



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

Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2026

12:00 PM | Hawaii Time

Virtually via Zoom and Physical Meeting Location at
 The Keoni Ana Building, 1177 Alakea Street, Suite 402

https://www.zoomgov.com/rec/share/aF5P9SP1H3IKMZCnyaqP3c1PsYqJ_OHLuVvQ2N6Ry5Mm-dX2oTl8RwqDid6ELE2F.klYC0nCm4oLkAd55

Passcode: P6jvG+uZ

- MEMBERS:** Tamia McKeague, Jamie Cameros, Hannah Preston-Pita, Stacy Haumea, Allen Novak, Amy Feeley-Austin, Roxie Rowe
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Evelyn Kaneshiro
- GUESTS:** Peter Tui Silva (Kuku Kumukai Health & Wellness)
- SHPDA:** Jack Lewin, Terry Visperas, Barbara Yamashita, Jonas Yee, Jason Espero

ATTENDANCE RECORD OF APPOINTED MEMBERS

Date	12/17/2024	2/18/2025	3/18/2025	4/18/2025	07/15/2025	09/16/2025	10/21/2025	11/18/2025	3/6/2026
Amy Feeley-Austin	-	-	-		-	X	X	X	X
Stacy Haumea**	0	0	X	0	X	X	X	X	X
Sanoë Kauhane	-	-	-	-	X	0	0	X	0
Tamia McKeague*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Allen Novak					X	0	X	X	X
Hannah Preston-Pita	X	X	X	0	X	X	X	0	X

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

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. with T. McKeague, Chair, HCSAC presiding.	
Roll Call	Member and staff roll call.	
Meeting Minutes	Chair asked for approval of the minutes from the meeting of November 18, 2025. Unanimous approval.	
Administrator’s Report	T.Visperas, stated that it continues to be posted monthly on our SHPDA website	
State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA) Updates	J. Lewin, Administrator, SHPDA provided an update: SHPDA is tracking 100+ healthcare bills and supporting over 70. • Highlighted several significant bills: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB 3139 – Modernizing SHPDA statute, acknowledging long-term care, dental, mental health as healthcare. • SB 3246 – Provides funding to expand access to healthcare data not in the APCD. • SB 2289 – Routine annual bill requesting widespread CON exemptions (not expected to pass). 	

- **SB 2087** – Coverage solutions for individuals losing insurance due to federal changes.
- **SB 3175** – State oversight of major healthcare mergers (not progressing).
- **HB 2501** – Requires hospitals to report catastrophic Medicare cost cases and numbers of uninsured individuals.
- **HB 1804** – Creates long-term care financing commission (supported).
- **HB 1974** – State plan addressing hearing loss; derived from SHPDA advisory work.
- **HB 1965** – Increase primary care spending to 12%; currently weakened to a working group.
- Major SHPDA priorities include:
 - Increasing Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement rates (Hawaii is among the lowest nationally).
 - Building a shared statewide vision for healthcare across agencies.
 - Addressing uninsured populations and coverage gaps.
- Encouraged members and organizations to submit testimony supporting bills.

Discussion and Questions by HCSAC Members:

- Members requested the full list of bills being tracked by SHPDA
- Discussion on how council members can submit testimony.
- Stacy Haumea suggested adding nutritional expertise to SB 3133 Preventive Task Force; Dr. Lewin supported that amendment.

Guest Presentation by
CEO Peter Tui Silva,
Kumukahi Health + Wellness

A New Day for H.I.H.A.F.
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- Allen Novak discussed bills supporting APRN practice, jury duty exemption, and gender marker certification; some bills stalled in committee.

Public testimony. None.

Hannah Preston-Pita, introduced HCSAC CEO Mr. Peter Tui Silva of Kumukahi Health & Wellness to the group, “very dedicated community leader and advocate, and it’s been many years...but through his leadership and Kumukahi Health and Wellness, he has helped expand critical services including HIV and hepatitis testing, harm reduction programs and supportive health services for some of our most vulnerable populations. They’re committed to meeting people where they are, as well as providing passionate, trauma-informed care.”

Summary of Presentation:

- Organization serves Hawaii Island with services in HIV care, housing, behavioral health, and harm reduction.
- New services include:
 - Gender-affirming care (HRT).
 - Youth suicide prevention programs.
 - Housing program for transgender/Mahu individuals re-entering from jail (Pu’uhonua/Nā Hāpu’u).
 - Med-QUEST reinstatement pilot for justice-involved populations.
 - Syringe exchange and sharps container pilot with county (reinstating harm-reduction capacity).

Announcements

- Funding remains stable but dependent on advocacy and reimbursement improvements.

Public testimony. None.

T. Visperas, announced that there will be an upcoming 27th Big Island Annual Healthcare Symposium, “How Can we Be Better Stewards of Healthcare?” from July 31st through August 2, 2026 at Fairmont Orchid Waikoloa, visit: <https://www.bigislandsymposium.com/>

J. Lewin introduced Barbara Yamashita, Jonas Yee and Jason Espero All involved with the AHEAD grant and the Transformation Funds asked them to provide a high-level overview to our HCSAC Council:

Key Points:

- Hawaii received **\$189 million** in federal rural healthcare transformation funds.
- SHPDA oversees two major initiatives:
 1. **Rural Health Information Network** – Upgrading EHR capacity, interoperability, data infrastructure.
 2. **Rural Value-Based Initiative (RVBI)** – Incentivizing value-based care, assisting providers with adoption.
- Funds must be encumbered quickly to avoid being returned to CMS.
- SHPDA will involve Subarea Councils in planning and feedback.

For more information please visit our SHPDA website and click on the AHEAD Tab or click here: <https://health.hawaii.gov/shpda/files/2026/04/2026-04-07-Steering-Committee-Presentation-HGB-and-RHTP.pdf>

Adjournment	Public Testimony: None received. The meeting was adjourned at 1:02 p.m.	
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