

## Disability Program Navigator Initiative

<b>Program Description</b>	<p>The Disability Program Navigator Project (DPN) is funded under the federal Work Incentives Grants. The DPN Initiative was jointly established by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) and the Social Security Administration (SSA). The initiative promotes comprehensive services and work incentive information for SSA beneficiaries and other people with disabilities, through the One Stop system. It focuses on developing new and ongoing partnerships to achieve seamless, comprehensive, and integrated access to services, creating systemic change, and expanding the workforce development system's capacity to serve customers with disabilities and employers interested in hiring individuals with disabilities.</p> <p>Hawaii was initially awarded DPN funds in July 2006. Our initial plan was to establish Disability Program Navigator positions on all counties but as our funding level was reduced by 25%, we initially established full time DPNs only on Hawaii, Honolulu, and Maui Counties. In 2008 with further reduction in funds, DPNs remained only on Maui and Honolulu Counties. These DPNs are currently only funded at .40 FTE. No additional DPN funds were allocated in 2010.</p>
<b>Eligible Participants</b>	N/A
<b>Allocations</b>	Two .40 FTE positions serving Maui and Oahu and a .20 FTE State Lead position within WDD, Administration. No additional DPN funds were allocated effective 2010. As the State had remaining funds available from our PY 09 allocation, the State requested and was granted a no-cost extension to support the DPN initiative to June 30, 2011.
<b>Funding Source</b>	Federal Formula Grant (USDOL)
<b>Funding Period</b>	07/01/09-06/30/11
<b>Federal Funding</b>	Allotment: \$112,500
<b>State Funding</b>	None
<b>Geographic Areas Served</b>	Maui County and City and County of Honolulu
<b>Number of Participants</b>	N/A
<b>Cost / Participant</b>	N/A
<b>Key Outcomes</b>	<p>Unlike other programs, the DPN does not have specific performance requirements. The purpose of the DPN initiative is to build and maintain partnerships which will expand services to individuals with disabilities.</p> <p>Through the DPN initiative, partnerships and collaborations have been established with the Medicare Infrastructure Grant (MIG), Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Social Security Administration, and various other entities serving individuals with disabilities within the State. The DPNs have also met with agencies and organizations within their local areas to introduce the One-Stop programs and services and to share the DPN initiative. The DPNs have served as a resource to the One Stop staff as well as the individuals with disabilities who seek services from our centers. An informational brochure entitled 'Disability Resources for Employers' was also prepared by one of the DPNs for use at all One-Stops within the State.</p>