

Community Empowerment

The Office of Primary Care and Rural Health partners with a number of entities that focus on primary care services for the medically underserved and rural populations (e.g. the Hawaii Primary Care Association, the Hawaii State Rural Health Association, county-based rural health associations on the islands of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui, and emerging community rural health initiatives and organizations).

The [Hawaii Primary Care Association](#) is an organization dedicated to improving the health of communities in need by advocating for, expanding access to, and sustaining high quality health care through their statewide network of community health centers.

The [Hawaii State Rural Health Association](#) is an organization whose purpose is to provide communications, education, and research opportunities related to rural health issues in Hawaii and to provide leadership in developing healthy rural communities. The Association was incorporated in 1998 and is an active member of the National Rural Health Association (NRHA) and the NRHA State Association Council. Hawaii Rural Health Association membership is composed of the members of local rural health associations statewide. The Hawaii Rural Health Association participates in national and local health initiatives, promotes health networks, provides grassroots input into statewide health planning, and promotes development of new services for rural areas.