



**STATE HEALTH PLANNING  
AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII  
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII

**KENNETH S. FINK, MD, MGA, MPH**  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH  
KA LUNA HO'ŌKELE

**JOHN C. (JACK) LEWIN, M.D.**  
ADMINISTRATOR

1177 Alakea St., #402, Honolulu, HI 96813 Phone: 587-0788 Fax: 587-0783 www.shpda.org

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**  
**February 2026**

**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)

<b>SACs</b>	<b>Date of SAC Meeting/Activity in January</b>	<b>Date of Latest Updates Available at <a href="https://health.hawaii.gov/shpda/public-meeting-minutes/">https://health.hawaii.gov/shpda/public-meeting-minutes/</a></b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting/Activity Scheduled</b>
<b>Hawaii</b>	Did not meet	November 18, 2025	Has not been scheduled
<b>Honolulu</b>	Did not meet	November 14, 2025	Has not been scheduled
<b>Kauai</b>	Did not meet	December 16, 2024	Has not been scheduled
<b>Tri-Isle</b>	Did not meet	August 8, 2025	March 19, 2026
<b>West Oahu</b>	Did not meet	September 18, 2025	Has not been scheduled
<b>Windward Oahu</b>	Did not meet	Not available	February 23, 2026

**Statewide Health Coordinating Council (SHCC)**

<b>Date of SHCC Meeting/Activity in January</b>	<b>Date of Latest Updates Available at <a href="https://health.hawaii.gov/shpda/public-meeting-minutes/">https://health.hawaii.gov/shpda/public-meeting-minutes/</a></b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting/Activity Scheduled</b>
Did not meet	August 20, 2025	Has not been scheduled

**Statewide Health Coordinating Council-Plan Development Committee (PDC)**

<b>Date of PDC Meeting/Activity in January</b>	<b>Date of Latest Updates Available at <a href="https://health.hawaii.gov/shpda/public-meeting-minutes/">https://health.hawaii.gov/shpda/public-meeting-minutes/</a></b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting/Activity Scheduled</b>
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  
Prior Authorization Work Group

<b>Advisory Councils</b>	<b>Date of Advisory Council Meeting/Activity in January</b>	<b>Date of Latest Updates Available at <a href="https://health.hawaii.gov/shpda/public-meeting-minutes/">https://health.hawaii.gov/shpda/public-meeting-minutes/</a></b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting/Activity Scheduled</b>
<b>Data</b>	Did not meet	July 22, 2025	Has not been scheduled
<b>Keiki</b>	Did not meet	November 1, 2024	Has not been scheduled
<b>Kupuna</b>	Did not meet	December 19, 2025	Has not been scheduled
<b>Universal Access</b>	Did not meet	February 10, 2025	Has not been scheduled
<b>Prior Authorization</b>	Did not meet	December 17, 2025	February 9, 2026

**Health System Reform**

ALOHA all: Health system reform is apparent everywhere in Hawai'i. One insurer (Centene–Ohana Care) has left the state suddenly due to financial pressures. HMSA and our largest hospital system (Hawai'i Pacific Health) plan a rather suddenly announced partnership to lessen their financial pressures and reduce admin costs. It appears like a merger to most observers, which may require and Certificate of Need (CON). However, many of the details involved are not yet fully clarified. Very low state Medicare per capita

### **Health System Reform (continued)**

reimbursement is breaking the bank for insurers, hospitals, and providers; and, in parallel, HR1 threatens the ongoing viability of Medicaid (Med-QUEST).

That said, people are still getting excellent care across the state; and there are myriad excellent ideas for improving healthcare moving through the legislature. SHPDA is tracking over 100 bills.

From SHPDA's healthcare policy vantage point, the most interesting event of the past month is the seemingly unnoticed New York State declaration that they aim to create a statewide "single payer" system with their own "public option" insurance plan that will fold over and include Medicare and Medicaid without requiring federal ERISA or other waivers to create. They believe that eliminating private insurers and all the related administrative and profit costs will allow higher reimbursements to providers and lower premiums to consumers. We will see (note they have MUCH higher Medicare and Medicaid per capita reimbursements than Hawai'i to make it easier, and with lower costs of living and housing as a state, even though NYC is as expensive as here).

SHPDA has a new bill streamlining our Chapter 323D statute moving through the legislature. There are several challenges to the CON that appear not to be having much support. And our first mandatory insurance report of their prior authorization practices in 2025 is being prepared for filing with the Legislature on March 1.

It is an exciting but also challenging time. SHPDA's Advisory Councils will have much greater responsibility in the future as named resources for advising the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on consumer and provider feedback on federal program spending here that SHPDA is managing, including the AHEAD CMS grant, and the new Rural Health Transformation Program funding, for which SHPDA is responsible for management of about \$75 Million a year from 2026 through 2030.

Fasten your seat belts! And thank you all for your support and service.

Mahalo, Jack Lewin MD

### **Research and Statistics**

The SHPDA's annual healthcare utilization survey document for calendar year 2025 was distributed to healthcare providers/facilities in January 2026. The healthcare providers/facilities are asked to complete the survey for calendar year 2025 by May 31, 2026.

### **Research and Statistics (continued)**

As required by the 2025 Act 151, SHPDA started to collect information on the prior authorization of healthcare services in January 2026. The instructions and data collection forms are available at SHPDA website <https://health.hawaii.gov/shpda/agency-resources-and-publications/prior-authorization-reporting/>.

### **The Hawaii Health Data Center (HHDC) Project Team**

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

### **Certificate of Need Applications**

#25-10	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.
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