



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

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GOVERNOR

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**PUBLIC TOWNHALL MEETINGS TO BE HELD STATEWIDE
FOR MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING**

HONOLULU – The Hawai`i State Department of Health will hold public meetings statewide beginning August 1, 2007 to gather information from residents on mental health issues and discuss the vision for transforming Hawaii's mental health services. The meetings are the start of the development and future implementation of a Comprehensive Mental Health Plan to improve mental health services on all islands.

“We invite the public to participate in these ‘talk story’ sessions where we hope to gather as much information at possible about the mental health needs of all our communities in Hawaii,” Health Director Chiyome Fukino, M.D. said. “This is an important issue, and we have the best opportunity now to make significant changes in how our mental health services are provided statewide.”

Health Director Chiyome Fukino is scheduled to attend and conduct a total of 10 meetings on the islands of Hawai`i, Kaua`i, Lana`i, Maui, and Moloka`i. Two meetings will also be held in Windward and Leeward O`ahu. In addition to the scheduled “talk story” sessions, the public can also participate by signing up to become a member of a subcommittee; taking part in an interview; joining a focus group; or contacting the Transformation Working Group directly with ideas or suggestions. The DOH would like to invite anyone interested in helping transform mental health services in Hawaii to participate.

For more information, email: transformation@doh.hawaii.gov or call (808) 586-4114.

(more)

The meetings are funded through Hawaii's Mental Health Transformation State Incentive Grant. This \$10.95 million grant administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) provides funding over five years to assist in transforming the delivery of quality mental health services across the state.

List of Statewide Meetings:

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Information</u>
August 1 8:15-11:30 a.m.	Moloka`i Kulana `Oiwī Halau, 610 Mauanloa Hwy.	Call 984-8200
August 1 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Windward O`ahu (Kaneohe) Hale Akoakoa, Rm. 105, 45-720 Keaahala Rd.	586-4113
August 2 3:30-6:30 p.m.	East Kaua`i (Lihue) King Kaumuali`I Library, 4380 Hanamaulu Rd	241-3614
August 3 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.	Maui (Hana) Hana Library, Hana High & Elementary School	984-8200
August 6 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Lana`i Lana`i High & Elementary School Cafeteria	984-8200
August 7 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Hawai`i (Ka`u/Pahala) Pahala Community Center	974-6006
August 7 5:00-7:45 p.m.	Hawai`i (Hilo) Hilo County Aupuni Conference Cnt., 101 Pauahi St.	974-6006
August 8 8:15-11:15 a.m.	Leeward Oahu (Nanakuli) KS Community Learning Cnt., 89-101 Farrington Hwy.	586-4113
August 9 9:15 a.m. -12:15 p.m.	Hawai`i (Kamuela) W.M. Keck Observatory Conf. Rm., 65-1120 Mamalahoa Hwy.	974-6006
August 9 3:30-6:30 pm.	Hawai`i (Kailua-Kona) Kealakehe High School Cafeteria, 74-5000 Puohulihuli St.	974-6006
August 10 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Maui (Central Maui) Cameron Center, 95 Mahalani St.	877-9849
August 14 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon	Kauai (Hanapepe) Hanapepe Neighborhood Cnt., 4451 Puolo Rd.	241-3614

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