Conceptualizing a New System of Care in Hawai‘i for Native Hawaiians and Substance Use

From the Hawai‘i State Department of Health Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division State Plan

Presented by: Sheri-Ann P. Daniels, EdD; Lilinoe Kauahikaua, MSW; J. Napua Casson-Fisher, MPH; Tercia Ku, BS; Charis Kaio, BS
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Learning Objectives

By the conclusion of the session, the audience will be able to:

• Illustrate the impact of historical, cultural, and intergenerational trauma on the social and cultural determinants of health for Native Hawaiians
• Describe the gaps in the current system of care for Native Hawaiians and substance use.
• Outline the proposed system of care for Native Hawaiians and what Hawai‘i needs for it.
• Describe/list opportunities of an improved system of care for substance use for Native Hawaiians and their `ohana.
The Team

Sheri-Ann Daniels, EdD
Executive Director, Papa Ola Lōkahi

Lilinoe Kauahikaua, MSW
Population Health Specialist: Addictions, Behavioral Health, Papa Ola Lōkahi

Charis Kaio, BS
Administrative Support, Papa Ola Lōkahi
ADAD State Plan for a System of Care

The goal of this project is to assist ADAD in updating its state plan, which states the division’s “efforts are designed to promote a statewide culturally appropriate, comprehensive system of substance use services to meet the treatment and recovery needs of individuals and families and to address the prevention needs of communities.”
The SoC Implications Core includes a set of reports which discuss the Systems of Care for the intersection of substance use and public sector or specific populations.
I Ka Wa Ma Mua, I Ka Wa Ma Hope

Prior to European contact, Native Hawaiians understood:
• balanced nutrition
• physical activity
• social relationships
• Spirituality

= Mauli Ola

Western Influence & Colonization

= Imbalance, Shifted Paradigms, Cultural/Historical/Intergenerational Trauma, Health Disparities
Observations & Rationale

ʻOhana Disconnected From Cultural Heritage

Abrupt Lifestyle Changes = Stark Socio-Economic Differences

Generational Poverty, Houselessness, Mental Health Issues
**Historical Determinants**
- Historical / Intergenerational Trauma
- Depopulation
- Loss of land
- Overthrow

**Cultural Determinants**
- Minority in their own homeland
- Marginalized
- Racism

**Lifestyle Changes**
- Kapu -> Noa
- Missionaries
- Subsistence -> Capitalistic Society
- Today: Sociopolitical & Socioeconomic, Social & Economic Determinants

Kaholokula, K. Social and Cultural Determinants of Mauli Ola for Kānaka `Ōiwi.
Today

- Overrepresentation in ADAD treatment services
- If we continue treating in the same way, we can expect the same result

**ACT 155 (2014)**

Adds to the Hawaii State Planning Act's objectives and policies for health, the identification of social determinants of health and prioritization of programs, services, interventions, and activities that address identified social determinants of health to improve Native Hawaiian health in accordance with federal law and reduce health disparities of disproportionately affected demographics. (SD1)

**SCR 103 (2019)**

Urging the inclusion of native hawaiian cultural intervention treatment programs, wellness plans, and holistic living systems of care in the state of hawaii's response to the rise of misuse and abuse of opioids or illicit substances in hawaii.

WHEREAS, studies show that risk factors, such as poverty, personal trauma, and cultural trauma, tend to be associated with increased rates of substance abuse; and

WHEREAS, according to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, perceptions of health and illness are shaped by cultural factors such as methods of communication, expression of symptoms, coping styles, and willingness to seek treatment; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs further observes that in western cultures, illness is conceived as a pathological imbalance in the body, whereas Native Hawaiians view ma'i (illness) as a disruption in ldkahi (the unity between akua (gods), kanaka (humans), and 'aha) and Native Hawaiians reference illness categories such as ma'i i kino (body sickness), ma'i i waho (sickness from outside influences), or ma'i ma loko (sickness from within caused by quarrels in the family); and

WHEREAS, incorporating cultural intervention, holistic health, and wellness plans in treatment programs may increase prevention of opioid and other drug addictions, misuse, and abuse; and

WHEREAS, Native Hawaiians comprise nearly forty percent of the statewide population admitted to addiction treatment programs, representing more than double the Native Hawaiian community's percentage of the total population; and

WHEREAS, section 226-20, Hawaii Revised Statutes, states that planning for the State's socio-cultural advancement with regard to health includes prioritizing programs, services, interventions, and activities that address identified social determinants of health to improve Native Hawaiian health and well-being consistent with the United States Congress' declaration of policy as codified in title 42 United States Code section 11702, and to reduce health disparities of disproportionately affected demographics, including native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos; and

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of Representatives concurring, that this body urges the inclusion of Native Hawaiian cultural intervention treatment programs, wellness plans, and holistic living systems of care in the State's response to the rise of misuse and abuse of opioid or illicit substances in Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that cultural and wellness organizations and individuals tasked with improving the well-being of Native Hawaiians be represented proportionately on the State of Hawaii's Opioid Initiative or on an appropriate focus group within the initiative, to be spearheaded by the Department of Health Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that sufficient funds be appropriated by the Legislature and released by the Governor to comply with section 226-20, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
Observations
Areas of observation and need for focus

Cultural Safety
- DSM
- Other Indigenous Examples

Maʻi Kamaʻāina / Maʻi Malihini
Hawaiian Assessment
Nana I Ke Kumu

Evidence-Based
Culturally Focused Interventions
Indigenous Ways of Knowing
Mahi A Atua
Indigenous Peer Support
The Current System of Care

The current system of care in Hawaiʻi does include some providers who utilize varying degrees of culturally based or culturally adapted treatment and prevention programs.

1. Hoʻomau Ke Ola [Oʻahu]
2. Bridge House [Hawaiʻi Island]
3. Ka Hale Pomaikaʻi [Molokaʻi]
4. Kū Aloha Ola Mau, Hui Hoʻola o na Nahulu O Hawaiʻi [Oʻahu, Hawaiʻi Island]
5. The Queen's Medical Center - Day treatment services [Oʻahu]
Current System of Care

Grant support/current policies

Youth Programs

Youth Prevention:
1. Ho'ouna Pono
2. Puni Ke Ola

Lifetime Rates of Native Hawaiian Youth Compared to Overall US Youth from the 2015 Youth Risk Behavior Survey
Convening the Voice of the Paeʻāina

• Top Concerns
  • Limited neighbor island substance use services
  • Limited ʻohana support

• Strengths
  • Pilina (Connections/Relationships)
  • Existing community & grassroots support

• Needs & Gaps
  • Need for an increase in Hawaiian cultural values & visibility across continuum
  • Professional Development Needs: Creating a culture of Hawaiian cultural awareness
Interventions - reimagined

• Parallel Strengths – Western / Indigenous
• Social & Cultural Determinants of Health
• Recovery & Resiliency Oriented Systems of Care
• Recovery Ready Communities
• Cultural Perceptions of Self
• Culturally Focused
Novel Innovation

Ahupua`a Model - `Aina-based

Informed by Dr. Kaholokula's Social & Cultural Determinants of Health Model & The Healing Forest Model by White Bison

The Impacts of Colonization on ‘Ahupua’a. Conceptualization by Lilinoe Kauahikaua and Papa Ola Lōkahi V2.0. Original Un-published figure created by Kimo Apaka and edited by the authors with copyright permission 2021
Recommendation 1 – Infrastructure Development

- Reporting Standards
- Inter-Agency
- Peer Support
- Culture Court
- Indigenous Workforce Development
- Cultural "Safety" Training
- Engage entire substance use continuum of care community
- Elevating Homegrown Cultural Practitioners
- Cultural Awareness/Safety Training
- Connection to `Āina and Sense of Place
- Recovery & Resiliency Oriented systems of care
- Recovery Ready Communities
- Evaluation
Recommendation 2 – Data Collection & Disaggregation

- Addressing the need for data sovereignty
- Create mechanisms that identify culturally relevant data collection
- Develop culturally anchored evaluation tools that state-funded treatment programs use related to the efficacy of programming specific to Native Hawaiians
Recommendation 3 – Funding & Monitoring Oversight

- Federal Dollars awarded to the State of Hawai‘i be tracked when Native Hawaiians (or other groups indicated on RFP) are targeted
- Analyze spending on Native Hawaiian programs
- Create a policy oversight position to develop criteria and monitor for cultural adherence
- Provide additional support for "promising practices"
- Funding culturally grounded evaluation to gather the necessary foundation for referral approval
- Advisory Council: Establish a council of relevant partners
References

• Slide 10 – Paglinawan, Richard
• Slide 11 – Kaholokula, K. Social and Cultural Determinants of Mauli Ola for Kānaka `Ōiwi.
• Slide 18 – Apaka K. The Impacts of Colonizations on ʻAhupuaʻa
Questions?

Contact Information:
Sheri Daniels, Executive Director, POL
sdaniels@papaolalokahi.org

Lilinoe Kauahikaua, Population Health Specialist:
Addictions, Behavioral Health, POL
lkauahikaua@papaolalokahi.org

A draft volume of the ADAD State Plan System of Care Implications Chapters is available for public review and comment at
https://health.hawaii.gov/substance-abuse/state-plan/