

Oahu Outreach Provider Meeting June 10, 2021

Call to Order/Client Success Stories

- OHN has housed 79 households so far and is well on their way to their goal! Congratulations to the OHN team and to ALL providers who have been working hard to coordinate services 😊

Government Agency Updates

- DOE
 - DOE has two mobile outreach buses on Oahu and one on Kauai.
- HPO
 - Working with providers in transition for outreach in the Central Oahu areas (US Vets → Achieve Zero) and Honolulu to east side (KPHC → HHHRC). Providers have come up with very helpful encampment maps and are working very closely with each other. Do not foresee any disruption in services with the transition.
- City & County of Honolulu, Mayor's Office of Housing
 - Continuing to develop CORE, should be housed in Emergency Services Department. Should launch in the next few months.
- DLNR
 - Clean up at Sand Island next week. Provided notice last week about this.
- Med-QUEST
 - Currently working on provider applications that have been submitted.
- DHS-SSD
 - CWS: Working to enhance collaboration and communication efforts with providers, state, counties around resources available to youth and former foster youth.
- VA
 - GPD admissions are temporarily on hold. No new referrals for VASH vouchers until staffing and backlog are resolved, but will hopefully resume again by the end of the month.

Presentations and Discussion

- PIC & Oahu Housing Now – Laura Thielen, Berta Maldonado, Morgan Esarey
 - PIC will be hosting a few service fairs in Kakaako and Moiliili, likely in August or September.
 - The process for figuring out the prioritization for Emergency Housing Vouchers will be somewhat lengthy. All of CoC members and providers will be made aware about meetings about prioritization. C&C may not use allotment until early next year because of the opening of the Section 8 waitlist, so we have some planning time.
 - If any groups need vaccinations, please reach out to Laura or Project Vision.
 - OHN has housed 79 households so far! Housing fairs will continue to be held on June 23rd and 24th, including locations at Onelauena and ASI. Please bring clients to these sites on these days if you have received a referral notice. Will follow up with outreach on June 28th and 29th for those who don't make it to the sites the previous week.
 - We have been connecting with providers about what to prepare ahead of the housing fairs. Can reach out to OHN team: OHN@partnersincareoahu.org

- **Reminder – City & County of Honolulu Section 8 waitlist is accepting applications from June 14th – June 18th.**
 - http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/dcs/2021_-_Opening_Closing_of_Section_8_Housing_Choice_Voucher_Waitlist.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0BXzB_PRO6sRDHZeapoAwAHnV3B7J-5NBKjP2QOfjXUCsphETmTSgpe90
 - Clients and providers are encouraged to start the application early in case you run into any difficulties or have questions.

- **Hawaii Health & Harm Reduction Center – Kunane Drier and Mono Ah Nee**
 - Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) - want to expand beyond metro Honolulu areas. Will expand to Haleiwa, Wahiawa, and Waialua. One week per month in Kahuku, Laie, and in Windward area. Working with partners on Waianae Coast to set up days and services.
 - Will do street medicine, substance abuse disorder and treatment, Hep C treatment
 - Goal with MMU is to coordinate with outreach services, may help to connect and engage people with outreach efforts.
 - Is there a way to share info or referrals to MMU for people who may be interested?
 - Yes, definitely. Working on making a formal and informal referral system. Friday was the first day that the MMU was out on the streets. Partner agencies can reach out and we will make every effort to get to them if within 20 miles of where we are that day.
 - Outreach team and MMU team will work together and we can have referral process that we can share with other providers to be able to best assist the individual.
 - Contact info:
 - mono@hhrc.org
 - kdreier@hhrc.org

- **Legal Aid Society – Alexis Mukaida and Rebecca Leibowitz**
 - ****Disclaimer: this presentation is considered legal information, not legal advice**
 - Equal Access Rule – related to gender identity and gender expression
 - State law includes protection for "gender identity" & "gender expression" and Federal law includes protection for "sex," which covers gender identity and expression, as clarified in recent SCOTUS case
 - Equal Access Rule, created by HUD in 2012 - ensures that all HUD programs are open to eligible persons regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status.
 - In 2020, HUD proposed a rule to "prove" gender identity.
 - HUD recently announced that they have rescinded the proposal.
 - Introducing transgender inclusive language
 - Pronouns: Refer to people as they request
 - Person questions: Avoid unrelated questions
 - Avoid saying "transgendered" or "a transgender" -- instead refer to the person as they wish to be referred to as
 - Inclusive policy standards: Staff & residents
 - No tolerance for harmful & discriminatory language
 - Normalize using preferred pronouns or avoiding pronouns in language if possible
 - Creating inclusive spaces: Facilities

- Providers should not isolate or segregate clients unless a specific privacy request is made.
 - Strategies: Offer area near staff work station; offer areas for those with increased vulnerabilities; Offer assistance with finding alternative place to stay
- Confidentiality: Sex assigned at birth & medication
 - All staff should receive training on confidentiality to avoid jeopardizing client welfare.
- Fair Housing Enforcement Agencies
 - Hawaii Civil Rights Commission
 - HUD - Fair Housing
 - Department of Justice
- Contact info
 - LASH intake line: (808) 536-4302
 - Direct FH email: fairhousing@legalaidhawaii.org
- Resources about Equal Access Rule
 - <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Equal-Access-for-Transgender-People-Supporting-Inclusive-Housing-and-Shelters.pdf>
 - <https://srlp.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/TransitioningOurShelters.pdf>.

Provider Updates and Discussion

Outreach providers were asked to share any suggestions or insights on how to best engage with people with severe substance use needs, and other issues that may prevent them from being able to communicate or respond to their needs.

- Hawaii CARES
 - Dr. Leocadia Conlon will be joining our calls when possible. Please feel free to reach out if you have questions about Hawaii CARES.
 - Contact: conlonjl@hawaii.edu, cell: 481-9157
- I.H.S.
 - Will refer to substance use providers and services if clients are interested. Can work closely with HPD and community members if a person is in need of help but is unable to talk with outreach providers – these parties often know a lot about people in their areas.
- HHHRC
 - In addition to offering substance use support through existing programs such as Needle Exchange, etc., outreach workers should be mindful that change may often take a long time and people may not be willing to engage right away.
- Project Vision Hawaii
 - Vaccination efforts are ongoing – please reach out if your area or agency needs follow-up visits.
 - PVH also has more tests available if needed.
 - Vision screening services have also resumed.
- Revive + Refresh
 - Have been continuing to provide showers and additional services, including laundry services at the HONU – Keehi Lagoon and St. Augustine’s Church.

- Bluewater Mission helps with clothes and food. Hawaii H.O.M.E provides medical, Terry and Karen Laundry service shadows with R+R reaching clients.
- Mental Health Kokua/Punawai Rest Stop
 - Continuing to serve over 200+ individuals. However, seeing an increase in people being referred/coming from the airport. This has started to ramp up after dying down for awhile.
 - Having H4 upstairs is a huge help when clients come in who have severe needs.
- Legal Aid Society
 - Reminder that DOH will not be accepting mail-in birth certificate applications that are requesting a fee waiver. Please follow instructions to send these requests through LASH or I.H.S. so that the fee waiver can still be honored through their online system.
- Waikiki BID
 - Continuing services as usual. Please reach out if you need assistance with locating clients who might frequent the Waikiki area.
- Ka Poe O Kakaako (via chat)
 - KPoK is planning on having another service fair in September. If you or your organizations are interested in being a part the fair or if you would like more information, you may contact Aura Reyes directly @ aura@kpok.org or (808) 589-7350.