



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
3627 KILAUEA AVENUE, ROOM 101
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816

In reply, please refer to:
File:

November 23, 2020

Dear Providers,

Subject: Updates to CAMHD Operations Considering COVID-19

On behalf of the CAMHD management, we continue to be grateful for your flexibility and innovation during these challenging times. Our ruler for decision-making has always been (1) the health of you, our staff and clients, (2) mitigation practices i.e. wearing a mask and physical distancing, and (3) maintaining a functioning public health system. As a result, we plan to continue to serve our youth and families without a break in service while complying with the state, city and county mandates. Please familiarize yourself with the following reminders:

1. While youth and family air travel are primarily limited to admission and discharge from programs, **in light of the holidays and the clinical importance of physical connection with families, we are continuing to consider therapeutic passes and travel on a case by case basis.** Please contact the Clinical Leads and Care Coordinators with questions.
2. We continue to authorize and encourage therapists to use telehealth for treatment services. **That said, telehealth is not clinically appropriate for all clients and families and we are absolutely supportive of in-person therapy when it can be conducted in a safe manner.**

We remain committed to keeping you up to date on the situation and ensuring quality services for our youth and family clients. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Provider Relations Liaison, Carol Evans at Carol.Evans@doh.hawaii.gov or 808-733-9857.

Thank you for all that you do for our local families!

Sincerely,

Scott Shimabukuro, Ph.D., ABPP
Acting Administrator, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division
State of Hawaii, Department of Health