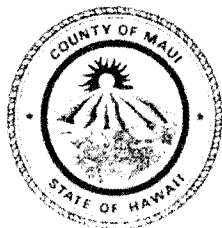


MICHAEL P. VICTORINO
Mayor

LORI TSUHAKO
Director

LINDA R. MUNSELL
Deputy Director



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
& HUMAN CONCERNS
COUNTY OF MAUI
2200 MAIN STREET, SUITE 546
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
PHONE: (808) 270-7805

October 18, 2021

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

OCT 20 PM 3:21

RECEIVED

Honorable Michael P. Victorino
Mayor, County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL

Michael P Victorino 10/18/21
Mayor Date

For Transmittal to:

Honorable Gabe Johnson, Chair
Affordable Housing Committee
Maui County Council
200 S. High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Johnson:

SUBJECT: COMPREHENSIVE AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN: RIGHT TO SHELTER (AH-14(1))

The Department of Housing and Human Concerns is in receipt of your correspondence dated October 13, 2021. Please find the Department's responses below:

1. What is the total amount of funding allocated for housing and shelter of unsheltered individuals and families that the Department receives from:

a. County sources.

Response: Identifying funding for housing and shelter **specifically** for unsheltered individuals and families is difficult because of the manner in which services are organized along a continuum of care. The funding that can be most easily identified with the unsheltered population is detailed below.

Line Item appropriations for FY2022

- Salvation Army (Homeless Outreach): \$180,000
- Mental Health Kokua (Safe Haven): \$192,337
- Homeless Programs Allocation (various grants): \$1,769,806

<u>Homeless Programs</u>	<u>Total Appropriation</u>	<u>\$1,769,806</u>
Family Life Center	Case Management	\$213,750
Family Life Center	Moloka'i Homeless Services	\$200,000
Family Life Center	Outreach	\$140,000
Ka Hale A Ke Ola Homeless Resource Centers, Inc.	Central/West Side Operations and Step-up (with Care Manager)	\$652,000
Ka Hale A Ke Ola Homeless Resource Centers, Inc.	Ka La Hiki Ola Mobile Hygiene Unit Program	\$202,806
Legal Aid Society of Hawaii	Holistic Legal Services for Maui County's Most Vulnerable	\$70,000
	TOTAL AWARDED	\$1,478,556

The remaining balance of \$291,250 of Homeless Program funds includes \$66,200 for mobile water filling stations by proviso.

The Department also has provided a homeless outreach grant from the Substance Abuse Programs line item appropriation of \$95,000 to Mental Health Kokua for outreach for Mental Health Empowerment and Psychosocial Rehabilitation.

The aggregate sum of the above items is \$1,945,893.

b. State funding sources, including matching funds.

The County does not receive funding directly from the state for services to the unsheltered.

c. Federal funding sources, including HUD.

The County does not receive funding directly from HUD specifically for services to the unsheltered.

d. All sources combined.

\$1,945,893 in County sources allocated in FY2022.

2. At the September 30, 2021 meeting of the Council's Human Concerns and Parks Committee, you mentioned guidelines and mandates for State and Federal funding that determine how funds were used, which if not met would require the County fund alternative funding.

(a) What specific guidelines and mandates are you referring to?

The reference is the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act, aka HEARTH Act of 2009, which reauthorized HUD's McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance programs and made significant changes to HUD's

homeless programs. More details can be found at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/hearth-act/> These changes included 1) significant expansion of homelessness prevention efforts; 2) emphasis and incentives for rapid-rehousing, especially for homeless families; 3) inclusion of families in the category of chronic homeless and a continued commitment for creating permanent supportive housing; 4) offering rural communities more flexibility for capacity building. More importantly, the HEARTH Act and the subsequent rules adopted by HUD described the required processes that communities wishing to receive HUD funds must abide in order to participate in competitive funding applications. Continuum of Care (CoC) were mandated to adopt governance rules, identify and utilize a common assessment tool, develop a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and develop a Coordinated Entry System (CES) to prioritize the appropriate level of resources to the homeless individuals or families who were the most vulnerable.

Subsequent to the adoption of the HEARTH Act, the State of Hawaii's funding for homeless programs and services shifted to adopt/align to the principles driven by HUD in a strategic effort to effectively leverage federal funds. Thus services funded by the State, including homeless outreach, homeless shelters, rapid rehousing, and Housing First (permanent supportive housing) have all been modified over the ensuing years to reflect the national best practices designed by HUD. Our County's funding and programming has likewise been aligned to comport with federal and state models for efficiency and efficacy.

If the County were to choose to operate a separate system of care that does not utilize the models adopted across the County, the County could not count on State or Federal resources for that system.

To further demonstrate HUD's commitment to the existing homeless system of care, when issuing 76 Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) to the County over the summer, HUD required the County to use the Coordinated Entry System (CES) process to identify and prioritize the issuing of those vouchers.

(b) How much estimated funding is subject to the County following certain guidelines, mandates, or conditions?

Although the County does not receive homeless funding directly from the federal or State governments, agencies in our community are recipients of such funding. According to the Governor's Office on Homelessness' funding tracker (2020) and various service providers, competitive HUD funding for permanent supportive housing in our County amounts to \$1,307,535. State funding for homeless services totals \$3,660,338, for aggregate total of \$4,967,873. This figure does not include funding for homelessness prevention or rental assistance.

3. Also, please provide a list of planned compassionate response efforts and homeless encampment clean-ups, as well as information on the process for determining when and where a response or clean-up will take place.

Honorable Gabe Johnson, Chair
Affordable Housing Committee
October 18, 2021
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There is no list of planned compassionate response efforts. The County's Compassionate Action Plan (CAP) is a matrix of actions taken by County staff as a direct response to citizen complaints or inter-Departmental requests about public safety, public health, environmental health, or inability to access public right-of-way due to illegal encampments erected on County owned properties. The impetus for enacting the CAP is based on directives from the Mayor. Individual County departments or individual County employees do not have the authority to subjectively implement any of the actions described in the CAP.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at Ext. 7805.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori Tsuhako". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lori" being more prominent.

LORI TSUHAKO, LSW, ACSW
Director of Housing and Human Concerns