



Child &  
Adolescent  
Mental  
Health  
Division



## About Us

The CAMHD is committed to mental health acceptance and the provision of culturally sensitive, child and family-centered mental health services that are free of charge for eligible children and youth who have severe emotional and/or behavioral challenges.

The CAMHD provides services statewide via three branches: the Family Court Liaison Branch, Neighbor Island Services Branch, which includes Family Guidance Centers (FGCs) on Hawai'i Island (East and West Hawai'i), Kaua'i, and Maui, and the O'ahu Services Branch with FGCs in Honolulu, Central (Kāne'ohe and Pearl City), and Leeward (Kapolei).

## Our Mission & Vision

Promoting resilience and well-being in the children and families of Hawai'i by advocating for mental health acceptance and providing quality and accessible mental health services.

All CAMHD goals and objectives serve the ultimate vision of: Thriving Children, Healthy Families, Supportive Communities.

## CAMHD Strategic Plan 2023-2026 Priorities & Goals



### Behavioral Health Equity

Increase and expand accessibility and reduce health disparities for all youth in need of mental health services.



### Data-Driven Decision-Making

Enhance our mental health system by using data and evidence to meet the mental health needs of youth and their families.



### Prevention (1°, 2°, and 3°)

Actively promote primary, secondary, and tertiary mental health prevention. 1° prevention = before disorders; 2° prevention = early stages of disorders; and 3° prevention = after crisis.

### CAMHD Administrative Office Location



**3627 Kīlauea Ave Room 101  
Honolulu, HI 96816**



The American Psychological Association officially recognized clinical child psychology as a specialty in 1998, so Hawai'i was ahead of its time when state statutes established a branch of the Adult Mental Health Division for child and adolescent mental health in 1974. Fifty-one years later, these Hawai'i statutes were updated, fully recognizing the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Division (CAMHD) and its work addressing youth mental health needs. This strategic plan update highlights activities and progress toward achieving the CAMHD's strategic plan goals.



### Behavioral Health Equity

The CAMHD contracted with the University of Hawai'i, School of Public Health (UH-PH), to conduct a statewide youth mental health needs assessment to advance behavioral health equity by first improving understanding of equal access to mental health services for all youth. The goal of this assessment is to identify gaps between mental health needs and available resources so that the CAMHD may advocate for services that optimally meet these needs. UH-PH is now in the third year of its 5-year assessment. They completed a retrospective data review and a literature review of publications on Hawai'i's youth mental health, and will begin proactively seeking youth mental health data from the community. Their findings will be reported and used to draft CAMHD's 2027 – 2030 strategic plan.

Reducing the stigma of mental health through mental health acceptance is a step toward attaining behavioral health equity. Mental health care is often avoided because society's perceptions of mental health disorders are negative, fueled by mental health misinformation. The CAMHD regularly promotes mental health acceptance by increasing mental health awareness through public service announcements, media campaigns, and community awareness events.



### Data-Driven Decision-Making

The CAMHD continues to develop and enhance decision-making tools for both clinical and administrative practices. The CAMHD's reports and dashboards summarize data to inform decisions about specific clients and groups of clients served. Recent advances in clinical progress reports summarize treatment practices and progress for each client, helping clinicians identify effective practices for their clients. Provider Feedback Reports summarize client characteristics and treatment practices for each agency's client services, helping provider agencies optimize services and identify staff training needs. The CAMHD continuously improves the integrity of the data collected by examining data quality and ways to improve data reliability and validity.



### Prevention

The CAMHD provides secondary and tertiary mental health prevention through outreach to community providers and by helping youth (and their families) experiencing severe emotional disturbances build resilience to cope with and recover from future crises. The CAMHD's On-Track Hawai'i (OT-HI) program for first-episode psychosis (FEP) exemplifies tertiary prevention by providing treatment to youth ages 15 to 24 to mitigate the risk of later serious mental illness. Individuals with FEP have a "window" of time, known as the Duration of Untreated Psychosis (DUP), during which treatment can lead to recovery. If the DUP is prolonged, the chance of recovery decreases. The OT-HI provides a coordinated approach to treating FEP, including medication management, psychotherapy, peer support, education, and employment supports tailored to clients' needs and future goals. For more information about OT-HI, visit [health.hawaii.gov/ontrackhi](https://health.hawaii.gov/ontrackhi).