



Please enjoy the June 2026 edition of the AMHD Bulletin! This bulletin is dedicated to sharing updates and opportunities with our outstanding Adult Mental Health Division service providers. Stay informed and engaged!

AMHD Announces 5% Rate Increase for Group Home Services Effective June 1, 2026

The Adult Mental Health Division (AMHD) is pleased to announce a 5% rate increase for Group Home Services, effective June 1, 2026, for contracted providers delivering group home services to consumers served by AMHD. This rate adjustment reflects AMHD's continued commitment to strengthening Hawaii's behavioral health continuum of care and supporting the sustainability of community-based residential programs that serve adults with serious mental illness. Group homes play a critical role in promoting recovery, stability, independent living skills, and successful community integration for our consumers. The increase is intended to assist providers in addressing rising operational costs and supporting ongoing workforce recruitment and retention efforts while maintaining high-quality, person-centered services. AMHD recognizes the essential contributions of providers and direct care staff in delivering safe, supportive, and recovery-oriented residential environments across the State. AMHD appreciates the partnership and dedication of our community providers and remains committed to investing in services that strengthen behavioral health outcomes and improve access to care throughout Hawaii.

Reminder: Federal Audit Requirements

Contracted service providers are reminded to submit their annual financial audits to the AMHD Fiscal Office, as required in the Provider Manual. Timely submission is necessary to ensure compliance with contractual and program requirements.

Reminder: Updated SFTP Website for 837P File Uploads

All contracted service providers are to use the new SFTP website for submitting 837P files. As part of this update, the username format has changed. Please review the updated login information below:

- **Old username format:** username@AMHD_HI
- **New username format:** username@myAvatar
- Passwords will remain the same.

Please ensure that all future 837P file uploads are completed using the new SFTP site and updated username format. If you experience any issues accessing the system or submitting files.



Mental Health-related Bills passed this Legislative Session

Recent legislation may impact how mental health services are delivered across Hawai'i.

- **SB847** regarding a three-year pilot on Kaua'i and Hawai'i Island allowing specially trained psychologists to prescribe certain psychotropic medications to adults, under physician or psychiatrist supervision.
- **SB2721** implements recommendations from the 2025 Advisory Committee on Penal Code Review, established pursuant to Act 245, SLH 2024, to amend the Hawai'i Penal Code. Effective 9/1/2026.
HB2505 clarifies that community mental health outpatient programs participating in assisted community treatment (ACT) can prepare certificates and file ACT petitions with the Family Court.
- **HB1854** HB1854 establishes the Community Behavioral Health Clinics Certifying Office to certify and decertify community behavioral health clinics and provide technical assistance for clinics seeking certification.
- The Senate affirmatively consented to ten Governor nominees to four advisory bodies, the State Council on Mental Health and Service Area Boards for Kaua'i, Maui, and O'ahu.

AMHD Fiscal Instructions

1. Submission of electronic claims – upon uploading the claim files to the SFTP website, kindly send an email containing the summary of the invoices worksheet that indicates the files uploaded to doh.amhdfiscal@doh.hawaii.gov. This action will notify the Fiscal unit that the claim files have been submitted, ensuring they are processed within the time frame.
2. Providers must submit claims on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. Claims should be filed for the dates of service from the 1st to the 15th and from the 16th to the end of the month. Should the provider choose to submit claims for the entire month, this is permissible; however, overlapping dates may result in claims being denied for duplicate submission, which would increase manual work on our part and delay payment. It would be beneficial if claims were submitted for only one month at a time rather than combined across 2 or 3 months.



Mental Health Awareness Month



Other News. . .

The Maui Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) will implement a Sliding Fee Scale effective July 1, 2026, to help ensure services remain affordable based on household income and family size. No one will be denied services due to inability to pay, and clients may be asked to provide proof of income so staff can determine the appropriate cost share. Go to their website to learn more about the CCBHC sliding fee scale:

<https://wellness.hawaii.gov/services/>