



HAWAII STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
1177 Alakea Street, Suite 402 • Honolulu, HI 96813 • Phone: (808) 587-0788 • www.shpda.org
Honolulu Subarea Health Planning Council

Meeting Minutes
West Oahu Subarea Health Planning Council (WOSAC)
August 7, 2025 | 1:00 PM Hawaii Time
Virtually via Zoom and Physical Meeting Location at
The Keoni Ana Building, 1177 Alakea Street, Suite 402

MEMBERS: Frederick Shaw, Eric Barsatan, Barbara Yamashita, Beverly Inocencio
MEMBERS ABSENT: None
GUESTS: None
SHPDA: John Lewin, Terry Visperas

ATTENDANCE RECORD OF APPOINTED MEMBERS

Date	5/24/23	7/18/23	11/15/23	3/20/24	5/15/24	7/17/24	9/18/24	1/22/25	8/7/2025
Eric Barsatan	O	X	X	X	X	X	O	X	X
Beverly Inocencio	X	X	O	X	X	O	O	O	X
Fredrick Shaw	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Barbara Yamashita							X	X	X

Legend: X=Present; O=Absent; /=No Meeting, *-Chair, **=Vice Chair

Meeting Recording:

https://www.zoomgov.com/rec/share/pas-w4hm_BUmhlbc3IYSFqQdiNqTmUycCr7iwdSHv1qpwm-qeFbWt4TV4B140emf.SZH7ILmt1eSl-mSX

Passcode: 1zU!lwXg

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Eric Barsatan, Member.	
Minutes	<p>Motion to accept the minutes from the January 22, 2025, meeting.</p> <p>Vote: Unanimous. Motion Carried.</p> <p>Public testimony – None.</p>	
Administrator’s Report	<p>The Administrator’s Report was reviewed. All Administrator’s Reports may be accessible via the State Health Planning and Development Agency’s website at https://health.hawaii.gov/shpda/agency-resources-and-publications/administrators-reports/</p> <p>There were no questions.</p>	
WOSAC Priorities	Members were encouraged to reflect on and contribute to the development of a collective goal by sharing ideas and objectives they would like to address, with the support of SHPDA.	
State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA) Updates	<p>J. Lewin, SHPDA Administrator, provided the following updates:</p> <p>Medicare Reimbursement: Stated that Hawaii has the lowest per capita Medicare reimbursement of any state, despite having the highest cost of living. This is due to a flawed congressional formula that is "destabilizing the whole financial circumstance" of healthcare providers. He noted that the Hawaii State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHIPTA) is working on a strategy to address this issue.</p> <p>HR 1 and Medicaid Cuts: Warned of the significant impact of the new federal bill, HR 1, which will cut nearly a trillion dollars from Medicaid over the next decade. He explained that these cuts, which begin in 2028, will particularly hurt West Oahu and could reverse the progress of the state's advanced Med-QUEST program. He noted that the bill could lead to more uninsured people and a reduction in benefits.</p> <p>Federal Funding: Announced that a provision in the same bill allocates \$50 billion for rural healthcare. Hawaii is expected to receive about \$100 million annually from a portion of this fund, which must be used for rural areas. This money, starting in 2026, could help offset the Med-QUEST cuts.</p>	

<p>Standing Committee Reports/Updates</p> <p>Announcements</p>	<p>AHEAD Grant: Discussed a grant awarded to Hawaii, one of only six states to receive it, that aims to reform healthcare payment models. He mentioned the grant incentivizes primary care and requires hospitals to move from a fee-for-service model to a "global budget." He estimated that this grant could bring an additional \$200 million to the state through increased hospital budgets and about \$50 million annually for primary care.</p> <p>Legislative Priorities: Highlighted that SHPDA has been tasked with two major legislative "heavy lifts":</p> <p>Solving the national issue of prior authorization by insurance companies, which often leads to denied claims. SHPDA has been given the authority to demand data from insurers to create transparency and will convene a working group of all stakeholders to find a solution.</p> <p>Addressing the role of Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs), which Dr. Lewin described as a "middleman" that has created problems for pharmacists and patients.</p> <p>Public testimony – none.</p> <p>No committee reports or updates</p> <p>Public testimony – none.</p> <p>Upcoming community and professional events:</p> <p>September 6th - Annual Hawai'i Health Workforce Summit John A. Burns School of Medicine</p> <p>September 19th - On Kauai, Rural Health Association will be holding a rural mental health conference. Click on link: https://hsrha.org/kauai-rural-health-association/</p> <p>October 2nd and 3rd - 2025 Hawai'i Healthcare Conference — Community First</p> <p>December 5th – click the "Save the date" attachment above</p> <p>Please register and we look forward to seeing you at these events! Please feel free to pass</p>
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Next Meeting	it on! Thursday, September 18, 2025, 1 PM.	
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 1:57 PM.	