



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO M.D.
DIRECTOR
Phone: (808) 586-4410
Fax: (808) 586-4444

For Immediate Release: March 22, 2007

07-15

**CONFERENCE EXPLORES THE ROLE OF EMPLOYMENT IN
RECOVERING FROM MENTAL ILLNESS**

HONOLULU – About 300 mental health services providers, psychiatrists, psychologists, nurses, social workers, consumers and their family members from Hawai`i and the Pacific region are expected to attend the 2007 best practices conference entitled “Work Works! Supported Employment.” Sponsored by the Hawai`i State Department of Health’s Adult Mental Health Division and the Hawai`i Consortium for Continuing Medical Education, the conference will be held from April 3-5 at the Hawai`i Convention Center.

This year, local and national mental health experts will highlight the best practice of supported employment. This includes strategies for providing assistance to consumers of mental health services in gaining and retaining a job they enjoy. Studies have shown employment to be a highly effective means of helping in the recovery of individuals with severe mental illness. Unique to this year’s conference is the inclusion of a job fair on April 5th to connect employers and potential employees to one another. The job fair is free to conference attendees and will be open to the public for a \$5 fee.

To register, visit <http://www.amhd.org/best>. For more information on the conference or the job fair, contact the Mental Health Services Research, Evaluation, and Training Program at (808) 539-3939 or email best@amhd.org.

###

For information contact:
Lance Agena
Adult Mental Health Division
Phone: (808) 539-3874