STATE COUNCIL ON MENTAL HEALTH (SCMH) MEETING

June 10, 2025 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Hybrid meeting via Zoom and
in-person at Hale F Conference Room, 2201 Waimano Home Road, Pearl City 96782

DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present: Katherine Aumer, John Betlach, Lea Dias, Jón Fujii, Heidi Ilyavi, Jackie Jackson, Kathleen Merriam, Ray Rice, Mary Pat Waterhouse, Forrest Wells

Members Absent: Asianna Saragosa-Torres

Members Excused: Naomi Crozier, Christine Montague-Hicks, Kristin Will, Tianna Celis-Webster

Staff Present: Carolyn Weygan-Hildebrand, Chanel Daluddung, Jocelyn Nazareno, Kolina Perreira-Alimoot, Valerie Yin, Troy Freitas, Rei Cooper, Steve Pavao, Mary Akimo-Luuwai, Madeleine Hiraga-Nuccio

Guest: Ryan Walton, Dr. Rob Gent, C. Dang

I. Call to Order

Katherine Aumer, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:09am. Quorum established at 9:15am.

II. Announcements

K. Aumer warmly welcomed members and guess.

Meeting protocol for audiovisual communication breakdown or zoom bombing incident: In case of communication technology-related interruption that could not be restored in 30 minutes, the meeting will automatically be terminated and resume on June 17th, at 9 am using the same zoom links used of this meeting. And this will apply in case of Zoom bombing as well.

- The month of June is national awareness month for PTSD. The Hawaii Department of Defense provides more information and lines of information. If you need a link or resources, it's provided in the chat.
- If any Council Members are interested in visiting facilities for veteran, pls. let the Chairperson know
- There is a scheduled meeting for the Council this June at the Behavioral Health Crisis Center (BHCC).
- The UHERO just released the a 2025 Public Health Report. This link was provided in the https://uhero.hawaii.edu/

Council Membership Update:

No changes in membership but we need to ask the Governor to help fill the housing sector that's been vacant for over a year. Also need a representative from Maui Service Area Board.

K. Aumer reported that the May meeting should have been cancelled due to a lack of quorum, as one Council member was mistakenly counted as present but was not in attendance. The Office of Information Practices (OIP) advised acknowledging the error, recognizing the inadvertent Sunshine Law violation, and taking corrective action. To address the issue, all decisions made on consent agenda items will be voided and re-voted on, including approval of the October and April meeting minutes, approval of two thank-you notes, and creation of the investigative PIG. These matters can be discussed again and, if approved, reinstated at the next meeting. In addition, reports on informational agenda items from the May meeting will be provided at the next meeting, particularly the community input and rate study presentations.

Mary Pat Waterhouse made a motion to approve to redo the votes for the minutes, for the Thank You notes and the investigative PIG. Heidi Ilyavi seconded. Motion passed.

III. Approval of Minutes

Leah Dias motion to approve the minutes with the correction to the October 2025 which should read October 2024. Mary Pat Waterhouse seconded. Motion approved.

The Council did approve the support letter for Dr. Knightsbridge December presentation converting that to a Thank You Letter to a support letter after the Council see a presentation from Dr. Ruben Juarez and Alika Maunakea. The y are scheduled to come at the next meeting in July to present in more detail their outcomes and the data accordingly and then the Council can proceed with the letter.

IV. Community Input

No community input

V. Old Business

A. Presentations

Approval of Thank you letters

 Jon Fujii moved to approve both the Thank you letter to Dr. Janelle Sugimoto-Matsuda & UH Mānoa Team (CAMHD Plan 2nd Year Assessment) and to Dr. Courtney Matsu (CCBHC Presentation). Lea Dias seconded. Motion pass.

B. 2025 Legislative Advocacy Update

No updates

C. 2025 Planning Activities and SCMH Role

At the last meeting the Council voted on an Investigative PIG to help the council improve performance measures for the September first due date for the mental health block grant plan proposal that will be prepared with AMHD and CAMHD. The council redid the vote on creating a PIG.

Lea Dias move that the Council create an investigative permitted interaction group (PIG) to investigate how the council can improve the mental health block grant. Forrest Wells seconded. Motion passed. Current membership for the PIG: K. Aumer, Forrest Wells and Mary Pat Waterhouse.

Chair Aumer introduced Kolina Perreira-Alimoot, who is with the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations Internship Program. This summer, she is interning with the DOH Adult Mental Health Division, and the focus includes strengthening the capacity of the State Council on Mental Health by updating the Council's website. She is a third-year Community Health major at Whitworth University in Washington. She is excited to attend the Council meeting to learn more about its work.

It was announced that the Council did invite SAMHSA, specifically Hawaii 's Program Officer on the Mental Health Block Grant to the July meeting. The Council will get updates on any changes in MHBG and their role as a state planning council.

All were also reminded of the informational tour of the Behavioral Health Crisis Center (BCCH) scheduled for June 26, 2025 at 11:00am.

VI. New Business

A. Presentation "County Integrated Service Area Planning: Context, Insights and the Future" by AMHD Staff and AMHD Local Area Branch Chiefs (see four service area administrators/branch managers slide presentations)

Carolyn Weygan-Hildebrand provided a backgrounder to this set of presentations, sharing materials shared by others and highlight changes in the past that are relevant to the state of Councils, Boards, and Planning. See attached PowerPoint Slides.

The four DOH Adult Mental Health Division (AMHD) service administrators updated the Council about their respective local service areas. As may be viewed in the attached sPowerPoint slides, they highlighted statistics about their consumers, the services they provide, their community partners, and needs and challenges.

Rei Cooper -Kauai Mary Akimo-Luuwai-Maui Steve Pavao- Big Island Troy Freitas – Oahu

Additional discussion:

Q: Have they examined the barriers to homeless and emergency shelters, and what have they identified? Have there been any partnerships in the community with churches, farms, or similar organizations?

A: In the past, AMHD awarded a homeless outreach grant to a POS provider on each island. The focus was on outreach to individuals experiencing homelessness and partnering with homeless service providers. Currently, Kaua'i does not have a provider delivering that service. I will confirm the details with the person responsible for the PR Branch and report back to the council.

Both Rei Cooper and Madeleine Hiraga-Nuccio volunteer to attend the Council meeting to give updates. Representation from Maui would be good on the Council.

VII. Informational Reports by Council Members - Tabled

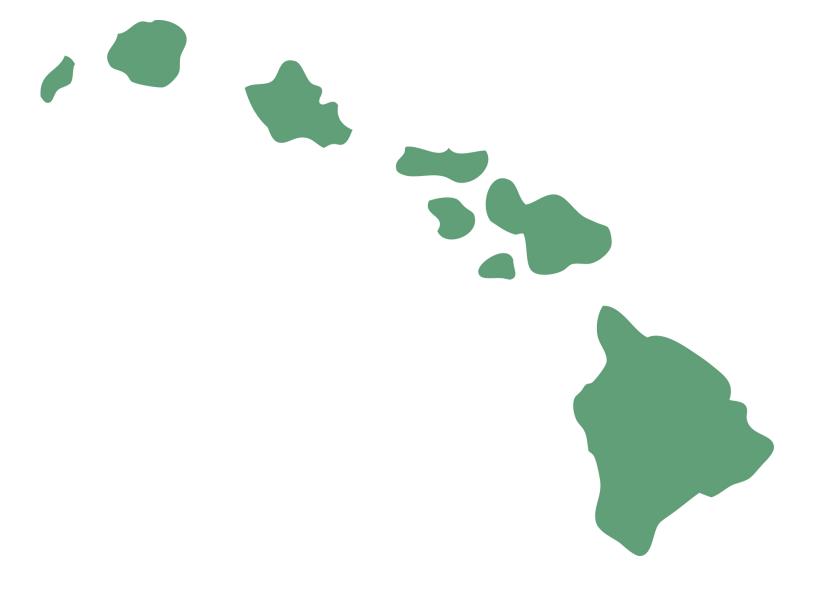
All members reports were tabled due to lack of time.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04pm.

Handouts

Array of Services by AHMD PIER Branch
DVR-VRA Report 6.10.25
DOE Report 6.10.25

See next pages for PowerPoint Slides
Backgrounder
Rei Cooper -Kauai
Mary Akimo-Luuwai-Maui
Steve Pavao- Big Island
Troy Freitas – Oahu



County Integrated Service Area (CISAP) Planning: Context, Insights and the Future



File Location: File Name:



Proposed Agenda

- Brief Background
 AHMD Planner
- Local Area Snapshots
 - Kauai County Rei Cooper
 - Big Island County Steve Pavao
 - Maui County Mar
 - O`ahu County –Troy Freitas

who are being served, services provided, challenges and directions, and service area boards.

- Q&A, Discussion led by SCMH Chairperson
- Performance Reports & Scenario Planning Poll AMHD Planner
 - Current Performance Reports List (Statewide)
 - Poll –Which scenario describes the current state? Should we plan assuming the same scenario or aspire to move towards another scenario?

Background

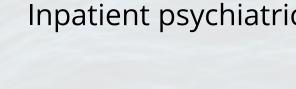


Hawaii State Hospital

Inpatient psychiatric facility



O`ahu Local **Service Area**



Community Mental Health Centers

Four County CMHCs with Clubhouses & Maui CCBHC Pilot



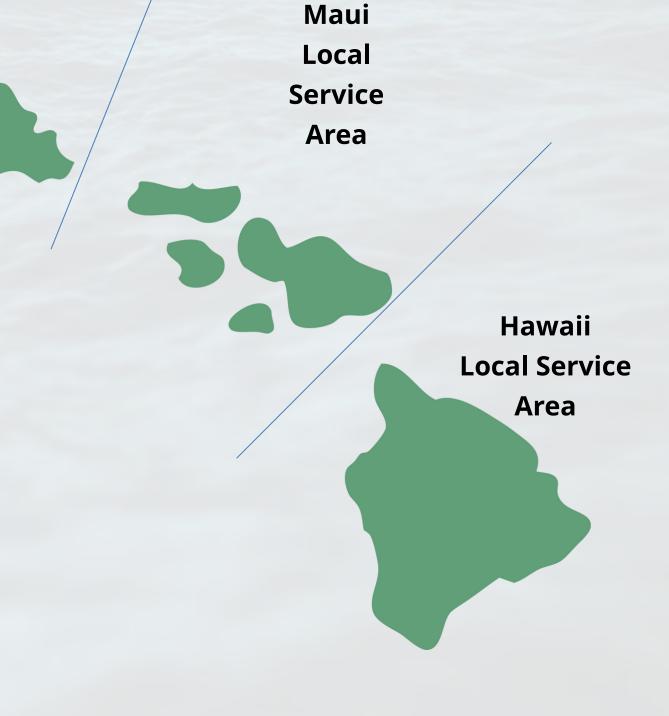
Court Evaluation

Legal assessments and recommendations



PIER

Performance—Information—Evaluation—Research



The DOH and Hawaii Law.

HRS §334-2 Mental health system. The department of health shall foster and coordinate a comprehensive mental health system utilizing public and private resources to reduce the incidence of mental or emotional disorders and substance abuse, to treat and rehabilitate the victims in the least restrictive and most therapeutic environment possible, and to provide treatment and care for homeless individuals with serious and persistent mental health challenges to enable them to reside in a permanent dwelling unit or homeless facility, as defined in section 346-361. The department shall administer such programs, services, and facilities as may be provided by the State to promote, protect, preserve, care for, and improve the mental health of the people.

HRS §334-3 Functions of department in mental health. (a) The department of health within the limits of available funds within the designated programs, shall promote and provide for the establishment and operation of a community-based mental health system responsive to the needs of persons of all ages, ethnic groups, and geographical areas of the State, reflective of an appropriate distribution of resources and services, and monitored and evaluated in terms of standards, goal attainment, and outcomes.

Reduce Incidence

Prevent mental/emotional disorders and substance abuse

Treat & Rehabilitate

Provide care in least restrictive environments

Support Housing

Help clients find permanent dwelling options



State Council, SABs, Service Area Administrators, & Hawaii Law.

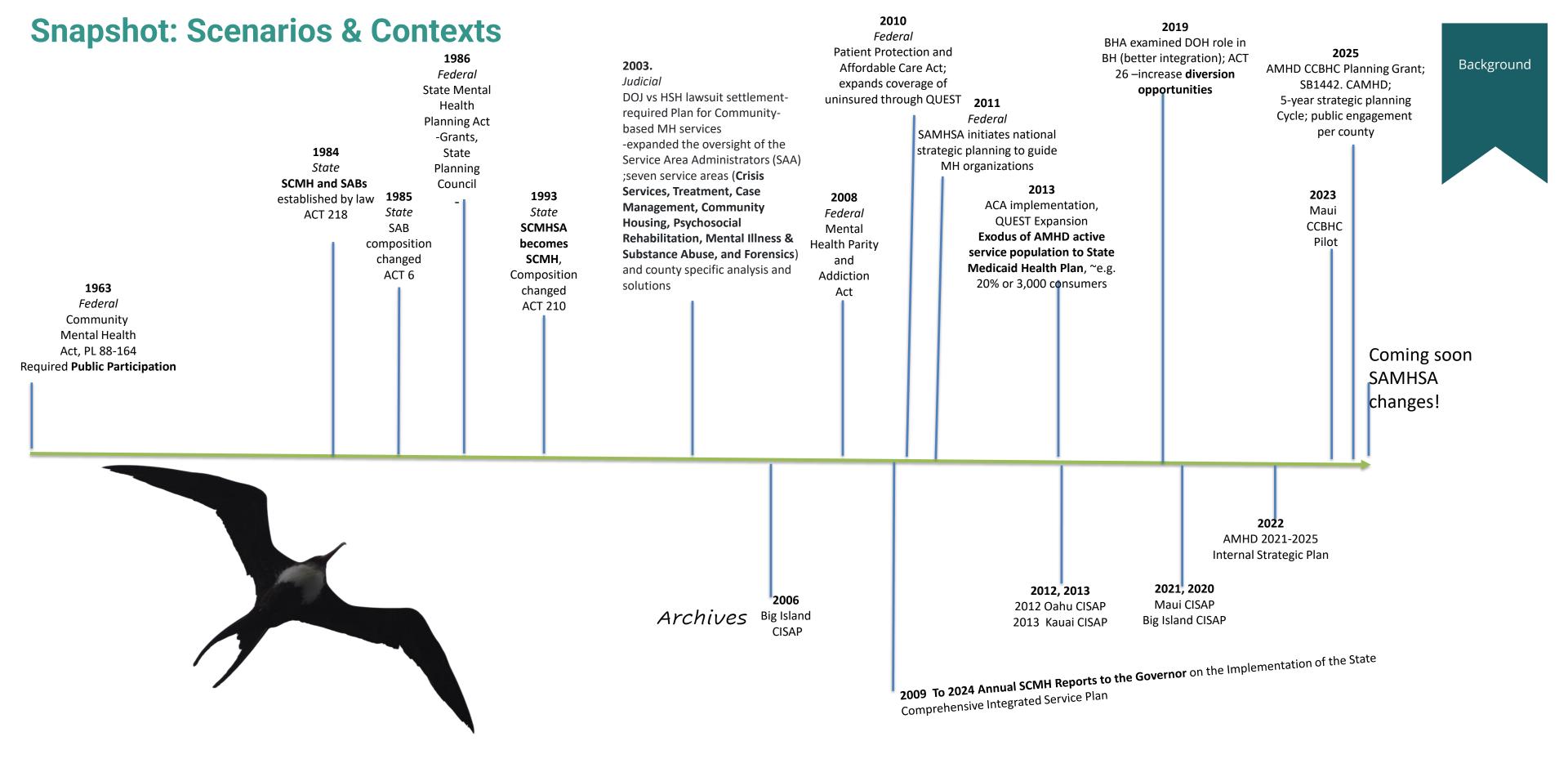
HRS §334-10. STATE COUNCIL ON MENTAL HEALTH

- Advise the department on allocation of resources, statewide needs, and programs affecting two or more service areas.
- Review and comment on the statewide comprehensive integrated service plan
- Report to the governor and the legislature on implementation of the statewide comprehensive integrated service plan.

HRS §334-11. LOCAL SERVICE AREA BOARDS

- Participate in the development of comprehensive integrated service area plans and budgets.
- Advise the service area administrator, State Council and HACDACS about service area needs to prevent and treat mental or emotional disorders, combined mental illness substance abuse disorders.

5



Background

CURRENT AMHD



Mission

Lead and coordinate a comprehensive mental health system



Vision

Ensure mental health services are accessible, proactive, meaningful, collaborative and empowering for all Hawaii communities.



Approach

Deliver dignified, holistic, and culturally relevant health care

Handout: 2025 AMHD Array of Services

Source: https://health.hawaii.gov/amhd/home/mission/

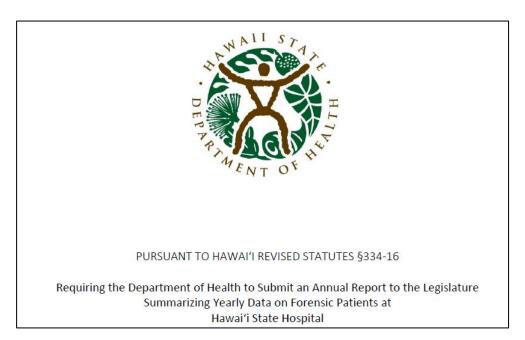
Presentations –Branch Managers Q&A, Discussions

Planning Data Sources

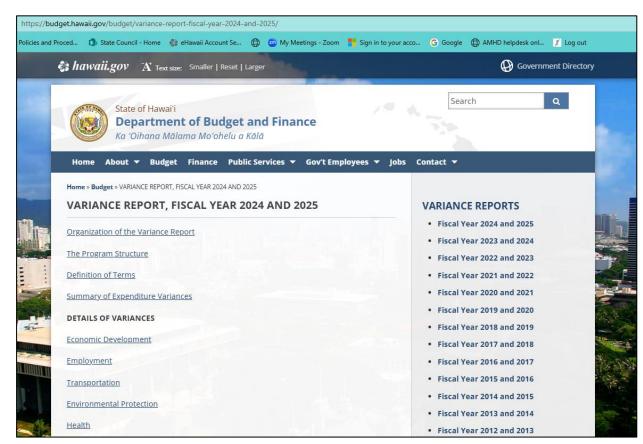


Source: https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/reports/rpt53114/Hawaii.pdf

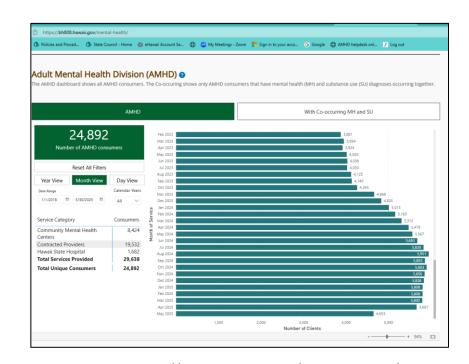
Note: URS Report data are validated but does not disaggregate by local area. Some data apply to AMHD and CAMHD combined



Source: https://health.hawaii.gov/amhd/hawaii-state-hospital-about-us/documents/



Source: https://budget.hawaii.gov/budget/variance-report-fiscal-year-2024-and-2025/



Source: https://bh808.hawaii.gov/mental-health/

Note: The BH808 is a work in progress.

POLL: Which scenario best describes the current planning context?

Quadrant 1. High Demand for MH services, High Stability of Resources

• growing population with serious mental health needs, but the organization has sufficient funding and personnel to support expanded services, including new specialized clinics, mental health integration into primary care, and expanded training for providers.

Quadrant 3. High Demand for MH services, Low Stability & Low Resources

• increasing demand for mental health services with a limited budget. This necessitates prioritizing services to the most vulnerable populations, streamlining existing programs, and potentially implementing rationing mechanisms to ensure that resources are used effectively.

Quadrant 2. Low Demand for MH services, High Stability of Resources

• health care needs for individuals with SMI are declining, but the organization still has ample resources. This provides an opportunity to re-allocate resources, explore new services, and potentially expand access to mental health services for other populations.

Quadrant 4. Low Demand for MH services, Low Stability of Resources

 decrease in demand for SMI services, but limited resources and stability. The agency can focus on cost reduction, streamlining existing programs, and possibly consolidating services to ensure efficiency.



Welcome to the Adult Mental Health Division (AMHD) Service Guide: which outlines the various levels of care and options for AMHD mental health consumers.

AMHD Service Guide



Consumers

Individuals diagnosed with a serious mental illness (SMI) and who are eligible to receive mental health and/or substance use disorder services are acknowledged as "Consumers."

Case Management

Community-Based (Standard)

Standard case
management supports
treatment planning,
rehabilitation, medication
management, and other
essential services while
promoting consumer
recovery.

Intensive Plus (High Utilizer)

Enhanced support for consumers with recurring crises, frequent hospitalizations, or incarcerations who require intensive service coordination.

Intensive Plus -Homeless (Houseless)

Specialized support focusing on rapid service linkage for houseless consumers with frequent arrests, MH-1 calls, and emergency department visits.

Case Management Support

Homeless Outreach

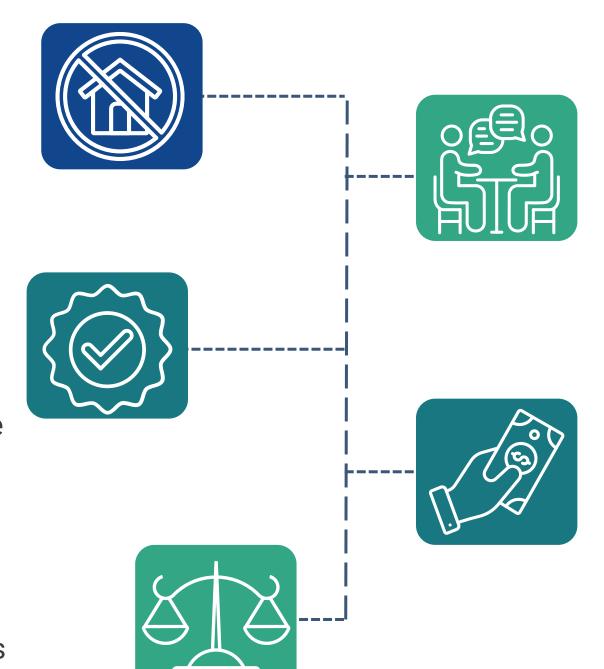
Engaging with homeless individuals and providing supports necessary to link individuals with mental health and social services.

Hawaii Certified Peer Specialist (HCPS)

Assists consumers to better understand their illness, plan for recovery, navigate the service delivery system, and engage in appropriate behavioral health treatment.

Forensic Peer Specialist

Provides peer support to consumers with psychiatric and/or co-occurring challenges involved in the Criminal Justice System.



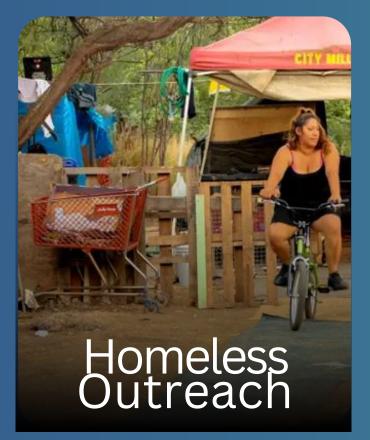
Peer Coach

Assist another peer (consumer) through their recovery by providing social and emotional support coupled with activities which involve teaching and building skills to maintain independent living in the community.

Representative Payee

Provides money management for consumers, teaching them how to budget, save, and pay bills.

Case Management Support











LICENSED CRISIS
LICENSED CRISIS
RESIDENTIAL
SERVICES
(LCRS)

ICM BEDS ATION
(S/CM)

CRISIS SERVICES

CRISIS MOBILE MOTREACH (CMO)



CRRRENT SURRENT SURREN





Statewide crisis and suicide hotline, offering supportive listening, crisis counseling, and coordination of crisis mobile outreach services. Available via phone, text or chat.

WHERE: Virtual

Crisis Mobile Outreach

Hawaii CARES Crisis staff will provide telephonic crisis support and when appropriate or requested, will dispatch a Crisis Mobile Outreach (CMO) worker to the individual's location.

WHERE: Statewide

Crisis Support Management (CSM)

After the immediate crisis is stabilized, the individual may need linkage to community supports. If needed, Crisis Support Management (CSM) is provided.

WHERE: Statewide

Licensed Crisis Residential Shelter (LCRS)

A Licensed Crisis Residential Shelter (LCRS) bed may be arranged when an individual is not appropriate for hospital admission and cannot remain in the community. They receive nursing services and other supports.

WHERE: Oahu, Maui, and Hawaii

Stabilization ICM Beds (SICM)

Arranged when an individual do not meet medically necessary criteria for psychiatric inpatient hospitalization but needs short-term stabilization with wrap-around case management services.

WHERE: Oahu and Hawaii

MHEW

Mental Health Emergency Worker (MHEW)

- Qualified Mental Health Professionals designated by the Director of Health to provide consultation to law enforcement officers (LEO) to determine if a person in crisis (PIC) should be taken to a designated facility for further evaluation.
- Assists LEO determine whether a PIC is likely mentally ill or suffering from substance abuse and imminently dangerous to self or others or behavior without intervention may lead to such a state.
- MHEWs are trained in
 - emergency mental health assessment,
 - de-escalation techniques,
 - o civil rights protections, and
 - best practices for individuals in crisis.

Court-Based Clinician

Provides clinical assessment and referral services in District Court, supporting AMHD's mission to coordinate mental health services for individuals with serious mental health disorders and criminal justice involvement.

Court Ordered Forensic Evaluation Services

Provides consultation services to the Judiciary in accordance with Hawaii Revised Statutes, coordinated through the AMHD Court Evaluation Branch.

Forensic Coordination

Offers consultation on court-related elements of treatment and follow-up, coordinated through the AMHD Community Mental Health Center Forensic Services Section.

Community-Based Fitness Restoration

Offers outpatient competency restoration as an alternative to lengthy hospital commitments for consumers who can safely be restored to fitness within a community setting.

Conditional Release Exit Support and Transition Program (CREST)

Prepares consumers on Conditional Release for potential discharge, focusing on identifying warning signs, crisis planning, and coping skill development.

Clubhouse

Support programs for consumers emphasize strengths and abilities over illness. Services include Transitional Employment, Supported Employment, Supported Education, advocacy, and case management.

Hawaii Certified Peer Specialist (HCPC) Program

Provides training for individuals with lived experience of mental illness to become Certified Peer Specialists, peer educators, and Peer Coaches.

Transitional Employment (TE)

Offers Clubhouse members opportunities for paid employment with flexible work hours.

Expanded Adult Residential Care Home (E-ARCH)

A nurse with a physical health focus and a case manager specializing in psychiatric and mental health care support care home placement.

Therapeutic Living Program (TLP)

Provides residential/treatment support with on-site nursing and psychosocial rehabilitation services.

8-16-hour Group Home

8 to 16 hours of daily supervised housing for consumers requiring minimal daily support.

Specialized Residential Services Program (SRSP)

Includes rehabilitation programming, structured activities, onsite nursing services, and psychosocial rehabilitation.

24-hour Group Home

24/7 supervised housing for consumers at risk of decompensation without constant care and support.

Semi-Independent

Group living with staff on-site 8 hours per week, focusing on home and community integration.

Treatment and Other Services

Inpatient

- General Non-Forensic Hospitals
- Hawaii State
 Hospital/State Forensic
 Hospitals
- Beyond acute care
- Consumers are tested for mental fitness; checking competency for court trial.

Outpatient

- Specialized Residential Services Program (SRSP) Day Treatment, 3-6 hours/day
- Therapeutic Living Program (TLP) Day Treatment, 15 hours/ week.
- Intensive Outpatient Hospital (IOH) Services
- Outpatient Treatment

Other Services

- Primary and Behavioral Health Integrated Care
- SAMHSA SSI/SSDI
 Outreach, Access and
 Recovery (SOAR)

Contacts to Services

PIER Branch Chief

Chanel Daluddung
Public Health Program Manager

Forensic

Dr. Don PedroClinical Pychologist

Residential

Erin Snyder
Housing Services
erin.snyder@doh.hawaii.gov

Psychosocial Rehab

Darryl Tanaka
Consumer Affairs
darryl.tanaka@doh.hawaii.gov

Case Manage & Crisis

Belinda Danielson
Community Programs
Supervisor
belinda.danielson@doh.hawaii.gov

Jail Diversion

Kainoa Castro, Jr Human Services Professional louis.castro@doh.hawaii.gov











Hawai'i Department of Health Adult Mental Health Division

Kaua'i County
Service Area Administrator Report

June 10, 2025

by
Rei Cooper, M.Ed., Ed. S., LMHC
Public Health Program Manager, Kaua'i CMHC Branch

Overview



- Kaua'i Adult Population, Persons Served, and SMI Prevalence
- Persons Served by Kauai CMHC Branch
- Services Provided by Kauai CMHC Branch
- Kauai CMHC Branch Staffing
- POS Providers
- Community Partners
- Unmet Needs
- Planning Activities
- Kauai Service Area Board



Kaua'i Adult Population, Persons Served, and SMI Prevalence

Area	Adult Population*		Estimated Adult Population with SMI (5.06%)**	Persons Served by KCMHC (CY2024)	Persons Served of SMI Prevalence
	Number	%	Number	Number	%
Kaua'i	57,832	4.99	2,926	308	10.5
Statewide	1,156,940	100.0		-	-

^{* 18} years and above, 2020 Census, census.gov

^{**} SAMHSA Small Area Estimation of the 2022-2023 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)



Persons Served by KCMHC Branch, CY2024

Type of Program	# of Persons Served
Pre-Admit	51
Case Management	111
Medication Management	155
Psychosocial Rehabilitation (Friendship House)	45
Total Persons Served, unduplicated, excluding Pre-Admit	308



Services Provided by Kauai CMHC Branch

- Psychiatric evaluation
- Psychiatric medication management
- Case management
- RN case management
- Dual Diagnosis Group
- Forensic services
- Clubhouse/Psychosocial Rehabilitation program



Kauai CMHC Branch Staffing

- Public Health Program Manager
- Administrative Staff
 Administrative Specialist IV
 Administrative Assistant III
 Hospital Billing Clerk I
 Account Clerk III (0.5 FTE)
 Office Assistant III



Kauai CMHC Branch Staffing (Cont.)

Clinical Staff

Medical Director, Psychiatrist
LPN II, RN IV (Direct Care)
RN V(Quality Management)
Clinical Psychologist, Mental Health Specialist,
Substance Abuse Counselor IV

(Forensic Section) Clinical Psychologist

(Rehabilitation Section) HSP/SW V, HSP/SW IV (4.0 FTE/3.0FTE)

(Case Management Section) HSP V, HSP/SW IV (7.0 FTE/2.0FTE)



POS Providers on Kauai

> CARE Hawaii, Inc.

Hawaii CARES/988 (1,795 calls, CY2024) Crisis Mobile Outreach (131 dispatches, CY2024) Crisis Support Management (62 authorizations, CY2024)

- Mental Health Kokua Group Home (24 Hour, 8-16 Hour, Semi-independent)
- Steadfast Housing Development Cooperation Group Home (Semi-Independent)



Community Partners

Mental Health Kokua

- 24 Hour Group Home
- 8-16 Hour Group Home
- Semi Independent Housing
- Community Based Case Management Services (Split Care)



CARE Hawaii, Inc.

- Crisis Mobile Outreach
- Crisis Support Management
- Community Based Case Management Services
- Psychiatric Service
- Intensive Outpatient Program for substance use



Kaua'i Economic Opportunity, Inc.

- Homeless & Housing Programs:
 Emergency shelter, Transitional shelter, Transitional and Permanent group home
- Financial Assistance:
 One time or temporary, utility bills, rent, etc.
- Food Services:
 Neighborhood Centers, Home delivery, Food pantry



Steadfast Housing Development Cooperation

Semi Independent Housing



Hospitals

- Wilcox (Hawaii Pacific Health)
 - After Hour Mental Health Screening
- Samuel Mahelona Memorial Hospital (HHSC)
 - Inpatient psychiatric Unit (9 beds)
- Kaua'i Veterans Memorial Hospital (HHSC)



Judiciary

- Court 5th Family/District/Circuit
- Adult Client Services
 Probation services for those court ordered for treatment
 HOPE Probation
 Kaua'i Drug Court
- Office of the Public Guardian



Law Enforcement

- Kaua'i Police Department
- > Kaua'i Community Correctional Center



Department of Heath

- Kaua'i District Health Office
 - Developmental Disabilities Division
 - WIC
 - Health Executive Committee Kaua'i
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division
 - AMHD consumers with minor child(ren)
 - Continuity of Care for youth aging out



Department of Human Services

- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
 - Vocational Rehabilitation Services
 - Disability determination
- Adult Protective and Community Services
- Public Assistance
 SNAP, General Assistance, Med Quest



Unmet Needs

- Crisis beds
- Residential treatment program
- Detox facility
- Substance use residential program
- Homeless shelter/Affordable housing
- Mental health services for adults with any mental health
- Mental health services for children and adolescents



Planning Activities

- Consideration to establish a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic
 - statewide needs assessment underway
 - may be able to serve larger population
- On-going recruitment effort for Kauai CMHC Branch



Kaua'i Service Area Board

Currently inactive due to no appointed board member (Membership: 9)



Any questions or comments?

Mahalo











Hawai'i Department of Health Adult Mental Health Division

Maui County Service Area Administrator Report

Overview



- Maui Adult Population, Persons Served, and SMI Prevalence
- Persons Served by Maui CMHC Branch
- Services Provided by Maui CMHC Branch
- Maui CMHC Branch Staffing
- POS Providers
- Community Partners
- Unmet Needs
- Planning Activities
- Maui Service Area Board
- CCBHC present services on Maui



Maui Adult Population, Persons Served, and SMI Prevalence

Area	Adult Population*		Estimated Adult Population with SMI (5.06%)**	Persons Served by MCMHC (CY2024)	Persons Served of SMI Prevalence
	Number	%	Number	Number	%
Maui	1 <mark>64,754</mark>	14.24	8337	174	2.1
Statewide	1,156,940	100.0	-	-	-

^{* 18} years and above, 2020 Census, census.gov

^{**} SAMHSA Small Area Estimation of the 2022-2023 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)

Type of Program	# of Persons Served
Pre-Admit	24
Case Management	174
Medication Management	4
Psychosocial Rehabilitation- Hale O Lanakila Clubhouse	16
Total Persons Served, unduplicated, excluding Pre-Admit	190



Services Provided by Maui CMHC Branch

- Psychiatric evaluation
- Psychiatric medication management
- Case management
- > RN case management
- Forensic services
- Clubhouse/Psychosocial Rehabilitation program



Maui CMHC Branch Staffing

- Public Health Program Manager
- Administrative Staff
 Administrative Specialist IV
 Secretary
 Billing Clerk
 Office Assistant III (3)



Kauai CMHC Branch Staffing (Cont.)

Clinical Staff

Medical Director, Psychiatrist Psychiatrist II & Psychiatrist I LPN II, RN IV (Direct Care) RN V(Quality Management)

(Forensic Section) Clinical Psychologist

(Rehabilitation Section) HSP V/HSP IV

(Case Management Section) HSP V (2) HSP IV(5)



POS Providers on Maui

Aloha House

Hawaii CARES/988 (calls, 104,CY2024)
Crisis Mobile Outreach (dispatches, 116 CY 2024)
Crisis Support Management (authorizations, CY2024)

- Mental Health Kokua Group Home (24 Hour, 8-16 Hour)
- Steadfast Housing Development Cooperation Supportive Housing Program (Maui & Molokai)



Community Partners

Mental Health Kokua

- 24 Hour Group Home
- 8-16 Hour Group Home



ALOHA HOUSE, INC.

- Crisis Mobile Outreach
- Crisis Support Management
- Community Based Case Management Services
- Psychiatric Service
- Intensive Outpatient Program for substance use



MEO, Inc.

- BEST reintegration program, employment, housing assistance, business development.
- Early Childhood Programs
- Suicide Prevention for Youth
- Transportation program for adults with disabilities/
- Financial Assistance:

One time or temporary, utility bills, rent, etc.



Steadfast Housing Development Cooperation

Supported Housing programs Maui & Molokai



Hospitals

- Maui Memorial Medical Center (Maui Health Systems affiliated with Kaiser Permanente) In-patient psychiatric (11) bed unit
- Kula Hospital (Maui Health Systems affiliated with Kaiser Permanente)
- Lanai Straub (Maui Health Systems affiliated with Kaiser Permanente)



Judiciary Mental Health Monitored by Forensics Department of Maui CMHC Forensic Psychologist

- > Court
 - 2nd Circuit Court- Mental Health Calendar In the Honorable Judge Hamman Court room.

 2nd District Court-Mental health Calendar in the Honorable Judge Annalisa Bernard Court room.

 Public Defenders & Prosecutors offices
- Adult Client Services Probation services for those court ordered to treatment.
- > Office of the Public Guardian-OPG presently vacant



Law Enforcement

- Maui Police Department- CIT trainings, Monthly collaboration meetings.
- Maui Community Correctional Center-Medical Units and Offender Services Staff

Federally Qualified Community Health Centers-FQCHC

- Maui- Malama I Ke Ola & Hana Health Center
- Molokai-Molokai Community Health Center
- > Lanai-Lanai Community Health Center



Department of Heath

- Maui District Health Office
 - Developmental Disabilities Division
 - WIC & Maternal Child Health Branch
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division
 - AMHD consumers with minor child(ren)
 - Continuity of Care for youth aging out



Department of Human Services

- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
 - Vocational Rehabilitation Services
 - Disability determination
- Adult Protective Services
- Public Assistance
 SNAP, General Assistance, Med Quest



Unmet Needs

- Stabilization Crisis Units
- Detox facilities
- Substance use residential program for adolescents
- Affordable housing for Adults with disabilities
- Mental health services for adults with any mental health
- Mental health services for children and adolescents
- Youth Crisis Stabilization Units to preserve families while in crisis on Maui.



Planning Activities

- Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic
 Needs Assessment for Maui County
- On-going recruitment effort for Maui CMHC Branch



Maui Service Area Board

Currently awaiting candidates review.



CCBHC Current Data and Trends....

Kahului Site: Census: 1090 Staff: 17(Wellness

Navigators/Licensed Therapists/MD)

Lahaina Site: Census: 921 Staff: 16(Wellness

Navigators/Licensed Therapists/MD)

Kahului Trends of Treatment: Individual & family therapy and medication Management. Most used treatments are for children with ADHD, Adults with Depression/Anxiety and houseless or unsheltered populations. Elderly services & request for specialty treatments such as EMDR/ART/Brain spotting.



Lahaina CCBHC- Individual psychotherapy, case management/wellness navigator, and psychiatry. Treatment for depression, anxiety, trauma related to the Lahaina fires. High utilization of CM services due to FEMA, Housing, rebuilding homes, financial stress, county state programs, and employment.

Age demographics: ages 4 to 85. Keiki/adolescents/adults. Things to consider when doing a needs assessment: Cultural Values are a necessity, increased office spaces, outdoor opportunities for families, incorporate therapeutic animal programs, abilities to provide psych testing for youth, certified CSAC services for individuals and community.











Hawai'i Department of Health Adult Mental Health Division

Oahu County Service Area Administrator Report





- Oahu Adult Population, Persons Served, and SMI Prevalence
- Persons Served by OCMHC Branch
- OCMHC Branch Staffing
- AMHD Services on Oahu
- Unmet Needs
- Oahu Service Area Board



Oahu Adult Population, Persons Served, and SMI Prevalence

Area	Adult Population*		Estimated Adult Population with SMI (5.06%)**	Persons Served by OCMHC (CY2024)	Persons Served of SMI Prevalence
	Number	%	Number	Number	%
Oahu	809,839	79.7	40,978	1049	2.6
Statewide	1,156,940	100.0		-	-

^{* 18} years and above, 2020 Census, census.gov

^{**} SAMHSA Small Area Estimation of the 2022-2023 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)



Persons Served by OCMHC Branch, CY2024

Type of Program	# of Persons Served	
Pre-Admit	128	
Case Management	542	
Medication Management	20	
Psychosocial Rehabilitation (Clubhouses)	487	
Total Persons Served, unduplicated, excluding Pre-Admit	1049	



Services Provided by Oahu CMHC Branch

- Eligibility evaluation
- Psychiatric evaluation
- Psychiatric medication management
- Case management
- Group activities (Health & Wellness, Dual Diagnosis, Seeking Safety, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy/Self-regulation skills)
- RN case management
- Forensic services
- Clubhouse/Psychosocial Rehabilitation program



Oahu CMHC Branch Staffing

- > 136 Positions
- 102 Filled
- 34 vacant
- 25% vacancy rate
- Public Health Program Manager
- Medical Director (vacant)
- RN V (vacant)
- Administrative Staff
 Administrative Specialist IV
 Administrative Assistant III
 Hospital Billing Clerk I (2)
 Account Clerk III (2)
 Office Assistant III



Oahu CMHC Branch Staffing

- Clubhouses (Human Services Professionals, Section Supervisor)
- Clinics (Peer Provider, Nurse, Licensed Practical Nurse, Social Workers/Human Services Professionals, Psychologist, Psychiatrist, Section Supervisor)
- Forensics (Peer Provider, Administrative Assistant, Section Supervisor, Human Services Professionals, Clinical Psychologists)



- Case Management
- Case Management Support
- > Crisis
- Mental Health Emergency Worker
- > Forensic
- Psychosocial Rehabilitation
- > Residential
- Treatment & Other Services



- Case Management Services
 - > Community-Based
 - > Intensive Plus
 - **▶ Intensive Plus Homeless (Houseless)**



- Case Management Support
 - > Homeless Outreach
 - Hawaii Certified Peer Specialist (HCPS)
 - Forensic Peer Specialist
 - > Peer Coach
 - > Representative Payee



Crisis Services

- Hawaii CARES/988 (38,073 calls, CY2024)
- Crisis Mobile Outreach (11,004 dispatches, CY2024)
- Crisis Support Management (1,862 authorizations, CY2024)
- Licensed Crisis Residential (LCRS)
- Stablilization Intensive Case Management (ICM) beds {SICM}



- Mental Health Emergency Worker (MHEW)
 - Qualified Mental Health Professionals designated by the Director of Health to provide consultation to law enforcement officers to determine if a person in crisis should be taken to a designated facility for further evaluation.



> Forensic

- Court-Based Clinician
- > Court Ordered Forensic Evaluation Services
- > Forensic Coordination
- Community-Based Fitness Restoration
- Conditional Release Exit Support and Transition Program (CREST)



- Psychosocial Rehabilitation
 - > Clubhouse
 - > Hawaii Certified Peer Specialist (HCPS) Program
 - > Transitional Employment (TE)



Residential

- > Expanded Care Adult Residential Care Home (E-ARCH)
- Therapeutic Living Program
- > 8-16 hour Group Home
- Specialized Residential Services Program (SRSP)
- > 24-hour Group Home
- > Semi-Independent



Unmet Needs

- Services for people with Traumatic Brain Injury
- Mobile Integrated Behavioral Health Kiosks



Planning Activities

- Consideration to establish a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic
 - statewide needs assessment underway
 - may be able to serve larger population
- On-going recruitment effort for Oahu CMHC Branch
- Wiki Wiki hiring process with DHRD
- 'āina-based rehabilitation
- Care Home Operator training



Oahu Service Area Board

Currently active with five members. (Membership: 9)



Any questions or comments?

Mahalo











Hawai'i Department of Health Adult Mental Health Division

Hawaii County
Service Area Administrator Report

June 10, 2025

by
Steven Pavao, M.A.
Public Health Program Manager, Hawaii CMHC Branch





- Hawaii Island Adult Population, Persons Served, and SMI Prevalence
- Persons Served by HCMHC Branch
- HCMHC Branch Staffing
- POS Providers
- Community Partners
- Unmet Needs
- Hawaii Service Area Board



Hawaii Adult Population, Persons Served, and SMI Prevalence

Area	Adult Population*		Estimated Adult Population with SMI (5.06%)**	Persons Served by HCCMHC (CY2024)	Persons Served of SMI Prevalence
	Number	%	Number	Number	%
Hawaii Island	200, 692	4.95	9,949	365	3.67
Statewide	1,156940	100.0	-	-	-

^{* 18} years and above, 2020 Census, census.gov

^{**} SAMHSA Small Area Estimation of the 2022-2023 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)



Persons Served by HCCMHC Branch, CY2024

Type of Program	# of Persons Served
Pre-Admit	15
Case Management	305
Medication Management	6
Psychosocial Rehabilitation (Hale Oluea and Kona Paradise Club Houses)	126
Total Persons Served, unduplicated, excluding Pre-Admit	392



Services Provided at Hawaii CMHC Branch

- Psychiatric evaluation
- Psychiatric Medication Management
- Case management
- > RN case management
- Forensic services
- Clubhouse/Psychosocial Rehabilitation program



Hawaii CMHC Branch Staffing

- Public Health Program Manager
- Administrative Staff
 Administrative Specialist IV
 Administrative Assistant III
 Account Clerk III (1.0 FTE)
 Office Assistant III



Hawaii CMHC Branch Staffing

Clinical Staff

Medical Director, Psychiatrist
APRN-Rx (2.0 FTE)
LPN II (2.0 FTE), RN IV (2.0 FTE) (Direct Care)
RN V (1.0 FTE) (Quality Management)
Mental Health Specialist, (1.0 FTE)
Substance Abuse Counselor IV (1.0 FTE)

(Forensic Section) Clinical Psychologist (Section Head)
Clinical Psychologist (Forensic Coordinator)

(Rehabilitation Section) HSP/SW V 2.0 FTE, HSP/SW IV (10.0 FTE)

(Case Management Section) HSP/SW IV (15.0 FTE/8.0FTE)



POS Providers on Hawaii Island

> CARE Hawaii, Inc.

Hawaii CARES/988 (1,795 calls, CY2024)

Crisis Mobile Outreach (2002 dispatches, CY2024)

Crisis Support Management

LCRS Admissions (265, CY 2024)

Crisis Stabilization, Palekana, 8-16 Group Homes

Mental Health Kokua

Group Home (24 Hour, 8-16 Hour, Semi-independent)

Steadfast Housing Development Cooperation

Group Home (Semi-Independent)



Community Partners

Mental Health Kokua

- 24 Hour Group Home (Hilo and Kona)
- 8-16 Hour Group Home (Hilo and Kona)
- Semi Independent Housing (Safe Haven Kona)
- Forensic Case Management



CARE Hawaii, Inc.

- Crisis Mobile Outreach
- Crisis Support Management
- Stabilization Group Home (SICM)
- Palekana (Dual Diagnosis Residential Program)
- LCRS Crisis Group Home
- Forensic Case Management
- Intensive Case Management Plus



HOPE SERVICES

- Homeless & Housing Programs:

 Emergency shelter, Transitional shelter, Transitional and Permanent group home, Transitional Housing for individuals and families
- Homeless Outreach



Steadfast Housing Development Cooperation

 Semi Independent Housing (Hilo, Honoka'a Kona and Kau)



Hospitals

- Benioff Hilo Medical Center (HHSC)
 -Hale Ho'ola BH In-Patient Unit
- Kona CommunityHospital (HHSC)
 - -Kalani Ola Inpatient psychiatric Unit
- Queen's North Hawaii Community Hospital
- Emergency psychiatric care



Judiciary

- Court

 3rd Family/District/Circuit
- Adult Client Services
 Probation services for those court ordered for

treatment

HOPE Probation

Hawaii Island Drug Court

Jail Diversion

Office of the Public Guardian



Law Enforcement

- > Hawaii Police Department
 - > CIT
 - > MHEW
- > Hawaii Community Correctional Center



DOH

- Hawaii District Health Office
 - Developmental Disabilities Division
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division
 - AMHD consumers with minor child(ren)
 - Continuity of Care for youth aging out



DHS

- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
 - Vocational Rehabilitation Services
 - Disability determination
- Adult Protective and Community Services
- Department of Human Services SNAP, Temporary Assistance, Med Quest



Unmet Needs

- Crisis beds
- Residential treatment program
- Detox facility (BISAC)
- Substance use residential program
- Homeless shelter/Affordable housing
- Mental health services for adults with any mental health
- Mental health services for children and adolescents



Planning Activities

- Consideration to establish a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic
 - statewide needs assessment underway
 - may be able to serve larger population
- On-going recruitment effort for Hawaii CMHC Branch
- Wiki Wiki Hiring Process with DHRD



Hawaii Service Area Board

Currently active with four members and one potential returning member.

(Membership: 9)



Any questions or comments?

Mahalo





FRIDAY

JUNE 20, 2025 8:30 AM - 3:10 PM



WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

45-720 Keaahala Road Kaneohe, HI 96744



SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER

DEADLINE TO REGISTER. FRIDAY, 6/13/2025

RSVP ENCOURAGED, AVAILABLE SEATS ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE BASIS!

PEER NAVIGATION SUMMIT

Led by the Department of Health's
Behavioral Health Administration. The
peer summit is a space for peers to lead
the conversation, share what works, and
push for real change in mental health
and substance use support.

Summit Goals and Outcomes

Group Action and System Change



Diversity in Peer Roles



Peer-Led Innovation



Policy and Program Influence



Network Strengthening









Hawaii Divisional of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) Report

State Council on Mental Health – 06/10/25

Data Report as of 6/2/25 for April 1 to June 30, 2025 (PY24 Q4)

PY24 Served								
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4				
VR Participants	3264	3424	3574	3609				
PE Participants (SWD)	937	1145	1165	1147				
Total	4201	4569	4739	4756				

PY24 Disability										
Primary Disability Type Group	Q1	%	Q2	%	Q3	%	Q4	%		
(01-02) Visual	260	7.97	277	8.09	284	7.95	294	8.15		
(03-09) Auditory or Communicative	334	10.23	381	11.13	452	12.65	509	14.1		
(10-16) Physical	549	16.82	572	16.71	587	16.42	582	16.13		
(17) Cognitive	1091	33.43	1126	32.89	1143	31.98	1134	31.42		
(18-19) Psychological or Psychosocial	1030	31.56	1068	31.19	1108	31	1090	30.2		
Total	3264	100	3424	100	3574	100	3609	100		

							HD/	/R S	tate	wide	n Da	ta													
	PY24 / SFY25																								
	7/1/24 - 6/30/25																								
7/1/24 to 6/2/25		Арр	licat	ion	s		Eli	gibi	lity		II	PE D	eve	lope	d	Closed-Rehab				ab	Closed-Other				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
Oahu Branch																									
OB Section 1(Kapolei)	37	36	37	39	149	31	29	23	27	110	33	26	40	14	113	1	2	1	3	7	8	6	12	7	33
OB Section 2 (Transition)	40	34	48	36	158	30	29	49	31	139	23	30	40	32	125	7	5	7	23	42	21	11	26	28	86
OB Section 3 (Honolulu)	59	40	46	60	205	47	46	26	51	170	29	30	28	42	129	0	0	5	1	6	9	6	60	36	111
Deaf Services Section	8	4	6	8	26	7	6	4	10	27	7	10	3	11	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	144	114	137	143	538	115	110	102	119	446	92	96	111	99	398	8	7	13	27	55	38	23	98	71	230
Services for the Blind Branch																									
Counseling Section	9	7	6	32	54	9	8	5	28	50	6	5	3	30	44	1	0	0	0	1	3	2	1	0	6
Total	9	7	6	32	54	9	8	5	28	50	6	5	3	30	44	1	0	0	0	1	3	2	1	0	6
Maui Branch																									
Maui Office	41	44	36	32	153	39	36	35	28	138	41	31	33	26	131	10	1	3	2	16	12	8	17	10	47
Molokai Office	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	41	44	36	32	153	39	36	35	28	138	41	31	33	26	131	10	1	3	2	16	12	8	17	10	47
Hawaii Island Branch																									
Hilo Office	34	20	23	16	93	33	28	24	8	93	27	25	23	9	84	0	0	0	1	1	4	13	7	2	26
Kona Office	8	9	7	4	28	6	7	9	3	25	7	5	9	1	22	1	3	1	2	7	3	3	2	1	9
Total	42	29	30	20	121	39	35	33	11	118	34	30	32	10	106	1	3	1	3	8	7	16	9	3	35
Kauai Branch																									
Kauai Section	9	9	4	4	26	10	7	5	2	24	7	7	7	2	23	7	5	1	1	14	6	4	3	3	16
Total	9	9	4	4	26	10	7	5	2	24	7	7	7	2	23	7	5	1	1	14	6	4	3	0	13
Statewide Total	245	203	213	231	892	212	196	180	188	776	180	169	186	167	702	27	16	18	33	94	66	53	128	84	331

Q1: Successful Closure in Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) (7/1/24 to 9/30/24)								
Job Title	Participant	Wage	Hours Worked					
Childcare Workers	1	16.00	30.00					
Cleaners of Vehicles and Equipment	1	12.00	3.00					
Dishwashers	2	18.50	14.00					
Electrical Engineers	1	37.98	40.00					
Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists	1	52.75	35.00					
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	3	18.33	27.67					
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1	19.50	18.00					
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	2	23.43	22.00					
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1	19.10	32.00					
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	1	26.00	40.00					
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists	1	29.59	40.00					
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	1	16.00	15.00					
Office Clerks, General	3	19.92	32.00					
Retail Salespersons	2	19.00	24.50					
Shuttle Drivers and Chauffeurs	1	14.00	16.00					
Social and Community Service Managers	1	28.84	40.00					
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	4	18.00	15.25					
Average Total	27	21.50	24.81					
Median Total	27	19.10	27.67					

Q2: Successful Closure in Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) (10/1/24 to 12/31/24)									
Job Title	Participant	Wage	Hours Worked						
Building Cleaning Workers, All Other	1	14.00	4						
Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession, and Coffee Shop	1	18.00	30						
Food Preparation and Serving Related Workers, All Other	1	14.32	40						
Food Preparation Workers	1	14.50	24						
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1	14.00	15						
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	1	14.00	4						
Legal Support Workers, All Other	1	30.00	10						
Managers, All Other	1	26.90	40						
Mechanical Engineers	1	28.85	40						
Nonfarm Animal Caretakers	1	18.00	40						
Occupational Therapists	2	38.20	40						
Packers and Packagers, Hand	1	20.17	40						
Project Management Specialists	1	34.27	27						
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	2	19.75	30						

Average Total	16	22.68	28.38
Median Total	16	18.88	30

Q3: Successful Closure in Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE)								
(1/1/25 to 3/31/25)								
Job Title	Participant	Wage	Hour Worked					
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	1	23.50	40.00					
Chefs and Head Cooks	1	11.00	40.00					
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including								
Fast Food	1	14.32	40.00					
Computer Hardware Engineers	1	48.08	40.00					
Environmental Engineering Technicians	1	20.00	40.00					
Financial Managers	1	29.49	40.00					
Managers, All Other	2	40.09	32.00					
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	1	30.47	40.00					
Mental Health Counselors	1	32.00	40.00					
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	2	22.19	35.00					
Postsecondary Teachers, All Other	1	16.50	40.00					
Security Guards	1	14.00	20.00					
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	3	23.30	30.00					
Waiters and Waitresses	1	25.00	40.00					
Average Total	18	25.49	35.78					
Median Total	18	23.40	40.00					

Q4: Successful Closure in Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE)									
(4/1/25 to 6/2/25)									
Work Status	Participant	Wage	Hours Worked						
Administrative Services Managers	1	20.00	40.00						
Baggage Porters and Bellhops	3	16.68	36.67						
Biological Science Teachers, Postsecondary	1	43.30	40.00						
Building Cleaning Workers, All Other	1	14.00	40.00						
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	1	20.67	40.00						
Computer Systems Analysts	1	30.06	60.00						
Construction and Building Inspectors	1	20.00	40.00						
Construction Laborers	1	18.90	40.00						
Court, Municipal, and License Clerks	1	18.31	40.00						
Dining Room and Cafeteria Attendants and Bartender Helpers	1	18.25	27.00						
Food Preparation and Serving Related Workers, All Other	1	18.00	24.00						
Food Service Managers	1	32.88	40.00						
General and Operations Managers	1	38.46	40.00						
Human Resources Specialists	1	20.00	40.00						

Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping			
Cleaners	2	17.42	40.00
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1	17.00	40.00
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	1	11.00	20.00
Office Clerks, General	1	15.14	20.00
Real Estate Sales Agents	1	43.19	40.00
Registered Nurses	1	65.77	26.00
Retail Salespersons	1	14.00	30.00
Security Guards	1	17.51	40.00
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	5	14.30	32.00
Teachers and Instructors, All Other	1	46.15	30.00
Teaching Assistants, Preschool, Elementary, Middle, and			
Secondary School, Except Special Education	1	20.00	40.00
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	1	21.63	40.00
Average Total	33	22.44	35.97
Median Total	33	19.45	40.00

Cumulative Successful Closures in Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE)									
(7/1/24 to 6/30/25)									
	Participant	Wage	Hours Worked						
Average Total	94	23.61	32.27						
Median Total	94	19.92	40.00						

Staff Vacancy Report								
DVR is actively hiring qualified individuals for various positions.								
Staff Vacancies as of 4/1/25								
County	Vacancies							
Statewide/Administration and Staff Services Office	4							
Oahu Branch	19							
Services for the Blind Branch (Ho`opono)	10							
Hawaii Branch (Hilo/Kona)	6							
Maui Branch (Maui, Molokai/Lanai)	3							
Kauai	3.5							
	45.5/112 (40%							
Total	vacant)							

State Council on Mental Health June 10, 2025 Hawaii Department of Education Update Report

This report is for Information only.

Mental Health Meetings and/or Presentations:

- Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management rollout June 3 for Kauai & Oahu, June 9-13.
- Here to Help Resources provided at the BTAM Rollout for Kauai and Oahu.

Submitted by, Christine Montague-Hicks

Quick Review: Who Board Members Can Talk To and When (Part 3) (Revised August 2024)

OIP often is asked whether board members can talk to one another in various situations when not in a meeting. To help board members understand what they can talk about when they are not in a meeting, OIP put together a three-part Quick Review. The entire series can be found online on OIP's Sunshine Law training webpage at oip.hawaii.gov.

Boards subject to the Sunshine Law, Part I of Chapter 92, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), are generally required to conduct all business in open meetings that have been properly noticed to allow for public participation. This Quick Review discusses an exception to the open meeting requirement for "permitted interaction groups" or "PIGs," as set forth in section 92-2.5, HRS. While other types of permitted interactions were previously discussed in Part 2 of this Quick Review series, this article explains how members of a board may form a PIG to investigate or to negotiate a matter.

PIGs Established to Investigate

Two or more members of a board, but less than the number of members which would constitute a quorum, may be assigned to investigate a matter relating to the official business of their board.

In order for a board to take action on a matter investigated by a PIG, **three meetings must occur**. At the **FIRST** meeting of the full board, the scope of the investigation and the scope of each member's authority are defined. No new members or issues can be added to the PIG after the first board meeting. The PIG may then conduct its investigation, which may take months to complete, outside of open meetings.

At a **SECOND** meeting of the full board, findings and recommendations of the PIG are presented to the board, **but the board cannot discuss or act on the report at this meeting.**

A PIG may present its findings to the full board in an executive session if the
reason for entering into the executive meeting is one of those set forth in
section 92-5(a), HRS, or other law. For example, if a PIG was created to
investigate whether to take certain disciplinary action against an employee, it
may present its findings to the full board in accordance with section 925(a)(2), HRS, which allows board to enter executive meetings to consider the
discipline of an employee. In such a situation, OIP generally recommends

that the PIG also present a "sanitized" report during the public session that omits the confidential information but informs the public of the general nature of the PIG's findings and recommendations, so the public is at least generally informed of the PIG's work and has something upon which to base testimony at the subsequent meeting where the board will discuss and perhaps act on the report.

After the PIG makes its report to the board at the second meeting, the PIG is automatically dissolved and should not continue working. The Sunshine Law does not allow a PIG to make more than one report or to continue working on its assignment after its report, so a PIG should not be providing "updates" on its work or more than one report. See OIP Op. Ltr. No. F23-01 on OIP's Opinions page for an indepth discussion on investigative PIGs.

The board cannot discuss, deliberate, or make any decisions regarding the PIG's report until a THIRD meeting held separately at least six business days after the meeting at which the findings and recommendations of the investigation were presented by the PIG.

Waiting until a subsequent board meeting to discuss and act on the PIG's report gives the public the opportunity to present informed testimony at the meeting where the board will discuss and act on the report.

Some Practical Considerations for Investigative PIGs

- A PIG is fundamentally a permitted interaction with detailed reporting requirements, not a special type of committee.
- Because they are a permitted interaction rather than a type of committee, PIGs are not subject to the Sunshine Law's requirements for giving notice, holding open meetings, or keeping minutes.
- PIG members may communicate by interactive technology (Skype, teleconference, etc.), and by email, telephone, etc., on matters within the scope of the PIG's authority without violating the Sunshine Law.
- Although a PIG is not required to hold public meetings, it can choose to do so
 if it wishes.
- PIGs may solicit input from the public as part of an investigation without the need of filing a meeting agenda in accordance with the Sunshine Law.

- A PIG may include among its members people who are not members of the board that created the PIG. A PIG may also consult with others (<u>i.e.</u>, staff, members of the public, individuals with expertise in a field, stakeholders, etc.) in furtherance of its investigation, but should NOT consult with other members of its parent board.
- Members of a board who are not part of the PIG may NOT attend PIG meetings or be included in PIG communications.
- Before the PIG reports to the board, PIG members should not discuss the status of their investigation with other board members who are not part of the PIG.
- A standing committee of a board may create a PIG, and such PIGs must follow all the requirements of section 92-2.5(b), HRS, including reporting back to the committee that created them.
- Sometimes, it may be better for a board to establish a temporary committee instead of a PIG, or to delegate authority to one member to perform a task and report back to the board. <u>See</u> OIP Op. Ltr. No. F23-01 at 15-16 for more information.
- A PIG may continue its work after the loss of a PIG member. For example, if a PIG's member's term on the board ends, that member also ceases to be a PIG member, but the PIG can continue working with the remaining original members. The board should not substitute another board member into that vacant PIG position. The PIG's membership was previously established at the initial meeting that created the PIG and new members cannot be added. The PIG can continue without the now-departed member, but if a board wants to change the PIG's membership, it should first allow the current PIG to report back and automatically dissolve. After hearing the investigative PIG's report and waiting until a board meeting held at least six business days later to discuss and act on the report, the board can then create a new PIG to carry on the now-dissolved PIG's work.
- Similarly, once a PIG is formed, the board may not add new assigned tasks to an existing PIG.

PIGs Established to Negotiate

Another less common type of PIG can be formed when two or more members of a board, but less than a quorum, are assigned to present, discuss, or negotiate any

position adopted by the board at a meeting. The assignment of members to a PIG for the purpose of negotiation, and the scope of each member's authority, must be defined at a board meeting prior to the presentation, discussion, or negotiation. The three-meeting requirement for investigative PIGs does not apply to PIGs established to negotiate.

As a final note, boards should keep in mind that they may be subject to other laws or rules in addition to the Sunshine Law, which could affect members' ability to discuss pending matters. This may be particularly relevant for boards that exercise adjudicatory functions (which are not subject to the Sunshine Law), as they must generally avoid *ex parte* communications. Similarly, some boards are subject to confidentiality provisions outside the Sunshine Law, and if a board is involved in a procurement, it must follow procurement laws. Boards should consult with their own attorneys on the application of such laws and rules.