



DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES DIVISION

BULLETIN

Spring~Summer 2007

<http://www.hawaii.gov/health/disability-services/developmental/current-dddbulletin.pdf>



The mission of the Developmental Disabilities Division is to assure community based supports and services for persons with developmental disabilities through the principles of self-determination and person-centered planning.

Welcome to the Developmental Disabilities Division's (DDD) combined news bulletin with information from Division Administration, Case Management and Information Services Branch, and Disability Supports Branch (Neurotrauma). The DDD news bulletin is a means to communicate Division happenings.

2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES RELATED MEASURES

Act Number	Bill Number	Description
040	SB 820 SD1	Extends the repeal date of Act 303, Session Laws of Hawaii 2006, relating to community residential alternatives for persons with developmental disabilities, from June 30, 2008 to June 30, 2009.
051	SB 1457 SD2 HD2	Appropriates \$4,980,523 in general fund revenues and \$4,111,237 from the DD Interdepartmental Transfer Fund as an emergency appropriation to enable the DDD meet state-approved target numbers under the current Medicaid home and community based service and ensure the receipt of federal Medicaid reimbursements.
096	SB 1182 SD2 HD2 CD1	Establishes a needs allowance for residents of care homes and long-term care facilities.
237	HB 928 HD1 SD2 CD2	Increases state supplemental payments for certain domiciliary care (establishes funding for SB 1182).

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DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES DIVISION

SPRING~SUMMER 2007
BULLETIN

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Legislative Session

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Act Number	Bill Number	Description
259	HB 833 HD2 SD2 CD1	Exempts recipients of social service payments from the scope of employment related laws; defines "recipients of social service payments" as it relates to chapters 383, 286, 392, and 393, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Requires the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to report on the financial impact and consequences of the employment exclusions for service providers who provide Medicaid home and community-based services for persons with developmental disabilities and mental retardation.
	SR 143	Requesting the Departments of Health and Human Services to collaborate and apply for a Federal Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver.
Died *	SB 815 SD1	Appropriates funds for a coordinator and operating expenses to support a statewide self-advocacy network for individuals with developmental disabilities.
* Although this bill died in committee, dollars were inserted in the Developmental Disabilities Council's budget for a coordinator and operating expenses for the purposes of this bill: FY '07: \$44.6 FY '08: \$70.6		
Died **	HB 208 SD1	Appropriates moneys to fund operations of developmental disabilities domiciliary homes homes and apartment complexes for persons with developmental disabilities.

** Although this bill died in committee, \$1.8 million was inserted into DDD's budget for the purposes of this bill.

WHO'S WHO? AND WHO'S NEW?



Joanne

Joanne Hao

DD/MR Compliance Officer

Major duties are to ensure compliance with federal regulations and to any court settlement agreements and court orders. Her primary functions are to work with the Department of Attorney General, and other external agencies, to plan, develop, track and ensure the implementation of the various activities required by court settlement agreements and court orders and to comply with federal regulations as HIPAA and applicable Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) requirements.



Jennifer

Jennifer Ernst

Health Outcomes Specialist

Major area of responsibility is to oversee the quality improvement activities for health outcomes for the Developmental Disabilities Division. Desired health outcomes include the promotion of health and well-being and the prevention of diseases for the Division's target populations of developmental disabilities/mental retardation and neurotrauma. This position will identify strategies for the prevention and treatment that will work for the Division's target populations, and shall work collaboratively with public and private agencies to address the health care needs of the target population for quality health care.

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Who's Who?

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Sherry

Sherry Hester

DDD's Clinical Administrator

Primary job responsibility is the development of the Central Intake and Clinical Office at the Division level. This office will be responsible for processing and review of all applications to the DDD based on clear DD eligibility and the establishment of a clinical interdisciplinary team. Additionally, Sherry will be leading a group to develop Utilization Review policies and processes, and also to serve as team leader for Quality Assurance and Improvement.

Jean Luka

Waiver Administrator



Jean

Area of responsibility is the Home & Community-Based Waiver which includes, but is not limited to, implementation, interpretation, amendments and researching other state's waivers. Always within state and federal guidelines and framework, she will also look at creative ways to encourage and enhance consumer choice. Jean works with the Advocacy Implementation group, moving forward on several of the initiatives that were developed prior to her tenure.

This is Jean's second tour of duty at the Division; she was last here in 2002. Now married with a soon-to-be four year old, she's happy to see old colleagues/friends and looks forward to servicing the constituency.

Kevin Dierks

Case Management and Information Services Branch, Branch Administrator



Kevin

Kevin has worked in the area of developmental disabilities for the last 15 years in just about every capacity imaginable, from a classroom aide, to programs manager, to research, training, policy development, and in 2000, a case manager in Unit 1. He is very proud to be part of the creation of the Self-Advocate Advisory Council, a recent effort to help a group of self-advocates begin an advisory body that is 100% self-advocate lead and governed. Everyone has the right to self-determination, the right to direct their resources, and the right to make choices about how they will live their life. Kevin envisions a support system where people with developmental disabilities have the same choices, opportunities, and challenges as everyone else in Hawaii.

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Who's Who?

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Jocelyn

Jocelyn Abanes

Disability Supports Branch, Branch Administrator

Manages the statewide public health program at the Disability Supports Branch relating to Neurotrauma Supports, Certification and Program Monitoring, Community Training and Quality Assurance, and Consumer Services Office. Responsibilities include developing and implementing policies and procedures for the branch; planning, coordinating, directing and evaluating program services; preparing program plans and evaluations, including budgeting and staffing requirements; and performing other related duties.

AN "ACT OF ALOHA"

By Evan Matsushima, Case Management Unit 4



Men and Women in Iraq

The message was simple but heartfelt. It was a thank you for remembering them and for caring. It came from the men and women of the Hawaii Air National Guard who were serving our country in Iraq and Afghanistan during the 2006 Christmas holidays.

Their expressions of appreciation were for the large holiday boxes that we sent to them. The boxes were literally stuffed with hand crafted

Christmas cards, personal thoughts of support, and a huge assortment of snacks with a "local" flavor that they had just received. Approximately 50 self advocates, together with their family members, friends, community volunteers, business supporters, University of Hawaii School of Social Work graduate students and Case Management Unit 4 staff, had pooled creativity, time, space and resources to send a message to these guardsmen and women from Hawaii.

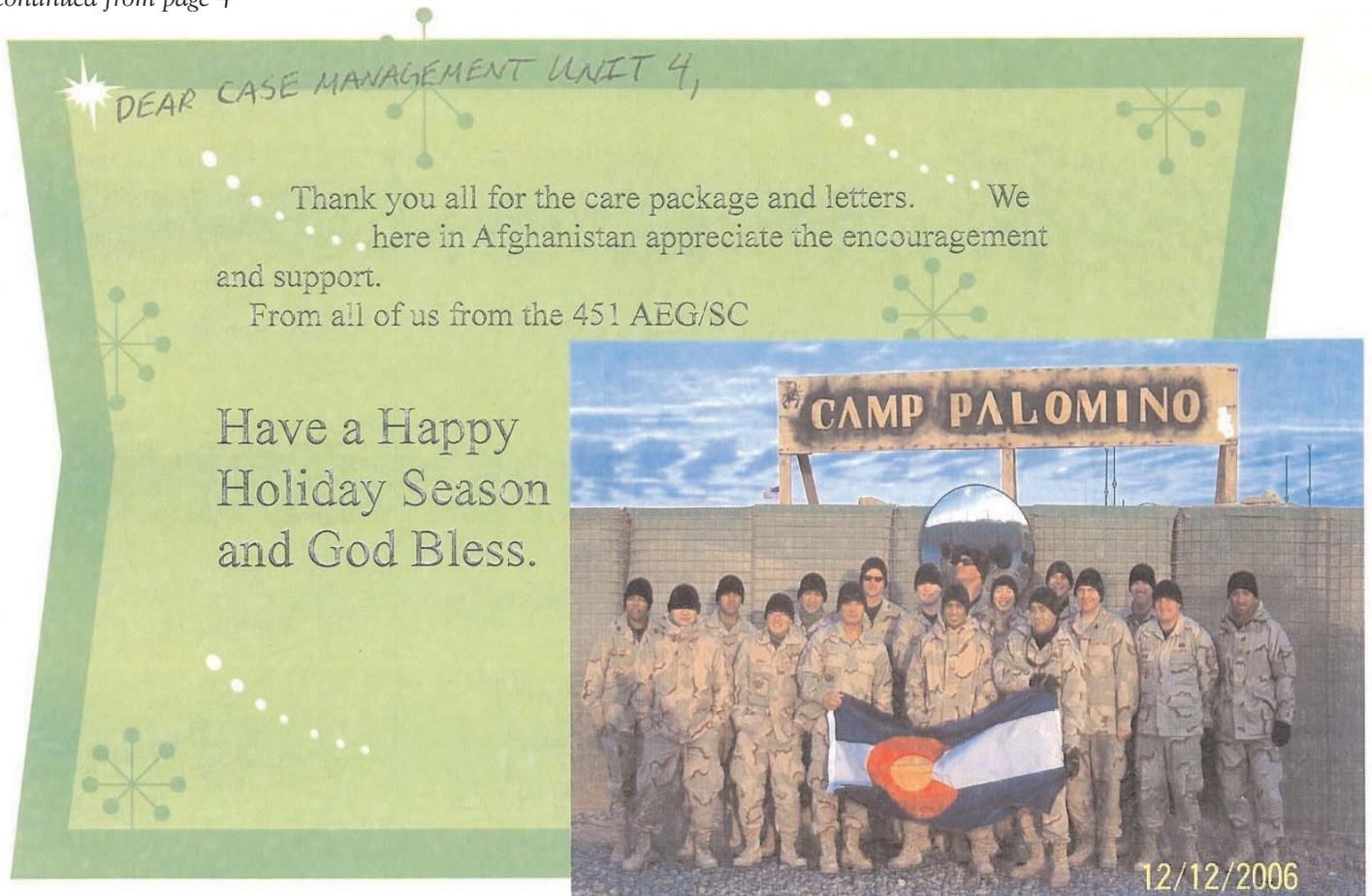
We wanted them to know how proud we were and how much we appreciated their commitment to serve our country. And we look forward to their safe return home.

The hand crafted Christmas cards with personal messages were the result of efforts from gatherings of diverse groups of people from the community. Groups met and

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Act of Aloha

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Thank You Note from Afghanistan

created cards at Hawaii Centers for Independent Living in Hau'ula, a special education class at Kailua High School, a Kamehameha Schools preschool class, Easter Seals ADH at Central Union and in a number of family homes throughout the Windward Coast of Oahu.

Simultaneously, community volunteers worked hard to solicit donations from various business entities such as Tomoe and Taiyo, Inc. who generously donated large quantities of island snacks such as arare, instant saimin and packets of shoyu. Equally generous, individual donations of assorted food and goods were received.

On December 1, 2006, community volunteers joined hands with self-advocates, their families and friends

at the Key Project in Kahaluu, which provided us with its recreation hall at no cost. In a long assembly line, a total of 15 large cardboard boxes were filled with "local" treats, cards and personal messages of support. The atmosphere was filled with positive spirit, energy and laughter. Because of our common goal, everyone easily worked together with meaning, purpose and great result.

The boxes were finally secured, post marked and mailed to their respective destinations. CMU 4 unanimously agreed to use the cash award received for the State Team of the Year to pay for the sizeable postage on the boxes.

Shortly thereafter, we received communication by e-mail, hand

written letters and cards of thanks from the soldiers. Each message recognized the time and effort spent to put together the holiday boxes with expressed appreciation for the snacks. But they especially treasured the warm messages of support in the cards they received from home.

In retrospect, from the feedback we received from almost every project participant, it was the common goal of "giving thanks" that made this community project so special. One parent captured the spirit and essence of our project. She described our collective effort as an "act of aloha".

OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEES HONORED

Developmental Disabilities Division employees who excelled at leadership, teamwork and public service over the last year were recognized on June 7 at the Department of Health's 2007 Employee Incentive and Service Awards ceremony at the State Capitol Auditorium.

The Incentive and Service Awards Program is the best opportunity to provide recognition for employees

who have established a record of sustained superior performance. Subordinates, peers and supervisors can nominate those who demonstrate superior service. Nominations were reviewed by the Incentive and Service Awards Committee and organized by the Department of Health Personnel Office.

Employees from the Case Management and Information

Services Branch include Dale (Kehau) Kanae, Lynn Murakami-Akatsuka, and Ellen Sumida. Monica Oliveros of the Disability Supports Branch and Charlotte Kaneko and Suzette Naito of the Kauai District Health Office were also awardees. Mahalo for your dedication and commitment to the Division and to the people of the state of Hawai'i.



Left to Right: Kehau Kanae, Charlotte Kaneko, Lynn Murakami-Akatsuka, Ellen Sumida, Suzette Naito

HOW TO GET OUT OF A PICL

By Laura Kinkley, Case Management Unit 1

Robert Rivera, Jr, is a very special young man who lives with his mother in a small apartment on Lunalilo Street. Robert has cerebral palsy and uses a wheelchair to assist mobility. He is learning to advocate for himself.

Robert's goal is to be healthy. Last year, when his name came up on the Partnerships in Community Living (PICL) list, he took the encouragement from his mother and DOH case worker, and with the



Robert Rivera, Jr.

money he received, paid for a fitness club membership. Luckily, at that time, 24-Hour Fitness had a special "Life-Time Membership" offer at a very reasonable cost.

Today, Robert is full of energy, determined to stay fit as he continues to get healthy. He works out regularly at 24-Hour Fitness and receives training from staff in a supportive environment. Recently,

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Robert Rivera, Jr.

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his doctor told him he got an “A” on his lab results (Robert has a history of high blood pressure and high cholesterol). On top of that, his mother said that he has more self-esteem and self-confidence since he started with his exercise regime. Now he is not afraid of getting involved with his church’s choir — he gets up on the stage and sings.

He is also not afraid of speaking in public like he was before.

In addition, his mother reports that his memory has improved — he remembers more now. With all the positive benefits from a healthy life style, the most significant thing is that his relationship with his mother has improved and he has a more positive attitude. “I feel great. I’m so proud of myself,” he says.

The PICL Program allows Robert to choose a new level of community involvement. Working out, getting healthier, and having a better relationship with his mother are all part of a new life, and living a dream. With his membership at 24-Hour Fitness, Robert can train at any of the 24-Hour Fitness locations in Hawaii and on the mainland. Today, it’s all about improving his health — a goal that most of us share.

SUNNY BUDDIES SPRING GET TOGETHER



Getting food at the buffet table



Guessing the number of M&Ms in the jar



Guessing what's in the bags

The Sunny Buddies highlight of the year was the Spring Fling held on May 4 at the Waikiki Aquarium. Buddies, their families and guests enjoyed a hearty dinner, games such as “Guess What’s In The Bag” and guess the number of M&Ms in the jar, as well as other activities such as face painting, decorating jewelry boxes, viewing the Aquarium’s marine life, and getting to know others.

One of the activities that brought delight and captured hearts was the magnet-framed photos to hang on refrigerators. Buddies had their photos taken together to mat with

frames they decorated. Individuals were proud of their work and happy to take home a treasured memory of the evening.

Sunny Buddies strives to foster meaningful friendships between individuals with intellectual disabilities and volunteers. Individuals with intellectual disabilities who are interested in participating in Sunny Buddies should contact their case managers for referrals to the program. For more information or to get involved, contact Gail Yuen at 733-9191 or e-mail at gail.yuen@doh.hawaii.gov.

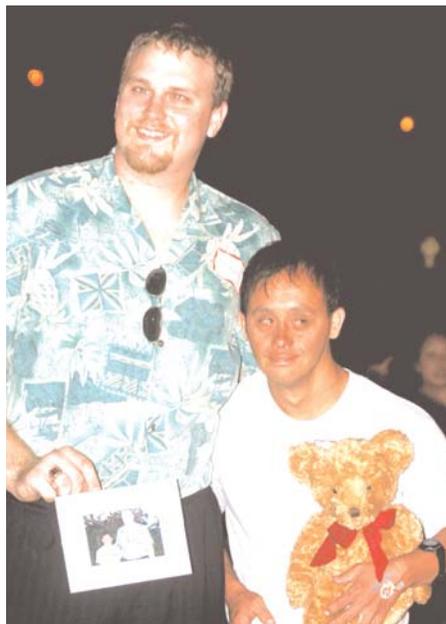
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Sunny Buddies

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Viewing the marine life inside the Aquarium



Showing off their prized framed photos



SUNNY BUDDIES PRESIDENT RECEIVES COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Sunny Buddies is an all-volunteer organization and a viable community resource for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Its outgoing President, Catherine Ho, received two 2007 John A. Burns School of Medicine Convocation Awards given to outstanding students. The first is the E.E. Black Community Service Award. It recognizes a senior for academic excellence and community service from funds contributed by the late Mr. Everett Earl Black, a well-known contractor and developer, whose many projects included the construction of the Biomedical Sciences Building on the University of Hawaii Manoa campus.

Catherine has been the Sunny Buddies President the past year and served as Secretary/Treasurer and Vice President the previous two years. She has encouraged medical students to become Sunny Buddies, has promoted community service to students, and has been involved in



Buddies Diane Lew (left) and Catherine Ho (right)

many community service projects.

Diane Lew and Catherine have been buddies since the start of Catherine's

first year in medical school. For four years, Catherine has been a dedicated volunteer, friend, and "Angel Sister," on outings that were special treats for her and Diane. Other Sunny Buddies volunteers who are enjoying their lasting friendships with individuals with intellectual disabilities for four years or more are Kevin Kitagawa, Kory Kitagawa, Herbert Lau, and Jill Ono.

Catherine was also the recipient of The Society of Academic Emergency Medicine Award, presented in recognition of excellence in emergency medicine. The Society represents academic and research pursuits of the American College of Emergency Physicians. During her years as a medical student, Catherine interned on an ambulance. She will be going to UCLA to do residency in Internal Medicine and Emergency Medicine. Aloha, mahalo, and good luck Catherine.

HIT THE BEACH THIS SUMMER

Want to enjoy the sun and water this summer? If being in a wheelchair is preventing you from going to the beach, then hit the beach at several island-wide locations and try out the Landeez All-Terrain Wheelchair.

The Wheelchair was designed specifically to enable people who use wheelchairs to roll easily over sand. It is available seven days a week for persons with disabilities through the Department of Parks and Recreation at the following locations, **FREE** of charge:



Landeez All-Terrain Wheelchair

Ala Moana Beach Park

1201 Ala Moana Blvd.
Diamond Head and Ewa Food Concessions
(at each end of the park)
Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Phone: (808) 949-2500

San Souci (Waikiki)

2863 Kalakaua Avenue
Partnership with the New Otani Kaimana Beach Hotel
Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Phone: (808) 923-1555

Fort DeRussy (Waikiki)

On Fort DeRussy Beach off of Kalia Rd.
Partnership with Prime Time Sports
Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Phone: (808) 949-8952

Hanauma Bay Nature Park

7455 Kalanianaʻole Highway
Park hours: Winter – 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Summer – 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday through Monday (Closed Tuesday)
24 Hour information line: (808) 396-4229

Kualoa Regional Park

49-479 Kamehameha Highway
Hours: Monday - Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Phone: (808) 237-8525
Please call to make prior arrangements.

Kailua Beach Park

526 Kawailoa Road
Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m to 3:00 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon
Phone: (808) 233-7300
Please call to make prior arrangements. **You must pick up within 15 minutes of scheduled time.**

Pokai Bay Beach Park

Waianae Army Recreation Center
85-010 Army Street, Waianae
Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Phone (808) 696-6783 ext. 0
Please call to make prior arrangements.



Beach Mat at Ala Moana Park

Beach Mats also provide an accessible means of sand mobility. They are designed for high traffic public use areas to assist with anyone who has trouble accessing the ocean due to sand

or uneven surfaces. The mats are in place on the beach near both concession stands at Ala Moana Beach Park, Kailua Beach near the canoe halau and Lanikai boat ramp, Waimanalo Bay camping side and Waimanalo Beach near the comfort station. The beach mats provide a smooth, flat surface across the sand to the water's edge. How close to the water's edge will depend on how high the tide is at the time. Since they only go to the high tide mark, at Kailua Beach they go to just a look out point because of the fluctuation of the sand there.

BEING PREPARED: PANDEMIC FLU – A DIFFERENT TYPE OF DISASTER PREPARATION

by Lynn Murakami-Akatsuka, MPH, CHES

CMIS Branch Planner

Hawaii residents are being asked to prepare for pandemic flu. What is pandemic flu? Pandemic flu is **not** your seasonal flu that arrives during winter. It is a new variety of Influenza A virus, to which humans have little or no natural resistance. Because it is new, no vaccines have yet been developed for it. It readily spreads from person to person.

Of recent concern has been the number of cases of avian (bird) flu virus called H5N1 in Asia. “Almost all H5N1 cases occur in birds but since 2005, more than 200 people have gotten the disease,” per the World Health Organization statistics as of January 12, 2007. More than half of these persons have died.

Currently, there is no pandemic flu in Hawaii.

As part of your disaster preparation planning, there are several things you can do to understand your role and actions in the event of a pandemic flu. Health Department officials recommend that you have in advance a disaster kit in your home. With a pandemic flu, you will be asked to avoid crowds or remain in your home. Large public gatherings may be cancelled or postponed. You may be ordered off the streets. These steps are meant to keep you safe and healthy.

Some questions for you to consider in preparing for you or the individual with intellectual disabilities you care for in the event



of a pandemic flu are:

1. Are you prepared to spend 2-3 weeks in your home without your Personal Assistance/Habilitation (PAB) worker coming to help you?
2. Is their special equipment or a communication device available for you at your home?
3. Do you have enough medication and supplies for a month on hand at your home? Is there someone available to pick them up for you?
4. Do you have a backup plan to get to the doctor or hospital if you care for a medically fragile individual?
5. What if you or the individual you care for couldn't go to the adult day health program? Is there alternative care?
6. Have you talked to your doctor about how you can prepare and how to help a medically fragile person prepare for a pandemic flu?
7. What is the plan your adult day health program, PAB, and any other support services you utilize have in place in the event of a pandemic flu?

On your next trip to a drug store sale, COSTCO/Sam's, or market – begin to stock up on food, water/other beverages, medication, first aid supplies, and personal hygiene supplies in your home. Build your supply beginning with three days, then three weeks. Check your expiration dates on your items and replace when needed. A battery operated/crank type of radio should be part of your kit. Essential information from State or County Civil Defense will be aired on the radio and TV to keep the public informed on the status of a public health emergency, which includes pandemic flu. All official Health Department announcements will be made through the State or County Civil Defense.

The following are some ways you can help to keep you and your family safe and healthy now (Reference - [Plan to Be Ready: The Hawaii Family Guide to Health Emergencies](#)):

- Get a flu vaccine each year. The Hawaii State Department of Health recommends vaccinations every fall, **for everyone**. Hawaii's flu season can peak in February or even later. Schedule a flu shot appointment for you and your family.
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue, then throw used tissues away. Avoid using your hands to

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Pandemic Flu

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- cover your mouth. It's a different way of coughing. This helps prevent the spread of germs from your hands – on door knobs, desk tops, refrigerator handles, car doors.
- Wash your hands often and use hand-sanitizing gels. Washing your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds or more can kill germs. Carry a small bottle of hand

sanitizing gel to use when soap and water are not available.

- Get regular check-ups, exercise and eat right. By doing these positive habits, your body is best able to fight disease when it is healthy.
- Stay home when you are sick. If you feel ill or have a cold or flu-like symptoms (runny nose, congestion, cough, muscle aches, fever or exhaustion), stay home and get well before returning to work or programs. If you are well,

keep your distance from people who are sick.

The Developmental Disabilities Division takes these precautions seriously and encourages you to be prepared with information and healthy lifestyle practices. For more information, you can obtain the [Plan to Be Ready](#) booklet online at www.hawaii.gov/health. Individual copies of the booklet are also available by calling 211.

CONSUMER DIRECTED SERVICES POPULAR CHOICE

Consumer Directed (CD) Services are an option for participants in the DD/MR Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) program. This service allows the individual and/or their designated representative to direct their services and be the employer of the service worker. Participants have the flexibility to hire, train, manage, and fire, when necessary, the direct support worker(s) they choose. They also control when and how the worker will work, and what work they will do.

Chore, Personal Assistance/Habilitation (PAB) levels 1 and 2, and Respite services may be consumer directed. Participants may



direct some or all of these services or use a combination of both agency services and Consumer Directed Services. Based on the individualized service plan (ISP), CD services offer choice and flexibility and provide different ways to help individuals meet their goals.

From its beginnings of only two consumers in August 2004, the

numbers now enrolled have soared to about 340 consumers. Consumer Directed Services may be a choice for you. Contact your case manager for more information or to request a brochure.

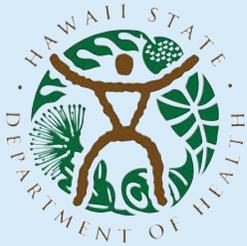
If any consumer who has been utilizing Consumer Directed Services for 2 years or more and would like to share a story for our Developmental Disabilities Division Bulletin about how it is working, please contact Gail Yuen, at 733-9191, or e-mail gail.yuen@doh.hawaii.gov.

CONGRATULATIONS, MONICA OLIVEROS

Monica Oliveros, paramedical assistant with the Disability Supports Branch, recently received the Sustained Superior Performance Award for exemplifying what a “team player” is all about. Monica constantly displays a positive attitude, and is always eager and willing to learn new tasks to help others in her work place. She assists both the clerical and professional staff in various capacities—from greeting caregivers, answering phone calls or inquiries about the program, fingerprinting



prospective caregivers, accompanying certifiers on home visits and complaint investigations, visiting and reporting on prospective Adult Foster Homes, prepping materials used for training, and proctoring English Comprehension Tests. She also initiates various special projects (i.e. decorating contests for the holidays amongst office staff) and helps to “spruce up the office” for different occasions. Over the years she has grown to become an invaluable member of the Certification Section.



NEUROTRAUMA SUPPORTS

Disability Supports Branch
Developmental Disabilities
Division

2201 Waimano Home Road
Pearl City, Hawaii 96782-1474
Telephone: 453-6151
E-mail: ntrauma@doh.hawaii.gov

If you have Microsoft Windows media player, check our website: www.hawaii.gov/health/disability-services/neurotrauma/index.html

for videos on-line. Videos that are relevant to survivors of brain, spinal cord injury and stroke will be shown periodically.

For information and resources, or to suggest topics of interest for this newsletter, call the Neurotrauma Helpline at 808-453-6151.



TBI GRANT

For the new Traumatic Brain Injury Grant, a contract with the Pacific Basin Rehabilitation Research Training Center for the Peer Mentoring project out of the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific will soon begin. If you are interested in becoming a mentor or would like more information on this project, call the Neurotrauma Helpline at 808-453-6151.



Sen. Inouye and Bill

The 10th Annual Federal Traumatic Brain Injury Program State Grantee

Meeting was held this past March in Bethesda, Maryland. One of the more moving and informative presentations was by a recent veteran on “TBI: The Signature Injury of the Iraq War.” He spoke on blast injuries from IEDs

(improvised explosive devices) causing TBI and what’s been done to identify these soldiers and treat them. There needs to be a coordinated effort between the military and the brain injury

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TBI Grant

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community to share information and resources.

Bill Rodrigues, TBI survivor, and Curtis Inouye, NT staff, were fortunate to visit with Senator Dan Inouye at the Hart Senate Building during the annual TBI Grantee Meeting. They were warmly greeted by Sen. Inouye and his staff and Bill was able to provide a history of his injury and recovery. They were also able to provide information to the Senator and his office staff on the TBI Re-Authorization Act and gain his support.

BRAIN-INJURY SURVIVORS RISK EPILEPSY

Excerpt from the Associated Press

Survivors of traumatic brain injuries (TBI) – from car crash victims to soldiers wounded in Iraq – face an extra hurdle as they recover: thousands of them will develop epilepsy months or years later. Major new research is beginning into ways to predict exactly who is most at risk and how to protect their vulnerable brains. Among the efforts are pilot studies to see if the

newer seizure-treating drugs such as Topamax or Keppra might actually prevent epilepsy if they are taken immediately after a serious brain injury. About 5% of the nation's epilepsy was caused by TBI; roughly 25% of survivors of moderate to severe brain injury will develop epilepsy. Even more, perhaps, for certain types of war injuries.

ADVISORY BOARDS

The State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board, at its meeting in January, discussed the idea of designing an I.D. bracelet or medical card to indicate the individual had a brain injury. This would help alert others that the individual has a brain injury and not be treated as if he/she were intoxicated or mentally ill/incompetent. In its meeting in March, hospital discharge data of persons with TBI obtained from the Hawaii Health Information Corp. was presented. In 2005 there were 1681 discharges and most were attributed to motor vehicle crashes and falls.

The Neurotrauma Advisory Board held its annual meeting in February and Dr. Brenda Cartwright of the UH School of Educational Counseling did a presentation on "Embracing Change and Cultural Diversity." Members broke out into

groups to brainstorm ideas on how to reach out to survivors. The Members Handbook was distributed and reviewed. Sub-committees on 1) Registry; 2) Marketing; 3) Legislative Advocacy; and 4) Special Fund are meeting to review/revise their goals and develop activities/strategies to meet them.

The STBIAB meets on the third Friday of odd months at the Capitol Center, 1177 Alakea St., Rm. 302; and Neurotrauma on the fourth Friday, even months at the Kalanimoku Bldg., 1151 Punchbowl St., Basement, and the State Bldg. in Kapolei on Oahu. Both meetings can be accessed via the State video conference centers (VCCs) on Maui, Hawaii and Kauai. Meetings are from 1:30 to 4:00 pm and open to the public. Call 453-6295 for the specific dates, times or more information.

MARCH WAS BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH

This year's theme was "As Diverse as We Are." A mini-fair was held at the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific and participants with their exhibits included BIA-HI, Comforting Hands, Centre for Neuro Skills, Neurotrauma Supports, ThinkFirst and REHAB TBI Core Team.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

May was Stroke Awareness Month

Stroke Club of Hawaii

1st Tuesday of every month at 10:00 am

Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific – Lanai Area

226 Kuakini Street (Honolulu) Phone: 531-3511 ext. 791

Contact person: Catherine Church, CTRS

Brain Injury Support Groups

Brain Injury Association of Hawaii

Support Group Meeting

2nd Wednesday of every month from 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Educational Meeting

3rd Wednesday of every month from 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific – Wo Conf. Room #2

226 Kuakini Street (Honolulu) Phone: 454-0699

Contact person: Lyna Burian (Facilitator)

BIG (Brain Injury Group)

3rd Friday of every month from 12 noon

Hale Mahaolu - 200 Hina Avenue (Kahului)

Contact person: Gary Frampton, Facilitator (871-7408)

Kona Chapter of the Pacific Brain Injury Association

2nd Wednesday of every month from 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Hawaiian Rehab Services

75-184 Hualalai Road (Kailua-Kona)

Contact persons: Val Hoke, OTR (329-0591)

or Karen Klemme, RN (328-9498)



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Linda Lingle, Governor
Chiyome Leinaala Fukino, M.D.,
Director of Health