

STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO

JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR OF HAWAI'I KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I

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ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT December 2025

Subarea Health Planning Councils (SACs)

Hawaii County Subarea Health Planning Council (HCSAC) Honolulu Subarea Health Planning Council (HONSAC) Kauai County Subarea Health Planning Council (KCSAC) Tri-Isle Subarea Health Planning Council (TISAC) West Oahu Subarea Health Planning Council (WOSAC) Windward Oahu Subarea Health Planning Council (WISAC)

SACs	Date of SAC Meeting/Activity in November	Date of Latest Updates Available at https://health.hawaii.gov/shp da/public-meeting-minutes/	Date of Next Meeting/Activity Scheduled
Hawaii	November 18, 2025	November 18, 2025	Has not been scheduled
Honolulu	November 14, 2025	November 14, 2025	Has not been scheduled
Kauai	Did not meet	December 16, 2024	Has not been scheduled
Tri-Isle	Did not meet	August 8, 2025	Educational Visit, December 8, 2025
West Oahu	Did not meet	September 18, 2025	Has not been scheduled
Windward Oahu	Did not meet	Not available	Has not been scheduled

Statewide Health Coordinating Council (SHCC)

Date of SHCC	Date of Latest Updates Available at	Date of Next Meeting/Activity
Meeting/Activity in November	https://health.hawaii.gov/shpda/public- meeting-minutes/	Scheduled
Scheduled meeting on November 26, 2025 was cancelled	August 20, 2025	Has not been scheduled

Statewide Health Coordinating Council-Plan Development Committee (PDC)

Date of PDC Meeting/Activity in November	Date of Latest Updates Available at https://health.hawaii.gov/shpda/public-meeting-minutes/	Date of Next Meeting/Activity Scheduled
Did not meet	November 18, 2024	Has not been scheduled

Advisory Councils

Health Data Advisory Council Keiki Advisory Council Kupuna Advisory Council Universal Access Advisory Council

Advisory Councils	Date of Advisory Council Meeting/Activity in November	Date of Latest Updates Available at https://health.hawaii.gov/shp da/public-meeting-minutes/	Date of Next Meeting/Activity Scheduled
Data	Did not meet	July 22, 2025	Has not been scheduled
Keiki	Did not meet	November 1, 2024	Has not been scheduled
Kupuna	Did not meet	October 31, 2025	December 19, 2025
Universal Access	Did not meet	February 10, 2025	Has not been scheduled

Health System Reform

There has been significant discussion about health system reform in November regarding the AHEAD grant's progress; the Rural Health Transformation Project (RHTP) state application; and the passage of HR 1 (so-called Big Beautiful Bill).

AHEAD continues to be supported by the new Administration in DC, including CMS' interest in promoting spending of RHTP funds, if desired by states, to help hospitals, doctors, other clinicians, and clinics prepare for value-based reimbursement models which CMS strongly favors. This would include helping AHEAD grantee states like Hawai'i help these providers with technical assistance (TA) to get ready to participate in the AHEAD model. This is good

Health System Reform (continued)

because we have limited funds for this kind of TA with AHEAD funds; and Hawai`i did include such a funding request in our RHTP proposal. Working closely with DOH, Med-QUEST, UH and HAH, SHPDA was centrally engaged in getting Hawaii's proposal ready with the governor's office. A monumental task, it was completed on time in November; and now we wait for CMS' response, due before December 31.

Other major foci of funding requests for the RHTP include workforce development, EHR access and interoperability statewide, rural quality improvement initiatives including kupuna home care services and community hubs for service coordination, healthcare transportation and EMS improvements, and care innovation and chronic disease management. The \$1 trillion cut in Medicaid funding by HR 1 over the next 10 years alarmed red states, where a majority of voters across rural areas could lose their coverage by virtue of the bill's provisions. The \$50 Billion RHTP was born out of that concern. It is important to reflect, however, and even though the rural health opportunity is welcomed and will provide great value, that \$50 B is only 5% of the \$1 Trillion cut to Medicaid the act created.

Finally, Congress' disagreement about the provisions of HR 1 that sunset the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare or ACA) beneficiary tax incentives was the major cause of the longest-ever government shutdown. This is also a health system reform issue. The ACA tax incentives allowed small business owners, gig workers, and other people who earned too much to be Medicaid eligible, but not enough to purchase their own insurance on the "individual" market, to get affordable coverage on the ACA exchanges. If the tax incentives are not restored, most of these folks could again become uninsured, causing a huge burden on hospitals and healthcare providers. The effects could be economically disastrous. In ending the shutdown, Congress members promised to take up this divisive issue immediately and resolve it. We shall see.

By Jack Lewin, MD

Research and Statistics

No report

The Hawaii Health Data Center (HHDC) Project Team

(Updates will be provided in the February, May, August, and November reports.)

Certificate of Need Applications

#25-02A Maui Medical Building LLC

Establishment of Radiation Therapy services and Positron Emission

Tomography/Computed Tomography (PET/CT) services at 214 Kupuohi St.,

Lahaina, HI.

Application disapproved October 30, 2025.

#25-09 Malama Maikai Health and Wellness Alliance, LLC

Establishment of Home Health agency services at 1100 Alakea Street, Suite

1710, Honolulu, HI. Decision pending.

#25-10 Pacific Pearl Medical, LLC

Establishment of Positron Emission Tomography/Computed Tomography (PET/CT) scanner services at 800 Kamaaha Avenue, Unit #6 and #7,

Kapolei, HI.

Waiting for applicant to submit amendments.