



Date	May 6, 2010
Location	Education and Training Coordinating Committee
Prepared By	WDC Staff

HIGHLIGHTS February 12 to May 13, 2010

Project Hoomohala (“PH”)

The Steering Committee includes representatives from mental health services and others including WDC, and client families and youth. The Committee’s purpose is to build capacity for intensive case management of these youth in the Farrington, McKinley and Roosevelt High School Complex areas. The Direct Services Program of PH provides intensive services to teens ages 14-20 experiencing emotional and behavior issues that lead to negative outcomes.

There is one more year of the multi-year federal grant. The purpose of the March 2010 Steering Committee meeting was to meet with four monitors from the federal oversight team. WDC represents the employment side—with an expectation of the youth working or somehow engaged in post-secondary education even while in the mental health system. A major issue is program sustainability, which is being addressed. At the beginning of the grant 5 years ago, state and other funding looked stable. As with many programs, the project is looking at blended funding--some of these youth may enter the WIA system (they would be older and younger youth) as well as probably TANF, OCS, Job Corps and OYS.

The total number of youth in the direct services program is 50 (the goal by now was 60), and all the youth are not doing well in school or are drop-outs. Some of the early participants are now attending college. The primary feature is the use of transitional counselors, the model of which can be housed in an existing agency upon completion of the grant project. More work for the project is needed as this project in all likelihood can’t be extended as a stand-alone program in the current economy. Best practices include stakeholder involvement on the Steering Committee and the transitional counselors in the direct services component.

Medicaid Infrastructure Grant (Hire Abilities)

The current project of the Hire Abilities program (headed by Susan Miller, who gave a presentation at the previous WDC meeting) is to establish a Business Leadership Network (“BLN”) in each county and statewide. BLNs are peer-to-peer networks whose members meet to discuss hiring of persons with disabilities, and are active in many states and at the federal level. Jonathan Chun volunteered to work with Susan Miller to help establish a statewide network.

NAWB Briefing

A number of staff and members of the WDC and LWIBs attended the National Association of Workforce Boards in Washington DC. There will be a Powerpoint presentation on key knowledge from the Conference that can be incorporated into Hawaii’s system, and next steps for the workforce development system.