

Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness (HICH)  
Honolulu International Airport Conference Rooms 3 & 4  
August 29, 2016  
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Council Attendees:

Scott Morishige	Chair
Rachael Wong	Director of the Department of Human Services
Harold Brackeen III	Administrator of the Homeless Programs Office
Virginia Pressler	Director of the Department of Health
Linda Chu Takayama	Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
Renee Sonobe-Hong for Kamana'o Mills for	Director of the Department of Public Safety
Bruce Oliveira for	Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission
Douglas Chin	Adjutant General of the Department of Defense
Toby Portner for	Attorney General
Suzanne Chun Oakland	Superintendent of the Department of Education
Jo Jordan	Hawaii State Senate
Hakim Ouansafi	Hawaii State House of Representatives
Jun Yang for	Executive Director of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority
Carol Reimann for	Mayor of the City & County of Honolulu
Kanani Fu for	Mayor of the County of Maui
Jennifer Stasch	Mayor of the County of Kauai
Maude Cumming	Continuum of Care for the City & County of Honolulu, Partners In Care
Rachelle Russo	Continuum of Care for the County of Maui, Bridging the Gap
Rebecca Borja	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Dave Rolf	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development
	Business Community Representative

Absent: Representatives from the Department of Business, Economic, Development & Tourism; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; County of Hawaii; Continuum of Care for the County of Hawaii; Continuum of Care for the County of Kauai; and Faith-based Community.

Staff: Tamah-Lani Noh, Community Engagement Specialist; Julie Ford, Special Assistant; Julie Haruki, Homelessness Assistant

Special Guests: Andrea Suzuki, Deputy Attorney General; Katy Miller, U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness; Sue Augustus, Corporation for Supportive Housing; Judy Mohr Peterson, Med-QUEST Division; Eddie Mersereau, Department of Health; Lynn Fallin, Department of Health; Michael Liu, Mid-Pacific Institute; Erena Yoshida, Mid-Pacific Institute

- I. **Call to Order, Taking of the Roll.** Roll taken, quorum established, and the meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m. by the Chair.

Chair Morishige explained the new agenda format, and provided opening remarks. He noted that written reports from members will be requested two weeks prior to every meeting, and that a meeting packet with handouts will be distributed electronically a week prior to each meeting. The Chair mentioned there is a sign-up sheet for members of the public who wish to receive written handouts and materials for today's meeting.

The Chair introduced Deputy Attorney General Andrea Suzuki, who will be providing advice and counsel to the council.

The Chair recognized two special guests: Ms. Katy Miller from the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH), and Ms. Sue Augustus from the Corporation for Supportive Housing.

The Chair recognized three members of the Council who will be departing from their positions: Director Rachael Wong, Department of Human Services (DHS); Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland; and Representative Jo Jordan. Lei and a short note of appreciation were presented to each departing member.

The Chair recognized one incoming member of the Council: Ms. Jennifer Stasch, Honolulu Continuum of Care – Partners in Care (PIC). Lei was presented to Ms. Stasch.

The Chair recognized volunteers Mr. Michael Liu and Ms. Erena Yoshida, who are students attending Mid-Pacific Institute.

- II. **Overview and Approval of Agenda.** Motion to approve the agenda without amendments was made by Director Wong and seconded by Director Chu Takayama. The Chair opened the floor for discussion, and seeing none the Chair called the question. The motion passed unanimously.

- III. **Approval of Minutes.** The Chair reminded members that the July 11, 2015 meeting minutes were e-mailed to members and that copies of the minutes were included in the members' packets. The Chair provided time for members to review the minutes, and asked if there were any corrections. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Mills and seconded by Mr. Rolf. The Chair called the question. The motion passed unanimously.

- IV. **New Business.**

- A. **Discussion and possible action regarding the adoption of the 2016 Hawaii State Framework to Address Homelessness, and incorporation of strategic vision from the 2012 HICH Strategic Plan to End Homelessness and H2 Draft Strategic Plan.**

Chair Morishige provided background information regarding the Hawaii State Framework to Address Homelessness, as well as the 2012 HICH Strategic Plan to End Homelessness and the H2 Draft Strategic Plan. The Chair invited special guest Ms. Katy Miller to share the perspective of the USICH and how the State Framework to Address Homelessness aligns with the national efforts of the USICH and other federal agencies.

Presentation by Ms. Katy Miller, Regional Coordinator, USICH

Ms. Miller shared that she has been working with Hawaii for a year, and has been working in the area of homelessness for 20 years. Ms. Miller shared that the USICH is a policy-making body at the federal level, which consists of leadership at the Secretary-level for 19 federal agencies. A key focus of the USICH is the implementation of its strategic plan – “Opening Doors” – which sets specific targets to address veteran homelessness, chronic homelessness, and family and youth homelessness. Since 2010, the Opening Doors strategy has resulted in a decrease in overall homelessness by 11%, a decrease in chronic homelessness by 22%, and a decrease in family homelessness by 19%. The key message of the USICH Opening Doors plan is to respond quickly to address the needs of homeless persons, and to move people rapidly into permanent housing.

In regards to the Hawaii State Framework to Address Homelessness, Ms. Miller notes that this aligns with the goals of the USICH Opening Doors plan. Ms. Miller acknowledged that Chair Morishige has looked at federal plans and maximized resources. While the framework sets an ambitious goal of 10,000 homes by 2020 – it can be done. Ms. Miller notes that other states have achieved similar goals through alignment with federal, state, and local resources – as well as alignment with the Continuum of Care (CoCs). Ms. Miller emphasized that formal adoption of the framework will continue progress in aligning federal, state, and local resources in Hawaii.

Discussion regarding agenda item IV.A.

The Chair opened the floor to questions from members regarding the agenda item.

Senator Chun Oakland directed a question to Ms. Miller, and asked if the USICH monitors homeless persons that move to Hawaii from other states. She shared that she has heard reports of approximately 100 people that moved to Puna on Hawaii Island after being released from prison on the mainland. In addition, Senator Chun Oakland expressed a concern regarding expenses incurred by the state for migrants from the Compact of Free Association (COFA) nations.

Ms. Miller responded that this is a concern she has heard in nearly all of the communities that she works with – it is not something limited only to Hawaii. Ms. Miller emphasized the importance of re-entry and discharge planning, and encouraged Hawaii to not only look at the jail and prison population, but also look at those discharged from hospitals to homelessness and youth transitioning out of foster care. She added that the issues related to persons from the COFA nations are a special need that merits careful attention. When asked specifically whether USICH collects data regarding homeless persons moving from out of state, Ms.

Miller responded that the data is collected locally and not by the USICH. Ms. Miller emphasized the importance of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and working together with the CoCs that manage the HMIS data.

In response to Senator Chun Oakland's line of questioning, Chair Morishige noted that the Homeless Service Utilization Report, which uses service data from the HMIS, reports that only 10-11% of the state's homeless population are new residents that have been in Hawaii for less than 12 months. He noted that a key focus of the state's approach to addressing homelessness is on data, and that DHS will be allocating funds in Fiscal Year 2017 specifically to improve the quality of HMIS data and to focus on data analysis.

Director Wong asked Ms. Miller to elaborate on the benefits of an interagency council to address homelessness, and to provide concrete examples of specific action items supported by the USICH and interagency councils in other states.

Ms. Miller shared the example of the interagency council in Houston, Texas. The Texas council successfully ended veteran homelessness in Houston, and is now focused on the goal of ending chronic homelessness. According to Ms. Miller, the success was due to Houston's ability to measure specific goals and to focus on data.

Ms. Cummings asked a question about the role of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in other interagency councils across the country and ending veteran homelessness.

Ms. Miller responded that the VA participates in the USICH, and plays a key role in the initiative to end veteran homelessness.

Senator Chun Oakland commented that she has observed an increase in homeless veterans from other states – specifically that 1 in 5 veterans that come to her office for assistance are from other states.

Chair Morishige responded that the VA is an active participant in the efforts to end veteran homelessness in Hawaii. He added that on September 19 and 20<sup>th</sup>, Community Solutions and the VA will be convening a 25 Cities sustainability review for homeless service providers to focus on the goal of ending veteran homelessness.

Chair Morishige noted that a formal adoption of the framework will support the council's efforts to align homeless strategies across the federal, state, and local levels of government. He further noted that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is providing technical assistance from HomeBase that can assist the council in working together with the CoCs to develop implementation steps for the framework if it is formally adopted.

Motion to adopt the 2016 Hawaii State Framework to Address Homelessness, and to incorporate the strategic vision from the 2012 HICH Strategic Plan to End Homelessness and H2 Draft Strategic Plan.

Mr. Mills made a motion for adoption, which was seconded by Director Pressler.

The Chair asked if there was any further discussion.

Senator Chun Oakland commented that children and families need to be included in the framework. The Chair clarified that children and families are currently included in the framework.

Chair Morishige called the question. The motion passed with 20 members voting in the affirmative, and Representative Jordan abstaining.

**B. Discussion and possible action regarding the formation of a permitted interaction group pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (H.R.S.) §92-2.5 to review HICH structure and make recommendations.**

Chair Morishige explained that this agenda item is based off a suggestion at the July 11, 2016 meeting from Director Wong to form a permitted interaction group to review the HICH structure and to make recommendations to restructure. The Chair added that the National Governors Association (NGA) has provided technical assistance to the Office of the Governor and DHS, which included specific recommendations to revisit the structure of the council. The recommendations of the NGA were distributed to members during the July 11, 2016 meeting.

To assist council members with their deliberation, the Chair and staff passed out a handout that provided a timeline of the HICH, along with copies of H.R.S. §346-381, -382, and -383.

Discussion regarding agenda item IV.B.

The Chair opened the floor to questions from members regarding this agenda item.

Representative Jordan asked about the membership of the permitted interaction group.

Chair Morishige suggested that membership of the group should include the Chair or a designee, a representative from DHS, a representative from PIC, and a representative from Bridging the Gap (BTG). The Chair also requested that Deputy Attorney General Suzuki provide further clarification for members on the requirements for a permitted interaction group.

Deputy Attorney General Suzuki clarified that the membership of a permitted interaction group may consist of two or more members of the council, but should be less than the number of members which would constitute a quorum. She clarified that quorum for the council is 14 members.

Deputy Attorney General Suzuki further clarified that the purpose of the permitted interaction group and the scope of each member's authority need to be clearly

defined, and that all resulting findings and recommendations of the permitted interaction group should be presented to the council at a subsequent meeting.

Director Wong suggested the addition of a representative from one of the four counties. Ms. Cummings and Ms. Stasch concurred with Director Wong's suggestion.

Executive Director Ouansafi asked for further clarification regarding the purpose of the proposed permitted interaction group.

Chair Morishige clarified that the permitted interaction group would follow up on the recommendations of the NGA to review the structure and composition of the HICH. For example, NGA found that in other communities the chair of the council rotates among its membership. The permitted interaction group would look at the structure of similar councils in other communities, and make recommendations for consideration.

Chair Morishige asked members to consider the suggestion of Director Wong to add representation from one of the four counties.

Ms. Fu asked about the time commitment for serving on the permitted interaction group. Chair Morishige explained that the group would meet at least once prior to the next council meeting, which is scheduled for October 17, 2016.

Ms. Reimann stated that she would consent to serve on the permitted interaction group to represent the four counties.

Director Wong, Ms. Stasch, and Ms. Cummings also consented to serve on the permitted interaction group to represent DHS, PIC, and BTG respectively.

Motion to establish a permitted interaction group pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) §92-2.5 to review the HICH structure and make recommendations.

Senator Chun Oakland requested a friendly amendment for the permitted interaction group to consider the composition, as well as the structure, of the HICH. The Chair consulted with Deputy Attorney General Suzuki, who clarified that a friendly amendment is allowable.

Director Pressler made a motion for adoption with the friendly amendment, which was seconded by Executive Director Ouansafi. The proposed members of the permitted interaction group are the Chair or a designee, a representative from DHS, a representative from PIC, a representative from BTG, and a representative from the County of Maui.

The Chair asked if there was any further discussion.

Representative Jordan requested clarification regarding the purpose and definition of a permitted interaction group.

Deputy Attorney General Suzuki again clarified that the council may establish a permitted interaction group to investigate a specific matter relating to the official business of the council. The membership of the group may consist of two or more members of the council, but should be less than the number of members which would constitute a quorum. All resulting findings and recommendations of the permitted interaction group shall be presented to the council at a subsequent meeting of the council.

Representative Jordan asked if the permitted interaction group established through this motion would keep minutes of their deliberations for transparency. Chair Morishige responded that his staff would take minutes for meetings of the permitted action group, and that the group would report its findings to the full council at the next meeting on October 17, 2016.

Seeing no further discussion, the Chair called the question. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair stated that Community Engagement Specialist Tamah-Lani Noh will be in contact with the members of the permitted interaction group and will convene a meeting prior to the next meeting of the full council on October 17, 2016.

**C. Discussion and possible action regarding the formation of a permitted interaction group pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (H.R.S.) §92-2.5 to review and develop a sustainability plan for the Hawaii Pathways Project.**

Chair Morishige provided background information regarding the Hawaii Pathways Project. In 2013, at the suggestion of the council, the state Department of Health (DOH) applied for and was awarded a Cooperative Agreement to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI) grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to implement an evidence-based Housing First pilot project using the Pathways Housing First model. The pilot project became known as the Hawaii Pathways Project (HPP). The HPP is scheduled to end on September 29, 2016, but the DOH has requested and is expected to receive a no-cost extension until March 29, 2016 for program services. The program currently houses 61 former chronically homeless persons in permanent supportive housing. Without a sustainability plan, these persons will be at risk of falling back into homelessness. The item before the council is to establish a permitted interaction group to develop a sustainability plan for the HPP, which would address the housing needs of the persons the program currently serves and would intersect with other efforts of the council to develop permanent supportive housing on a larger scale.

To provide further background to the council, the Chair invited DOH Deputy Director Lynn Fallin and Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division (ADAD) Chief Mr. Edward Mersereau to provide an update on the current status of the HPP, including the project's performance. The Chair also invited DHS Med-QUEST Division Administrator Ms. Judy Mohr Peterson and special guest Ms. Sue Augustus from the Corporation for Supportive Housing to discuss how HPP aligns with technical

assistance efforts currently being provided to DHS, and how the technical assistance may be leveraged to assist in the development of a long-term sustainability plan for HPP.

Presentation by Deputy Director Fallin and Mr. Mersereau.

Deputy Director Fallin provided a brief presentation on the HPP, and referred to the written handout from DOH, which can be found on pages 74 and 75 of the council member's meeting packet. Deputy Director Fallin stated that the council supported the establishment of the HPP, and that the HPP is consistent with the framework to address homelessness that was adopted by the council.

Mr. Mersereau stated that a key challenge with implementation of the HPP has been the lack of affordable housing inventory in Hawaii. In spite of these challenges, Mr. Mersereau stated that the HPP project staff and providers have made great strides, and that project participants have a high rate of housing retention. Mr. Mersereau added that DOH staff have been in discussion with staff from DHS regarding the intersection between the HPP and technical assistance that DHS has received as part of the Innovation Accelerator Program (IAP). Working together with DHS, there may be a possibility to sustain efforts, such as HPP, in the long-term by utilizing Medicaid to provide ongoing tenancy supports.

Mr. Yang asked about the plan for sustainability beyond the end of the no-cost extension in March 2017.

Mr. Mersereau responded that the proposed permitted interaction group would be formed to develop and recommend a plan for sustainability of HPP.

Chair Morishige asked members to hold further questions until the conclusion of the following presentation by Ms. Mohr Peterson and Ms. Augustus.

Presentation by Med-QUEST Administrator Ms. Judy Mohr Peterson and Ms. Sue Augustus.

Ms. Mohr Peterson and Ms. Augustus distributed a handout entitled "Medicaid Innovation Accelerator Program (IAP): Community Partnerships."

Ms. Augustus introduced herself and stated that she is employed by Corporation for Supportive Housing, and is contracted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) as the IAP technical assistance provider for Hawaii. She shared that Hawaii was one of eight states that was selected by the CMMI to receive technical assistance as part of the IAP. The technical assistance Hawaii is receiving through the IAP is part of the Community Partnership track, which includes a partnership between the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), SAMHSA, and the USICH. In particular, the IAP Community Partnership track brings technical assistance from national experts to help stakeholders in public housing, Medicaid, and behavioral health come together and redesign and implement plans to cover gaps in services.



Ms. Mohr Peterson introduced herself and stated that she is the Administrator of the DHS, Med-QUEST Division (MQD). She stated that Hawaii is looking to utilize Medicaid to address chronic homelessness, and that the focus is on using evidence-based national best practices and improving existing programs like Housing First and supportive wrap-around services. Ms. Mohr Peterson clarified that this is a new way of looking at services, and that Medicaid has been previously limited only to specific medical services. Ms. Mohr Peterson stated that Medicaid cannot be used to pay for room and board, but that it could be used to pay for supportive housing services. She explained that supportive housing is a specific intervention for people who, but for the availability of services, do not succeed in housing and who, but for housing, do not succeed in services. Ms. Mohr Peterson explained that the technical assistance Hawaii is receiving through the IAP can contribute to the development of a long-term sustainability plan for HPP.

Discussion regarding agenda item IV.C.

The Chair opened the floor to questions from members regarding this agenda item. Deputy Director Fallin, Mr. Mersereau, Ms. Mohr Peterson, and Ms. Augustus were available to answer questions from the members.

Ms. Cummings asked if the HPP and IAP were only on the island of Oahu.

Ms. Mohr Peterson responded that Medicaid is statewide, so the technical assistance received through the IAP will result in changes statewide for the Medicaid program.

Chair Morishige clarified that the HPP is limited to the island of Oahu, but added that the IAP will result in systemic changes that will have a statewide impact. The Chair suggested that the proposed permitted interaction group could include representation from the neighbor islands. He added that permanent supportive housing projects, similar to the HPP, are being proposed on the neighbor islands and that a permanent supportive housing project on Hawaii Island is expected to open in October 2016.

Mr. Rolf requested clarification on whether the housing provided by HPP was "permanent." He also asked what will happen to the 61 people currently housed through the program when the grant ends.

Mr. Mersereau responded that the HPP is a pilot project, and emphasized that while the housing for the clients is permanent, HPP provides supportive services that are critical to assist clients in maintaining their housing. Mr. Mersereau stated that the supportive services provided by HPP include treatment for substance abuse and mental health.

Chair Morishige provided additional clarification. He stated that HPP utilizes permanent housing vouchers that are provided by other programs, such as Section 8 or the City and State Housing First programs. However, when the grant for HPP ends, the supportive services for HPP will also end, which may potentially place the clients in jeopardy of losing their housing. The intent of the proposed permitted interaction group would be to develop a transition plan to ensure continuation of the

supportive services, and to maintain housing for the 61 clients currently housed through HPP.

Senator Chun Oakland stated that Housing First funding currently focuses on the needs of chronically homeless persons. She shared that in 2014 a number of new benefits for tenancy support were added to the Medicaid state plan, including a housing specialist and other services. She stated that it is important that the proposed permitted interaction group examine how to utilize these services to provide tenancy supports.

Mr. Rolf estimated that, based upon the funding for HPP, it appears that the cost was approximately \$32,000 per person. He asked what were the outcomes achieved as a result of HPP services.

Mr. Mersereau stated that the estimated cost of \$32,000 per person are lower than national estimates, which are approximately \$40,000 per person. He added that, through the HPP, the provider was able to place chronic homeless persons with high acuity into permanent housing. The persons served through HPP were persons with significant mental health and substance use concerns.

Senator Chun Oakland noted that no mention was made of the state Medicaid buy-in program. In addition, she suggested that the proposed permitted interaction group review services offered by the DHS Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR).

Chair Morishige clarified that his office has reached out to the DVR administrator, and has been collaborating with DVR to address the needs of unsheltered homeless persons.

Chair Morishige suggested that membership of the group should include the Chair or a designee, a representative from DHS, a representative from DOH, a representative from the City & County of Honolulu, and a representative from BTG. Director Wong, Director Pressler, Mr. Yang, and Ms. Cummings all consented to serve on the proposed permitted interaction group to represent DHS, DOH, the City & County of Honolulu, and BTG respectively.

Senator Chun Oakland recommended that DHS representation on the permitted interaction group include representatives from DVR, MQD, Adult Protective Services, the Office of the Public Guardian, and the Homeless Programs Office.

Deputy Attorney General Suzuki provided clarification that the membership of the permitted interaction group should consist of members of the council or their designee.

Motion to establish a permitted interaction group pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) §92-2.5 to review and develop a sustainability plan for the HPP.

Mr. Mills made a motion for adoption, which was seconded by Director Wong. The proposed members of the permitted interaction group are the Chair or a designee, a

representative from DHS, a representative from DOH, a representative from the City & County of Honolulu, and a representative from BTG.

The Chair asked if there was any further discussion.

Ms. Borja requested that a representative from PIC be added to the membership of the proposed permitted interaction group. She stated that PIC oversees housing resources through the CoC and that PIC could provide assistance in the development of a sustainability plan for the HPP.

Ms. Stasch stated that she agreed with the recommendation of Ms. Borja, and would consent to serving on the proposed permitted interaction group.

Chair Morishige consulted Deputy Attorney General Suzuki regarding a potential amendment to the motion on the floor.

Deputy Attorney General Suzuki clarified that the motion by Mr. Mills and Director Wong would need to be withdrawn, and a new motion would need to be offered if the members want to consider a new motion to add a representative from PIC to the membership of the proposed permitted interaction group.

The Chair asked Mr. Mills and Director Wong if they would consider withdrawing their motion, so that a new motion can be made to include a representative from PIC in the membership of the proposed permitted interaction group.

Mr. Mills and Director Wong withdrew their motions.

Executive Director Ouansafi made a new motion for adoption, which was seconded by Director Pressler. The proposed members of the permitted interaction group under this new motion are the Chair or a designee, a representative from DHS, a representative from DOH, a representative from the City & County of Honolulu, a representative from BTG, and a representative from PIC.

Seeing no further discussion, the Chair called the question. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair stated that Community Engagement Specialist Tamah-Lani Noh will be in contact with the members of the permitted interaction group and will convene a meeting prior to the next meeting of the full council on October 17, 2016.

**V. General Announcements.**

**A. Chairperson and Staff Reports: July/August 2016 Status Report.**

The Chair referred to a handout entitled "Highlights of Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness Staff Activities, Monthly Report for July and August 2016," which is located on pages 64-66 of the member's packets.

The Chair noted that the Governor's emergency proclamation to address homelessness was extended again in early August, and will expire on October 19, 2016. He stated that this will be the final extension of the emergency proclamation, as it is necessary for the state to move forward with a longer-term strategy to address homelessness.

The Chair further noted his participation this past weekend in the Hawaii Annual Code Challenge (HACC), which brought together members of the public to use technology to address different "challenges" presented by various state agencies. The Chair reported that he presented a challenge related to the difficulties in determining the proper state agency or service provider to contact when an unsheltered person or encampment was identified by members of the public. The HACC will take place throughout the month of September.

The Chair added that he and his staff are in the process of developing legislative and budget proposals for the upcoming biennium, and that he is working closely with DHS and the Office of the Governor.

**B. Pursuant to HRS §346-382(a)(17), the Council requests that the Mayor of the Counties of Hawaii and Kauai designate a representative of the continuum of care programs for their respective counties.**

The Chair stated that there are currently two vacant seats on the council, and requested the Mayors of the Counties of Hawaii and Kauai to designate a representative of the continuum of care programs for their respective counties to fill these two vacant seats.

**C. Written Reports from Council Members.**

The Chair noted that written reports have been provided by members of the council. The written reports can be found on pages 67-82 of the member's packets.

Director Wong reported that the number of vacant positions in the Homeless Programs Office (HPO) written report needs to be revised. She stated that the vacant HPO Administrator position has now been permanently filled by Mr. Harold Brackeen III.

Chair Morishige congratulated Mr. Brackeen on his new position.

VI. **Executive Session.** The Chair explained that a new item to the agenda was added to allow the council to enter into executive session if needed. The Chair stated that there is no reason to enter into executive session at this time.

VII. **Topics for Upcoming Meetings.** The Chair noted that the October 17, 2016 meeting of the council will feature a presentation by HomeAid Hawaii, as well as reports from the two permitted interaction groups that were established earlier during the meeting.

The Chair asked the members if there were any additional suggestions for topics for the upcoming meeting. There was no further discussion.

VIII. **Meeting Schedule.** The Chair reminded members that meetings are scheduled for Monday, October 17, 2016 and Monday, December 12, 2016. Both meetings will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Honolulu International Airport in the Interisland Terminal, Conference Rooms 3 & 4.

IX. **Public Testimony.** Chair Morishige opened the floor to public testimony. The public was asked to keep testimony limited to no more than one minute.

**A. Mr. Michael Peacock, Hawaii Vet to Vet.**

Mr. Peacock testified in regards to the importance of peer support. He noted that Hawaii Vet to Vet has been working with the DOH, Adult Mental Health Division to ensure that peer support services be written into treatment plans. He emphasized that peer specialists should be written into treatment plans, but understands that this may result in less billable hours for case management services.

Chair Morishige thanked Mr. Peacock for his testimony.

**B. Mr. Dave Cannel.**

Mr. Cannel stated that he is a homeless advocate, and testified in regards to his concerns about the lack of sustained funding for homeless services.

Chair Morishige thanked Mr. Cannel for his testimony, and noted that the state is currently in the process working on budget proposals for the upcoming biennium.

X. **Adjourn.** Chair Morishige entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Mills and seconded by Director Pressler. The Chair called the question. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

**MINUTES CERTIFICATION**

Minutes prepared by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tamah-Lani Noh  
Community Engagement Specialist

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Approved by the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness at their Regular Meeting on October 17, 2016: [ ] As Presented [ ] As Amended

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott S. Morishige, MSW  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date