

**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**

**April 23, 2024**

**9:00 am – 11:00 am**

Members Present: Ku ulei Salzer-Vitale, MSW, Chair; Greg Tjapkes, Vice Chair; Jon Fujii, MBA; Lilinoe Kauahikaua, MSW;

Members Absent: Diana Felton, MD; Adam Gratz, DO; Erika Vargas, LCSW.

Staff Present: John Valera, AICP; Robyn Loudermilk, AICP; Merrick Lambaco, Jr., Brenda Wong.

Guests Present: Grant Giventer, Christine Laoan.

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS/ CONCLUSIONS	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DUE DATE
1. Call to Order:	The meeting was called to order at 9:04 pm			
2. Consideration and approval of meeting minutes of November 24, 2023, January 23, 2024, and March 13, 2024.	<b>Motion by Vice-Chair Tjapkes and seconded by Commissioner Fujii to adopt minutes from the November 24, 2023, meeting. Motion approved.</b> <b>Motion by Vice-Chair Tjapkes and seconded by Commissioner Fujii to adopt minutes from the January 23, 2024, meeting. Motion approved.</b> <b>Motion by Commissioner Kauahikaua and seconded by Commissioner Fujii to adopt minutes from the March 13, 2024, meeting. Motion approved.</b>	<b>Motions approved.</b>		
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 comments provided.			
4. Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division (ADAD) Report • 2024 Legislative Session Updates and Testimony o Update on reasons the division cannot support House Bill 2253	Mr. Valera reported that it has been a busy legislative session with a lot of action regarding bills on mental health and crisis. Updates provided on a number of measures. • House Bill 2253 HD2 SD1. Initially supported the bill. However, upon further review, with the			

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<p>HD2 SD1 regarding naloxone for law enforcement, restaurants, and hotels as written.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Update on reasons for the division’s support of House Concurrent Resolution 115 HD1 regarding clean and sober homes.</li> <li>o Update on reasons for reservations on Senate Concurrent Resolution 65 SD1 regarding a workgroup to register and monitor group living facilities in the state.</li> <li>o Update on reasons for the division’s support of House Concurrent Resolution 194, regarding a study on xylazine test strips.</li> <li>o Update on reasons for the support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 64 on interagency collaboration to address the fentanyl issue</li> </ul>	<p>exception of permitting the DOH to require that all restaurant and hotel establishments maintain an inventory of naloxone, the remaining portions of the measure were already allowed. There are approximately 10,000 restaurant and hotels statewide. The DOH does not have the manpower to implement this program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 115 HD1. Support the measure as the informal working group will allow discussion on current issues regarding clean and sober homes, receive community feedback, and outreach to educate and encourage clean and sober homes to join the Clean and Sober Homes Registry. Some communities are concerned about possible oversaturation of clean and sober homes and other types of alleged homes. ADAD has heard that there is an increase presence of harm reduction and wet/damp homes. These types of home differ from clean and sober homes as residents harm reduction and wet/damp homes continue to use drugs as they recover. ADAD is requesting technical assistance from SAMHSA to learn how other states regulates harm reduction and wet/damp homes.</li> <li>• Senate Concurrent Resolution 65 SD1. Reservations on this measure as the scope for this clean and sober homes informal working group was expanded to include “group living facilities”. Implementation is difficult as group living facilities are defined by each county, using different terms. And defined such that it also include facilities that are not used as a clean and sober home. ADAD prefers HCR 115 HD1 over this measure.</li> <li>• House Concurrent Resolution 194. Support the measure as xylazine test strips can be used to detect polysubstance. Originally requested that the Department of the Attorney General be the lead on</li> </ul>			

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	<p>this study. The Department of Law Enforcement agreed to take the lead.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senate Concurrent Resolution 64. Support the measure as fentanyl is a synthetic opioid. Participated in the Big Island Fentanyl Task Force meeting in February of this year and found it impactful.</li> </ul>			
<p>5. Discussion on Commission Recruitment and Interim Appointments.</p>	<p>Chair Salzer led the discussion on interim appointments to HACDACS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Last legislative session a large number of nominations to boards and commission were not submitted by the Governor’s Office to the Senate for Advise and Consent. The Governor’s Office determined that existing board and commission members who applied for reappointment to their respective boards and commissions would remain as holdover members. And that nominations would be forwarded to the Senate for Advise and Consent during the 2024 Legislative Session. Commissioner’s Fujii and Kauahikaua are holdover members.</li> <li>• ADAD recently contacted the Governor’s Office and learned that a large number of nominations to boards and commissions were not submitted to the Senate for Advise and Consent. And that the Governor’s Office determined that holdover members would receive interim appointments. Once the current session is done, May 3, 2024, interim appointments will be forwarded to the Senate with hearings occurring the next session. No timeframe available as to when interim appointments will be forwarded to the Senate.</li> <li>• After further discussion, the Governor’s Office provided ADAD an option to recommend interim appointments from the current applicants. The following recommendations were provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Lilinoe Kauahikaua</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jon Fujii</li> <li>○ John Paul Moses</li> <li>○ Emily Andrade</li> <li>○ Dr. Jawana Ready</li> <li>● Will work with the Governor’s Office as to the next steps, including when interim appointments become effective.</li> <li>● All applications for interim appointments must go through the Governor’s Office. Applications can be submitted year-round. At this time, it is not clear whether there will be another round of interim appointments. No real reason provided for this situation other than there is an internal review process and the office had priorities.</li> <li>● Confirmed that both Commissioner’s Fujii and Kauahikaua do not have to do anything else as applications are still with the office.</li> <li>● ADAD is reaching out to several law enforcement circles to recruit representatives from law enforcement and corrections.</li> <li>● Chair Salzer expressed frustration with this situation and inquired how she could voice her frustration and advocate for appointments. Commissioners were encouraged to continue to recruit new members. Contact information for the Boards and Commissions Office provided in the chat.</li> </ul>			
6. Discussion on Conducting an In-Person Commission Orientation at the July 23, 2024, Meeting	Chair Salzer clarified that the meeting will be hybrid and that Commissioners will meet in person in Kapolei at the Kakuhikewa Building.			
7. Update on meeting topics and presentations for HACDACS meetings in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● May 2024</li> <li>● June 2024</li> <li>● July 2024</li> <li>● July 2024</li> </ul>	<p>Chair Salzer led the group 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"> <li>● May 2024 – Hawaii CARES 988.</li> </ul>	Aloha United Way and CARE Hawaii, Inc.	ADAD confirmed.	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• August 2024</li> <li>• September 2024</li> </ul> <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"> <li>• June 2024 – Vaping Targeting Youth in Hawaii</li> <li>• July 2024 – To Be Determined</li> <li>• August 2024 – Local Recovery Communities</li> <li>• September 2024 – Office on Medical Cannabis Control Regulation Activities</li> </ul>	<p>Contact Hawaii Public Health Institute (HIPHI)</p> <p>Contact Aunty Shari Lynn, Ka Hale Pomaika`i</p> <p>Contact Office on Medical Cannabis Control Registration (OMCCR).</p>	<p>Vice Chair Tjapkes to contact HIPHI.</p> <p>ADAD to contact Aunty Shari Lynn.</p> <p>ADAD to contact OMCCR.</p>	
<p>8. Presentation by Grant Giventer, Opioid Settlement Program Coordinator, DOH, about recent achievements and challenges being addressed by the Department of Health’s Opioid Settlement Program (Program), and recent topics being discussed with the Hawaii Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee (HOSAC).</p>	<p>Mr. Grant Giventer presented recent achievements, ongoing challenges, and topics being discussed by HOSAC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Optimistic that with Opioid Settlement Funds, positive movement will be seen over the next 12 to 36 months to move the needle forward on opioid/substance abuse remediation within the State.</li> <li>• The HOSAC was created through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the State of Hawaii and the Counties to implement the National Settlement Agreement. The MOA specifies HOSAC membership and prescribes allowable expenditures.</li> <li>• Program achievements include funding a number of initiatives: Narcan saturation/distribution statewide, fentanyl test strips distribution, DOH Syringe Exchange and Hepatitis C Program.</li> <li>• Statewide Narcan saturation effort initially funded with State Opioid Response grant monies. It is now being funded with Opioid Settlement Funds. In 2023 \$1,630,473.00 was spent to purchase and distribute 35,488 kits. From January through March 2024, \$790,303 was spent to purchase and distribute 18,420 kits. It is projected that an additional \$2,365,660 will be spent to purchase and distribute 55,260 kits for the remainder of 2024. The shelf life of Narcan is four years. Though we know that Narcan is being used, data on utilization is not available.</li> <li>• Narcan is being distributed to public and non-profit partners such as Hawaii Health and Harm Reduction Center, Hawaii Island Fentanyl Task Force, and Department of Education. Distribution is also occurring through vending machines. Currently reaching out to college campuses.</li> <li>• The Hawaii Island Fentanyl Task Force conducted training for grass roots organizations. Attracting a diverse, statewide group including ADAD, government agencies, non-profits, and first responders. Each county at various stages of starting their own Fentanyl Taskforce.</li> <li>• Have been meeting with various stakeholders and service providers to strengthen relationships. Also developing new partnerships at the state, county, and community level.</li> </ul>			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Challenges identified include access to treatment, workforce development, prevention strategies, and statewide saturation of Narcan.</li> <li>• Biggest challenge is access to treatment. There is a need to increase residential/outpatient treatment capacity, transport Neighbor Island clients to another island to receive treatment and provide transportation assistance in rural areas. According to criminal justice stakeholders, the wait times for individuals to access residential treatments is months.</li> <li>• There is a unique issue with maintaining substance use treatment for incarcerated individuals released from jails. Delays in Med QUEST activated insurance upon release from jail impact's ability to continuing substance use treatment.</li> <li>• Workforce challenges include not enough medical providers who treat substance use statewide.</li> <li>• Reaching out to educational institutions to learn about their existing prevention strategies including after school programs. As well as whether after school program are available at all schools or only at certain schools. Focusing on middle school students as they do not have the number of programs such as high schools. Also reached out to the City and County of Honolulu Department of Parks and Recreation to see if their Summer Fun Program utilizes prevention strategies.</li> <li>• Topics currently being discussed by HOSAC are lack of public information about overdoses statewide and support for grass roots organizations. Program staff will be meeting with an organization, ODMAP, to explore the development of a program in Hawaii to make overdose data more available.</li> <li>• Commissioner Fujii commented that Med QUEST and the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation are working to enhance communications. Med QUEST has several initiatives to increase pre-release services including substance use treatment services. Confirmed that a person in custody is not able to receive insurance.</li> <li>• Commission Kauahikaua commented on the availability of programs with cultural approaches and that Papa Ola Lokahi has created a cultural resource guide for harm reduction. Suggested reviewing ADAD treatment numbers to see if Native Hawaiian's are still the largest ethnic group receiving treatment and reviewing the Substance Use State Plan. Also expressed concerns that there is no cultural person(s) on HOSAC.</li> <li>• Chair Salzer led the discussion on cultural representation, Narcan distribution, Program and ADAD activities supporting HOSAC, and program priorities/recommendations for inclusion in HACDACS annual report. HOSAC membership does not include a Cultural Specialist/Practitioner/Expert. However, the MOA does allow for subject matter experts to present before the HOSAC. And they are supportive of exploring cultural approaches, strategies, and efforts. To date language access has not been an issue brought before the HOSAC. Narcan distribution efforts do not include for-profit entities. Program staff are currently working to establish a HOSAC website to provide information such as meeting dates and material to the public. ADAD is in the process of preparing a Request for Proposal, seeking treatment providers to expand capacity through mobile medication units. Another initiative is the revival of the Hawaii Opioid Initiative (HOI) with a new contractor. ADAD is conducting listening sessions with HOI participants to learn what worked well and what could be improved. Lastly, HOSACs long- and short-term priorities are being developed. Once completed, these priorities and recommendations will be provided to HACDACS.</li> </ul>			
9. Open Forum:	No community comments provided.			

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Public comments on issues not on the agenda, for consideration for Commissions agenda at its next meeting.				
10. Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 am			

**Next Meeting:            May 28, 2024**  
**9:00 am to 11:00 am**  
**Zoom Meeting**