

Our Mission

We believe that all citizens should have an opportunity to live and participate in and contribute to their communities. Through specially designed services and settings, Mental Health Kokua assists people with mental illness achieve optimum recovery and functioning in the community.



Homeless Outreach

Our homeless outreach workers provide services to homeless people who are experiencing mental illness. We serve Central Maui, South Kihei, Up-country and Lahaina areas, Oahu (through Safe Haven), as well as the Island of Kauai.



Opportunities to Begin Again

Main Office - Oahu

1221 Kapiolani Blvd, Suite 345
Honolulu, HI 96814
tel: (808) 737-2523
fax: (808) 734-1208

East Hawaii Office

208 Wainaku Avenue
Hilo, HI 96720
tel: (808) 935-7167
fax: (808) 933-1212

West Hawaii Office

75-166 Kalani Street, Suite 103
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
tel: (808) 331-1468
fax: (808) 331-1378

Maui County Office

210 Imi Kala Street, Suite 203
Wailuku, HI 96793
tel: (808) 244-7405
fax: (808) 242-1469

Kauai County Office

3205 Akahi Street
Lihue, HI 96766
tel: (808) 632-0466
fax: (808) 632-0866



www.mentalhealthkokua.org



Opportunities to Begin Again

Homeless Outreach Program (P.A.T.H.)

P.A.T.H. (Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness)

Mental Health Kokua is a PATH provider. The PATH program involves a wide network of State and local agencies that contribute comprehensive community-based services for people who are homeless and have serious mental illnesses.

PATH providers have succeeded in putting experience and expertise to work to meet the needs of homeless people who have mental illnesses by engaging the services of community mental health centers and other mental health providers, community-based social service agencies, health care providers and substance abuse service providers.

PATH clients have some of the most disabling mental disorders. Among clients for whom a diagnosis was reported, 27 percent had schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders and 44 percent had affective disorders such as depression.



Views from an out-reach worker helping the mentally disabled homeless in Hawaii



Delores Glover
Outreach Peer Specialist

"The need for the program is great, there are a lot of disabled people that are homeless. You may not always be able to tell that they are disabled, especially with psychiatric disabilities. However, there are a lot of people who if they stop taking their medication, they might find themselves out on the street.

I give my card out to them and ask if they need any help or not, and they tend to be the hardest case, they usually do have a psychiatric problem. They don't want your help at the time, and I'm not supposed to force anyone. Every time I see them, I'll go over and talk to them and ask them if they want any help, and they'll say "I'll give you a call." That's the most positive one, some of the others say "Get away" or "Go Away!"

Gaining their trust, that's the main factor. Once you do that, I'm not saying you don't have any problems with follow-up, but once that happens, it's easier to get in contact with them. Usually I find out where they hang-out, and I'll go back there to follow-up with them, and usually I find a majority of them. Some are really hard to find because they move around so much.

Housing is really hard to find now because all the shelters are filled, the supportive housing has long waiting lists, transitional housing also has long waiting lists, so there really is a need for affordable housing."



Opportunities to Begin Again

Since its inception as Maui Kokua Services in 1976, the agency now known as Mental Health Kokua (MHK) has been providing essential mental health services to the people of Hawaii. These comprehensive mental services include:

- mobile crisis outreach
- crisis residential stabilization services
- transitional and supportive housing resources
- intensive case management
- psychosocial rehabilitation sites
- outreach to adults who are mentally ill and homeless



Mental Health Kokua's homeless outreach workers establish contact with individuals in the community who are mentally ill and homeless.

The workers help these individuals get connected to mental health and substance abuse treatment, case management support, food and clothing and housing programs.

Referrals come from many areas within the community, such as police, fire, hospital clinics, citizens and other community agencies.

Services are provided at no cost to the consumer.

If you know anyone who is experiencing signs or symptoms of mental illness and is homeless, please contact our homeless outreach workers at (808) 986-0861.