

HUMAN CONCERNS AND PARKS COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

September 30, 2021

Online Only via BlueJeans

CONVENE: 1:30 p.m.

PRESENT: VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Tasha Kama, Chair
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member
Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Member
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Member

NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez (arrived at 3:32 p.m.)

STAFF:

Wilton Leauanae, Legislative Analyst
Laksmi Abraham, Legislative Analyst
Jean Pokipala, Committee Secretary
Pauline Martins, Committee Secretary
Richard E. Mitchell, Legislative Attorney
Kristeena Locke, Council Services Assistant Clerk

Ellen McKinley, Executive Assistant to Councilmember King
Evan Dust, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kama
Davideane Sickels, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kama
Kate Griffiths, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Johnson
Jordan Helle, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Sugimura
Roxanne Morita, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Johnson

ADMIN.:

Lori Tsuhako, Director, Department of Housing and Human Concerns
Curtis Jamison, Program Manager, Grants Management Division,
Department of Housing and Human Concerns
James Mariano, Aging And Disability Program Specialist II, Office of Aging,
Department of Housing and Human Concerns
Vicki Belluomini, Aging And Disability Program Specialist II, Office of
Aging, Department of Housing and Human Concerns
Mimi DesJardins, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the
Corporation Counsel

OTHERS:

Keisa Lu
Maya Marquez
Monique Ibarra, Executive Director, Ka Hale A Ke Ola
Lisa Darcy
Jordan Hocker

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Noelani Ahia
Mahealani Carbonell
Faith Chase
Robin Knox
Plus (3) other people

PRESS: *Akakū: Maui Community Television, Inc.*

CHAIR KAMA: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the Human Concerns and Parks Committee meeting of September 30th, 2021, come to order. It is now 1:30 p.m. I'm Tasha Kama, Chair of the HCP Committee, and the Chair would like to conclude today's agenda by 4:00 p.m. today with your indulgence Members. So this meeting is being conducted in accordance with the Governor's most recent emergency proclamation on COVID-19. Please see the last page of the agenda for information on meeting connectivity. In addition, when your name is called, please identify by name who, if anyone, is in the room, vehicle, or workspace with you today. Do we have any questions before we continue? If not, I am Tasha Kama, Chair of the Committee, and I am in my office/bedroom by myself. Chair Lee, did you have your hand raised?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, no...I was just waiting for roll call.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. So Committee Vice-Chair Yuki Lei Sugimura, aloha 'auinalā.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Aloha 'auinalā, nice to see you Chair. And looking forward to a very interesting meeting. Thank you.

CHAIR KAMA: Ha low toyliche a veen en shaw, meaning I'm very happy to be here too. Also with us this afternoon is our Council Chair Alice Lee. Aloha, Alice.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aloha, ha low toyliche a veen en shaw.

CHAIR KAMA: Yes. Thank you, and the same to you. And we have also with us Councilmember Tamara Paltin. Aloha 'auinalā.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha 'auinalā mai Malu Ulu Olele. I am here with my aide Angela, more than six feet apart at the West Maui District Office, and ha low toyliche a veen en shaw.

CHAIR KAMA: Maika'i, maika'i. Also we have with us Councilmember Shane Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aloha 'auinalā, and ha low, Chair, toyliche a veen en shaw and I'm home in the hale by myself.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. So we have Non-Voting Committee Members if they would...are certainly more than welcome to come. We have Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Councilmember Kelly King, Councilmember Mike Molina, and Councilmember Keani

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Rawlins-Fernandez, who are Non-Voting Members of the Committee. We also have with us Deputy Corp. Counsel, Mimi DesJardins. Aloha, Mimi.

MS. DESJARDINS: Aloha, everyone.

CHAIR KAMA: We also have with us, from the Department of Housing and Human Concerns, Director Lori Tsuhako. I saw Lori earlier.

MS. TSUHAKE: Hi, good afternoon, Madam Chair and Members. Thank you for having us.

CHAIR KAMA: Aloha. We also have our Committee Staff with us this afternoon. We have Mr. Wilton Leauanae, our Legislative Analyst; Laksmi Abraham, our Legislative Analyst; Jean Pokipala, our Committee Secretary; Pauline Martins, another Committee Secretary; we have Richard E. Mitchell, our Legislative Attorney; and Kristeena Locke, our OCS Assistant Clerk. Aloha to all of you this afternoon. We also have other representatives...we have Mr. James Mariano, who is the temporary assigned executive on Aging, and he's going to be with us on HCP-43. And Curtis Jamison, who is our Grants Management Division Administrator, and he'll be talking with us on HCP-11. So thank you, Members, for attending today's HCP Committee meeting. And we have two items on the agenda today. We have HCP-43, Authorizing the Employment of Special Counsel, the Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i, to Provide Legal Services to Qualified Residents of the County of Maui. We also have HCP-11, Grant Performance and Evaluation Reports for Department of Housing and Human Concerns Grantees. So Staff, do we have testifiers for this afternoon?

MR. LEAUANAE: Yes, we do, Chair.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. So let me begin by reading the following...public testimony. Oral testimony via phone or video conference will be accepted. Testifiers wanting to provide video testimony should join the online meeting via the BlueJeans meeting link, bluejeans.com/221418021 as noted on today's agenda. Testifiers wanting to provide audio testimony should dial 408-915-6290 and enter meeting code 221418021, also noted on today's agenda. Written testimony is highly encouraged. Instructions on how to submit testimony can be found at mauicounty.us/testify. Oral testimony is limited to three minutes per item. If you are still testifying beyond that time, I will kindly ask you to complete your testimony. When testifying, please state your name. If you are testifying on behalf of an organization or are a paid lobbyist, please inform the Committee. Please be mindful of the use of chat during the meeting. Chat should not be used to provide testimony or chat with other testifiers. If you are here to provide testimony, please be courteous to others by turning off your video and muting your microphone while waiting for your turn to testify. Once you are done testifying, you will be asked to disconnect from the call; however, you are welcome to continue to view the remainder of the meeting on *Akakū* channel 53, Facebook Live, or on mauicounty.us. Participants who wish to view the meeting only without providing testimony, please also disconnect at this time and instead view the meeting on *Akakū* channel 53, Facebook Live, or visit mauicounty.us/agendas. Only Councilmembers, Staff, and designated resource personnel will be connected to the video conference meeting once testimony

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concludes. I remind Committee Members, Administration, and the public to please be patient if we run into any technological issues. Members, I'd like to proceed with oral testimony. Staff has been monitoring people joining today's meeting by phone and by video, and we'll do our best to take each person in an orderly fashion. For the viewing public and for our testifiers, Staff, could you please ring the bell or the sound so people know when their three minutes are up?

MR. LEAUANAE: Yes, Chair. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

CHAIR KAMA: So when we hear that, we'll know that our time is up. Thank you. So Staff, can we have the first testifier please.

MR. LEAUANAE: First testifier is Keisa Lu, followed by Maya Marquez.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay, Keisa. Oh, good afternoon, and welcome. You may proceed with your testimony.

. . . BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY . . .

MS. LU: Thank you. Aloha, my name is Keisa Lu, and I'm here to testify on agenda Item HCP-11. I did have a chance to go through the chart provided by the Department of Housing and Human Concerns, and I have to point out that I'm not sure if I really trust this data. I'm not sure if it really matches what I've seen. I've also had some time to watch the dynamics between Housing and Human Concerns and Family Life Center and Hale A Ke Ola and how they respond to houselessness in Maui County, and I do think that there is a weird dynamic of toxic competition instead of collaboration, and this is a concern for me. The biggest concern that I have though that I have noticed is the total lack of desire to improve upon the program and the process. Instead of listening to concerns and addressing them, the Housing and Human Concerns Department and their biggest grantee, Family Life Center, spent a considerable amount of time defending and attempting to validate their process. And I've seen this in numerous meetings, site visits, and most recently, their video about the clean up on Amala. And to set the record straight, I was at the clean up more than any of the entire Staff of Family Life Center combined. I never saw the Director of Housing and Human Concerns at that site, but I did see 17 male police officers before even one Housing Service provider showed, and I'd like to mention that there were no social services that showed. But I do know the Director was in close contact with the Mayor when it came to that clean up. I do know that the County pushed many of those residents out of Kanaha Park. Trash pick-up was stopped and residents who attempted to take their trash to the dump were denied. The County shut off the access to water during a pandemic. The County had a hand in creating the issues at Amala, and it kind of feels like it created a problem, then patted themselves on the back for cleaning it up, and that's not how I want my County to operate. I want my County to recognize when we are doing something that is not working, and then figure out how we can change for the better and I know we can do that. We have to be brave enough to try to be different for all the people of Maui County. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

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CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Keisa. Members, questions for our testifier? Seeing none. Thank you, Keisa. And our next testifier, Staff, is?

MR. LEAUANAE: Next testifier is Maya Marquez, followed by Monique Ibarra.

CHAIR KAMA: Good afternoon, Maya.

MS. MARQUEZ: Aloha, Councilmembers. Thank you for taking the time to hear me out, as I will not speak as eloquently as Keisa. But as you mentioned, the grantee, Family Life Health Center, I was extremely disappointed. I was a volunteer and advocate who took the time out of my own life to advocate for our houseless community in Kanaha. Over the past year I've taken the time to get to know these community members, and I was truly flabbergasted by the lack of services they were provided. Me, along with several others, were there at 5:30 every morning to make sure that communication between the houseless community and the police officers was cohesive, and that they understood what was going on. Family Life Health Center did not show up until midday, if they did choose to show up. Another member and I tried to speak with some of these staff members, and they refused to talk to us. And I really feel like we need coordinated efforts. We needed Mental Health Kokua, Aloha House, medical services, all these things that should have been provided to make the transition a little bit easier for these people who still have nowhere to go. They are wandering the streets right now. Very few of them are sheltered, and it really breaks my heart to see that the County hasn't communicated properly. That's what I saw the most, lack of communication. And I hope that all of these testimonies can show you that we really need to have coordinated efforts. Thank you for your time.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Maya, for your testimony. Members, do we have questions for our testifier? Ms. Sugimura, and...followed by Tamara.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: So the testifiers are talking about the Amala Place --

CHAIR KAMA: HCP-11.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- which is not on the agenda, but I just wondered if you could ask the testifiers to say what they're testifying on and how does it apply because we're looking at grants, we're not looking at complaints basically about Amala Place. Maybe that might be something you could agendize for another meeting because it sounds like they are piling up with concerns that, you know, you might want to take on at another meeting. But just if you could have them stick to the agenda item, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Yes. Tamara.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So just...is the testifier still available online?

CHAIR KAMA: I think she's still there. Maya, are you still here with us?

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MS. MARQUEZ: Yes. Yes, I am.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay, Ms. Paltin has a question for you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just was wondering, you know, we're kind of assuming that you're testifying on the item that's agendaized, which is the grants review of these. And, for example, Family Life Center, I think...oh, there...

MS. MARQUEZ: Is the grantee on...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Their CIP was 53 percent...sorry. But you mentioned like Mental Health Kokua being there, and their score was...

MS. MARQUEZ: No, lack of...go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. And their score was 53 percent. Family Life Center's score was like 80 percent for their outreach program, and case management program, and whatnot. So just trying to clarify, are you thinking that they should not be funded, or that they should be funded? Because that's kind of the context, I think. I mean it's not the context, but we're reviewing the score.

MS. MARQUEZ: Yeah. No, I understand. I'm trying to understand what they're doing with their funding, really. I guess that's what I want clarity on. I was just speaking on behalf of what I went through and my interaction with Family Life Health Center. Sorry if that was...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: You're not saying fund them or don't fund them.

MS. MARQUEZ: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you.

MS. MARQUEZ: Mahalo.

CHAIR KAMA: Members, do we have any other questions for our testifier? If not, Staff, I think our next testifier is Monique Ibarra.

MR. LEAUANAE: Yes, Monique Ibarra, followed by Lisa Darcy.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Hi, Monique.

MS. IBARRA: Hi, good morning, Chair Kama. Thank you so much. Good afternoon, and good afternoon, Councilmembers. I'm Monique Ibarra. I'm the Executive Director for Ka Hale A Ke Ola Homeless Resource Centers, and I come to you today to speak about HCP-11, which is the year-end evaluations. I am speaking from my heart, and I don't have anything scripted on this. But I kind of understand the evaluation, I get part of it, but I do have a question as far as what is the complete entire purpose for the evaluation.

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So I'm going to imagine it's to give all of you folks an idea of where we're at as non-profits, and how we're stewarding the funds that the County gives us, which I take very seriously and to heart. I'm not ever going to do anything to waste any money that the County gives. It's very important for the use of our programs and services. I think the issue I might have with the evaluations is that it's really not...it doesn't really evaluate our agency in its entirety. I think you're getting a number on a piece of paper, and I understand too what the Grants Management Division is trying to convey, and I'll take responsibilities if I'm not doing the job I'm supposed to be doing. I'm so...I'm a bit upset because I saw the evaluation, and I actually did worse...our agency actually did worse in 2021 than 2020. And I had reached out to the Grants Management Division to try and figure out what was going wrong, how can I fix it, what can we do better to show that...on paper that we're good stewards of the funding that we're getting. So I'm...again, a bit upset, but I'll do what I can to make adjustments. And I would like to ask if there is some way...if this evaluation is going to continue. Because I see that it was a former Councilmember that actually began this evaluation, and I'm not sure what the entire purpose of it is today. But is there a way that Executive Directors can come to you folks and give our...maybe give additional information to you, or if you have questions that you would like us to clarify, why did we get a certain score. Because if it's going to affect our funding, our grant funding, that would be devastating for us to have less funding based on a piece of paper and a numerical score. And that's really what I come to you about today. Just really quick, for example, we scored worse this year, but there's certain things that we did that I thought was really helpful for the County, and I don't know how that's quantified on a piece of paper. For example, we do have a mobile hygiene unit that the County funded, and we work with the County to offer that for services that was outside our actual program. And that went to the pallet shelter for a time to use for those individuals. And we also loaned it to the Department of Health when COVID first started . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . So I don't if we get points for that...I'm not sure. Sorry, my time is up, but that's really the gist of what I have to say to you today. Thank you so much for hearing me out today.

CHAIR KAMA: Ms. Paltin, you have a question fort Monique?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Sure. Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Ibarra for your testimony. I just was...to clarify, in addition to the numbers on the paper, there are remarks as well, and you've read those first.

MS. IBARRA: Yes, I have.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then I guess, you know, to address your question about if there is a way for the Executive Directors...I do recall pre-COVID times that you folks scheduled appointments to meet with me --

MS. IBARRA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- and it's kind of the same post-COVID. I mean, it just would be most likely virtual or by telephone, so I don't know if that clears that up. We haven't gotten any calls to schedule a meeting, but it may be helpful after...not before the review,

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but the...after the review. I also was kind of surprised that the score was lower, but do you think that your goals are unclear or based on the remarks?

MS. IBARRA: Well, to me they're not, but what I have to do...a part of my job is to help our Grants Management...our Grants Manager to understand what we're doing. They're not...you know, she's not doing our job, so I have to convey it in a way that she would understand and that's going to make sense, as far as what we're doing. And so we've worked on that, because the grant process is a little bit backwards. It's not that the...the County hasn't put out an RFP saying that this is the work that we want done, so it's X, Y, and Z and this is the formula we want you to follow. It's a bit backwards. Well, we're going to the County asking for funding for a program that we've developed and designed, and then I have to be able to equate that or describe that on a grant document so that it's understandable to the Grants Manager as well. So it might be some of that...communication and being more descriptive. So that's part of the challenge that I obviously am having, to make sure that I can put that on paper. And then also, to make...to go to make adjustments throughout the grant year. If an original number is not working out, or an original outcome that we had thought we needed isn't really relevant any longer, so that might need to be changed as well. We're also scored on our grant application, and that grant application went out, what, three years ago for this fiscal year that's being evaluated, and that number stays. So that number doesn't ever get to be put away, it stays on there, obviously, for the last two evaluations. I don't know how to...you can't fix that number, it's static, it's not going to be able to move, but it is something that was based three years ago. And times have changed, we've gone...we went through COVID.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm wondering also if you had any comment about the Pu'u'honua drop-in center, the score of two for responsiveness.

MS. IBARRA: My understanding is responsiveness would be that we didn't respond back to the Grant Manager in a timely manner, is what my understanding of it is. I...it would also be, I believe, if we're putting our reports in on time, I'm not sure. But our reports are always in on time, they're never late. And it may be that I haven't gotten back to the Grants Manager in what they would consider a timely manner. I don't...I didn't think that that was happening, especially this past year, but I haven't talked to Grants Management at all about this yet because the evaluation just came out.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And I guess my last question before I yield is, do you think that you're being penalized because the mobile hygiene unit was vandalized?

MS. IBARRA: I'm not sure. I can't...I would imagine that we would not be penalized, but it did mean that our program didn't operate as we had originally planned and, you know, it's kind of...we thought we had a secure area to put our trailer, and it got vandalized, so I'm not sure...I would hope not. But we certainly weren't able to offer the program as we had originally planned, and I don't know if that equated to having a lower score as well.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay, thank you. Thank you, Chair. And feel free to make an

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appointment with me for a detailed...

MS. IBARRA: I will. Thank you, Councilmember. Thank you very much.

CHAIR KAMA: Mr. Sinenci. You have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo. Yeah, mahalo, Chair. And aloha, Ms. Ibarra, for testifying this afternoon. It looks like on the report, Ka Hale A Ke Ola received three different grants from the County. And listening to previous testimonies, which of those grants do you do the outreach to homeless people, like Amala Place?

MS. IBARRA: Yes. Thank you, Councilmember. We actually are...Pu'uhonua is our mobile hygiene unit that we take to Kihei, to South Maui. We don't actually do what's called...considered outreach, but we offer resource...a walk-in service where the unsheltered can come to us, and then we offer them services. So it would not actually be considered outreach because we're not going out to the places that they are unsheltered. Because that's part of...

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, so just to...so just to be clear, your presence outside of the shelter is not part of the services that you provide in the Pu'uhonua Center.

MS. IBARRA: Correct. So we don't have an outreach contract. As far as Amala Place, I had asked to go out...if our agency staff members could go out as that clean-up was going to happen, but we were asked not to come in because it might be confusing to the individuals there. So we stayed back. And then at one point, I did ask if we could go out, and we were allowed to go out at that point and meet with the individuals at Amala Place, which was really helpful as we were working with the County to get individuals into shelter.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And that was just one of the days that the operations were going on?

MS. IBARRA: It was actually the last three days. We went out last week, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

MS. IBARRA: Thank you, Councilmember.

CHAIR KAMA: Any other questions, Members? Okay, seeing none. So Monique, I think...what Member Paltin said I think goes for everyone, you know, we're always open. And I know you contacted my office, I think was Monday or Tuesday, and I just didn't have the time to meet with you, but we're always open to meeting. I think the idea is if we had a little bit more time to plan. This was an on week for us...at least for me, it was. So...but by all means, yes, we have you on my calendar, so thank you. Thank you for coming in and sharing and giving your heart. I appreciate it.

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MS. IBARRA: Yes. Thank you so much, Chair Kama. Yeah. Thank you so much. Have a good afternoon.

CHAIR KAMA: You too. Staff, our next testifier?

MR. LEAUANAE: Our next testifier is Lisa Darcy, followed by Jordan Hocker.

MS. DARCY: Good evening...oh, good afternoon, Housing. Thank you. It's nice to see everybody from chilly New Jersey. Yes. Thank you for this opportunity, and for the chance to partner in learning more about grantees and how this process works. My name is Lisa Darcy, and I am testifying as the founder of the non-profit, Share Your Mana. I am also a Commissioner on Healing Solutions for Homelessness. I am not a paid lobbyist, and I'm in the room by myself. I think that checks the boxes. I'd like to speak directly to HCP-11, the performance and evaluation of some of these awards. I'd like to...I'm not sure if this is even the proper place or how to do this, but one of the things I'm really aware of, and I think is really important in this process which is missing, is any of the recipients or individuals, their voice in this process...they're not ever...just it's never...they're never asked how it works for them. What we don't see, and what I always bring, unfortunately, to this group, is a lot of voices that don't have access to any of these dialogues. And so when I review the awards, and I review the grants, we're seeing only the people that have been handpicked through all of this. And we have to handpick because there are too many people that need services, and there are not enough services, and we all know this. So one of the pieces that I'd like to point out is that we don't get a chance to hear from the people or the residents who are kind of left behind in all of this. So it's one of those things that you wouldn't notice it unless you're really out in the field. And as Monique said, she doesn't...they don't even have really a contract for outreach, to go out and just to meet with people. So I think this is a really important piece that this body needs to consider in evaluation. One of the other pieces that's really important and...is somebody who is out consistently, and probably would be most consistently with individuals, is that I am not allowed in the capacity to communicate with almost...one of the awardees, Family Life Center, as you all know, they've blocked my email and they still do not communicate. And I really work tirelessly to bring people who would be under housing first, who want access to these services to them. And if an awardee is allowed not to discuss or...even when people have signed consents saying they want an advocate there, if they're allowed to just say, we will not work with this person or this agency, I think it's a really important oversight to review for grantees. And we wouldn't want people picking and choosing just who they want to work with or not...no one telling you who you want to work with or not. It's also a legal issue, I believe, and I'd like to really resolve it before it comes to any of those kinds of issues. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . So I think it's really important to review those factors that are missing. In conclusion, the parks remained closed, the community centers were being closed, no parking lots were open, no emergency buildings were used...there is a list of things that were not done by any of the grantees to assist people, and I really hope you take a good look at that. We really need these other services. It's always too much for three minutes, but I thank you for your time.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Lisa. Members, any questions for Ms. Darcy? If not, thank you,

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Lisa, for your contributions again today. And good evening, because it is evening where you're at.

MS. DARCY: Thank you.

CHAIR KAMA: So I think our next testifier is Jordan Hocker, followed by...who's next, Wilton?

MR. LEAUANAE: Noelani Ahia.

CHAIR KAMA: So Jordan, and then Noelani.

MS. HOCKER: Aloha 'auinalā. Aloha, Chair Kama, and Vice-Chair Sugimura, and the rest of the Councilmembers here. Thank you so much for your time. My name is Jordan Hocker, and I am testifying on HCP-11. I will say that...you know, just a little back story on how I'm going to relate this to the grant evaluation process. I was a legal observer with the National Lawyers Guild down at Amala Place, and my position here today really arose out of questions that I had as to how the process was handled. So I'm just going to give you a little brief of that, and then relate it back to what I see in terms of data. So I hope that is...I hope that is allowed. So on many of the days, our legal observers and advocates showed up at 5:30 in the morning, the police showed up shortly after that and, you know, our advocates' process was to make sure that the police weren't arresting and sweeping anybody. There was...when I was looking around, you know, and told that Family Life Center was going to be coming in, it was noted that they weren't there at the times that people needed them to be. And it led me to the question of well, this is a County funded organization, then how much money are they getting from the County? And so when I'm looking at, you know, this grant evaluation things, you know, I see that their score is very high, which...based on what I saw was kind of surprising to me...I'm not going to lie. You know, they are one of the most well-funded organizations, and I am sort of wondering if we're not putting too many eggs all in one basket, if the ways in which we need to shift how organizations are handling outreach and housing for, you know, our unsheltered residents, I'm just curious if maybe, you know, certain organizations are too stuck in their way and heavily funded and enabled in that way. The other thing that . . . *(inaudible)*. . . me is the aspect of the score is really records and reporting, and I think that, you know, for an organization to get as high of a score as like 80 or 82 percent, I think really, the records and recording as much transparency as to where that funding is going and how they're spending it is probably of...I mean from my consideration, one of the most important parts. I see they receive a lot of funding, and yet we're still short on resources, and people are still being told there's not enough housing, and there's not enough places for them. Now I know in one frame of reference, people could argue more funding; but I think that if we have strong organizations that take specific areas of the island and really focus their attention and care, then we could actually have a much broader network that operates a little more efficiently than giving one organization almost a million dollars, and other organizations on other sides of the island not even really that much amount. So again, I'm just speaking from my personal experience, but I would like transparency on records and reporting and exactly where every single dollar is going to go, and I want to see that as part of the grant evaluation process. And then I'll also mirror what was said by Lisa

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Darcy, which is that if this grant evaluation process does not include any of the input of the people who are actually being served by this County money, then I think that that's a big area that we're missing. Because I think that if you talk to the people that are helped by Family Life Center, or if you talk to the people who are not eligible for the shelter that's being offered, you get a very different story, and it's not really one that reflects almost a million dollars in funding from the County. So that's all I have to say for today. Thank you so much for this time on this platform.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Jordan. Members, any questions for Ms. Hocker? Yes, I think Ms. Paltin, and then Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I just had a question. You know, they...you're right that...I believe you're right, that Family Life Center gets probably over a million dollars, but each grant that they get has a specific purpose. And the outreach one is for 140,000, I guess, for the fiscal year for the...maybe the entire island. And in that context of 140,000 for the outreach program, I just was wondering if you felt that bang for the buck, how that was.

MS. HOCKER: Well, it's a challenging thing because I don't necessarily want to say that an organization that I've watched their outreach not be effective needs more money for outreach. I think that it would honestly be wiser to implement outreach programs for other organizations that also don't have that money, and try to not put the whole burden on Family Life Center. Because from what I saw, I'm not sure what their...you know, what their priorities on outreach look like, and so that's my concern there. I hope I answered your question.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KAMA: Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair, and aloha, Ms. Hocker. I just wanted to kind of get a feel...and if you can't answer, then that's fine too. Of all of the homeless that you observed there, like how many that wasn't served, or some of the families that didn't get any...that you experienced or you witnessed didn't receive any of the...of services that were available that day, or that week.

MS. HOCKER: I think the record on the number was around 15 or 16. I could be incorrect about that. I also know that some of the housing resources that were offered through Family Life Center were inadequate to meet people's needs. For instance, in a shelter situation, when you have someone who's dealing with PTSD or trauma, it's a very difficult situation and transition for them, and that's often I think what contributes to people ending up back out on the streets. So what I got feedback was either people were being told there wasn't a place for them to go, or not a place for their companion animals, or wasn't, you know, meeting ADA requirements and able to...you know, there are all of these reasons that I think the...I think it was 15 or 16 parties were not able to accept housing and, you know, some of those folks were able to get accommodations at a later point in time. But there seems to be this sort of loop where even if housing is offered,

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even if people are sheltered, there seems to be a lack of either trauma informed care or...people end up back on the streets a lot. And I think, you know...yeah. I was under the impression that the people who could not receive housing or who were said to have refused housing, the accommodations offered did not work for them for very valid reasons.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Ms. Hocker. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Mr. Sinenci. Seeing how there's no other questions from Members, thank you very much for your testimony, Jordan. Nice to see you. Wilton, who's our next testifier...Noelani?

MR. LEAUANAE: Next testifier is Noelani, followed by Mahealani Carbonell.

MS. AHIA: Aloha 'auinalā, Council. Thank you so much for being here today to take our testimony. Aloha. I want to say as a taxpayer, I really am concerned about where my tax dollars are going when it comes to these grants that are funded by the County. I do have some issues with Family Life Center based on the performance that I witnessed last week. I was there as an advocate, and I was a liaison to the Mayor initially as well. I had taken him down there the Friday before to meet the residents because I wanted him to be able to humanize them, and see who they were as people, and see that these are our community members, these are our relatives that are living in these very unfortunate circumstances. And so, you know, one of the things that he had said initially back in the early September was that everybody would get housing and be sheltered before any kind of sweep took place. And he promised folks on that Friday that there would be things like storage for their belongings, and which, from what I understand, is organized through Family Life Center, as well as shelter provided for people who didn't fit into the box of going to one of the regular shelters that is available because of extenuating circumstances like animals, or ADA, or one person has someone in their care that they are court appointed to care for, and that person will not qualify for the shelter, so they therefore are not able to use those services. So we had a lot of residents down at Pu'uhonua or Kanaha who didn't fit into the box that these shelters provide. And while we're grateful for those shelters and those who can use those facilities, it's not enough, and we have to think bigger about what kind of solutions. And so when we're talking about these grants, one of the things that concerned me was that they...it appears that Family Life Center appears to have some sort of monopoly over the funding and the outreach work, and I don't think that they have the capacity to really facilitate what needs to happen in these kind of situations. I do understand that they were going out regularly to meet with the community members, but I spoke with more than one family who said that they have been down there for months...one family was there for ten months, and they had never been approached by Family Life Center. And they said they only heard after they had left that they had been there because they didn't wear any kind of identifying clothing, they didn't have a pop-up tent, they didn't go from car to car to car to car or tent to tent in order to actually...actually outreach to these folks. And so, you know, these are folks that really want housing, they wanted the pallet shelters...you know, a lot of those pallet shelters sat empty for a long period of the pandemic while these folks were asking again and again and again, can I get a pallet

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house. So . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . oh, that was fast, okay. So anyways, if you want to ask me some questions you can, but I do have some more details about what happened, and what I think might be some solutions. So thank you so much for your time. Mahalo.

CHAIR KAMA: Members, any questions for Noelani? Noelani, did you submit your testimony in writing? You're muted. Did you submit it in writing?

MS. AHIA: Sorry. No, I did not, but I'd be happy to write something up and send it in.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Thank you, I'd appreciate that.

MS. AHIA: It might take me a second.

CHAIR KAMA: Chair Lee?

MS. AHIA: Sorry it's cutting in and out a little bit. Could you please repeat...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Can you hear me?

MS. AHIA: Now I can. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So you mentioned that you've been down to the site many times at Amala and...why is there so much feedback? Noelani, can you turn off your microphone for now? I guess it's off, okay. All right. Okay, so you've been down there, but have you actually spoken with people from Family Life Center to understand, you know, what they're trying to do down there, what their program is, what their intentions are? And then also, at the same time, your ideas for solutions...your ideas for solutions, do they sort of...are they compatible with the solutions of Family Life Center? Okay.

MS. AHIA: Thank you for those questions. I spoke with a few people from Family Life Center during the sweep. It was rather chaotic, so it was difficult to really have a deep meaningful conversation, although I would invite that at any time, I would like to share more about my experiences down there. One of the concerns that I had was that their approach did not seem to be trauma informed. And so the way that they were approaching folks, including myself and the other advocates, was somewhat hostile at points. And I realize they may have felt like they were under a microscope, but this is their job, this is their profession, so I expected a little bit more professionalism. They did, as Lisa Darcy said, prevent folks from...like us from advocating; in fact, I was told by one of them...when I offered to advocate with a resident who seemed to be having a hard time, I was told that I wasn't allowed to because of confidentiality. But as a healthcare practitioner, I understand the HIPAA laws. And if the resident wants an advocate, they are allowed to ask for one, and they are allowed to have one. And when I brought that up to the Family Life Center outreach worker, she told me well, then I won't do it. She was going to refuse services to the resident in need if they wanted an advocate. So I actually took myself out of the situation because it was important for that person to get services that they needed. But these are the kinds of things that I witnessed that made me very concerned about them having so much of the funding and

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not...I was also told that they were the organization that told the other services not to show up because it would create confusion. But the thing is that we needed those other services. We needed Mental Health Kokua. We had people having full on PTSD trauma panic attacks. I witnessed a woman say she wanted to kill herself. We had a woman who went back into an abusive home because she couldn't fit into the box of the shelter. So she went to something that was abusive because she was threatened with arrest if she didn't leave. So we didn't have any mental health workers down there to help these folks process what was going on. And I didn't see Family Life Center really taking that initiative to reach out and bring those people in if they were, in fact, the primary coordinator of this event that was taking place. So in terms of solutions, I really believe that we need a Pu'uhonua in every moku, and I think that it has to be grassroots and community organized with residents so that it's not something where we have like the us and the them. It has to be something where the community comes together where we provide space for managed camps in each community. We were desperately asking Mayor Victorino for a managed camp because that could have alleviated a lot of the problems at the sweep if they had just moved folks down to the park where they were originally that had showers and bathrooms and sanitations, and we were told that wasn't a possibility. But, you know, we see these popping up in places all over the continental United States, where they're setting up places where people can go temporarily until they get back on their feet or until they can find housing, which we all know is very difficult in Maui County right now because the rent prices are skyrocketing and people are getting evicted like crazy. But if we can have a place in every single moku where people can come with their animals, with their families, where we can provide...you know, the funding from the County can provide basic things like sanitation, showers, water, propane for cooking, and maybe basic tent structures...or pallet houses, if we can get more of those. But it's totally, totally doable. It's being done all over the place. And I would encourage these organizations to work with Share Your Mana because honestly, they're the only one on the ground--with literally no funding. They virtually have no funding, and they're out there on the ground everyday volunteering and having this extensive amount of evidence-based criteria for how they interact that's trauma informed. So I just would like to encourage the community partnership, that we all work together to find solutions to this, and that we don't ever, ever, ever treat our houseless people as disposable. Because they're not, they're our ohana. It was probably 90 percent kanaka maoli down there. These are our people, these are keiki o ka 'āina of the land, and they deserve to be treated with respect and compassion. Mahalo for your questions...much appreciated.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Ms. Paltin, you're next.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. Can you hear me okay?

MS. AHIA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. I just...you know, I had a clarification question on the part where you said it seems as though Family Life Center has a monopoly, and I just was wondering if you knew of any other organization that was qualified to do that outreach work that Family Life Center grant...that they receive, I guess, for \$140,000, if you...I

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mean in the past, when I've asked about it, you know, even whether it's Mental Health Kokua or Aloha House or grantees that get low scores, we keep funding them because there's not a number of organizations that are coming forward to do this type of work. So I just was wondering if you knew another organization that was willing and qualified to do the work. In the past we did, I believe, allot money for Share Your Mana, but they didn't go through the process to receive the money or...I mean, we put money in there, but they didn't do their end of the receiving it, I guess. So that was my question.

MS. AHIA: Thank you for that. I do...I do think that there are other resources. And I would say Share Your Mana...again, maybe it's something where there needs to be a process that makes it easier for grantees to apply. I'm not sure exactly what the process is. But I would definitely say Share Your Mana in partnership with these other organizations because Share Your Mana has so much on the ground, like real boots on the ground experience and life skills and evidence-based training that they could provide to other organizations as well in partnership, like Aloha House and Mental Health Kokua. Ka Hale A Ke Ola also should be able to have access to that funding as well. When they did come out on Wednesday, it was a very, very different experience than Family Life Center, I must say. My interactions with them were very, very different, and their interactions with the residents were very, very different. So, you know, I would encourage definitely more funding all around, but not to just one singular organization like that when it comes to outreach. Because they are the only organization right now, I believe, that's permitted to do the houseless paperwork to certify that somebody is houseless, which I believe is for 24 hours they have to be houseless. And so in one case, a young couple had been housed by Family Life Center, then they got evicted because the landlord sold the building. And so they went back to Family Life Center, and Family Life Center said you have to be houseless for 24 hours before we can certify you. So they took them to Kanaha and dropped them off, and that was ten months ago, and they were never able to get services again. So there is a big disconnect when you hear the stories of the individuals who have worked with them in this capacity. So I would definitely want to include Share Your Mana in partnership with some of the other standing organizations, and get more funding for a larger program that works in collaboration. Because part of the problem is that they don't...the agencies don't always talk to each other. If they don't talk to the Mayor...I mean, there was a big communication gap. It seemed like the main communication was only between Family Life Center and the Mayor's office. So if there can be a coalition and a collaboration to bring people together, I think that we can really create much better solutions. Mahalo for your question.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KAMA: Mr. Sinenci, you have a question for Noelani?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah. Thank you, Chair. And aloha Noe, mahalo for joining us this afternoon. I think what I got...what I heard from your testimony this afternoon was advocacy on the side of the homeless individual. As a special needs teacher, you know, our students who qualify for special needs has Federal protections, and has personal rights. And like you said, they are allowed to receive advocacy on their part

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whenever...you know, with any other agency. So I'm trying to think how does...you know, and these are some of the services, and some of these special need services would follow them all the way through adulthood. And so...and I can see where these services will probably not...a lot of the homeless have missed out on getting either identified or getting these additional protections. So my question is, do you find that...and obviously, you sound like there was no advocacy on the side of the homeless individuals last week.

MS. AHIA: Yeah, that would be correct. I didn't see any advocacy; in fact, I saw the opposite. I overheard one of the Family Life Center outreach workers---who by the way, in my understanding, they are not all social workers, and there has been a misleading narrative that social workers were down there, and that's just not true--one of the Family Life Center outreach workers...I overheard him talking to a law enforcement officer and say, hey, if they say they're Hawaiian Nationals, ask them for \$2. Because in the Hawaiian Kingdom, if you didn't have \$2, you were considered a vagrant. So he was trying to set up the houseless community to be considered vagrants by our own law enforcement, and I found that to be really distasteful and actually downright mean spirited. And so to me, that is the absolute opposite of advocacy. And you're right about those services for special needs folks, or for any of these folks. Most of the people down there have complex trauma. If it's not their complex trauma that led to their houselessness, their houselessness led to complex trauma. It's a vicious, vicious cycle. And so there's so many barriers that these folks face in terms of getting services because of the paperwork. Oftentimes they don't have telephones, or if they do, they have limited minutes...they don't have places to charge them. They don't have access to the things that you or I do. I mean, it's hard enough for any of us to fill out an application and do paperwork and have to get on the phone and wait for an hour while you're pushing buttons, press this button, press this button, please hold, you know. It's hard enough for people who are housed and healthy and well, but when you don't have access to those basic, basic things, and you're fighting with the weather and the wind and the rain, and having no privacy, it's very, very difficult to be able to get those services to you. And that is really where help and need...is profoundly needed. Like somebody needs to sit there, do the paperwork with them, and take it to the office, and be the one on the phone for an hour while, you know, Auntie is trying to take care of the kids and the dog on the beach...trying to get them breakfast, get them to...you know what I'm saying? So yeah, we definitely need more advocacy for these folks.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo.

MS. AHIA: Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, it sounds like that is an important missing link in the process. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KAMA: You're welcome, Mr. Sinenci. Thank you, Noelani, for your testimony. Wilton, will you please call our next testifier please.

MR. LEAUANAE: Next testifier is Mahealani Ahia, followed by Faith Chase.

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CHAIR KAMA: Mahealani.

MS. CARBONELL: I think you mean, Mahealani Carbonell. If that's true, that's me.

CHAIR KAMA: I'm assuming that is you. Go ahead and proceed with your testimony.

MS. CARBONELL: Aloha. Mahalo no. I'm here with regard to HCP-11, and I just wanted to bring my experience forward with regard to specifically the grantee Family Life Center. I was witness to what happened down at Kanaha, and I just specifically want to mention that Kanaha is just one tiny community that we have on Maui that are dealing with these struggles. We have little pockets of the community all over the island struggling to survive. It seems to me that Family Life Center has maybe gotten a bit too big for their britches. They are a little top heavy, and in my opinion, do not provide the services that they are being granted monies to provide. It was my experience that they were the agitators and the aggressors in this situation. They further applied pressure and mental strain onto the already mentally stressed and emotionally stressed houseless down there. Not only were they dealing with needing to get all of their belongings out in said amount of time, but they were being forced to stay off the road for the entire day and meanwhile, being hounded by Family Life Center, even after several times requesting a mental break, a mental pause for them to sit and eat, relax, recuperate, have some water, it was hot. There was a lot of tension...officers everywhere. So for them, it was extremely overwhelming already. So add Family Life Center coming numerous times to hound them throughout the week...some of the conversations I was privy to, they were very aggressive, and for me, I feel like it should've been the mental health service people coming down and talking to them first, aside from Family Life Center coming down and being like, well, do you want our services or not...because that was pretty much what they were getting. And again, like a lot of my co-witnesses would testify to, they were...they were not providing the unique type of support that would be required with regard to mental services for some, physical and health needs for almost all of them. And then they each had their animals--not every single one, but several of them did have animals--and we all know that our animals are like ohana to us. And especially in these really extreme circumstances, sometimes these pets are the only thing keeping these people mentally here. . . .(timer sounds). . . Anyway, that's all I wanted to say. My experience was that the monies that are going to Family Life Center are in excess, and not being used to their full potential, and they could be spread out a bit more to other organizations that might be more willing to do more for the . . .(inaudible). . .

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you very much, Mahealani, for your testimony. Questions for our testifiers? Seeing none. Thank you very much, Mahealani, for your testimony. Wilton, can you please call our next testifier?

MR. LEAUANAE: Next testifier is Faith Chase, followed by Summer.

CHAIR KAMA: Faith, are you here?

MS. CHASE: Aloha, Chair. Aloha, Committee.

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CHAIR KAMA: Aloha.

MS. CHASE: I've got a lot to say on this, but I've written down five notes, and I'll submit a longer testimony...written testimony. First of all, it's obvious by all these testifiers...it's clear that more money for human services needs to be spent. It needs to be increased, and it needs to be diverse, and you need to make sure that those new ideas that are funded are not constrained by what a lot of these agencies use, the coordinated entry system. There's an acronym, SPDAT...I don't remember the whole name of that, but that is restricting services. And so anybody comes with new ideas that you want to consider, remember that I said that. You know, you shouldn't be, you know, tied to a database just to get what you need. Number two, you need to seek 'āina and property for safe sweeping spaces yesterday. A parking lot with a lua and water...if you're going to...I mean, it just...that's why they should have just had the Kanaha Park opened. I'm not going to talk about that right now. Number three, you need to strengthen the bridge between homesteaders and waitlisters. I'm sorry that the State's agency, Senate, Hawaiian Affairs has not been able to fund every single idea DHHL puts forward for them. I'm sorry that it's broken on the de facto State level. It is on your shoulders to help the homesteaders and waitlisters because there is 'āina. And if you create that...if you help them, hold that, and make that bridge stronger, you won't have all these kind of...I'm talking to the agenda item. Number four...

CHAIR KAMA: Faith, homesteaders is not on the list. I'm talking about...

MS. CHASE: It is super relative...it is super relative...I will bring it home. Number four, you have to stoke the fire, as the Maui County Council, with support...I'm sorry, your Mayor is not doing it. Number five, I put forward an idea about a kauhale, and I want to apologize...nobody replied, and I know why; because it was over ambitious. I was just thinking I could piggyback off of Councilmember Sinenci's uncle, Frances Sinenci, the master, to like come and help do that. But you know what? We need temporary fast houses, not hot pallet houses, but we need alternatives. So I'm going to be resending my revised proposal that I gave to all of you that nobody replied to. I did talk to Shane Sinenci on the phone about it, but nobody replied, and perhaps because it was over ambitious, but I've revised it, and I've made it logical, and I would...please open my email. I like what the previous testifier said about Share Your Mana. It's all very obvious to this body that Lisa and I have been working together since the top of the pandemic. She is actually doing crisis work because it needs to be done, but this woman is a very qualified administrative manager. So any ideas that come across your desktop here forward, the grant funding that she didn't seek--to answer your inquiry, Councilmember Tamara Paltin--I helped her with that. . . .(timer sounds). . . She asked for a bigger amount, and then they asked her to revise it a little bit lower. And that happens a lot, and there's something broken in that grant process, but we can talk about that another day. So when she gives it another go, just remember that she has the administrative capacity to carry...to run a drop-in center, to give solutions. And anybody who is not happy in this work in the Department of Housing and Human Concerns, please ask for a transfer. How about that? Let's just make sure you're happy where you are because there's a lot of work not getting done.

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CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Faith for your testimony. Members, questions for our testifier? Seeing none. Thank you, Faith, for your testimony. Wilton, will you please call our next testifier.

MS. CHASE: I really do appreciate being heard today. Thank you.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you.

MR. LEAUANAE: Yes, Chair. The next testifier, and the only one...the last one currently signed up is Robin Knox.

CHAIR KAMA: Robin, please proceed.

MS. KNOX: Hi. Aloha. Thank you for allowing me to testify. I just wanted to share my experience with Family Life Center. And I apologize if my speech is slurred, because I just got back from the dentist. I first experienced Family Life Center when I myself applied for rental assistance, and I was quite shocked at the way I was treated. It was beyond rude. It was very degrading in the way that I was talked to and ordered around. And, you know, like one of the testifiers said earlier, I'm a housed person, I have resources, you know, I was able to get through it. The second experience I had was trying to advocate for a woman who is living at the harbor who has an abusive partner, and she has a small dog to, you know, help not only comfort her, but alert her to people that are coming up while she's sleeping. And I went with her to try to find out what was taking so long to get her housing, and we ran into the system that you were talking about. Although the Family Life Center would not tell me the name of the system, they just said that she didn't rate highly enough...her score wasn't high enough to get housing. And I was asking, what is her score and what would make it higher, and the lady said, you know, you have to be more desperate, and I couldn't imagine what could be more desperate than her situation. So, you know, I'm very pragmatic...I asked to see the score. I asked what is the name of the system. I asked can you appeal the score and, you know, we really didn't get answers. And they were supposed to go out and help this woman the next day, her caseworker apparently wasn't in, and she's still living at the harbor. She still has no place to live. And the workers actually were advocating that she go back to her abusive partner because the only housing they could find is one that you had to have income to pay rent, and she didn't have income. And she is suicidal, you know. I've been asked to go back out just to touch base with her because she's so desperate. And it is just heartbreaking, you know. These are real people, these are not statistics and, you know, like I said, I can tell you firsthand that I didn't feel that I was treated...or that the people that were working with us were professional in their manner, and there was downright disdain for people. And you know, those are their clients, those are their customers, they should be treated as such. So anyway, just wanted to share my personal experience, and thank you for allowing me to do that.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Robin. Members, any questions for the testifier. Thank you for sharing, Robin.

MS. KNOX: You're welcome.

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CHAIR KAMA: Wilton, do we have any other testifiers?

MR. LEAUANAE: Thank you, Chair. There are no other testifiers signed up right now.

CHAIR KAMA: Last call for anyone who would like to testify on either HCP-43 or HCP-11. I'm going to wait a few moments. Members, seeing as how there are no other individuals wishing to testify, without objection, I will now close public oral testimony. And Members, are there any objections to receiving written testimony into the record?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

. . . END PUBLIC TESTIMONY . . .

**ITEM 43: AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL,
THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF HAWAII, TO PROVIDE LEGAL
SERVICES TO QUALIFIED RESIDENTS OF THE COUNTY OF
MAUI (CC 21-387)**

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. At this time the Staff will ensure that only required personnel, such as Councilmembers, Staff, Administration, and nominees invited to participate, will remain on the call. Everyone else will be disconnected at this time. And we're going to move on to HCP-43, Authorizing the Employment of Special Counsel, the Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i, to Provide Legal Services to Qualified Residents of the County of Maui. The Committee is receipt of County Communication 21-387 from the Director of Housing and Human Concerns, transmitting a proposed resolution entitled, "AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL, THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF HAWAII, TO PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES TO QUALIFIED RESIDENTS OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI." The purpose of the proposed resolution is to request authorization to contract with Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i using Federal Title 3 funds to provide legal services in accordance with Section 3-6(6) of the revised Charter of the County of Maui, 1983, as amended. The Committee may consider whether to recommend the adoption of the proposed resolution with or without further revisions. The Committee may also consider the filing of County Communication 21-387 and other related action. So Members, the resolution will authorize the County to enter into a contract with the Legal Aid Society using Federal Title 3 funds to provide legal services to grandparents raising grandchildren, to the elderly, and for public education. Members, I'd like to introduce to you the Department of Housing and Human Concerns Director, Lori Tsuhako; and Office on Aging's temporarily assigned Executive Director, James Mariano. We'll begin with Director Tsuhako for opening remarks, and Mr. Mariano will be available for questions. Director Tsuhako.

MS. TSUHAKE: Thank you very much, Madam Chair and Members. Thank you for having us here today. The Department is asking for your support of the proposed resolution. As you read off the text there a little earlier, this agreement will allow the Office on Aging

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to have a contract with the Legal Aid Society, specifically to do legal work for grandparents who are raising grandchildren, a phenomenon that is occurring more and more as our days...as our times change. We have had...the Department has had a longstanding relationship with Legal Aid Society. They have excellent staff who are very well trained and very adept at working with senior citizens and their families to sort of sort through all of the legal issues that occur when grandparents are called in to raise their grandchildren, when seniors need legal advice about other issues that come up for them. So we ask...the Department asks for your support of this resolution that will allow us to execute a contract. We're using Federal Title 3, Older Americans Act, funding for this, and we ask for your support. Mr. Mariano and I are both available for any questions. Thank you.

CHAIR KAMA: Questions for Lori or Mr. Mariano? Okay, Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Director Tsuhako. I'm really grateful for this program, but I have to say that it doesn't work for my district as well as I would like it to. You know, I see that there is offices in Kaunakakai, Lāna'i, and Wailuku; and, you know, Maui County is bigger than that. Member Sinenci and myself are pretty far from those locations. And I just was wondering, you know, with our older Americans I remember when my mother-in-law used to live with us, it was a big thing for her to go to the other side...she wouldn't like to do it at all. And I just was wondering, you know, in these COVID times, when we're doing so much things virtually, if it would be possible if members from West Maui could set up virtual appointments maybe through Kaunoa Senior Center or something like that to...you know, to...just to accommodate the various districts.

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you for your question and that suggestion, Councilmember Paltin. I will defer to Mr. Mariano because he probably knows more about the details of how that contract with Legal Aid Society works. My personal experience with Legal Aid Society is that they are very willing to make accommodations. They understand the difficulty of traveling, you know, into Central Maui for the purposes of those meetings. But James, can you speak in particular to Legal Aid Society's willingness to do that outreach into communities where we don't have somebody housed there?

MR. MARIANO: Yes, I'd be happy to, Director. Thank you. Good afternoon, Chair and Committee Members. My names is James Mariano, I am the interim acting Executive on Aging. I am here with...with here is me is Program Specialist Vicki Belluomini. You can see her over there. We are at social distancing. She monitors the contract. And with respect to your question, Member Paltin, this is appropriate for the entire County. So Legal Aid has been doing this for I don't know how many years. I know I've been here like 12 years...so decades.

MS. BELLUOMINI: Ten years.

MR. MARIANO: I've been here like more than 12 years, so...they will travel to the kūpuna. They will hold...right now, when we have provided meetings, the local office...our point of contact, Stacy Pascal, had to transition to a lot of virtual things, but they are tasked

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with servicing the entire County. And I'll make a point, and Vicki will just reiterate that, this service is a requirement under the Older Americans Act. So it is a requirement. And anybody can call. We have...I think her name is April on Lāna'i. So the main contact though... I mean, I think is the line that goes through is the Wailuku office...there's, I think, an intake line. But it's appropriate even for, you know, Member Sinenci's area, it's the entire County.

MS. BELLUOMINI: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. So just to clarify, they don't need to even meet virtually, the person will come from the Central office to them, the older Americans or older...

MS. BELLUOMINI: Yes. They will do home visits, depending on safety.

MR. MARIANO: Yes, yes. So my colleague is telling me--and you heard--that yes, they will do home visits as long as they can ensure safety of both parties. I know that they are doing quite a bit of things virtually. For example, if they're talking about guardianship issues, power of attorneys, I think that can be done virtually, as well as with telephone calls.

MS. BELLUOMINI: But they have to sign for an advance healthcare directive, so they do...

MR. MARIANO: Thank you. So Vicki is correcting me and saying that when a signature is required, they do have to meet in person when it comes to those kind of legal documents. So they'll arrange for that. I'm sure that they can meet in a public space or...yeah, where it's open air and those kind of things. But we have a lovely working relationship with Legal Aid and they...you know, they provide the service happily, you know, under this contract.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay, that addresses my concern. Thank you very much. Thank you from West Maui for us folks that we don't have to travel the Pali if we don't need to.

CHAIR KAMA: Ms. Sugimura, you have a question for...

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: I just want to add...I just want to add that I have had the good fortune, I guess, or opportunity to see them in action. And in fact, on Sunday, I went to a wedding and I met the person in charge of Legal Aid Society who does the outreach, and just fabulous...I can't say enough. And they had to conform to COVID so they had...you know, they did pivot and do the things that they needed to do to still provide the service. And the interesting thing that this person that I met said is, they're so grateful to the County, and they have a really good relationship. So I thought boy, I should be the one, you know, thanking them, right, with all the good work that they do. And Members, their hourly rate, according to the resolution that we got, is \$50.00 an hour. And if you work out in the real world with legal or attorneys, it's way less. So they have discounted their rate for us, and they provide services, and they are able to stretch the dollars that we are able to provide them. So I just wanted to share that personal experience. Fabulous organization.

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CHAIR KAMA: Mr. Sinenci, you have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. And aloha, Mr. Mariano. Yeah, I believe...I don't know if Mr. Tim Satak (*phonetic*) is still part of the Council of Aging, but he also represents us at Hale Hulu Mamo, so he would be the contact should we...you know, work with our community. I did want to...again, full support and mahalo. This was an issue that I spoke about in my Administrative thesis, particularly when we've seen at the national level the opioid crisis, and we're seeing where a lot of grandchildren who are now being raised...the last over three million children that were being raised by their grandchildren...grandparents. So I think this is timely, and it's also affected my small community in rural East Maui. So again, mahalo.

CHAIR KAMA: Members, do we have any other questions for our resource people here? Well, seeing as how there are no questions then, Members, the Chair will entertain a motion to recommend adoption of the proposed resolution entitled, "AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL, THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF HAWAII, TO PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES TO QUALIFIED RESIDENTS OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI," and the filing of County Communication 21-387.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: So moved, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Second.

CHAIR KAMA: Moved by Councilmember Sugimura, and seconded by Councilmember Sinenci. Thank you. Any discussion, Members?

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: I'll call for the vote.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, you're muted, Chair.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: We can't hear you.

CHAIR KAMA: Sorry. All those in favor of adopting the resolution, please say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED AYE.

CHAIR KAMA: Wow, what an unanimous vote...me too. Motion passes with five "ayes", zero "noes," and the motion passes.

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VOTE: AYES: Chair Kama, Vice-Chair Sugimura, Councilmembers Lee, Paltin, and Sinenci.

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: ADOPTION OF A REVISED RESOLUTION AND FILING OF COMMUNICATION.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you very much, Members.

MS. TSUHAKE: Thank you, Chair.

MR. MARIANO: Thank you very much.

CHAIR KAMA: I'd like to continue...yes. I thank our Director and the Office on Aging, Mr. Mariano, for being with us, and thank you so very much. And thank you to Legal Aid for supporting our community by going into the community as opposed to our community to having to make a drive out. So thank you all. Thank you very much. Thank you, Lori. Thank you, James.

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**ITEM :11 GRANT PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORTS FOR
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS
GRANTEES (CC 19-327)**

CHAIR KAMA: So I'd like to continue to go on to HCP-11, the Grant Performance and Evaluation Reports for the Department of Housing and Human Concerns. So the Committee is in receipt of the following County Communication 19-327 from Councilmember Riki Hokama relating to the Fiscal Year 2019 Grant Performance and Evaluation Report for Department of Housing and Human Concerns grantees. Correspondence dated September 3rd, 2021, from the Director of Housing and Human Concerns, transmitting a copy of the Fiscal Year 2021 Grant Performance and Evaluation Report for grants funded through and managed by the Department of Housing and Human Concerns for the Housing, Human Concerns, and Animal Management Programs. The Committee may discuss the matter. The Committee may also consider the filing of County Communication 19-327 and other related actions. So Members, I'd like to welcome back Director Tsuhako and the Grants Management Division Administrator, Curtis Jamison, from the Department of Housing and Human Concerns for this next item.

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you again, Madam Chair. Good afternoon. I'm here today before the Committee to discuss Fiscal Year '21 year end grant evaluations. As Madam Chair noted, I'm being joined by Curtis Jamison, who is our Administrator of the Grants Management Division. And before we avail yourself of your questions, allow me to just provide a real brief big picture overview. So this end of year reporting is actually mandated by Maui County Code 3.36.1 point...excuse me, 3.36.120. I believe all of you have a copy of the report. The report shows that the Grants Management Division, which is currently staffed by four employees, administers...has administered 104 different grants to 56 different grantees over the previous fiscal year. I think that Grants Management Staff has done an exceptional job of working with grantees to develop problematic descriptions with measurable outcomes. So during the pandemic that we all live through, many pivots were made by agencies because they could not perform the programs that they proposed in the way they proposed. So the Department was left working with many grantees on sort of fine tuning what could be accomplished, given all of the COVID restrictions that we had to deal with. So I feel very confident and exceptionally proud of the work that was done by Grants Management to work with grantees to achieve the best possible outcomes, given all the challenges that were faced. I will tell you in broad strokes that successful grantees execute programs that are of benefit to the community, and are also able to account for how County grant funds are spent. So it has to be both, right. You got to have a program, you got to be able to implement that program, and you have to have the administrative capability and skill to explain how that money that you got from the County, our County tax dollars, were spent. Were they spent in the right way, according to what you proposed? And when you look at the scores and the comments, you'll see that some of the agencies that were successful in terms of the rating scales that were offered in the Department's report card, that those agencies were able to do both of those functions very admirably. So I think above all, one of the trends that has been consistently expressed to grantees...not only by the Department, but also by this body during the budget session, is that we all

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are committed to accountability for how grant funds are spent. We want both programs that are effective, that address real needs in our community, and that can be accountable for how the funding is spent. And I think if we continue to maintain that commitment to accountability for taxpayer funding, that we will continue to have a better safety net that's more robust, and that can assure that the outcomes are measurable...that are actually measurable outcomes, and not just...not just anecdotal, you know. So with that, Curtis and I are available for any questions. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Lori. Members, questions for either Lori or Mr. Jamison? Ms. Paltin, question?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I was kind of lagging...I wanted to yield to the Members that had to leave early if they had any questions, but if no one else has questions, I'll go.

CHAIR KAMA: Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So based on Ms. Ibarra's testimony, I'm assuming that you did send this scorecard to all the grant recipients or...is that correct?

MS. TSUHAKE: Yes, you are correct, Member Paltin. The report card was transmitted to all of the grantees prior to today's meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Right on, thank you very much. I have been requesting that, so thank you so much for doing that. I don't know if you will be able to answer this question, but I'm a little concerned with the scores for responsiveness, records, and reporting for Hale Mahaolu as well as Hale Makua Health Services. You know, their Executive Director is...I think is Wes Lo and Grant Chun, and they often come to our Committee meetings. And I think, you know, even Hale Mahaolu is going to be managing some of the affordable housing projects that we're building. And so to see these low scores in records and responsiveness is concerning to me, and I was wondering if you could elaborate a little bit on that.

MS. TSUHAKE: I'll ask Mr. Jamison to stand by, but let me take a stab at this because I believe that both...that the Hale Mahaolu grant is actually administered by our Housing Division for home ownership and the housing counseling program. The Hale Mahaolu grant for personal care is administered by the Office on Aging, and the Hale Makua Health Services grant is maybe also administered by the Office on Aging. So I'll tell you that the responsiveness and things is really a reflection, I think sometimes, of the staffing that works at different agencies. So for example, you know, what we have found--and I'm making a generalized statement--but what we found is sometimes the executive directors don't know that their staff are submitting reports that are erroneous and get sent back and then...you know, sent back five, six, seven times for corrections. Oftentimes the executive directors don't realize that. And so part of, you know, what we hope is the outcome of a report card of this nature is that the executive director will sit down with the Staff and say, well, how come our scores for responsiveness are so low,

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and a comment from the Grants Management Staff, or from Office on Aging Staff, or from the Housing Staff is that we're not responsive. And that's where the bulk of that conversation should be, right, internally...within their own function. So at other times, we find that the people in an agency who are doing the financial reporting are not necessarily talking to the people who are doing the programmatic reporting, right, so there's a disconnect between different functions within an agency. And so again, one of the things that we hope for is that having feedback about performance that's based on different employees' contribution to the overall grant will be tightened up internally so that the programmatic people talk with the financial people, talk with the executive director, and that all can be sort of compressed into a process that makes more sense for them and is actually less cumbersome for all of us. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I guess it's not really working because at least three of those decreased over the last year...their score...so that may not be working. But I just was wondering if you could clarify what you had said, that it's administered by either Housing or the County, but it's a grant to Hale Mahaolu or Hale Makua. I'm so not clear on what that even means.

MS. TSUHAKE: Okay. Thank you for asking about that clarification. So the Department administers grants largely through the Grants Management Division, but there are certain grants to certain non-profits that are very, very specific. So certain topic areas are more appropriate for one division than they are for another. So for example, we have many...you'll see through this...through the list of grantees that we have many grants that are early childhood grants...so preschool, Head Start, that sort of thing. All of those area specific grants are administered by our Early Childhood Resource Center Coordinator. There are grants having to do with aging services, those are administered through the Office on Aging because...and then we have certain other grants, like the Rental Assistance Program, for example, that are administered by the Housing Division. And so we've kind of like separated those grants out because it's much more helpful to have subject area experts dealing with the outcomes to see if...you know, if somebody...if an agency proposes certain outcomes, does that make sense in the field of Aging.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay. So you don't mean that...you mean that Grants Management Division doesn't oversee that grant, but it's not the County that's doing the stuff, it's...that's the area that's overseeing the grant is what you meant?

MS. TSUHAKE: Correct. So...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay, okay. I thought the County was doing the work, and I was super confused. Sorry about that.

MS. TSUHAKE: No. No, no.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay, so that's why Mr. Jamison wouldn't really speak to it because it's not under Grants Management Division, it's under another section of DHHC is what you meant.

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MS. TSUHAKE: Yeah, but you know, what Curtis does is he helps the other divisions who have those grants where...they work off the same template, so it's not a...it's not like the different divisions work on different...you know, different criterion. The criterion is exactly the same. He works with the Program Specialist in those other divisions to understand what the criteria is, and to apply it fairly to all of the grants that they manage, so that there is uniformity in terms of our ability, as a Department, to respond to this requirement.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. I've got more questions, but I'd like to yield to my colleagues and not monopolize the conversation if other folks got questions.

CHAIR KAMA: Members, does anyone else have questions? Mr. Sinenci, go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair, and mahalo, Member Paltin. Yeah, I just had one. Just listening to some of the testimony earlier about, you know, maybe surveying...I guess my question is, is there, within your scoring process, where...in which to survey or collect data by those who receive the services from these non-profits? Is that something that the Department does, or...I know you guys set objectives--as you say, measurable objectives--to thereby, you know, score, but I think that was an interesting comment during testimony that...how do we collect that data from the people actually receiving the services?

MS. TSUHAKE: Thank you, Councilmember. So many grantees do propose outcomes that are based on surveying their clients. I don't...it's not a requirement of our contracts. So I'll give you an example. Many of our own divisions do it, right. So maybe one of the performance measures is, you know, 90 percent of our clients who will be satisfied with assisted transportation provided to them, and then the clients themselves are surveyed, and then those results are tallied, and then reported in our quarterly reports for the budget purposes and at the end of the year. So we have, as a Department, sort of embedded many of those customer surveying type measures to judge our effectiveness. And we can certainly look at helping the grantees develop more of those performance measures that look at customer satisfaction and things like that, and I don't have any objection to that. I think that it can be a very useful tool in evaluating effectiveness of programs.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah. Okay, great. Thank you. We can do requirement when it comes to customer service types of services. Because it sounds like...and, you know, again, thank you to Pro Tem Kama for allowing us the discussion. I know last week I was getting texts and...you know, from all types of people. So hearing some of the testimony today really helped to kind of put things in perspective. And one of it, I believe is...you're right, some of these...some of these grants is just specific to either shelters, specific to either outreach...so not all of the funding are going towards satisfying, you know, all of the different objectives of the grants. So thank you for that clarification.

MS. TSUHAKE: Madam Chair, may I please respond to Councilmember's comments, please?

CHAIR KAMA: Absolutely, yeah.

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MS. TSUHAKE: So...and thank you for that comment. I think what you heard today, you know, in all fairness, was not the full story. So I would not characterize the testimony that was offered today as the full story. I think that there are many systems in place that are not understood by many people, and I'll give you an example. One of the testifiers complained about a coordinated entry system. A coordinated entry system is not a program that I designed, people way smarter than me designed it at HUD, right. And it's a requirement...it's a requirement in order for us to receive funding from HUD to house people who are chronically homeless, okay. If we decide, as a County, we don't like that system, then we also have to decide that we're going to have to fund other ways to put people who are chronically homeless and disabled, and pay for their housing, because we ain't gonna get the money from HUD, right. So there's systems in place that have a nexus between Federal law and Federal requirements. I don't get to change that.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Right.

MS. TSUHAKE: So in order to...in order to think critically about further enhancing a service system to make it more accessible, or more...allow more people to be serviced or, you know, whatever the particular take is, we have to understand what exists and why it exists. And then supplement, right, to fit the pukas that maybe are not being met by this outside system that we're compelled to use. So instead of blowing the whole thing up because we just don't like it, we can...we need to understand what it is first, and then supplement and plan for that.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

MS. TSUHAKE: So I respectfully disagree because I do not think that you heard the whole story today.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Mahalo, Director, for that response. Because it just sounds like we didn't reach...it sounds like we didn't reach everybody for whatever reasons, but we did within our...you know, the services that we have, we did reach majority. I think a lot of that testimony was how do we get everybody. So again, mahalo. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KAMA: You're welcome, Mr. Sinenci. Lori, could you explain the V-SPDAT [sic] program.

MS. TSUHAKE: Yes, Madam Chair. It's actually called the VI-SPDAT, it's an acronym. It stands for the Vulnerability Index Service Prioritization Decisions Assistance Tool. This is a tool that's been deemed evidenced based, that means it's been researched and proven to be consistent and able to be used across different settings. It was developed by a guy called Ian De Jong, who works out of Canada, who is a world renowned expert in homelessness who has actually come to Maui to train outreach workers in using this tool. One of the requirements that HUD puts on us as a service system is that we all use the same tool to assess a homeless person's need for resources. The VI-SPDAT is the tool that has been adopted...it has been adopted across the State of Hawaii as that

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assessment tool. And that assessment tool allows everybody who is trained to use it to interview the person being interviewed on a standard scale, to come up with a score that shows us how much resources that person needs in order to solve their homelessness. So the VI-SPDAT is not a difficult tool, you have to be trained in how to administer it, but it is...it does contain very intrusive questions. Because in order understand how vulnerable a homeless person is, you have to ask questions like, do you have a history of mental illness? Do you have a history of substance abuse, right? So you can imagine that that's not an easy question to ask somebody. It's not an easy question to answer honestly, especially if you are surrounded by multiple people who you don't know. I mean, how many people are going to be able to answer that question honestly if they are...don't have privacy with the person who is asking. So that tool, Chairman, allows the system to look at the level of vulnerability of that homeless person, and allows us to assign the proper amount of resources to that person. So in the old days, before we had that common assessment tool, I could...if I were a homeless provider and I liked you, I can say hey, I'm going to give you...you know, I'll give you housing because that's what you need. And for somebody else, it might be, uh, I'll give you...I'll help you with your food stamp application, okay. But there was no nexus between the actual need and the resource. This forces us, as a system, to be more accountable for how we use resources. So in my estimation, having a coordinated system using the same instrument to determine vulnerability is a good thing. It really increases the accountability of how resources are used. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Ms. Paltin, did you have other questions, or did other Members have questions?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: If other Members don't, I do.

CHAIR KAMA: I guess...you're up.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just was wondering about the testifier, Ms. Ibarra, when she was mentioning that the grant application was the same, and then...so there was no opportunity for her to change that score for the following years. I just was wondering, you know, if we're looking to create improvement in the process, if you guys...if what she was saying is true, if you guys consider making it...if it's something that doesn't change over the years, consider making it N/A, and basing the percentage on the remaining categories that do change. Because it may give a slanted perspective if we're looking for improvement, and you have a static column. Any comments on that?

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you, Councilmember. I'm going to defer to Curtis to respond to that, please. Curtis.

MR. JAMISON: Yeah. Thank you, Director. Thank you, Councilmember Paltin, and Council Chair...or Committee Chair for allowing us to come today. Yeah, I think she's correct in the sense that it's an application that's submitted before. For us to develop the budget, the applications do go in quite a bit of time, and we do two-year grants. So she's right in the sense that application may have been received three years...or two to three years before we do the assessment. And we don't change it because we feel, you know, we

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really can't, you know. The application was received, and they didn't apply again, so the score will stick and follow through. We do feel that it's still representative of that grant, right, so it still represents the amount of work it took for our Staff to move that grant and that application from when it came in to how we can then use it to make the grant agreement. So we could put on there N/A and take it out, but then it actually removes information from, you know, the target audience, which is actually the Mayor's office and the Council. It removes information. And if you just put an N/A in there, granted, you know, it's showing, but then you wouldn't really see that how much work it took our staff to do that. So I feel it's probably better to leave it in. And if you look across and that's the only thing that's a bad score, but over the year we saw an increase in everything else, the assessment would be that that grantee has increased their capacity to administer their grant. So yeah, it's still...I'm sorry, go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Any objection to like...you know, I mean, I could look through all the previous year report cards, but I'm wondering if there is any objection to like maybe an asterisk and a footnote if it's a repeated score from a previous year, so we're not saying like, how come every year this guy has a 3.5 application, and it's like oh, it's the same application. That way you're still providing the information...you might even be providing more information. Because we're like oh, why is this guy always getting a 3.5 on his application? Oh, it's the same application from whatever year it got received in. And then we know like well, we're not expecting any improvement because we can't go back in time and do it. Would that make sense?

MR. JAMISON: Yeah, we can see about a way to kind of make a denotation of that...you know, we can consider a way to do it. But...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Awesome. Thank you.

MR. JAMISON: Yeah, we can...I'm just thinking through what it looks like as the grantees go through...I mean not the grantees, but the Grant Specialists go through the evaluation process, and what it might take to compile that in a manner that's meaningful. So we can try to put as much information in as we can, but then it just becomes this compounded document, and there's already a lot in there. So to try to get information that is meaningful to people, and yet fit it in a document that is accessible and understandable. But maybe we can take a look at it and see if there is a way to indicate that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, maybe like a color code based on what year it was submitted, and that it's like staying that same color means it was always submitted in 2016, or...I don't know, asterisk, footnote. I'll leave it to your creativity. And I'll yield to Member Sugimura.

CHAIR KAMA: Yes, Member Sugimura.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Chair, I know you're trying to adjourn this meeting at 3:30, so...

CHAIR KAMA: 4:00.

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VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: I just want to...oh, did you say 4:00?

CHAIR KAMA: Yeah, 4:00.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. So I just had to add what I think the...because I'd worked with grants before and--not with Housing and Human Concerns necessarily--but I understand how a grant is really important. So I think what the Department is saying--and correct me if I'm wrong, Curtis--but somebody submits a grant to you, and it's for a three-year period. So they get funded based upon what the criteria is for the funding, right, and they say they're going to do certain things. So even if they write that grant this year and it's good for three years, they still need to perform. So that's why that grant is really important. And I think what I'm hearing you say is that the Department then still utilizes the same data that you receive. So it doesn't become void, so it's like a not N/A or...you know, it's relevant for the duration of the grant. I think it's important, that score, because it's going...I think that's what you're saying.

MR. JAMISON: On the application side, I think that's the way it is. All the rest of them get assessed as the years go, but on the application side...so in the case that all of these ones that we receive now for Fiscal Year '21, that application was likely received...the first time we saw it would've been October, so 2019 is when we get them. So as that process moves forward, and it's not an assessment of the application received if we're going to fund it or not, it's an assessment of the application as far as its clarity and ability to contract. So once we get into the application, that one won't really be able to change very much.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. JAMISON: But everything is definitely live...at evaluation as the years go.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: And then the other thing is, today a lot of the testifiers...I think that they are basically looking at the Amala Street project because it was from the first testifier and on. And for some reason they have all...not they have all, but a lot of the testimony was about Family Life Center. And I know it was many, many organizations that put it together, including the Departments. So I don't know, maybe Tasha will schedule something on Amala Place for another day or something so that we can kind of sort this out because...were they the only non-profit there for wraparound services?

MS. TSUHAKE: Councilmember Sugimura, if I may, let me respond to that. Family Life Center wasn't the only partner that the County had. You know, normally, when the County engages in an intervention in an illegal homeless encampment, Family Life Center's role is very clear. They go out before the intervention on a regular basis, and then increase the number of contacts that they have prior to the actual intervention itself to offer the services to people, right, that is their role. They are not involved in the actual enforcement of trespassing or the law enforcement or anything like that. Unfortunately, during this intervention, they were asked to go into that series of encampments while the intervention occurred, which is not normally how it happens when the intervention

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is scheduled. So I'm afraid that the County's...the County's implementation of that intervention really put Family Life Center in a situation where they are being unfairly criticized today.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: No wonder.

MS. TSUHAKE: And I apologize to the agency for that because in all honestly, they do, you know, more than 70 percent of the homeless work in our community, and they didn't deserve that today. I think that it's...you know, like I said earlier, there is requirements of the different facets of homelessness that our contracts reflect. There's homeless outreach, which is a specific set of duties. It's not, you know, just this open tablet where anybody can throw their idea in about what homeless outreach is. It's guided. It's they're in black and white what homeless outreach is. The same with shelters, you know. The State is the primary funder of homeless shelters here on Maui. And we work with them ahead of the intervention to see if the shelters would be able to reserve spaces so that when the intervention occurred, and people said, okay, I'm willing to go, that there were spaces available. We knew how many spaces were needed. There were spaces set aside. Some people chose to go...you know, I think more than 30 people were sheltered. Some people chose not to and, you know, I'm...for whatever reason. I'm not here to judge them, I'm just saying that the service was there, we set aside shelter beds with the cooperation of our shelter providers, and they were offered. I'm not discounting the experience of the people who testified earlier, but I'm also saying that the County operates our grants with expectations of what the providers do. And if, you know, you don't know what that is...what they're required to do, what their outcomes are, and you think they're supposed to be doing something else, then it's...you know, yeah, I can see where criticism arises out of that. I do. But they weren't supposed to be there on the...at the time of the intervention.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

MS. TSUHAKE: If they were asked to come there in the event that anybody changed their mind at the last second and wanted to have access to services. And they were willing to oblige, but they weren't...you know, in any other intervention we've had, they haven't been there.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR KAMA: So Lori, you know, the grants that the County gives is based upon a need to be filled. And therefore, grantees submit proposals that says this is a need in the community, and this is how I'm going to fill that need for a year or two or three, and this is how much it's going to cost, and this is how I anticipate doing it. In my own life, we used to do grants based on RFPs, you know. The Feds or the State or an entity would put out the request, and then people would just apply, right, and then the best RFP that could support that would get the funding. How come the County doesn't do that?

MS. TSUHAKE: I don't know, Chair. I think Council Chair Lee probably has a better historical perspective of that than I do, but I know that in years past, when we had a Grants

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Review Committee, they did issue RFPs for certain programs. I think the fact that agencies can come to this body and get line item grants also, it sort of undermines the concept of doing a pure RFP. I wouldn't object to it necessarily, but I don't know that all of the grantees or even this body would like that. I don't know. I don't know if there's an appetite for that, but I mean, as the Director of Department, I wouldn't...I would not object to doing a pure RFP.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. I just want to acknowledge our Vice-Chair Keani Rawlins-Fernandez has appeared before us, so we're...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, Chair.

CHAIR KAMA: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I've been watching.

CHAIR KAMA: Oh, good. Thank you. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I've been watching the meeting, and I had a question, and I popped on.

CHAIR KAMA: Oh, so I think I was going to turn over to Member Paltin, so if Member Paltin doesn't mind, we're going to allow our Vice-Chair to ask her question.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, and I'm glad she came on, because my next round of questions was on the Moloka'i grant. So I'll yield to her. And then after that I had questions about the Moloka'i grant, so that's perfect.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Okay. Vice-Chair, ask away.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Mahalo, Member Paltin. So it seems like there is a need, and you kind of...I heard some of the response, I think, to my question, to Chair Kama's question, but it sounds like there's a need, and we're trying to have Family Life Center fill that need that they didn't apply for money to fill. And so my question is, if Family Life Center didn't exist, who would be filling the need that Family Life Center right now fills?

MS. TSUHAKE: Good afternoon, Council Vice-Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MS. TSUHAKE: So to answer your question, first of all, is Family Life Center...in order to receive a grant for the services that we pay for, they do support...I mean, they do submit an application. So I don't know if we'd want to mince words about whether it's an application or a request or whatever, but they do submit the same application paperwork that every other grantee that is processed through our Department receives and submits. So I might consider that a request and a proposal to do whatever the

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program that is being applied for. If Family Life Center didn't exist, my hope is that there would be another agency that could provide that piece of the work that they do...I don't know what it is. In the past...in the most recent past, we've had Salvation Army also have contracts with the State for homeless outreach, but they've been...sort of been subcontracted to do that work...no longer a direct grantee with the State. But I don't know. I don't know the answer to that because Family Life Center does exist, and they have been granted funds.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for responding to my question, Director. And Chair, I don't know if you are limiting everyone to like one question or a time, I don't want to...

CHAIR KAMA: Actually, our Committee is such a small Committee that we just kind of like just play it by ear. But I did want to end today's meeting by 4:00. And I see...yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Can I ask a follow up?

CHAIR KAMA: Yes, you may. And then we'll go to Chair Lee after.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No, I just wanted to say that we're giving all of our time to Member Paltin, so we'll give some to you now, Vice-Chair. I'm joking.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I love this Committee, you are all so generous.

CHAIR KAMA: Oh, I'm sure Ms. Paltin doesn't mind.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. I just have one follow up, and then I'll yield the floor. Okay. So my follow-up question to that is it seems like oftentimes we're kind of at the mercy of like the community being willing to step up to do the work. And so are there things that are...are there needs that are not being filled that the County itself could step in to fill because there aren't any non-profits willing to fill those gap needs?

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you for that very thought-provoking question. I don't know is my answer. I think there are probably many needs that are not being met that I don't know about, and certainly, it would be one consideration for the County to try and subsume the provision of those needs within the Department. But, you know, that's a different discussion all together right. I'd need to expand the capacity of the Department to address a different and additional work. But I mean, I'd certainly be willing to have discussions about that if there is, you know, particular needs that we cannot find resources to meet, or a way to sort of address to the larger benefit of the community. I'm certainly happy to discuss that.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director. Yeah, because it sounds like from testimony there are needs that they are hoping that Family Life Center would fill.

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But if that is not included in the scope of work that they applied for funding from the County for, then...and there is no other entity willing to get a grant from the County to do that work, then perhaps we need, as the County, to take that responsibility so that our community isn't getting frustrated at entities that are following the scope of work in which they are getting funding from the County from. And there's an unmet need, and we heard it in testimony, you know, that they felt...the community felt that no one was there during the sweep to help those that are unsheltered. And if that's what, you know, we're hearing from the community, instead of, you know, them being frustrated at these grantees, you know, perhaps we need to step up and do a better job as a County to address this. But like you said, it's a discussion for another time. And I'll yield the floor, Chair. Mahalo.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I'm kind of concerned specifically with the Moloka'i Community Service Council Inc. and their remarks. You know, I know when we first came on...and I agree with Member Kama saying that, you know, it's a little bit discriminatory to the non-profits that don't have...aren't able to front monies. And it says in this one that they were fronted the 25 percent, and then they were resistant to giving information, and I just am concerned. And then I noticed that three other of the Moloka'i grantees that deal with like human service issues had declining scores from the previous year. So I just was wondering like is there an obstacle? Does Grants Management go to Moloka'i to work with folks, or like is there a known reason for this decline with the Moloka'i grants? Are they not getting the same sort of support as being on Maui?

MS. TSUHAKO: Councilmember Paltin, thank you. This is Lori. I'm going to yield to Mr. Jamison to answer your question in particular, but I will tell you that this agency has received more than its share of technical support from my Staff. And we have not been able, on a large scale, to correct deficiencies, and that is reflected in the score that were received. But Curtis, you can provide the Councilmember with a little bit more detail of what has...what kind of work was involved for grants management on these grants.

MR. JAMISON: Yeah. Thank you, Director. So I think first off, no, I don't think necessarily being on Moloka'i puts anybody at a disadvantage. Prior to the pandemic we did have budgets, and our Staff would travel there to meet and monitor grantees on Moloka'i. When the pandemic set in and travel was greatly reduced, it did make it more difficult to monitor, but I think that that was applicable to across the board. We moved to a much more virtually programming, so it did slow things down a bit whereas grantees would submit documents electronically, but that also applied to all grantees, not just those from the other islands or any of the remote. Even some of the ones in Wailuku, we had to submit everything electronically for monitoring purposes. As for the ones on Moloka'i, that one agency, as Lori said, has received a massive amount of assistance and time put in from our Staff here at the Division, and it is a very difficult program to work with and collaborate with. We did end up finding substantial discrepancies in reporting and processes, and even had to request funds returned to the County. So

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that one agency has problematic. The other agency from Moloka'i, the Child Abuse Prevention Pathways, went through a large transition and leadership, which then led to a lot of difficulties internally. And we did work with them and the new executive director. And, you know, there is transition and we take that into account but, you know, at the same time, institutions should be able to move forward with some level of consistency during that process, and we try to take that into consideration for scores. But also, like the Moloka'i Humane Society, there was an increase in their score of the year as we were able to work and provide assistance to them when we saw a response in improvement from that agency. So I hope that helps shed some light on that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes, I imagine transition during a pandemic is also compounded. The one in particular agency below 50 percent...so we're requesting the advance payment back to the County, is that what you meant?

MR. JAMISON: No, not the advance payment, but at the end of the year, when we monitored them and we looked at their financial records, we found difficulties. So payments went out to the grantee, but then at the end, we needed to have some funds returned to us. Now, to the grantee's credit, on the other two grants they have, the Domestic Violence Shelter and the Kapili Umbrella Program...occasionally with grants, because we operate on an allotment sequence, they end up with more funds than they spend, and at the end of the year we balance that out. And the grantee was...you know, supplied those funds back to the County because they were unspent funds. And so in that sense they're willing to return the funds that they know that they haven't spent. But in monitoring the reports on the Youth Center, we did find discrepancies that needed to be corrected.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And I guess...what does this mean going forward into the next budget cycle or grant?

MR. JAMISON: That's a good question.

MS. TSUHAKO: I'll answer that. I'll answer that, Curtis. So what that means going into the budget is that we will...we as a Department have received requests for funding for Fiscal Year '23 and '24--because we do the grants in two-year cycles. So we are reviewing those right now, looking at the project proposals for what they intend to do and amount of money that they ask for. And when the Department puts together our budget recommendations that get sent up to the Budget Office and the Mayor, we look at...one of the things we consider is the service to the community and the ability of grantees who are requesting funding to actually do the service. So that will be part of our discussion as we go through and decide. We also had a period--Curtis can correct me, but I think it might have been in August--where we offered any of the non-profits an opportunity to submit a request for funding to the Department. So there might have been other agencies that bid for the same service, you know. So let's say you had a tutoring program or something that one agency has received funding for ten years. And all of a sudden, when the invitation was sent out, three different agencies applied to do that tutoring service. And so now, as the Department, we have to look at the proposals by those four different entities and try to figure out which one is the best that we would

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recommend funding for. Ultimately it's the Mayor's decision about whether it shows up in his version of the budget or not, and then you guys...this body afterwards will decide whether to fund it at that recommended level.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you. I'll yield to the other Members.

CHAIR KAMA: Any other Members have questions? Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Just one question for Director Tsuhako. Is the State HUD agency the major funder for the shelters...County shelters?

MS. TSUHAKO: Councilmember, it's actually the State of Hawai'i that's the main funding source for our homeless shelters.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Under like the Housing Department or what agency?

MS. TSUHAKO: It's actually...the money comes through the Department of Human Services, through the homeless programs office. The shelters also may receive some little money through HUD, through emergency solution grant, but that money has been steadily going down over the last 15 years, so they don't receive a lot of support. We don't pay...the County doesn't pay for shelter beds. We support shelters through operational costs and things like that, but we don't pay for shelter beds.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Director. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KAMA: Any other...okay. Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, our Vice-Chair, round two.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Director, as you know, this last budget we created a new appendix, Appendix D, which includes all the grants. In preparation of the next budget session for these grants, I love that you are continuing to do these spreadsheets, it really provides us an easy way to monitor and kind of, you know, see how the performance of the non-profits and the grantees are doing in accordance with what they requested funding for. Would you be willing to have the next round of...or these grantees provide one page of a summary of the programs and services, and one page of their budget for the next Appendix D for budget?

MS. TSUHAKO: So Council Vice-Chair, let me just ask for clarification. So your question is, at the time the Mayor's budget is submitted to the Council, would the Department be willing to attach a one-page programmatic summary and a budget for every one of the grants that's recommended for funding in the Mayor's budget? Is that your question?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

MS. TSUHAKO: I have no problem asking the agencies to do that. I hope they're listening today, and that they would be prepared for that, right, because I don't know how long that would take them. But I'm certainly willing to ask. And once we, meaning the Department, goes through the whole new list of agencies that has applied, and the

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funding requested, and all of that, we can then inform the agencies that they should be prepared to do that so that can be included as a supplemental to the Mayor's request to the Council. And Curtis is going to have to remind me.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And then if they can't have it in time for March 25th, you know, we can put together the Appendix D during the Council's review, like how we did, if they need...if the grantees need more time. But...yeah. So when we put together Appendix D this past budget, I think...I think we had over 100 pages of grant paperwork. Because the budgets were spread across multiple pages, and they weren't summarized on one page and...yeah. So if we could do that, then we could save trees...and it's easier to review.

MS. TSUHAKE: I think if my recollection is correct, the request from the Committee was for whatever we had on file electronically. And so what we have on file is the entirety of the whole budget, and so that's why you ended up...we ended up with multiple pages. But if we ask in a separate being for that much more concise summary and all sources budget or, you know, we can title it whatever we want, then we can meet the spirit of your request too, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, I would really appreciate that. I know...and that whole appendix was a total new thing, you know, we just did that this session. So I appreciate you trying your best to, you know, get us the information we request. Mahalo, Director. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR KAMA: You're very welcome, Vice-Chair. Ms. Paltin, your last question.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to also follow up on the vandalized hygiene unit. Did that negatively affect their score? No. Okay, great.

MS. TSUHAKE: Oh, did you answer Curtis?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: He shook his head no...faster, I guess.

MR. JAMISON: Sorry, that's me thinking my thoughts. But just to comment a little more. No, we understood...and they informed us when it was vandalized, and we understand that that is something beyond the grantee's control, and that the impacts on its program are considered in that process. Even the same grantee and the same program, that mobile hygiene unit was used for multiple things, just as Monique shared, and we understood that as well. And that's why their implementation score was one of satisfactory. It was...they did the best they could during that process. And...you know, could they have done the little things better? There's probably a little room for improvement, but a satisfactory score is not problematic at all for us. So we consider those things when evaluating.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm just wondering if you can expand on the remarks about, you know, the sort of goals and were unclear on what is counted in several goals, development of original outcomes, and outputs needs to be more thoughtful, deliberate

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and data driven to produce meaningful goals like...I guess I don't speak the lingo, and if you could break it down for me in layman's terms.

MR. JAMISON: Sure. So one of the things with that...in that sense is they went through a process of defining the goals for us in the application, what they were hoping to achieve. And during that process, we would clarify with them, is this really what you need? Do you really mean you're going to count individuals? And then as the time goes in and we see the numbers are...and we start asking questions about the reporting, then they come back and they say, well, that's not really what we meant, we meant something like families and...well, then how do you define families? So they kind of...you would hope a goal is the same that then you can evaluate the program and they can measure success as they go. Yet as they went, they continued to redefine their measure. So in the end, are we able to say if the program is successful if they keep the changing the indicator of progress? And that's what happened with this grantee. They changed their indicators through the course of the year. And, you know, part of it is through the assessment, but a little bit with this one is at the beginning or...I'm sorry, not part of the assessment. Part of it, as a program implements, they may encounter the need to make adjustments. But with them, we really tried to clarify things upfront. And then we found out that even then, internally, it seemed like it was a moving target, and so we really weren't able to get goals. And that's kind of what the discussion is regarding the hygiene units need to be able to...you know, they were unclear on their goals and their measures that they were reporting it and, you know, we have to go through that process every time with them to continually redefine how they're measuring their program...when we try to do that upfront, and yet we end up having to do it again in the middle of the year.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I understand where you're coming from, but at the same time as well, I imagine trying to provide these types of social services during a pandemic, there would be a little bit...I mean, quite a bit of pivoting as well. Because, you know, like I mean, just look at how the County spent all its CARES money, and we had to blow 66 million in ten months or something like that, you know. And the data involving hygiene and a pandemic was a little bit of a moving target as well. So I just was wondering, like do you think that the pandemic and the changing needs of the population they serve was kind of a factor in that, or was this...is this how it always is during non-pandemic times?

MR. JAMISON: Yeah. Thank you, that's good. So it helps us define the difference between when they implement and things change in the field, right. So you're working with homeless populations, and those homeless populations, the dynamics change as the pandemic came into place, so the services that you're going to provide may need to change, right. So maybe you say you're going to get 100 people, but you only get 50. That is understandable during the process of a pandemic, and that's not what this is addressing. So one of the things is internally, how do you measure if you're...who you're helping, and you say, we're going to help individuals, and we're going to measure by...each individual that we help, that's who we're going to count. And then through...we say, are you sure you're going to count individuals? They say, yeah, we're going to count individuals. And then in the process, they say, well, we don't want to

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count individuals anymore, it's better for us to count family units. And then we're like oh, so now you've changed your way you're measuring. Well, then how do you define a family unit? So it's not how are they helping the family unit, it's internally, how did they define the measure, right? How did they define their goal coming forward? We want to get...you know, 100 percent of the people we do are doing to do a VI-SPDAT. Well, 100 percent is extremely difficult to reach, so are you sure you want to 100 percent? Yeah, we want to do 100 percent. And then down the course of the year they don't reach 100 percent. And then you're like, you know, we kind of checked with you earlier, and now we're...you're kind of redefining how you want to do things in that regard. So it's multiple levels we change. Across the board with the other grantees, everybody pivoted in a lot of ways, especially the social services fields with the pandemic. And now they have to pivot back to this new reality of how you operate, and we're trying our best to do that. Our goal has always been maintain services, adapting services as needed, and maintaining the workforce to allow people to keep people employed, right. So we really try to work with grantees to insure that those things were in place, and not to hold them accountable for the fact the pandemic happened. It's not their fault, it's not our fault, it's not your fault, right. So we try to incorporate...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you so much, Mr. Jamison. I could ask you questions all day, but I want to respect Member Kama's 4:00 p.m. deadline. Thank you so much, Member...or Chair Kama, and Director Tsuhako, and Mr. Jamison.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Yes, Ms. Sugimura.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, I just want to thank the Department. And I do remember that this format...this matrix that we're using for all the Departments, it was --

CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- you were the one that created it, so I wanted to give you credit when you presented it. It was totally impressive, and I'm glad to see it's being continued. So thank you, Mr. Jamison, for your good work, and thanks, Lori.

CHAIR KAMA: Again, I'd like to reiterate. Thank you, Lori, and thank you, Curtis, for being here for answering all of our questions. And we're going to bring you back because it is my intent to defer this, Members, without objections. And we'll bring them back again, and we can have a more in-depth discussion once again.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

ACTION: DEFER.

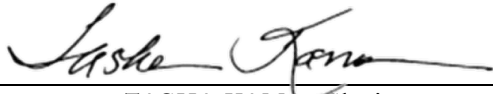
CHAIR KAMA: So thank you all for being here. And the time is now 4:01 p.m., and today's Human Concerns and Parks Committee meeting is now adjourned. Thank you all.
...*(gavel)*...

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ADJOURN: 4:01 p.m.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tasha Kama', written over a horizontal line.

TASHA KAMA, Chair
Human Concerns and Parks Committee

hcp:min:210930:ta

Transcribed by: Terianne Arreola

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CERTIFICATION

I, Terianne Arreola, hereby certify that pages 1 through 43 of the foregoing represents, to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED the 8th day of November 2021, in Wailuku, Hawai'i

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Terianne Arreola', written over a horizontal line.

Terianne Arreola