KOLEA Project

Kauhale (community) On-Line Eligibility Assistance System

Behind the Name

You may have noticed a small, but significant change in this month's newsletter. The correct spelling for the KOLEA Project's formal name is the Kauhale (community) On-Line Eligibility Assistance System.

On that note, you also may be wondering what the *mana'o* (thought) is behind the name. While some people know the Hawaiian term *kaiāulu* to mean community, the term *kauhale* seemed to resonate more with the vision for the new KOLEA system. *Kauhale* is the term for a group of *hale* (structures) much like a village. Individually, each *hale* has specific purposes and users; together they create a community. The vision for KOLEA is likened to this concept of *kauhale.* KOLEA is an eligibility system that will be home first to the Med-QUEST Division (MQD), followed by the BESSD financial assistance and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The Social Services Division will follow thereafter, subject to funding.

Mahalo to Jeff Young for bringing our attention to the language error, and to the many others who shared their *mana'o*.
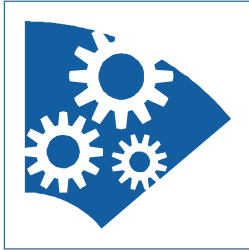
Project Progress

The month of April marked completion of formal functional JAD sessions and the start of technical sessions. These are noteworthy accomplishments considering our very aggressive project timeline. Testing to the Federal Data Services Hub also has begun. The KOLEA system is being tested for its ability to ping the Federal hub, and to send and receive data.

Here is a summary of upcoming activities:

Activity	Estimated Start
Detailed design sessions	April 2013
Federal hub testing	April 2013
View application	May 2013
Integrated Testing	June 2013
User Acceptance testing	August 2013
Training	August 2013
Conversion	September 2013
Go Live	October 2013

JARs and JADs: What are they?

The project completed all its functional and technical JAR sessions in March. This month it completed all its formal JAD sessions. What are JAR and JAD sessions you ask? A JAR session is a Joint Application Requirements session. It is a highly structured, facilitated workshop that brings together business and technology professionals to discuss and agree upon the functional and technical requirements a system requires. Similarly, JAD sessions are Joint Application Design sessions that bring together business and technology staff to design the system. These sessions are designed to enhance user participation, expedite development, and to improve the quality of specifications for the system.

Between February and April, the KPMG team facilitated functional JAR and JAD session for staff representing BESSD, MQD and the Office of Information Technology.

Frequently Asked Questions

Due to the growing awareness of KOLEA, the MQD has received many questions about the system and the project. Check back each month for more questions and answers.

Q: What does KOLEA stand for?

A: Kauhale (Community) On-Line Eligibility Assistance. It is the name of the new eligibility system that will eventually replace HAWI.

Q: What or Who is KPMG?

A: KPMG, LLP is the vendor contracted by the Department of Human Services to develop, implement and maintain KOLEA.

Q: Where has KPMG done this before?

A: KPMG leads the industry with many years of experience studying, participating in, and leading large-scale government transformations, including many of those for eligibility programs. In fact today, KPMG is currently assisting no less than 15 state clients with transformation efforts relating to the ACA and eligibility modernization. In almost all cases, technology automation has been an important part of the end state.

Q: What is the significance of the Go Live Date of 10/01/13?

A: October 1, 2013 is the date that KOLEA must be operating in order to support the mandatory Medicaid provisions of the ACA.

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