

ADVISORY COMMISSION ON DRUG ABUSE AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES (HACDACs)

Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division (ADAD), Department of Health (DOH), State of Hawai'i

Kākuhihewa Building, 601 Kamokila Boulevard, Room 360, Kapolei, Hawai'i

February 28, 2023

9:00 am – 11:00 am

Members Present: Ku'ulei Salzer-Vitale, MSW, MPA Chair; Greg Tjapkes, Vice Chair; Kathi Calles (Fujii); Diana Felton, MD; Jon Fujii, MBA; Lilinoe Kauahikaua, MSW

Members Absent: Adam Gratz, DO; John Paul Moses, III, APRN-R; Erika Vargas, LCSW

Staff Present: John Valera, AICP; Robyn Loudermilk, AICP

Guests Present:

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS/ CONCLUSIONS	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DUE DATE
1. Call to Order:	The meeting was called to order at 9:00.			
2. Consideration and approval of meeting minutes of January 24, 2023.	Motion by Commissioner Felton and seconded by Commissioner Calles to adopt minutes from the January 24, 2023, meeting. Motion approved.	Motion approved.		
3. Community Input: [Pursuant to section 92-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, all interested persons will have three (3) minutes to speak, i.e., per person, per item, or written testimony can be submitted on agenda items]	No community members present to offer input.			
4. Update from the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division (ADAD) including but not limited to: the State Plan Revision Project, 2023 Legislative Session, and Hawaii Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee.	<u>Legislative Session 2023</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Valera went through the ADAD Legislative Tracker providing updates on bills being tracked by ADAD. • SB669 SD1 decriminalizes and regulates small amounts of cannabis for personal use. The SD1 incorporated many of the comments offered by the Department, however, concerns still remain on 			

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	<p>health impacts, especially to young people under the age of 21.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB265 is one of several bills that establishes minimum mandatory prison terms based upon possession; this bill is specific to fentanyl and methamphetamine. One of ADADs concerns is that it doesn't address the needs of those who are users. This will affect the users, not the drug dealers, as drug dealers are rarely caught. • HB378 HD1 establishes a requirement that substance use clinics must be located at least 750 feet from a school. It also establishes a working group. There is one clinic located within 750 feet from a school. Amends statutes implemented by the Narcotic Enforcement Division of the Department of Law Enforcement. • HB506 is another mandatory minimum prison term bill for fentanyl possession. • HB573 exempts fentanyl test strips as drug paraphernalia. The Department prefers this over SB671 HD1 as it has a narrower definition of what type of testing products are exempted as drug paraphernalia. • HB883 provides a blank appropriation to the Departments for mobile clinics. • SB446 relates to digital therapeutics. Coalition providers are supportive and has potential to be a billable service. • SB671 HD1 exempts testing products, including fentanyl test strips, as drug paraphernalia. As previously mentioned, HB573 is preferred over this measure. <p>Chair Salzer lead the discussion on how HACDACS can provide legislative testimony. HACDACS wants to ensure that it is providing support and advising law makers on substance use related bills. ADAD will investigate this and report back to the Chair.</p>			

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	<p>In response to a question, Mr. Valera relayed that there is a chance that one of the two fentanyl test strip bills will pass. With two bills alive at this time, there is a greater chance of passage. However, anything can happen between now and May. There is strong support from the providers for the broader exemption while agencies prefer the narrower exemption. Opioid grant funds can be used to purchase fentanyl test strips.</p> <p><u>Staffing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ADAD continues to fill positions. There are several people interested in the State Opioid Settlement positions. A program coordinator, program specialist, and office assistant positions will be posted shortly on the Department website. The Program Specialist position for the Clean and Sober Home Registry will be filled shortly. Currently have number of office assistants that are 89-day hires. The Prevention Branch Manager position is not filled. 			
<p>5. Planning meeting topics and presentations for upcoming Hawaii Advisory Committee on Drug Abuse and Controlled Substances (HACDACS) meetings:</p> <p>Update on meeting topics and presentations for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 2023 April 2023 May 2023 June 2023 July 2023 August 2023 September 2023 	<p>Chair Salzer led the group in discussion related to planning, and any schedules or topics that the group would like to discuss:</p> <p>The following is the tentative monthly schedule:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 2023 – Substance use in Native Hawaiian community and cultural healing. April 2023 – The University of Hawaii Mapuna Lab 	<p>Jessica Kaneakua from A`ali`i Alliance to present a current project on substance use in Native Hawaiian community and cultural healing.</p> <p>Kat Burke from Mapuna Lab.</p>	<p>Commissioner Kauahikaua confirmed.</p> <p>Commissioner Kauahikaua confirmed.</p>	

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<p>Brainstorming ideas for future topics and speakers.</p> <p>Potential topics include medical cannabis safety and testing policies; harm reduction review based on substance use; status of residential treatment programs and their trends and needs, prevention initiatives, medication assisted treatment for methamphetamine use disorder, the intersection of substance use treatment and the criminal justice system. New topic ideas are encouraged.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 2023 – Law Enforcement Perspective on Fentanyl • June 2023 – Trauma Informed Recovery Oriented System of Care • July 2023 – Recovery Communities(Local) • August 2023 – Recovery Communities (National) • September 2023 – Cannabis Task force Update and Legislative Report • October 2023 – Legislative Report • November 2023 – Legislative Report <p>Discussion resumed on HACDACS providing legislative testimony. It was suggested that the HACDACS annual legislative report can provide the basis for legislative testimony as it is reviewed and adopted by the HACDACS.</p>	<p>Contact Gary Yabuta, Executive Director of Hawaii High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)</p> <p>Contact Tia Roberts Hartsock, Director Office of Wellness and Resilience.</p> <p>Contact Aunty Shari from Ka Hale Pomaikai</p> <p>Contact Faces and Voices of Recovery.</p> <p>Contact Cannabis Taskforce.</p>	<p>Commissioner Calles to follow up with Gary Yabuta.</p> <p>ADAD to contact Office of Wellness and Resilience.</p> <p>Commissioner Kauahikaua to contact both organizations.</p> <p>ADAD to contact Cannabis Taskforce.</p>	
<p>6. Hawaii Opioid Initiative (HOI) Report:</p> <p>Updates and progress from the Hawaii Opioid Initiative workgroups where HACDACS members are currently serving.</p>	<p>Workgroup 1-Treatment Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group meeting held earlier in February. <p>Workgroup 2 – Prescriber Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group has not met in a long time. <p>Workgroup 4 – Prevention & Public Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussed the distribution of the resource cards and discussed the development of Workgroup 8 and adjusting existing objectives. <p>Workgroup 6 – Law Enforcement & First Responders</p>			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group has not met in a while, however, anticipating a meeting in March. <p>Workgroup 8 – Native Hawaiian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group had an initial introductory meeting last month and will be doing training in March. In response to a question, ADAD will check if the HOI resource cards can be accessed online. 			
7. Presentation by Cannabis Taskforce	Due to the Legislative Session, the Cannabis Taskforce will be rescheduled to September 2023.			
8. Open Forum: Public comment on issues not on the agenda, for consideration of Board’s agenda at the next meeting.	<p>No community members present for open forum discussion.</p> <p>The discussion on HACDACS submitting legislative testimony will continue at the March 28, 2023, meeting.</p> <p>Commissioners who terms are expiring need to reapply for HACDACS as soon as possible. Chair Salzer encouraged Commissioners to inform colleagues of openings and existing members to reapply.</p> <p>Commissioner Jon Fujii provided an update on the Medicaid redetermination process that will begin on April 1, 2023. This process was suspended during the pandemic. Approximately 460,000 members are required to go through this process over a 12-month period: anywhere from 35,000 to 40,000 persons per month. Loss of coverage will begin on June 1, 2023. Letters will be sent out to members in March 2023 to inform them what month their eligibility redetermination will occur. The determination of eligibility will be mailed to members in a pink envelope. Providers can access Med-QUESTS Stay Well Stay Covered webpage to obtain information on this process. Also invited HACDACS to provide feedback on the webpage.</p>			

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9. Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 am			

Next Meeting: March 28, 2023
9:00 am to 11:00 am
Zoom Meeting