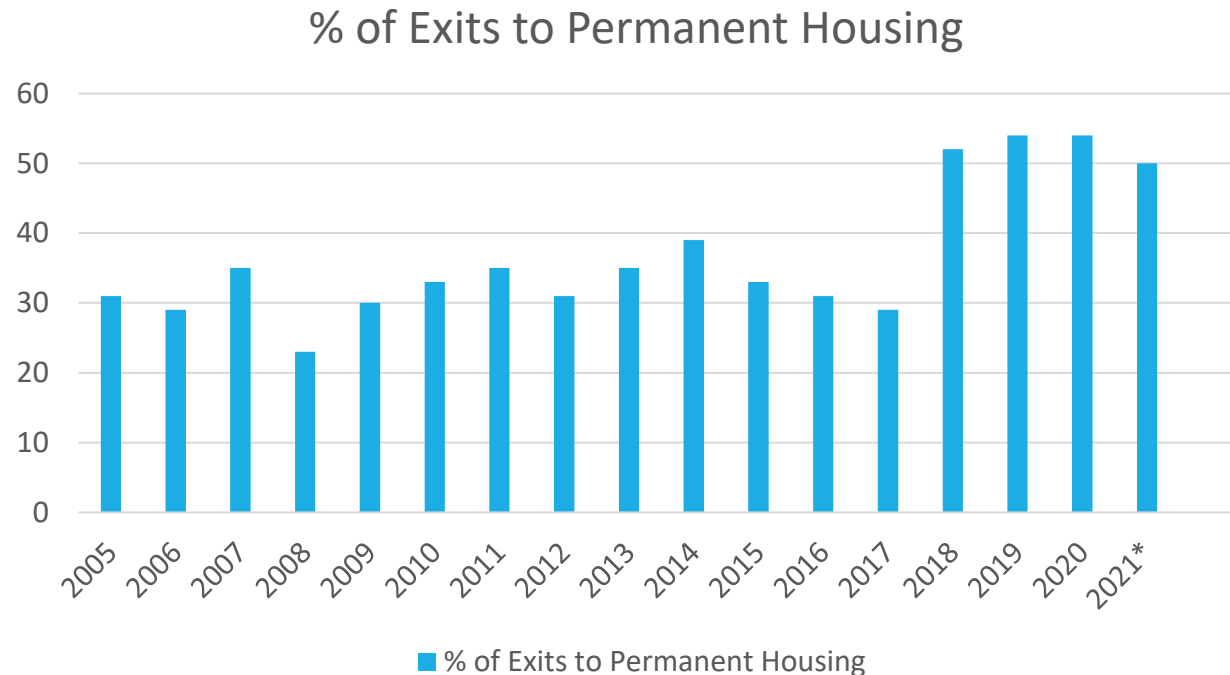
- In 2021, no unsheltered count was conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The 2021 **sheltered count** shows an overall decrease of 318 fewer people in shelter compared to the prior year.
 - No. in Emergency Shelter remained flat (a decrease of 1 person).
 - Most of the decrease occurred for persons in transitional shelter.
- On Neighbor Islands, No. in Emergency Shelter increased by 128 compared to prior year.
- Does not reflect people staying in isolation/quarantine, or expansion in emergency shelter capacity through CARES funded projects.

HICH Performance Metrics: Housing Inventory Count



- Increase in PSH and RRH beginning in 2016.
 - Between 2020-2021, the total number of permanent housing beds increased – primarily through an increase in RRH beds.
- Increase in emergency shelter beds between 2019-2021 – an increase of 33% (580 beds) statewide.
- Transitional shelter has steadily decreased.
- Trends reflect change in federal, state and local funding and policy.

HICH Performance Metrics: Permanent Housing Placements



*2021 numbers are as of 07/31/2021

- Housing placements lowered between May and July 2021.
- As of May 2021, housing placement rate is 50% statewide.
- Between January to July 2021, the Neighbor Island PH Exit Rate is 58% vs. the Oahu PH Exit Rate of 48%.
- Limited capacity for PSH subsidies and overall rental unit inventory may be contributing to lower PH exit rates in first half of 2021.

HICH Performance Metrics: Emergency Shelter LOS

Average Length of Stay in Emergency Shelter

	Oahu	Maui	Kauai	Hawaii Island
2017	103 days	55 days	85 days	72 days
2018	103 days	110 days	103 days	78 days
2019	108 days	96 days	94 days	81 days
2020	118 days	94 days	73 days	100 days
2021 (as of 07/31/21)	123 days	154 days	44 days	91 days

- Goal is 90 days to exit from emergency shelter stay.
- Length of stay may be impacted by limited housing inventory and housing resources.
- Maui data for 2021 may reflect conversion of Transitional beds to Emergency Shelter.
- Kauai data based on a limited number of exits.

HICH Performance Metrics: Transitional Shelter LOS

Average Length of Stay in Transitional Shelter

	Oahu	Maui	Kauai	Hawaii Island
2017	288 days	110 days	150 days	363 days
2018	290 days	187 days	226 days	305 days
2019	299 days	116 days	322 days	322 days
2020	356 days	182 days	190 days	346 days
2021 (as of 7/31/21)	382 days	397 days	158 days	487 days

- Goal is 120 days to exit from transitional shelter stay.
- Length of stay fluctuates by island, but tends to be longer on Oahu and Hawaii island.
- Length of stay may be impacted by limited housing inventory and housing resources.

VIII.b. HICH Written Updates

❑ **Department of Public Safety:**

- Finalized MOU with HDOT and City & County CSD to facilitate issuing of State ID cards to inmates being released on Oahu.
- Initial phase for State I.D. issuance will be conducted at Halawa Correctional Facility.
- Exploring issuance of 30-day bus passes for indigent and/or needy inmates being released on parole and working with DLIR to explore leveraging of employment services for offenders re-entering community.
- In discussions with SSA to facilitate reissuance of replacement social security cards for American born citizens being released from prison.



VIII.b. HICH Written Updates

☐ Department of Veteran Affairs

- VASH expansion program opened up to OTH veterans without enough active duty time/previous ineligible veterans.
- Resumed admission to U.S. Vets GPD program as of August 31.
- Housed 34 veterans over past three months (June, July August)

☐ Hawaii State Legislature

- In 2021, crafted budget that best addressed increased needs attributed to the pandemic.
- Monies from ARPA prevented cuts in vital programs and services.
- Funding was increased for GA payments.
- Legislature is scheduling a joint informational briefing on Ohana Zones and looking to schedule another annual Homelessness Summit prior to the 2022 session.



VIII.b. HICH Written Updates

❑ **Department of Hawaiian Home Lands:**

- DRAP program approved 142 applications (\$2,052,596.35 disbursed)
 - Program closed to new applicants.
- DHHL Rent Relief for Wait List beneficiaries approved 350 applications (\$2.4M disbursed)
 - 59 applications pending documents and verification.
- DHHL Native Hawaiian Rent & Utilities Assistance program for all Native Hawaiians approved 146 applications.
 - 47 applications pending documents and verification.
- Contracted to launch a program for Homeowner Assistance Mortgage/Utility/Other Housing expenses for DHHL lessees.
- Continuing to work on Environmental Review Record for Yorktown 2-story property that is planned for conversion to 18 studio units for Transitional Housing.



VIII.b. HICH Written Updates

☐ **Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA)**

- On May 24, 2021 HPHA accepted 182 special EHV's under a new HUD TBRA program and entered into an MOA with the Oahu CoC on July 30, 2021.
- HPHA EHV administrative rules were approved on September 2, 2021.
- HPHA has applied for the Moving to Work (MTW) Demonstration program and selected three landlord incentives to implement if approved:
 - Vacancy Loss Payments
 - Other Landlord Incentives (e.g. Signing Bonuses)
 - Front-end Vacancy Loss Payments
- Kalaeloa Kauhale program will support up to 39 kauhale (small village) units for formerly homeless individuals.



VIII.b. HICH Written Updates

- ❑ **City & County of Honolulu** – CORE program will be administered by Honolulu Emergency Services Department and stationed at 840 Iwilei.

- ❑ **County of Kauai:**
 - Received 28 EHV's from HUD, including 10 for 'recently homeless' and 18 for 'literally homeless.'
 - Began implementing 'Lunch & Learns' and training for Kauai service providers.
 - Pua Loke Apartments (54 new units) began first move-ins on Friday, September 3.

- ❑ **Kauai Community Alliance**
 - KCA hosting Project Housing Connect on 11/18/21 for Homeless Awareness Week.
 - Started DV CES referrals with DV provider YWCA.
 - New Pua Loke Project utilizing CES for referrals and off to a good start!



VIII.b. HICH Written Updates

County of Maui:

- Finalized MOU between PHA and BTG for EHV's.
- Compassionate Response will be conducted in late September near Kanaha wildlife sanctuary.
- Continuing implementation of Huliau and looking to build additional 40-50 units at adjacent location.
- Continuing implementation of Wahi Hoomalu O Wailuku (pallet shelters) with an overall 80%+ permanent housing placement rate.



VIII.b. HICH Written Updates

County of Hawaii:

- Keolahou Emergency Shelter re-opened in mid-June 2021.
- Kukuiola Assessment Center work is ongoing and includes various funding sources, such as County CIP, Ohana Zone, and DURF.
- Ulu Wini Assessment Center will be incorporated into the County's multi-year property management contract awarded to Hawaii Affordable Properties to ensure long-term sustainability of this model.
- County continues to respond to the financial and health impacts of COVID-19.
- Working on implementing Safe Parking opportunities in West Hawaii in partnership with faith-based communities.
- Will be launching the County's new Financial Empower Center in early October 2021.



Partners in Care Updates: See written handouts in packet.

X. Topics for Upcoming Meetings

Please contact Homelessness Assistant Justin Limasa at **(808) 586-0193** or gov.homelessness@hawaii.gov with any suggestions for upcoming meeting topics.



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.



XI. Meeting Schedule

- Monday, December 20, 2021, 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon.



XI. Adjourn

- Thank you for your participation.
- If you have any questions, please contact **(808) 586-0193** or e-mail [**gov.homelessness@hawaii.gov**](mailto:gov.homelessness@hawaii.gov).

