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Aloha and welcome to the Department of Human Services (DHS) website. Our agency is entrusted with improving the lives of Hawaii's most vulnerable and needy adults and children.

The DHS manages an annual budget of nearly \$2.7 billion and a workforce of more than 2,230 employees. Our employees provide timely, efficient and effective programs, benefits and services that help clients escape poverty and achieve full employment, prevent abuse and neglect among children and vulnerable adults, strengthen families and promotes positive youth development, provide public health insurance for low-income adults and children, and empower people with disabilities so they can enter or re-enter the workforce.

The DHS administers four human services divisions:

- Benefit, Employment and Support Services Division (BESSD)
- Social Services Division (SSD)
- Med-QUEST Division (MQD)
- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

The DHS also oversees four administratively-attached agencies and commissions:

- Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA)
- Office of Youth Services (OYS)
- Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women (HSCSW) and
- State Commission on Fatherhood (COF)

As Director of the DHS, I am committed to open communication, accountability, honesty, and respect for all. These values and commitments are coupled with the goal that guides almost everything I do both professionally and personally: to improve quality of life for others. Thank you for the opportunity to serve our incredible community.

You can learn more about DHS programs, benefits and services by exploring this DHS website. It is constantly updated with new materials so please check back regularly for the latest information.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office or visit us in-person.

Mahalo nui loa,

Rachael Wong, DrPH
Director