



Partners in Care & Bridging the Gap

2017-2018: A Statewide Focus on Housing

Joe and Sue are a young couple who came to Family Life Center for emergency shelter services. Sue was expecting the couple's fourth child, and gave birth while still at the emergency shelter. The family also included three other children who were in the custody of Child Welfare Services. Family Life Center found a one bedroom apartment for the family who were assisted with Housing Placement Program Rental Assistance and the Catholic Charities Hawaii Rent Supplement Program. Case managers continued to visit the family to provide support and encouragement. Today, Joe is employed at a job that allows the family to sustain rent payments without any support. The couple have also regained custody of their three other children, and the family is now flourishing.

- **Family Life Center (Maui)**

Stanley had been living on the beach in Waianae for over three years when he came to the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii for help with obtaining Social Security benefits. Over the course of two years, Legal Aid helped Stanley with appeals and obtaining medical records. Eventually he was awarded SSDI and SSI benefits by an administrative law judge. After obtaining increased and stable income, Stanley qualified for help from the Shelter Plus Care program. He is now housed and extremely happy to be living in a nice condominium in Makaha. In addition, Stanley now volunteers for the food bank and cannot believe how much his luck has changed. He recently came back to Legal Aid to enthusiastically thank the staff, and even invited them to his birthday party.

- **Legal Aid Society of Hawaii (Oahu)**

Kale, a chronically homeless single male with no family in Hawaii, was living on the streets of Hilo prior to entering a residential treatment program. He was then referred to Hale Ulu Pono's Semi-Independent Living program through the Coordinated Entry System. He was in his new home only a few months before relapsing on alcohol and finding himself at risk of losing his housing. Steadfast Housing partnered together with a case manager from Hope Services and provided Kale with support and encouragement to maintain his housing. Ultimately, Kale decided to enter substance abuse treatment and, since his return, is a contributing member of the housing program and has maintained sobriety. By allowing Kale the opportunity to keep his housing based on the Housing First model, Kale is now stably housed and is a model resident.

- **Steadfast Housing Development Corporation (Hawaii Island)**



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2017-2018: Statewide Systems Change

- **IMPLEMENTED A COORDINATED ENTRY SYSTEM TO PRIORITIZE HOUSING FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE**
 - On Oahu, **Aloha United Way** and **PHOCUSED** served as administrators of Coordinated Entry for single adults and families.
 - On the neighbor islands, **Hawaii County, Maui County, and Kauai County** dedicated staff time and resources to administer Coordinated Entry in their respective counties.
 - Coordinated Entry systems for youth and survivors of domestic violence were also established through the efforts of **Partners in Care** and **Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence**.
 - **HOPE Services** and **Family Life Center** staff assisted in providing **VI-SPDAT trainings** and facilitated a statewide **Leadership Academy on Ending Homelessness**, bringing together 100 representatives from State and County government and service providers statewide to identify and decrease gaps in services, barriers to services, and implement nationally recognized best practices.

- **STRENGTHENED PARTNERSHIPS WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AND HOSPITALS TO DIVERT HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS FROM OTHER SYSTEMS.**
 - The **Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Hui** formed, and includes over-30 different community organizations, including **The CHOW Project and Life Foundation, ACLU Hawaii, Hawaii Departments of Human Services, the Honolulu Police Department, Hawaii Public Defender**, and others.
 - The **Honolulu Police Department** partnered with outreach providers from **Institute for Human Services, Kalihi-Palama**