

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

September 26, 2023

9:00 am – 11:00 am

Members Present: Ku ulei Salzer-Vitale, MSW, Chair, Diana Felton, MD; John Fujii, MBA; Lilinoe Kauahikaua, MSW.

Members Absent: Adam Gratz, DO; Greg Tjapkes, Vice Chair; Erika Vargas, LCSW.

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

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 from June 27, 2023, and July 25, 2023.	Motion by Commissioner Felton and seconded by Commissioner Kauahikaua to adopt minutes from the June 27, 2023. Motion by Commissioner Fujii and seconded by Commissioner Felton to adopt minutes from the July 25, 2023.	Motions 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 comments provided.			
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.	Mr. Valera provided a number of updates. <u>Staffing</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ADAD continues to recruit and fill positions. A number of positions have been filled either permanently or through 89-day hires supporting the Hawaii Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee, Treatment and Recovery Branch, 			

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS/ CONCLUSIONS	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DUE DATE
	<p>Prevention Branch, State Opioid Response Grant, and Administration.</p> <p><u>DOH Response to the Maui Fires</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ADAD is actively engaged in the DOH’s response by providing services and activities to the approximately 8,000 West Maui residence at the hotels. Continues to review proposals to provide services and activities and exchange emails with Maui based service providers. Survey sent to about two dozen existing Maui based prevention service providers. Working with Maui District Health Office to find venues for providers. The DOH continues to apply for grants and was recently awarded a SAMHSA Emergency Response Grant (SERG) to support response efforts. <p><u>Grants</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ADAD has received notice of awards for the CDC Overdose to Action (OD2A) State Grant and SAMHSA Strategic Prevention Framework – Partnerships for Success Grant. Both are five-year grants. Currently working on the Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services Block Grant application which is due next week. <p><u>Procurement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ADAD is currently working on a number of RFPs to establish a mobile medical unit(s), provide SUD services at the Hawaii State Hospital, provide SUD treatment continuum of care and array of services, and medical cannabis outreach targeting those under the age of 21. <p>In response to questions related to the Maui fires, Mr. Valera relayed that there is an increased need for interpreters including Ilocano, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Marshallese, and Spanish. ADAD is working with the</p>			

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS/ CONCLUSIONS	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DUE DATE
	Office of Wellness and Resiliency to provide the services/activities at the hotels.			
5. Advocacy: Legislative Report Update	<p>Chair Salzer led the group discussion on the preparation of the annual report and writing assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When providing recommendations, take into consideration for how HACDACS can follow up with legislative testimony. • The audience for the report is the Legislature. Its usefulness is being a public document. Allowing the public to refer to report recommendations when providing testimony at the Legislature. And as previously discussed to support HACDACS legislative testimony. Additionally, ADAD utilizes and or refers to information in the reports for • The theme of the report will be on recovery support services. Exploring a format that provides an overview on the topic then connect the presentation topics with applicable dimension(s) of recovery. Assignments, to be finalized before next meeting. • ADAD to distribute to the Commissioners meeting minutes for 2023 and SAMHSA’s document on Allowable Recovery Support Services (RSS) Expenditures through the SUBG and the MHBG. • Goal is to adopt final report at the November 2023 meeting. 	<p>Finalize annual report assignments and adopt the final report at the November 2023 meeting.</p> <p>ADAD to distribute documents.</p>		
6. Planning meeting topics and presentations for upcoming Hawaii Advisory Committee on Drug Abuse and Controlled Substances (HACDACS) meetings:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 2023 meeting ADAD Legislative Report • November 2023 meeting: ADAD Legislative Report 			

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS/ CONCLUSIONS	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DUE DATE
<p>Update on meeting topics and presentations for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 2023 • November 2023 • December 2023 <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>				
<p>7. Hawaii Opioid Initiative (HOI) Report:</p> <p>Updates and progress from the Hawaii Opioid Initiative workgroups where HACDACS members are currently serving.</p>	<p>Chair Salzer led the discussion on workgroup updates.</p> <p>Workgroup 1-Treatment Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update. <p>Workgroup 2 – Prescriber Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update. <p>Workgroup 3 – Data Informed Decision Making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update. <p>Workgroup 4 – Prevention & Public Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scheduled meeting canceled. <p>Workgroup 6 – No update.</p> <p>Workgroup 8 – Native Hawaiian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting cancelled. <p>Mr. Valera relayed that ADAD will be asking the workgroups to take a break. ADAD assessing the</p>			

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS/ CONCLUSIONS	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DUE DATE
	types of services needed to provide logistics, conduct an evaluation, and update the action plan. These services could be provided by either the UH or private consultants. ADAD is also exploring streamlining the HOI administration.			
8. Presentation by Michele Nakata, Program Manager DOH Office of Medical Cannabis Control and Regulation.	<p>Ms. Nakata presented on the U.S. and Hawaii cannabis policy, findings of the Dual Use of Cannabis Task Force, highlight from the 2023 Hawaii State Legislative Session, and expectations for the upcoming 2024 Legislative Session.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nationwide, 46 states have policies on the use of cannabis that generally fall into three categories: fully legal, medical use/decriminalization, and limited use of CBD/THC. • Act 228 Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH), 2000, legalized the medical use of cannabis. Subsequent legislation authorized the dispensary licensing system, allowed out of state patients to register for visitor cards to purchase from Hawaii dispensaries, and established the Office of Medical Cannabis Control and Regulation (OMCCR). • Hawaii has 23 authorized dispensaries, however only 22 are in operation as one dispensary located in Lahaina was destroyed by the fires. • Act 169, SLH, 2022 required the OMCCR to convene a taskforce to explore the legalization of adult use and identify impacts on qualifying medical patients. A concern is that there are states who have seen their medical use program go on the wayside with legalized adult use. Resulting in medical patients not being able to obtain certain strengths of products. • It is important to note that the Dual Use of Cannabis Taskforce (Taskforce) was not asked to consider whether non-medical use should be legal. Rather, it worked on the presumption that adult use will become legal; identifying what issues need to be raised or considered. The Taskforce was comprised of 15 members representing various agencies and interest groups. • Five Permitted Interaction Groups (Working Groups) were established to investigate and provide recommendations on five areas: 1) Tax, 2) Social Equity, 3) Market Structure, 4) Medical Use, and 5) Public Health & Safety. • Each Working Group provided a number of recommendations which were incorporated into the report. • A number of measures were introduced in the 2023 Legislative Session. Act 108 SLH 2023, made a number of changes relating to medical use of cannabis. Three adult use measures almost made it but were not passed. The Senate was strongly in favor of legalizing adult use; however, the House’s position was that they would not pass any adult use measures. • Expects to see a strong push for adult use in the 2024 Legislative Session. The current Governor has stated that he will sign an adult use bill into law and the current Attorney General drafted a bill. The OMCCR is taking the mindset that an adult use bill will pass and will voice what needs to be put in any legislation and subsequent rules. • There are a number of adult use policy considerations related to social & economic equity, criminal laws, public consumption & use, labor laws, and public health & safety. 			

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS/ CONCLUSIONS	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DUE DATE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourages testimony from constituent. Advocates show up in force while advocates for public and safety concern do not. • Chair Salzer led the discussion focused on working group recommendations, why the House would not pass an adult use measure, and allocation of tax dollars generated. • Not sure why the Social Equity working group only identified the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the Department Hawaiian Homelands to be members of a proposed task force. However, it is only a recommendation and does not preclude the inclusion of other Native Hawaiian organizations. The Houses' preference for not passing legislation is that they wanted to strengthen the medical use side before allowing adult use. Maryland is an example of a state process that may want to consider. The Tax working group recommended that the state received 80% of tax revenue and the counties 20% based on where the sale is made. 			
<p>9. Open Forum:</p> <p>Public comments on issues not on the agenda, for consideration for Commissions agenda at its next meeting.</p>	No community comments provided.			
10. Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am			

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