

**Oahu Outreach Provider Meeting**  
**May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Service providers present: Achieve Zero, Hale Kipa, Hawaii Health & Harm Reduction Center, Institute for Human Services, Kalihi-Palama Health Center, Kealahou West Oahu, Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, Mental Health Kokua, Project Vision Hawaii, The Radical Hale, Revive + Refresh, Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center, Waikiki BID Block By Block, Partners in Care, CORE, Hawaii Pacific Health

Call to Order/Client Success Story

- A few providers have begun to notice that some longer-term unsheltered individuals are beginning to change their minds about accessing services and working on housing.

Government Agency Updates

- DHS OYS – the City, HPHA, and HUD have been meeting regularly to iron out some of the sticking points with vouchers for former foster youth.
- VA – the VA will be supporting a vaccine clinic at the U.S. VETS Barber’s Point location.

Presentation/Discussion

➔ **Introductions from Hawaii Pacific Health Social Work Team**

- Hawaii Pacific Health’s Social Work team is embedded in Kapiolani Medical Center, Pali Momi, and Straub. Their team has recently gotten HMIS access and hopes to improve partnerships with outreach providers, shelters, etc.
- Each hospital’s client demographics are slightly different. Pali Momi and Straub tend to see more middle-aged and older adults, and most are men. Many have substance use and mental health issues. Kapiolani tends to see more pregnant individuals and children, but they also receive single individuals from the McCully/Moilili areas. This also includes families that are sent to Oahu for specialty care from other places in the Pacific. Occasionally, people who visit Central Union Church for outreach services wander onto the hospital campus.
- The social work team tries to connect homeless individuals to shelters or other services if they are willing. Challenges have included:
  - Lack of immediate shelter beds suitable for individuals’ needs (e.g. top bunks)
  - Unable to meet ADLs
  - Specialty shelters (e.g. H4, Tutu Bert’s, etc.) full
  - Unable to make own decisions and need legal guardianship
  - Unwilling to accept shelter
- For individuals in need of behavioral health crisis services, a challenge has been that the assessors have not been able to come into the hospitals to do the assessments.
- More homeless individuals are needing IV antibiotics to treat infections, which can be challenging in an unsheltered setting.
- Medicaid plans typically coordinate the 1147 assessments for those who need long-term care or a foster care setting. However, some patients don’t want to accept the level of care services that the health professionals determine that they need. In addition, it can be difficult for the plans to follow up with patients who are unsheltered and don’t have a phone.

### Q&A and Follow-Up

- HPH team to connect with The Radical Hale, particularly for Straub patients who may be discharged to Thomas Square. The Radical Hale would like to do in-reach or early connections to try to help those who may end up back on the streets.
- IHS and KWO also willing to coordinate for clients in their geographic regions.
- Waianae Coast Comp and Waikiki Health are examples of FQHCs that can help with outreach and continuity of care after they leave the ER.
- Explore case conferencing for high utilizers and highly vulnerable patients.
- Deeper dive into how specialty shelter resources are paid for and utilized.
- HPH contact information:
  - Leah Nahale – [leah.nahale@kapiolani.org](mailto:leah.nahale@kapiolani.org)
  - Cori Fujiura-Dela Cruz – [cori.fujiura-delacruz@palimomi.org](mailto:cori.fujiura-delacruz@palimomi.org) or (808) 485-4501
  - Ronni Oune – [ronni.oune@straub.net](mailto:ronni.oune@straub.net)

### Provider Announcements

- Homeless Prevention & Diversion Training Series starts next Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at noon. Look for the meeting invites in the PIC weekly email.
- The Radical Hale is organizing a large food distribution with Aloha Harvest at Thomas Square on May 24<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. There will be food, hygiene kits, and connections to services. Please encourage people to come by!