

Legislative Priority Recommendations

2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR'S COORDINATOR ON HOMELESSNESS



Background

- Long-term economic and social impacts of COVID-19
- Maximizing impact of one-time federal resource infusions, such as programs funded through the CARES Act and ARP Act
- Multi-disciplinary approach to addressing homelessness and factors that lead people to become homeless

A construction site for a long, single-story building. Two workers in high-visibility vests are on the roof. A red forklift is parked on the right. In the foreground, there are wooden sawhorses and construction materials. The image is darkened to serve as a background for text.

PRIORITY 1

**Promote affordable housing
for people transitioning from
homelessness.**

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Support for Rental Housing Revolving Fund and Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund

Support for shallow rental subsidies, such as the State Rent Supplement Program

Support for housing programs, such as Ohana Zone pilot projects, that pair social service funding with capital funds



PRIORITY 2

**Reduce upfront barriers to
accessing existing rental
housing inventory.**

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Support for policies that address source of income or housing voucher discrimination

Support for policies that regulate rental screening and application fees

Support for incentives to encourage landlords to participate in housing assistance programs



PRIORITY 3

Support policies and programs that assist key homeless sub-populations with transitioning to stable, long-term settings.

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Support programs and policies that assist key homeless sub-populations - such as youth, people with severe mental illness, and individuals with chronic substance use - with transitioning to stable, long-term settings.

Support for hospital and criminal justice diversion

Support for institutional step-down and re-entry into community settings

Support for special needs housing and wraparound services



Advocacy Resources

- Bi-weekly Joint Advocacy meetings for statewide homeless providers and stakeholders every other Friday at noon
 - Email cheryl.a.bellisario@hawaii.gov to be added to the meeting
- Oahu CoC and Bridging the Gap island chapters have their own advocacy committees
- GCH mailing list and website - <http://homelessness.hawaii.gov>