



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: July 17, 2008

08-62

**MENTAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION STATE INCENTIVE GRANT
ANNUAL MEETING ON JULY 23**

HONOLULU – To celebrate its first year and report back to the public on progress, the Mental Health Transformation State Incentive Grant (MHT SIG) working group will hold its annual meeting on Wednesday, July 23, 2008 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Pearl City Cultural Center located near the top of Waimano Home Road. The meeting is open to the public and registration is required by contacting MHT SIG at transformation@doh.hawaii.gov or by calling (808) 453-6649.

One year ago on July 11, 2007, Hawai'i's effort to transform mental health services through a federally funded MHT SIG was launched at a meeting at the State Capitol. Dubbed by Governor Linda Lingle as a "once-in-a generation opportunity" to transform mental health services, this \$11 million five-year grant allows Hawai'i to plan and implement changes to improve the state's the system of care.

Lt. Governor James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr. and Health Director Chiyome Fukino, MD will open the first annual meeting. SAMHSA Project Officer, Commander David Morrissette will follow with a discussion of transformation efforts being made nationally. The Keynote address on "Trauma and Recovery" will feature Tonier Cain, a consumer advocate. A panel of local experts will follow her presentation with a discussion on the role of "trauma" across the lifespan.

(more)

Understanding how many lives, both individually and over generations, have been touched by traumatic events relating to mental health supports closer collaboration between transformation participants who all bring their personal perspectives. In the afternoon, attendees will be able to meet with members of the Task Groups to discuss what priorities are being addressed first.

While this meeting is open to the public at no cost, advance reservations for the Annual Meeting are required. Reservations can be made by contacting MHT SIG via e-mail at transformation@doh.hawaii.gov or by calling (808) 453-6649.

#

For more information contact:

Diane Lee

Mental Health Transformation State Incentive Grant

Phone: (808) 453-6649

Email: transformation@doh.hawaii.gov