



PARTNERS IN CARE

Oahu Continuum of Care

Partners in Care is a coalition of Oahu's homeless service providers, government representatives and community stakeholders working together in partnership to end homelessness.

PIC Advocacy Committee Meeting
March 28, 2018, 12:00-1:30
Aloha United Way
MINUTES

Attendees: Eric Englin, Judith Clark, Kathleen Algire, Jason Kasamoto, Carla Houser, Peter Mattoon, Anna Stone, Betty Lou Larson, Larry Chun, Scott Morishige, Gavin Thornton, Marya Grambs

Phone: Natalie Okeson, Greg Payton, Mike Goodman, Cynthia Rezentes, Lisa Kahaleauki

Agenda Topic	Discussion	Outcome/Action
I. Meeting called to order	12:05	
II. Introductions		
III. Approval of Feb 2018 minutes		Approved as amended
IV. Continuing business		
A. Update on bills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carla: SB 2791 transforms the youth correctional facility into a more therapeutic model for at risk youth. It will be renamed the Kawailoa Youth and Family Wellness Center. If it passes, RYSE is positioned to open a 20 bed shelter for homeless youth ages 18-24. • Gavin: <u>City Council</u>: bill 58 gives bonuses to developers in trade for affordable housing. Ends "in lieu" fee (developer has been able to opt to pay a fee and not build affordable housing, but that money was never spent—just went into black hole.) Now they will have to build affordable housing or partner with 	

	<p>nonprofits to build housing. Could be for sale housing or rental.</p>	
	<p>Betty Lou - Bills after Crossover as of 3/28:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB1900, Rental Housing Revolving Fund; waiting to see how much will be allocated. • HB1900 – Continue homeless services; still alive as bill but was taken out of budget so will be year-to-year • SB2401 - PIC’s Omnibus bill with Governor’s homeless package - still alive. • SB2989 – PHOCUSED bill – still alive • Several Ohana Zone (OZ) bills. <p>Scott: <u>pros and cons of OZ:</u> Legislators want something immediate to show public, but there is a risk that programs like Housing First, Rapid Rehousing, and Rental Housing Revolving Fund will not be funded. Also, some of the Safe Zone bills are too prescriptive, making implementation too difficult. All these programs are good but shouldn’t sacrifice one for the other.</p> <p>If intent is to replicate Waianae boat harbor – it evolved organically, but these bills don’t allow for organic community leadership.</p> <p>What is the impact if the Governor’s package is not funded? Rapid Rehousing (RRH) enables people to move out of shelters sooner; creates flow in system and serves 973</p>	

	<p>households a year. Impact on Housing First (HF) – we have 270 individuals who would become homeless if program isn't funded. Legislators and public want a quick fix – but there is no quick fix.</p> <p>Peter: Housing First and Rapid Rehousing are the programs that would move people out of the OZs.</p> <p>Mike: The major obstruction to ending homelessness is the lack of housing inventory. If we were to build 8,000 units, it would cost \$2B. The igloos are not temporary; they can be permanent housing and therefore could be HF. Also, igloo concept avoids ghettoization by developing in small villages.</p> <p>Judith Clark: do hard core homeless people find these zones acceptable?</p> <p>Carla: what about unaccompanied youth/minors in OZs? Scott: different interpretations as to what Zones are. No consensus. Some think Waianae Village, some think Kahakui village.</p>	
<p>B. Planning Next Steps</p>	<p>Gavin: diverging opinions, but we all agree that the funding for existing programs such as HF and RRH needs to be sustained. PIC should focus our efforts on that because we have limited resources.</p> <p>What can we (PIC Advocacy Committee) do now? Disseminate concise overview to our list and notify when hearings come up. Do</p>	

	<p>individual lobbying and generate public support. Call Finance Committee to hear SB 2401. That's our priority.</p> <p>We need to keep up a steady drumbeat. Push homelessness services and RHRF at every opportunity. Keep it simple. One click testimony: "don't sacrifice this funding." Gavin needs help in maintaining one-click advocacy site and disseminating Action Alerts.</p> <p>Re media strategy, we can (1) highlight Pathways final report to show cost benefit re: medical and criminal justice costs. (2) LEAD launching; show how it needs HF and RRH programs. (3) Get PIT numbers out. (4) Show numbers of people who will be displaced if these programs are cut.</p> <p>Jason working on communications strategy. Betty Lou will talk to CCH about doing an OpEd.</p>	
Adjourned	1:20	

Minutes by Marya Grambs