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Nohelani U'u-Hodgins



Director of Council Services  
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services  
Richelle K. Kawasaki, Esq.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.MauiCounty.us](http://www.MauiCounty.us)

December 15, 2023

Ms. Marian Tsuji, Deputy Director  
State of Hawai'i  
Department of Health, Behavioral Health Administration  
Kinau Hale Building  
1250 Punchbowl Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

*Via E-mail: Marian.Tsuji@doh.hawaii.gov*

Dear Ms. Tsuji:

**SUBJECT: COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES AVAILABLE TO  
THOSE AFFECTED BY THE AUGUST 2023 FIRES ON  
MAUI ISLAND (WASSP-1(6))**

Thank you again for having Dr. Matsu, Ms. Kobayashi, and Mr. Oliver participate in the Water Authority, Social Services, and Parks Committee's discussion on December 11, 2023, on this important matter.

As a result of the discussion, may I please request your response to the following:

1. Can the SAMHSA Emergency Response Grant be used to assist for-profit organizations that provide behavioral health services? Can Papa Ola Lōkahi subcontract with for-profit organizations?
2. Please provide a breakdown of the \$27,346,226 in dedicated federal grant or state funding for Maui wildfire behavioral health services.
3. Please provide information on the State Department of Health's investigations into suicides resulting from overdoses, including statistics on the number of suicides caused by overdoses.

Ms. Marian Tsuji  
December 15, 2023  
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May I further request that you send your written responses to correspondence dated December 6, 2023, as attached, and to the questions above by **January 8, 2024**. To ensure efficient processing, please transmit your response to [wassp.committee@mauicounty.us](mailto:wassp.committee@mauicounty.us) with a reference to WASSP-1(6) in the subject line of your response.

Should you have any questions, please contact me or the Committee staff (Clarissa MacDonald at 808-270-7135, or Stacey Vinoray at 808-270-7147).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shane M. Sinenci", written in a cursive style.

SHANE M. SINENCI, Chair  
Water Authority, Social Services, and  
Parks Committee

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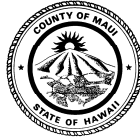
Attachment

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December 6, 2023

Ms. Marian Tsuji, Deputy Director  
State of Hawai'i  
Department of Health, Behavioral Health Administration  
Kinau Hale Building  
1250 Punchbowl Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

*Via E-mail: Marian.Tsuji@doh.hawaii.gov*

Dear Ms. Tsuji:

**SUBJECT: COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES AVAILABLE TO  
THOSE AFFECTED BY THE AUGUST 2023 FIRES ON  
MAUI ISLAND (WASSP-1(6))**

At its 9 a.m. meeting of December 11, 2023, the Maui County Council's Water Authority, Social Services, and Parks Committee intends to discuss behavioral health services available for those in West Maui and the \$17,300,000 in funding the State Department of Health received from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration ("SAMHSA").

In preparation for the meeting, please be prepared to inform the Committee of the following:

1. Please describe how and when the \$17,300,000 in funding from the SAMHSA federal grant will be used.
  - a. Which State programs will be funded by this grant? Who are the intended recipients?
2. Will existing State funding for behavioral health programs, if any, experience a reduction in appropriations due to the influx in funding from the SAMHSA grant?

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3. What other funding is the State Department of Health providing behavioral health service programs for those affected by the August 2023 fires on Maui?
4. How are behavioral health statistics reported and documented by the State Department of Health? Do you have information on reported suicides or calls to Crisis Line of Hawai'i? Does the State Department of Health receive reports from third-party entities with the number of mental distress calls made to Crisis Line of Hawai'i or 911?

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. May I further request that you please provide a written response after the meeting by **December 18, 2023**, to [wasp.committee@mauicounty.us](mailto:wasp.committee@mauicounty.us) with a reference to WASSP-1(6). We look forward to discussing your response to these questions at the December 11th meeting.

Should you have any questions, please contact me or the Committee staff (Clarissa MacDonald at 808-270-7135, or Stacey Vinoray at 808-270-7147).

Sincerely,



SHANE M. SINENCI, Chair  
Water Authority, Social Services, and  
Parks Committee