

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 317, Kapolei, Hawai'i

December 16, 2025

9:00 am – 11:00 am

Members Present: Lilinoe Kauahikaua, MSW, Co-Chair; Dave Fields, Co-Chair; John Paul Moses III ARPR-R , Vice-Chair; Emily Andrade, Kunane Drier, Jon Fujii; Ku ulei Salzer-Vitale, MSW; Jawanna Ready, MD.

Members Absent: None.

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

Guests Present: None.

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS/ CONCLUSIONS	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DUE DATE
1. Call to Order:	The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m.			
2. Consideration and approval of meeting minutes of October 28, 2025.	Motion by Commissioner Salzer-Vitale, seconded by Vice-Chair Moses to adopt minutes from the October 28, 2025, meeting. Motion unanimously approved.	Motion unanimously 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]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No community input provided. 			
4. Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division (ADAD) Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Release of DOH Generative Artificial Intelligence Guideline 	<p>Mr. Valera reported on the release of the DOH Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Guideline.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AI guidance was released in November 2025. Establishes training requirements and use guidelines regarding proper use of AI for different types of information to protect privacy, ensures transparency, and role of human oversight. Use only department approved AI tools. 			

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	<p>Co-Chair Fields led the discussion on ADADs report.</p> <p>In response to questions, Mr. Valera relayed that for DOH internal organization data the approved AI tool is Microsoft Co-Pilot that is part of the DOH Microsoft 365 account.</p> <p>Commissioner Andrade commented that she appreciated the work the DOH is doing and is ahead of the curve compared to other government agencies.</p> <p>Co-Chair Kauahikaua commented that she also appreciates and supports the ongoing work on this. Hopefully that it will ease workload, when used correctly. Noted that she has used Co-Pilot and that it does not learn as quickly as other systems. Was curious is DOH looking at other systems.</p> <p>Mr. Valera noted that guidelines are evolving and that overtime other AI tools may be approved.</p> <p>Ms. Loudermilk also noted that the DOH guidelines includes State of Hawaii guidelines to ensure statewide alignment.</p> <p>In response to questions Mr. Valera relayed that these guidelines were developed by the DOH Chief Data Officer along with the DOH First Deputy and approved by the DOH Director.</p>			
<p>5. Update on meeting topics and presentations for HACDACS meetings in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 2026 • February 2026 	<p>Co-Chair Fields led the discussion on upcoming meeting topics.</p> <p>Co-Chair Fields relayed an email from Dr. Otto requesting to present on the off-label use of Marinol for pain management and opioid reduction. The email included a link to research on this topic.</p>			

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<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>	<p>There was consensus that any presentation on the topic of off label was not appropriate for HACDACS. There was interest in a brief summary on Marinol research for pain management and opioid reduction. Members agreed that Dr. Otto could share the Marinol research with HACDACS as a community member under the “Community Input” agenda item.</p> <p>Reiterated that coordination of services is the overarching theme for presentations this year. Potential topics identified are coordination of care services for the state, residential treatment programs and their trends and needs, virtual substance use disorder services, all payer claims database, and reimbursement codes about culture. Will continue discussion on these topics to flesh out what data is of interest and to identify potential speakers.</p>			
<p>6. Discussion on and adoption of the HACADACS annual report to the Legislature covering the Veterans Administrations Pacific Islands Health Care System Substance Treatment and Recovery Program; Harm Reduction and the Hawaii Health and Harm Reduction Center; Hawaii Opioid Initiative Needs Assessment; Hawaii Opioid Settlement Project, Hawaii Opioid Settlement Advisory Commission, and Opioid Settlement Trust Spending; Med-QUEST 1115 Waiver for Contingency Management; Syringe Exchange Program; and Needs of Substance Use Disorder Clients in an Inpatient Setting.</p>	<p>Co-Chair Fields led the discussion on the review and adoption of the annual report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed and finalized each section of the report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Health Syringe Exchange Program and Data on Hepatitis C in Hawaii. ○ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Pacific Islands Health Care System Substance Treatment and Recovery Program. ○ Harm Reduction and the Hawaii Health and Harm Reduction Center. ○ Findings from Hawaii Opioid Initiative Needs Assessment. ○ Development of the Hawaii State Strategic Plan for Primary Prevention. ○ Hawaii Opioid Settlement Project, Hawaii Opioid Settlement Advisory Commission, and Opioid Settlement Trust Spending. 			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Med-QUEST Approved 1115 Waiver for Contingency Management. ○ Summary of Recent Changes to the Department of Health Syringe Exchange Program and Data on the Syringe Exchange Program. ○ Addiction Medicine-Psychological Needs of Substance Use Disorder Clients in Inpatient Setting. ● Members identified a number of editorial and formatting revisions required for clarity and consistency. ● A suggestion was made to develop a report template to facilitate the writing of future reports. ● Motion by Commissioner Andrade and seconded by Commissioner Salzer-Vitale to adopt the report with the required editorial and formatting revisions. Motion unanimously approved. 	<p>Motion unanimously approved.</p>		
<p>7. Open Forum:</p> <p>Public comments on issued not on the agenda, for consideration for Commissions agenda at its next meeting.</p>	<p>No community comments provided.</p>			
<p>8. Adjournment</p>	<p>11:00 a.m.</p>			

**Next Meeting: January 27, 2026
 9:00 am to 11:00 am
 Zoom Meeting**