



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Benefit, Employment and Support Services Division
1010 Richards Street, Suite 312
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

March 5, 2020

MEMORANDUM: (via email)

TO: State Homeless Programs Office Providers

FROM: Harold Brackeen III
Homeless Programs Administrator
Phone: (808) 586-7072

Fax: (808) 586-5239

SUBJECT: Communication to Providers of the Homeless Programs Office Regarding COVID-19

The Department of Human Services continues to monitor the Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) daily. Currently, there are no reported cases of COVID-19 identified in Hawaii.

There has been heightened media attention related to COVID-19 and the Homeless Programs Office (HPO) has received many questions from its staff, providers, and community partners regarding how they might respond, prepare, and stay informed about this outbreak.

The HPO encourages all staff, providers, and community partners to utilize the following resources to get updated information related to COVID-19. These resources provide information about how individuals and programs can stay prepared and take steps to prevent spread of the virus. We encourage everyone to take reasonable precautions and stay informed.

We all play a key role in preparedness. Here's what you can do to plan and prepare now:

Stay updated with the below link about COVID-19 from the Department of Health website. This page is updated on a regular basis. Please note the resources at the bottom of the page, including fact sheets in multiple languages.

<https://health.hawaii.gov/docd/advisories/novel-coronavirus-2019/>

Additional resources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention-treatment.html>

<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5985/infectious-disease-toolkit-for-cocs/>

Practice everyday protection:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Sanitize and sanitize often. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Wear a mask if you are sick to prevent spreading illness to other people.