



FACT SHEET: HOUSING FIRST

APRIL 2016



National Alliance to
END HOMELESSNESS

WHAT IS HOUSING FIRST?

Housing First is a homeless assistance approach that prioritizes providing permanent housing to people experiencing homelessness, thus ending their homelessness and serving as a platform from which they can pursue personal goals and improve their quality of life. This approach is guided by the belief that people need basic necessities like food and a place to live before attending to anything less critical, such as getting a job, budgeting properly, or attending to substance use issues. Additionally, Housing First is based on the theory that client choice is valuable in housing selection and supportive service participation, and that exercising that choice is likely to make a client more successful in remaining housed and improving their life.¹

HOW IS HOUSING FIRST DIFFERENT FROM OTHER APPROACHES?

Housing First does not require people experiencing homelessness to address the all of their problems including behavioral health problems, or to graduate through a series of services programs before they can access housing. Housing First does not mandate participation in services either before obtaining housing or in order to retain housing. The Housing First approach views housing as the foundation for life improvement and enables access to permanent housing without prerequisites or conditions beyond those of a typical renter. Supportive services are offered to support people with housing stability and individual well-being, but participation is not required as services have been found to be more effective when a person chooses to engage.² Other approaches do make such requirements in order for a person to obtain and retain housing.

WHO CAN BE HELPED BY HOUSING FIRST?

A Housing First approach can benefit both homeless families and individuals with any degree of service needs. The flexible and responsive nature of a Housing First approach allows it to be tailored to help anyone. As such, a Housing First approach can be applied to help end homelessness for a household who became homeless due to a temporary personal or financial crisis and has limited service needs, only needing help accessing and securing permanent housing. At the same time, Housing First has been found to be particularly effective approach to end homelessness for high need populations, such as chronically homeless individuals.³

WHAT ARE THE ELEMENTS OF A HOUSING FIRST PROGRAM?

Housing First programs often provide rental assistance that varies in duration depending on the household's needs. Consumers sign a standard lease and are able to access supports as necessary to help them do so. A variety of voluntary services may be used to promote housing stability and well-being during and following housing placement.

Two common program models follow the Housing First approach but differ in implementation. Permanent supportive housing (PSH) is targeted to individuals and families with chronic illnesses, disabilities, mental health issues, or substance use disorders who have experienced long-term or repeated homelessness. It provides longterm rental assistance and supportive services.

A second program model, rapid re-housing, is employed for a wide variety of individuals and

RECEIVED AT 44 MEETING ON 3/13/19
(Committee Chair)

families. It provides short-term rental assistance and services. The goals are to help people obtain housing quickly, increase self-sufficiency, and remain housed. The Core Components of rapid re-housing—housing identification, rent and move-in assistance, and case management and services—operationalize Housing First principals.

I DOES HOUSING FIRST WORK?

There is a large and growing evidence base demonstrating that Housing First is an effective solution to homelessness. Consumers in a Housing First model access housing faster^{iv} and are more likely to remain stably housed.^v This is true for both PSH and rapid re-housing programs. PSH has a long-term housing retention rate of up to 98 percent.^{vi} Studies have shown that rapid re-housing helps people exit homelessness quickly—in one study, an average of two months^{vii}—and remain housed. A variety of studies have shown that between 75 percent and 91 percent of households remain housed a year after being rapidly re-housed.^{viii}

More extensive studies have been completed on PSH finding that clients report an increase in perceived levels of autonomy, choice, and control in Housing First programs. A majority of clients are found to participate in the optional supportive services provided,^{ix} often resulting in greater housing stability. Clients using supportive services are more likely to

participate in job training programs, attend school, discontinue substance use, have fewer instances of domestic violence,^x and spend fewer days hospitalized than those not participating.^{xi}

Finally, permanent supportive housing has been found to be cost efficient. Providing access to housing generally results in cost savings for communities because housed people are less likely to use emergency services, including hospitals, jails, and emergency shelter, than those who are homeless. One study found an average cost savings on emergency services of \$31,545 per person housed in a Housing First program over the course of two years.^{xii} Another study showed that a Housing First program could cost up to \$23,000 less per consumer per year than a shelter program.^{xiii}

ⁱTsemberis, S. & Eisenberg, R. Pathways to Housing: Supported Housing for Street-Dwelling Homeless Individuals with Psychiatric Disabilities. 2000.

ⁱⁱEinbinder, S. & Tull, T. The Housing First Program for Homeless Families: Empirical Evidence of Long-term Efficacy to End and Prevent Family Homelessness. 2007.

ⁱⁱⁱGulcur, L., Stefancic, A., Shinn, M., Tsemberis, S., & Fishcer, S. Housing, Hospitalization, and Cost Outcomes for Homeless Individuals with Psychiatric Disabilities Participating in Continuum of Care and Housing First Programmes. 2003.

^{iv}Gulcur, L., Stefancic, A., Shinn, M., Tsemberis, S., & Fishcer, S. Housing, Hospitalization, and Cost Outcomes for Homeless Individuals with Psychiatric Disabilities Participating in Continuum of Care and Housing First programs. 2003.

^vTsemberis, S. & Eisenberg, R. Pathways to Housing: Supported Housing for Street-Dwelling Homeless Individuals with Psychiatric Disabilities. 2000.

^{vi}Montgomery, A.E., Hill, L., Kane, V., & Culhane, D. Housing Chronically Homeless Veterans: Evaluating the Efficacy of a Housing First Approach to HUD-VASH. 2013.

^{vii}U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Family Options Study: Short-Term Impacts. 2015.

^{viii}Byrne, T., Treglia, D., Culhane, D., Kuhn, J., & Kane, V. Predictors of Homelessness Among Families and Single Adults After Exit from Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Programs: Evidence from the Department of Veterans Affairs Supportive Services for Veterans Program. 2015.

^{ix}Tsemberis, S., Gulcur, L., & Nakae, M. Housing First, Consumer Choice, and Harm Reduction for Homeless Individuals with a Dual Diagnosis. 2004.

^xEinbinder, S. & Tull, T. The Housing First Program for Homeless Families: Empirical Evidence of Long-term Efficacy to End and Prevent Family Homelessness. 2007.

^{xi}Gulcur, L., Stefancic, A., Shinn, M., Tsemberis, S., & Fishcer, S. Housing, Hospitalization, and Cost Outcomes for Homeless Individuals with Psychiatric Disabilities Participating in Continuum of Care and Housing First programs. 2003.

^{xii}Perlman, J. & Parvensky, J. Denver Housing First Collaborative: Cost Benefit Analysis and Program Outcomes Report. 2006.

^{xiii}Tsemberis, S. & Stefancic, A. Housing First for Long-Term Shelter Dwellers with Psychiatric Disabilities in a Suburban County: A Four-Year Study of Housing Access and Retention. 2007.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII

PROCLAMATION

By the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and laws of the State of Hawai'i, in order to provide relief for disaster damages, losses, and suffering, and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people, I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, hereby determine, designate and proclaim as follows:

WHEREAS, recent annual statewide homeless counts have indicated that Hawai'i continues to have the highest per capita rate of homelessness in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 statewide point-in-time count, which is a statewide unduplicated count of homeless individuals and families throughout Hawai'i, estimates the total number of homeless individuals statewide is 6,530; and

WHEREAS, the statewide count estimates the number of unsheltered homeless individuals is 3,475; and

WHEREAS, these unsheltered homeless individuals and families struggle with access to toilets, showers, and clean water; and

WHEREAS, these unsheltered homeless individuals and families require health and social services in order to maintain themselves safely and in reasonable health; and

WHEREAS, many of the chronically homeless unsheltered individuals and families are medically vulnerable and dealing with severe mental illness, long-term physical disabilities, or addiction; and

WHEREAS, the efforts of state and county law enforcement agencies enforcing state and county laws and providing for the public health and safety are resulting in homeless moving from public lands; and

WHEREAS, current services for the homeless population have been successful in assisting a large number of homeless individuals and families and placing them into shelter and permanent housing, but many more individuals remain in need of housing and assistance; and

WHEREAS, there is a critical need to divert homeless individuals and families from frequent utilization of the healthcare and criminal justice systems by connecting them to stable housing and services, such as mental health services or substance abuse treatment services, that will stabilize their health conditions and reduce the risk of negative interactions with law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, various long-term housing projects and other programs to assist in diverting homeless individuals from the healthcare and criminal justice systems are in the process of being developed, but more time is needed to allow for completion;

WHEREAS, on October 26, 2015, I issued my Proclamation relating to the homeless emergency and six supplementary proclamations relating to the homeless emergency which resulted in significant efforts and initiatives at alleviating the homeless problem in Hawai'i and while much has been done, additional measures are needed to address the homeless problem in Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu has the largest population of unsheltered homeless individuals and families in the state, consisting of over 2,000 unsheltered individuals, and is exploring options and plans to develop or operate affordable rental housing, permanent supportive housing, and temporary housing for homeless individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, the County of Kaua'i has an estimated unsheltered homeless population of nearly 200 persons and is exploring options and plans to expand current shelter capacity and/or develop or operate permanent supportive housing or healthcare and criminal justice diversion programs for homeless individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, the County of Maui has an estimated unsheltered homeless population in excess of 400 persons that are residing in areas not meant for human habitation, and is exploring options and plans to expand current shelter capacity and/or develop or operate permanent supportive housing or healthcare and criminal justice diversion programs for homeless individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, the County of Hawai'i has an estimated unsheltered homeless population in excess of 600 persons and is exploring options and plans to expand current shelter capacity and/or develop or operate permanent supportive housing or healthcare and criminal justice diversion programs for homeless individuals and families in both East and West Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, the State of Hawai'i is looking to sustain effective practices to address unsheltered homelessness, such as the Family Assessment Center in Kakaako, and the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion program; and

WHEREAS, efforts are being made to identify various locations on which buildings may be constructed, installed, renovated, or operated in order to provide long-term or temporary housing for homeless individuals in a safe and sanitary manner and provide appropriate health and social services to them; and

WHEREAS, these possible locations, as well as others that may be identified, will be designed to provide both temporary and long-term housing for individuals and families experiencing homelessness and/or provide appropriate health and social services to divert these individuals from frequent utilization of the healthcare and criminal justice systems and to permanently house them; and

WHEREAS, the completion of these temporary and long-term housing sites and diversion programs, together with any associated contracts, is necessary to protect the health and safety of the homeless individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, the lack of secure, safe, and sanitary shelter and housing, and adequate health and social services, for the large number of people without homes is endangering the health, safety, and welfare of the people, including families and children, and poses a threat to the environment, and demands emergency action to prevent or mitigate suffering, injury, loss, or damage; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to sections 127A-14 and 127A-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Governor is authorized to determine whether an emergency or disaster has occurred, or there is an imminent danger or threat of an emergency or disaster and authorize actions under chapter 127A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and the expenditure of funds thereunder; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 127A-13(a)(3), Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Governor is authorized to suspend any law which impedes or tends to impede or is detrimental to the expeditious and efficient execution of, or to conflict with, emergency functions, including laws specifically made applicable to emergency personnel; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 127A-13(a)(2), Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Governor is further authorized to relieve hardship and inequities or obstructions to the public health, safety, and welfare found by the Governor to exist in the laws and to result from the operation of federal programs or measures taken under chapter 127A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, by suspending laws in whole or in part, or by alleviating the provisions of laws on such terms and conditions as the Governor may impose; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 127A-12(b)(8), Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Governor may suspend chapters 103D and sections 103-50, 103-53, 103-55, 105-1 to 105-10, and 464-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and I find that these provisions, in whole or in part, impede or tend to impede the expeditious discharge of emergency disaster relief functions for this occurrence and that compliance therewith is impracticable due to existing conditions; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 127A-12(b)(16), Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Governor is further authorized to order and direct government agencies, officials, officers, and employees of the State, to take such action and employ such measures for law enforcement, medical, health, firefighting, traffic control, warnings and signals, engineering, rescue, construction, emergency housing, other welfare, hospitalization, transportation, water supply, public information, training, and other emergency functions as may be necessary, and utilize the services, materials, and facilities of the agencies and officers; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 127A-12(b)(9), Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Governor may appoint, employ, train, equip, and maintain, with compensation, or on a volunteer basis without compensation and without regard to chapters 76, 78, and 88, such agencies, officers, and other persons as the Governor deems necessary to carry out emergency management functions; determine to what extent any law prohibiting the holding of more than one office or employment applies to the agencies, officers, and other persons; and subject to the provisions of chapter 127A, Hawaii Revised Statutes,

provide for the interchange of personnel, by detail, transfer, or otherwise, between agencies or departments of the State; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 127A-12(b)(19), Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Governor may take any and all steps necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of chapter 127A, Hawaii Revised Statutes notwithstanding that powers in section 127A-13(a) may only be exercised during an emergency period; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, hereby determine that an emergency or disaster contemplated by section 127A-14, Hawaii Revised Statutes, has occurred in the State of Hawai'i, and do hereby proclaim an emergency for the purpose of implementing the emergency management functions as allowed by law, authorizing the expenditure of State monies as appropriated for the speedy and efficient relief of damages, losses, and suffering resulting from the emergency, and hereby invoke the following measures under the Hawaii Revised Statutes:

1. Sections 127A-13 and 127A-12, Hawaii Revised Statutes, suspend, as allowed by law, the following statutes and regulations to the extent necessary for the purposes of establishing long-term housing, temporary shelter, services, to divert homeless individuals from frequent utilization of the healthcare and criminal justice systems, and to facilitate contracting for these programs, housing, shelter, and services; provided that housing and shelter units made available under this Proclamation shall be safe, sanitary, and suitable for human habitation:

- a. Chapter 6E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Historic Preservation.
- b. Section 37-41, Hawaii Revised Statutes, appropriations to revert to state treasury.
- c. Section 37-74(d), Hawaii Revised Statutes, program execution, except for sub-sections 37-74(d)(2) and 37-74(d)(3), Hawaii Revised Statutes, and any such transfers or changes shall be considered authorized transfers or changes for purposes of section 34-74(d)(1) for legislative reporting requirements.
- d. Section 40-66, Hawaii Revised Statutes, lapsing of appropriations.

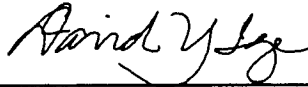
- e. Chapter 46, Hawaii Revised Statutes, county organization and administration as any county ordinance, rule, regulation, law, or provision in any form applies to any county permitting, licensing, zoning, variance, processes, procedures, fees, or any other requirements that hinder, delay, or impede the purpose of this Proclamation.
- f. Chapter 89, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Collective Bargaining In Public Employment.
- g. Chapter 89C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Public Officers And Employees Excluded From Collective Bargaining.
- h. Chapter 92, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Public Agency Meetings and Records, to the extent that any notice requirements or any other provisions of Chapter 92 may delay the expeditious action, decision, or approval of any agency.
- i. Section 102-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Contracts For Concessions In Government Buildings; Bid Requirements.
- j. Section 103-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, General Fund.
- k. Section 103-53, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Contracts With The State Or Counties; Tax Clearances, Assignments.
- l. Section 103-55, Hawaii Revised Statutes, wages, hours, and working conditions of employees of contractors performing services.
- n. Chapter 103D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Hawaii public procurement code.
- o. Chapter 103F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Purchases of Health and Human Services.
- p. Chapter 104, Hawaii Revised Statutes, wages and hours of employees on public works.
- q. Sections 105-1 to 105-10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, use of government vehicles, limitations.
- r. Section 127A-30, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Rental or sale of essential commodities during a state of emergency; prohibition against price increases.
- s. Chapter 171, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Public Lands.

- t. Chapter 205, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Land Use Commission.
 - u. Chapter 205A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Coastal zone management.
 - v. Chapter 206E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Hawaii Community Development Authority.
 - w. Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Environmental impact Statements.
 - x. Chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Social Services.
 - y. Section 464-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, public works required to be supervised by certain professionals.
 - z. Sections 601-1.5, 708-817, 708-818, 708-820, 708-830.5, and 708-840, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to the extent that these sections contain provisions for the suspension, tolling, extension, or granting of relief from deadlines, time schedules, or filing requirements in civil, criminal, or administrative matters before the courts of the state or to the extent that these sections contain provisions for criminal penalties that are automatically heightened by reason of any declared disaster or emergency.
2. Section 127A-12(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes, and in order to provide emergency relief consistent with the intent of this Proclamation, I hereby direct all state agencies and officers to cooperate with and extend their services, materials, and facilities as may be required to assist in all efforts to address the objectives of this Proclamation in addressing the homeless situation.

I FURTHER DECLARE that a disaster emergency relief period shall commence immediately and shall terminate automatically sixty days after the issuance of this Proclamation or by a separate proclamation whichever occurs first. Notwithstanding the termination of a disaster emergency relief period, any contracts, agreements, leases, procurements, or programs entered into, started, or continued by reason of the provisions of this Proclamation shall continue but shall be limited to a period not to exceed 12 months; provided that such contracts, agreements, leases, procurements, or programs may be extended for additional terms, but the total term with extensions shall not exceed 36 months.

I FURTHER DECLARE that this Proclamation is not intended to create, and does not create, any rights or benefits, whether substantive or procedural, or enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of Hawai'i or its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

Done at the State Capitol, this
14th day of December, 2018.



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor of Hawai'i

APPROVED:



RUSSELL SUZUKI
Attorney General
State of Hawai'i

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII

SUPPLEMENTARY PROCLAMATION

By the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and laws of the State of Hawai'i, in order to provide relief for disaster damages, losses, and suffering, and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people, I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, hereby determine, designate and proclaim as follows:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 127A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, emergency powers are conferred on the Governor of the State of Hawai'i to deal with disasters or emergencies, to maintain the strength, resources, and economic life of the community, and to protect the public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, it has become necessary to supplement my Proclamation of December 14, 2018, relating to the homeless emergency in the State of Hawai'i; and

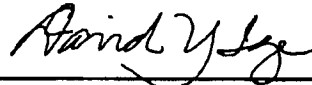
WHEREAS, the conditions giving rise to the homeless emergency continue in the State of Hawai'i; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, hereby determine that an emergency or disaster contemplated by section 127A-14, Hawaii Revised Statutes, continues in the State of Hawai'i, and do hereby continue and extend my Proclamation of December 14, 2018 relating to the homeless emergency in the State of Hawai'i, shall remain in full force and effect and are hereby included in the provisions of this Supplementary Proclamation.

I FURTHER DECLARE that the disaster emergency relief period shall continue until April 13, 2019, unless terminated by a separate proclamation, whichever shall occur first. Notwithstanding the termination of a disaster emergency relief period, any contracts, agreements, procurements, programs, or employment of personnel entered into, started, amended, or continued by reason of the provisions of my proclamations relating to this emergency shall continue in full force and effect, but shall be limited to a

period not to exceed 12 months; provided that such contracts, agreements, leases, procurements, or programs may be extended for additional terms, but the total term with extensions shall not exceed 36 months.

Done at the State Capitol, this 12th day
of February, 2019.



DAVID Y. IGE,
Governor of Hawai'i

APPROVED:



CLARE E. CONNORS
Attorney General
State of Hawai'i



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

July 10, 2018

GOV. MSG. NO. 1318

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,
President
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki,
Speaker and Members of the
House of Representatives
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on July 10, 2018, the following bill was signed into law:

SB2401 SD2 HD1 CD1

RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS
ACT 209 (18)

Sincerely,

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

RECEIVED AT 44 MEETING ON 3/13/19
(Committee Chair)

Approved by the Governor

on JUL 10 2018

THE SENATE
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE, 2018
STATE OF HAWAII

ACT 209

S.B. NO. 2401
S.D. 2
H.D. 1
C.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 PART I

2 SECTION 1. Ohana is a group of closely- or distantly-
3 related people who share nearly everything, from land and food
4 to responsibility for taking care of children and elders.
5 Members of an ohana, whether or not related by blood, treat each
6 other as extended family and share generously with each other.
7 The legislature finds that building upon this ethic of ohana
8 presents an opportunity to improve the lives of people
9 experiencing homelessness.

10 The legislature also finds that, while significant strides
11 have been made, current attempts to address homelessness in
12 Hawaii remain insufficient. Hawaii continues to have the
13 highest number of individuals experiencing homelessness per
14 capita of any state in the nation. The city and county of
15 Honolulu, which has the highest number of individuals
16 experiencing homelessness of any county in Hawaii, has seen the
17 number of unsheltered individuals experiencing homelessness rise
18 over the past five years and the number of people in shelters



1 decline during the same period despite increased investment in
2 shelters and enforcement.

3 Therefore, the legislature finds that addressing
4 homelessness requires the courage to try something new. Last
5 year, the legislature passed Act 212, Session Laws of Hawaii
6 2017, to create a working group to examine safe zones for people
7 experiencing homelessness as one possible solution to the
8 problem. Some stakeholders have expressed reservations about
9 safe zones and have advised that scarce resources should not be
10 diverted from the development of permanent housing.
11 Unfortunately, the development of permanent housing takes time,
12 and in the meantime, people experiencing homelessness will
13 continue to live unsheltered and without adequate and meaningful
14 access to social services.

15 In response to these concerns, some policymakers have
16 expressed support for ohana zones, which are designed to assist
17 individuals experiencing homelessness find and transition into
18 permanent housing. The legislature finds that ohana zones have
19 the potential to serve individuals experiencing homelessness in
20 a way that existing programs are currently unable. Ohana zones
21 will have the goal of improving the health and well-being of



1 individuals experiencing homelessness and providing access to
2 needed services. The use of the term ohana is not meant to
3 suggest that the use of an ohana zone is limited to nuclear
4 families or people related by blood, but rather that an ohana
5 zone provides a welcoming, safe haven where individuals
6 experiencing homelessness and those who serve them treat each
7 other as an extended family.

8 Because it is unclear what costs and benefits will accrue
9 using the new model of an ohana zone, the legislature finds that
10 these costs and benefits should be carefully studied, and that
11 ohana zones should, at least initially, be temporary.

12 The purpose of this part is to establish a pilot program
13 for the establishment of ohana zones, with the goal of improving
14 the health and well-being of individuals experiencing
15 homelessness and providing individuals experiencing homelessness
16 with needed services.

17 SECTION 2. **Definitions.** For purposes of this part:

18 "Homeless" has the same meaning as defined in section
19 346-361, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

20 "Ohana zone" means a place:



- 1 (1) That has a program to address basic needs of
2 individuals experiencing homelessness; and
3 (2) Where wrap-around services, social and health care
4 services, transportation, and other services may be
5 offered with the goals of alleviating poverty and
6 transitioning individuals experiencing homelessness
7 into affordable housing.

8 SECTION 3. (a) There is established the ohana zones pilot
9 program to provide temporary housing and services to homeless
10 individuals and families based on principles similar to the
11 housing first program.

12 (b) The governor shall designate executive branch agencies
13 to develop and implement the ohana zones pilot program,
14 including an agency with specific expertise in construction
15 development and an agency with specific expertise in
16 administering homeless services. The governor, through the
17 governor's designated agencies, shall determine the number and
18 locations of the ohana zones, which shall be situated on public
19 lands; provided that the designated agencies shall identify at
20 least three sites on Oahu and one site on each of the islands of
21 Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui.



1 (c) The agencies designated pursuant to subsection (b) may
2 coordinate with public or private entities, as appropriate, to
3 develop and implement the ohana zones pilot program; provided
4 that if any public land under the jurisdiction of a state or
5 county agency is determined to be suitable for use as an ohana
6 zone, the designated agencies shall:

7 (1) Work with the appropriate state or county agency that
8 controls the land to transfer the land designated for
9 use as an ohana zone to an agency whose mission is
10 more suited to the management of ohana zones; and

11 (2) Work with the appropriate state or county agency that
12 controls the land and its construction agency to
13 ensure that an ohana zone's infrastructure needs are
14 met and minimize adverse impacts to the environment,
15 including to nearshore resources such as corals, reef
16 fish, and seabirds.

17 (d) The ohana zones pilot program may provide the
18 following facilities and services at each ohana zone site:

19 (1) Secure dwelling spaces that:

20 (A) May be private or communal;



- 1 (B) Have access to toilets, showers, and other
2 hygiene facilities; and
- 3 (C) Have access to an area for food storage and meal
4 preparation;
- 5 (2) Medical and social support services; and
- 6 (3) Transportation to appointments related to medical care
7 or supportive services that are not available onsite.
- 8 SECTION 4. (a) Contracts entered into by the agencies
9 designated by the governor pursuant to the ohana zones pilot
10 program shall be exempt from the requirements of chapters 103D
11 and 103F, Hawaii Revised Statutes.
- 12 (b) The agencies designated by the governor shall
13 establish no later than December 31, 2018, the following:
- 14 (1) The criteria that the agencies will use to evaluate
15 potential ohana zone locations;
- 16 (2) A monthly timetable of milestones that the agencies
17 expect to meet in establishing one or more ohana zones
18 over the course of the three-year pilot program;
- 19 (3) The specific, measurable, attainable, reasonable, and
20 time-based performance measures that the agencies
21 expect to meet at the end of each fiscal year;



1 (4) The evaluation criteria and process that the agencies
2 intend to use each year when reviewing the success and
3 sustainability of the ohana zones; and

4 (5) The monitoring and oversight controls that the
5 agencies will have over the ohana zones to identify,
6 address, and prevent possible fraud, waste, and abuse
7 and ensure compliance with local, state, and federal
8 laws.

9 (c) The governor's coordinator on homelessness shall
10 compile and consolidate information from the agencies designated
11 by the governor to effectuate this part and submit reports to
12 the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening
13 of the regular sessions of 2019, 2020, and 2021.

14 (d) The report submitted no later than twenty days prior
15 to the convening of the regular session of 2019 shall include
16 the following information:

17 (1) A summary and explanation of the process that the
18 agencies designated by the governor pursuant to the
19 ohana zones pilot program engaged in to identify
20 possible ohana zone locations; and



1 (2) A summary of the information required under subsection
2 (b).

3 (e) The reports submitted no later than twenty days prior
4 to the convening of the regular sessions of 2020 and 2021 shall
5 include the following information:

6 (1) The milestones established pursuant to subsection (b)
7 that were met by the agencies designated by the
8 governor pursuant to the ohana zones pilot program and
9 ohana zones established during the fiscal year;

10 (2) An evaluation of the ohana zones to determine whether
11 the objectives set have been met or exceeded;

12 (3) Any proposed changes that need to be made to the
13 performance measures used to assess the achievement of
14 program goals; and

15 (4) An assessment of the impact of the ohana zone model on
16 the homelessness problem in Hawaii.

17 (f) The pilot program shall cease to exist on June 30,
18 2021.

19 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$30,000,000 or so
21 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for



1 the establishment of the ohana zones pilot program and expenses
2 related to facility construction, provision of services,
3 staffing, and administrative costs.

4 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of the
5 governor for the purposes of this part; provided that the
6 governor shall transfer the expenditure authority to designated
7 executive branch departments or agencies within a reasonable
8 time.

9 Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the governor
10 may transfer all or a portion of the appropriation in this
11 section to the governor's designated executive branch agencies
12 for expenditures incurred to implement the program.

13 The governor's designated executive branch agencies may
14 expend any appropriation transferred pursuant to this section
15 for the performance of its duties under the pilot program.

16 PART II

17 SECTION 6. The legislature finds that there is excessive
18 utilization of hospital emergency department resources by
19 homeless individuals for non-emergency needs. Many of these
20 users are considered super utilizers if they visit the emergency
21 department at least three times per week, are admitted to the



1 hospital at least three times per month, or visit the emergency
2 department at least twelve times per quarter, and suffer from
3 mental health and substance abuse issues. According to 2015
4 data from the Hawaii Health Information Corporation, the billed
5 charges for all homeless health care encounters that occurred in
6 Hawaii hospitals was \$146,000,000. These encounters included
7 repeat visits of, on average, two to three times.

8 The purpose of this part is to:

- 9 (1) Establish and appropriate moneys for the emergency
10 department homelessness assessment pilot program to
11 identify individuals experiencing homelessness with
12 the goal of providing case management to those who
13 require supportive services and to demonstrate
14 effectiveness in mitigating the increasing cost of
15 medical care and unnecessary use of the hospital
16 emergency department visits; and
- 17 (2) Establish and appropriate moneys for the medical
18 respite pilot program to offer medical, nursing,
19 psychiatric, and other care for homeless individuals
20 after being discharged from a hospital.



1 SECTION 7. (a) There is established within the department
2 of human services a pilot program to be known as the emergency
3 department homelessness assessment pilot program. The
4 department of human services, in consultation with the Hawaii
5 interagency council on homelessness and any other appropriate
6 agency, shall serve as the administrator of the pilot program.

7 (b) The pilot program shall consist of multidisciplinary
8 teams composed of but not limited to physicians, advanced
9 practice registered nurses, social workers, and patient
10 navigators who are employed by a participating hospital in the
11 participating hospital's emergency department. The
12 multidisciplinary team shall:

13 (1) Identify patients who are experiencing homelessness or
14 patients at risk of experiencing homelessness and have
15 high utilization of emergency department services;

16 (2) Assess the patient's current circumstances; and

17 (3) Coordinate and refer these patients to appropriate and
18 available wrap-around supports and community resources
19 along the entire continuum of care with a goal of
20 reducing costs associated with chronic use of hospital
21 emergency departments.



1 (c) The department of human services shall work with the
2 participating hospital under the emergency department
3 homelessness assessment pilot program to collect and analyze
4 data to be included in a report that contains a summary and
5 explanation of the data regarding the efficacy of emergency
6 department intervention by the multidisciplinary team in
7 mitigating the number of unnecessary emergency department visits
8 by patients experiencing homelessness or patients at risk of
9 experiencing homelessness. The report shall contain findings
10 and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, for
11 continuation, modification, or termination of the pilot program.
12 The department of human services shall submit the report to the
13 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
14 the regular session of 2019.

15 (d) The department of human services shall be exempt from
16 chapter 103F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, in implementing this
17 part.

18 (e) The emergency department homelessness assessment pilot
19 program shall cease to exist on June 30, 2019.

20 SECTION 8. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much



1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the
2 department of human services to establish the emergency
3 department homelessness assessment pilot program; provided that:

4 (1) The department of human services shall reimburse the
5 participating hospital for expenses directly related
6 to the emergency department homelessness assessment
7 pilot program;

8 (2) No funds shall be disbursed to a participating
9 hospital unless matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis
10 by the participating hospital; and

11 (3) All funds designated as matching funds by the
12 participating hospital shall be funds expended by the
13 participating hospital for the pilot program.

14 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
15 human services for the purposes of this part.

16 SECTION 9. (a) There is established within the department
17 of human services a pilot program to be known as the medical
18 respite pilot program. The department of human services, in
19 consultation with the Hawaii interagency council on homelessness
20 and any appropriate agency, shall serve as the administrator of
21 the pilot program.



1 (b) A participating community human services provider, in
2 partnership with a hospital participating in the pilot program,
3 shall provide emergency housing for eligible individuals
4 experiencing homelessness who are discharged from the
5 participating hospital and provide, at minimum, meals, case
6 management, and medical, nursing, and psychiatric care. The
7 medical respite facilities shall comply with the department of
8 health's standards of accessibility, sanitation, and other
9 requirements, as determined by the department of health for
10 facilities of similar use.

11 (c) The department of human services shall submit a report
12 to the legislature of its findings and recommendations,
13 including any proposed legislation, regarding the pilot program
14 no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
15 session of 2019.

16 (d) The department of human services shall be exempt from
17 chapter 103F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, in implementing this
18 part.

19 (e) The medical respite pilot program shall cease to exist
20 on June 30, 2019.



1 SECTION 10. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the
4 department of human services to establish the medical respite
5 pilot program; provided that:

6 (1) The department of human services shall reimburse a
7 participating hospital for expenses directly related
8 to the medical respite pilot program;

9 (2) No funds shall be disbursed to a participating
10 hospital unless matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis
11 by the participating hospital; and

12 (3) All funds designated as matching funds by the
13 participating hospital shall be funds expended by the
14 participating hospital for the pilot program.

15 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
16 human services for the purposes of this part.

17 PART III

18 SECTION 11. There is appropriated out of the general
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$800,000 or so much
20 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the
21 department of human services to establish and administer a new



1 family assessment center for homeless families that is in
2 addition to any family assessment center for homeless families
3 currently in existence.

4 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
5 human services for the purposes of this part.

6 PART IV

7 SECTION 12. There is appropriated out of the general
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$400,000 or so much
9 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the
10 department of health to continue administering the law
11 enforcement assisted diversion pilot program; provided that the
12 department of health shall establish one site located on the
13 island of Maui for which the department shall receive \$200,000
14 of the sum appropriated in this section, and one site located on
15 the island of Hawaii for which the department shall receive
16 \$200,000 of the sum appropriated in this section.

17 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
18 health for the purposes of this part.

19 PART V

20 SECTION 13. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

APPROVED this 10 day of JUL, 2018



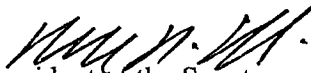
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

S.B. No. 2401, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1

THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I

Date: May 1, 2018
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the
Senate of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i, Regular Session of 2018.


President of the Senate


Clerk of the Senate

SB No. 2401, SD 2, HD 1, CD 1

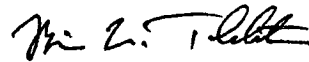
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 1, 2018
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018.



Scott K. Saiki
Speaker
House of Representatives



Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives