



Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawaii

# Homeless in Paradise

Vol. 1, No 6, December 2005



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## Sharing our Resources Year Around



Earlier this year the HCDCH, Homeless Programs Branch coordinated several furniture donations from Pearl Harbor Naval Air Station. This partnership has allowed for many shelters and group homes throughout our communities to receive top quality furniture which improves

the quality of life for many needy families and individuals. The recipients include Care Hawaii, Hale Kipa, Holo Loa'a (Weinberg Village Waimanalo), Po'ailani, Steadfast Housing Development Corporation, Waianae Coast Community Mental Health Center, dba Hale Na'au Pono, and Waianae Community Outreach.

Hale Na'au Pono opened their group home, Ohiohi Place with the surplus furniture from Pearl Harbor, the staff was able to completely furnish the home, creating a warm and loving environment for their clients.

The Navy contacts HCDCH on a regular basis to inform us of surplus furniture that will be made available. If your agency is interested in receiving furniture, please contact Ms. Kau'i Martinez at (808) 832-5930.



## Christmas Message to All



We at the Homeless Programs Branch, wish you all the brightest of holiday seasons and safest of travels into our New Year. A big Mahalo to all who have helped to make this year another star of hope in our fight to end homelessness in Hawaii.

To the staff, in all the programs, from outreach, supportive, transitional and permanent housing, to those providing supportive services, and our colleagues in government.

*Mele Kalikimaka a mea Hauoli Makahiki Hou!*

## Housing Placement Program

HCDCH, Homeless Programs Branch launched a pilot program with \$500,000 from the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) to assist homeless families and those with Section 8 vouchers to find rental units. The Program was initially contracted with Office for Social Ministry on Hawaii, and Institute for Human Services and Catholic Charities Hawaii on Oahu, providing counseling and support services to help ensure that landlords felt comfortable with their new tenants.

The Program was an initial success. Catholic Charities enrolled 221 people (70 families); IHS worked with 166 people (42 families); Office for Social Ministry aided 469 people (112 families).



In 2005, another \$2 million in TANF funds was allocated to enlarge the Program to cover more families across the State. The contract with the above three agencies, was renewed, and Waianae Community Outreach on Oahu; Family Life Center on Maui; and Kauai Economic Opportunity on Kauai were added to the Housing Placement Program .

## Annual Site Monitoring

The State Homeless Shelter Stipend Program (Stipend Program) conducted its fiscal year 2005 annual site monitoring on February 15, 2005 through March 31, 2005. There were a total of 10 agencies/22 shelters monitored. The site visit and project inspection is to monitor for “compliance” under the Stipend Program. HCDCH s’ monitoring consisted of a random review of the agency’s and participants’ files that were active during the period from July 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004, as well as an inspection of the shelter units and facility. An internal review was also conducted, which consisted of a review of the agency’s insurance policies, timeliness of reports, and independent audit report.

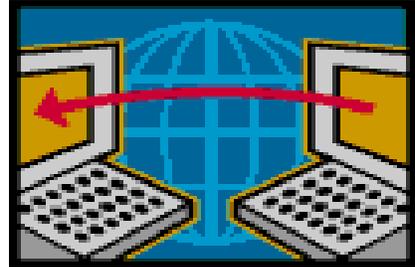
We have found that verification documentation of a participant’s homeless status continues to challenge most of our agencies. Overall, insurance policies are current, reports are timely, and agency’s independent audit reports are conducted and prepared according to HCDCH format and guidelines. Inspection of the shelter unit and facilities confirms that they are clean and in operating condition. If your agency is experiencing challenges in any of the above matters you may contact HCDCH for assistance at (808) 832-5930.



HCDCH applauds all of the agencies and staff for their continuing commitment in serving Hawaii’s homeless. A standing ovation to Catholic Charities Hawaii and Homeless Solutions, Inc. (Maililand, Loliana and Vancouver House) for their excellence!

# ***Homeless Management Information System***

Hello homeless providers. HCDCH would like to update everyone on what's happening with the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Brian Johnson and Sandra Miyoshi attended the 2005 National HMIS Conference in September of this year. They sat in on many sessions dealing with topics such as Developing Local Privacy Policies Consistent with the Privacy Standards in the HMIS Final Notice, Data Quality – Educating Users about Collecting & Entering Data, Data Integration Issues, and Implementing Security Requirements in the Final Notice.



Some of the topics were already covered by Matt White a few months ago, at HUD's HMIS Technical Assistance and Training at the Ala Moana Hotel. For those who were unable to attend, training materials are available upon request.

The HMIS privacy standards require each covered homeless organization (CHO) to publish a privacy notice. HCDCH is available to provide guidance on developing your agency's CHO privacy notice. Just give us a call at the number listed below.

**\* *Covered Homeless Organization (CHO)*. Any organization (including its employees, volunteers, affiliates, contractors, and associates) that records, uses or processes Protected Personal Information (PPI) on homeless clients for an HMIS.**

The University of Hawaii Center on the Family has a HMIS contract with HUD through HCDCH and will be helping us with the HMIS. They have already begun to submit HMIS user surveys to the homeless providers. Please answer those surveys, because it will greatly help us in understanding what we need to do to improve the system.

HCDCH is still in the process of adding some agencies into the system. If you have a HUD contract through HCDCH, the City and County, or directly with HUD, and have not yet been contacted by our office, please call Brian Johnson at (808) 832-5930.



## ***Aloha and Best Wishes***

A big Mahalo to Lynn Maunakea, and Bill Hanrahan for their tireless efforts to end homelessness and we wish you well in your new endeavors.

## ***Welcome Aboard***

To, Laura Thielen's baby, Anna Ellis, who is already attending meetings and looking like a great advocate.

To the new Executive Directors, John Berliner, at Gregory House; Pam Menter, at Safe Haven; and Kevin Wolter, at Maui AIDS Foundation.

The Housing Placement Providers: Office for Social Ministries, IHS, Catholic Charities-Hawaii, Waianae Community Outreach, Family Life Center and Kauai Economic Opportunity.

## HELPING THE HOMELESS

The HCDCH helps homeless individuals and families to increase their stability in the health, housing and social areas and enables them to obtain and retain permanent housing, as well as maintain economic self-sufficiency over the long-term. During fiscal year 2005, the HCDCH contracted with 24 non-profit agencies to provide emergency and transitional housing and to deliver health and social services. These agencies assisted at least 13,774 unduplicated homeless persons.

The HCDCH's homeless programs are funded primarily through state budget appropriations and federal grants. Resources received during fiscal year 2005 include:

- \$4,473,677 state appropriation for stipend, outreach and grant programs;
- \$224,456 in federal Emergency Shelter Grants; and
- \$181,000 in federal Housing Opportunities for Person with AIDS grants;
- An additional \$150,000 appropriation for homeless assistance pursuant to Act 45.

### 2005 CoC Funding Awardees



During the year, the HCDCH also applied for \$1,388,784 through HUD's Supportive Housing Program (SHP) and Shelter Plus Care (S + C) grants. HCDCH was successful and will serve as the grantee of SHP and S + C funds to assist the following homeless projects:

#### Steadfast Housing

- ❖ Eha Shelter Plus Care provides permanent housing residential opportunities to the seriously mentally ill and/or dual diagnosis homeless consumers.
- ❖ Puamalia Group Home provides housing and support services to the seriously mentally ill homeless consumers.

#### Catholic Charities Community and Immigrant Services (CCCIS)

- ❖ Kawaihae Education and Employment Project (KEEP) provides on-site adult education, pre-employment training, job placement assistance and life skill classes for Kawaihae Transitional Housing Program participants.

#### University of Hawaii Centers on the Family

- ❖ Homeless Management Information System (HIMS) produces annual reports that will describe the socio-demographic characteristics and service utilization patterns of the homeless population

#### Gregory House Programs

- ❖ Shelter Plus Care I and Shelter Plus Care II provides rental assistance in connection with supportive services for those who are homeless with serious mental illness, chronic problems with alcohol and/or drugs, and HIV/AIDS or related diseases

### CoC 2006 Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii

Great News! The checkered flag has been raised and we are off...HCDCH is requesting proposals for the Continuum of Care 2006 application for the rural counties of Maui, Kauai and Hawaii. In response to HUD and from your CoC's, this is the first time the announcement by HCDCH was release prior to HUDs' Notice of Funding. Read the RFP thoroughly in detail. Our goal is to provide you with time to respond with a **complete** application, which is **consistent with the State and your County's Consolidated Plan**.

The end date is February 16, 2006, start working on your applications, so we at HCDCH can begin working to complete the application process.

