

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

*<http://hawaii.gov/doh>*

The Department of Health, established under section 26-13 and specifically provided for in chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is headed by the Director of Health. The Department is the state agency responsible for the planning, execution, and coordination of public health and environmental health programs for the protection and improvement of the environmental, physical, and mental well-being of the people of Hawaii. The mission of the Department is to provide leadership to monitor, protect, and enhance the health and environment of all the people of Hawaii. It enforces the State's public health and environmental health laws and administers various programs to improve the delivery of health services and protect the public health.

## **Director of Health**

The Director directs and coordinates activities of the Department through four administrations headed by deputy directors for: General Administration, Behavioral Health, Environmental Health, and Health Resources.

**Communications Office.** The Communications Office, attached to the Office of the Director of Health, handles internal and external communications within the Department, produces newsletters, handles media relations, oversees design and presentation of department materials intended for the public, and oversees the printing operations of the Department.

**Office of Health Equity.** Under the general guidance of the Director of Health, the Office of Health Equity (OHE) plans, administers, and directs statewide activities designed to identify and eliminate disparate health conditions among population groups in Hawaii and to link with national and state initiatives to eliminate disparities. OHE activities focus on identifying health disparities and health needs and developing recommendations for effective, culturally appropriate interventions within selected populations. In addition, OHE promotes adoption of the Healthy People 2010 Objectives advocated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the priority areas and issues of its Office of Minority Health. OHE serves as Hawaii's liaison to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health.

## **Board of Health**

The Board of Health, established under section 26-13, Hawaii Revised Statutes, serves as an advisory panel to the Director of Health. The Board consists of eleven members, appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, and the Director of Human Services as an ex officio nonvoting member. The appointed members include at least one resident of each county, including the County of Kalawao.

## ADMINISTRATIONS

### **General Administration**

(Deputy Director of Health)

#### **District Health Offices**

There are District Health Offices on the islands of Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii. These offices administer and coordinate public health services in each of the neighbor island counties with technical assistance and cooperation of staff offices and administrations.

#### **Administrative Services Office**

The Administrative Services Office provides department-wide accounting and fiscal services, inventory control, contract processing, and centralized mailroom services; coordinates the Department's program plans and budget; administers the organization and staffing program as well as records management; and coordinates preparation and execution of the Department's capital improvement projects.

#### **Affirmative Action Office**

The Affirmative Action Office assists programs to assure nondiscriminatory services and equal employment opportunity relating to state and federal discrimination laws; develops policy; informs and trains staff; coordinates and investigates complaints; and recommends correction or disciplinary actions.

#### **Health Information Systems Office**

The Health Information Systems Office provides data processing services to the Department, coordinates development of computer application systems, provides specialized technical support in computing and network connectivity, and coordinates data processing matters.

#### **Health Status Monitoring Office**

The Health Status Monitoring Office develops and maintains reports of health status of Hawaii's people. The Office issues marriage licenses; keeps records of birth certificates, death certificates, and other vital records; and provides assistance in genealogical searches.

## **Human Resources Office**

The Human Resources Office coordinates personnel management and administration in compliance with civil service laws, rules, and collective bargaining agreements; encourages managers to develop and use good personnel management practices; advises employees of rights, privileges, and obligations; and counsels on possible conflicts of interest.

## **Office of Health Care Assurance**

The Office of Health Care Assurance (formerly the Hospital and Medical Facilities Branch) manages the state licensing and federal certification of medical and health care facilities, agencies, and services provided throughout the State in order to ensure compliance with established standards of care.

## **Planning, Policy and Program Development Office**

The Planning, Policy and Program Development Office is responsible for legislative planning, special planning projects, and rural health care coordination. The Office provides support for programs applying for federal or foundation grants and technical assistance for administrative rules.

The Office includes Primary Care Development that provides needs assessment and planning for primary care services in the State. The goal is to improve access to primary care for medically underserved populations and to eliminate health disparities.

## **Behavioral Health Administration**

(Deputy Director for Behavioral Health)

## **Adult Mental Health Division**

The mission of the Adult Mental Health Division (AMHD) is to provide a comprehensive, integrated mental health system supporting the recovery of adults with severe mental illness. The vision of AMHD is that everyone has access to effective treatment and supports essential for living, working, learning, and participating fully in the community. AMHD oversees a total of eight public Community Mental Health Centers statewide (four on Oahu, two on Hawaii, one on Kauai, and one on Maui); Hawaii State Hospital; the Courts and Corrections Branch; and contracts with a variety of mental health providers for service provision. AMHD also operates the 24/7 ACCESS and Crisis Line.

**Hawaii State Hospital.** Hawaii State Hospital, a specialized inpatient psychiatric facility, is located in Kaneohe, Oahu. Inpatient services are provided for persons committed civilly and by the criminal courts. The Hospital received its latest three-year accreditation by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations in 2005.

**Courts and Corrections Branch.** The Courts and Corrections Branch of the Adult Mental Health Division provides court-ordered mental health evaluations to the state court system pursuant to chapter 704, Hawaii Revised Statutes, concerning penal responsibility and fitness to proceed.

### **Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division**

The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division provides leadership and planning for development of quality substance abuse prevention and treatment services. The Division administers federal block grant and state funds; accredits programs; certifies substance abuse counselors and program administrators; and manages and monitors services purchased through contracts with private and public sector agencies.

### **Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division**

The mission of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division (CAMHD) is to provide timely and effective mental health prevention, assessment and treatment services to children and youth with emotional and behavioral challenges, and their families. CAMHD provides access to care through eight community health centers, called Family Guidance Centers, across the State and one mental health office at the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility. In addition, CAMHD contracts with a network of provider agencies to provide a full array of assessment and treatment services.

### **Developmental Disabilities Division**

The major focus of the Developmental Disabilities Division is to prevent institutionalization of people with developmental disabilities through community-based services.

**Disability Supports Branch.** The Disability Supports Branch provides system supports for persons with disabilities; certifies and monitors adult foster homes; coordinates the complaints resolution process; assesses and evaluates consumer directed outcomes; and plans long-term supports for persons with brain injury.

**Case Management and Information Services Branch.** The Case Management and Information Services Branch provides community-based services to clients who are developmentally disabled to sustain them in community living and to preserve family integrity; coordinates purchase-of-services for persons with developmental and intellectual disabilities; and assists with respite to families of persons with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

**Environmental Health Administration**  
(Deputy Director for Environmental Health)

**Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response Office.** The Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response Office provides state leadership and support for responding to releases of oil and hazardous substances; develops effective, well-coordinated environmental responses; and identifies sites of hazardous substance releases. The Office also provides information on poisonous effects of chemicals (pesticides, metals, solvents, pollutants, food additives, etc.) found in the environment.

**Environmental Planning Office.** The Environmental Planning Office is responsible for long-range planning to ensure that the State's public health and environment are not compromised by pollutants. It manages the Water Quality Standards Program and the Total Maximum Daily Load Program, and provides functional support to the Environmental Health Administration in the areas of geographic information system, public participation, land use coordination, and legislative coordination.

**Environmental Resources Office.** The Environmental Resources Office provides administrative, personnel, budget, and fiscal support.

**Compliance Assistance Office.** The Compliance Assistance Office was established to help small businesses overcome the hurdles they face in their efforts to succeed in business while following environmental regulations. The Office works to promote communication between the Department and small businesses by increasing understanding, interceding in disputes, and promoting inclusion of small business perspectives in rulemaking.

**Information Management Office.** The Information Management Office is responsible for technology systems throughout the administration. This includes the design, development, and implementation of data systems as well as dictating the strategic direction of technical initiatives.

**Environmental Health Services Division**

**Vector Control Branch.** The Vector Control Branch is a regulatory program that conducts investigative enforcement and control of vectors (insects, rodents, etc.) to prevent the transmission of communicable disease and health-related injuries to the people and visitors in Hawaii.

**Sanitation Branch.** The Sanitation Branch inspects food service establishments, milk plants, frozen dessert manufacturing plants, dairy farms, hotels, adult family care homes, intermediate care facilities, skilled nursing facilities, hospitals, public swimming pools, barber and beauty shops, mortuaries, tattoo parlors, and massage parlors.

**Noise, Radiation and Indoor Air Quality Branch.** The Noise, Radiation and Indoor Air Quality Branch is responsible for statewide programs of community noise and radiation

control through the provision of services which include inspection, educational, consultative, and enforcement activities. The Branch also works to ensure that air conditioning and ventilation rules are enforced and that the public is protected from exposure to lead and asbestos. Indoor air quality problems are also addressed.

**Food and Drug Branch.** The Food and Drug Branch is the regulatory program responsible for the safety and labeling of most food, drugs, cosmetics, medical devices, and related consumer products. The Branch performs inspections and collects samples of products for lab testing.

## **Environmental Management Division**

**Clean Air Branch.** The Clean Air Branch monitors for air pollution, administers the agricultural burning and air pollution control permit programs, provides regulatory oversight and enforcement on air pollution sources, and maintains the statewide air emission inventory.

**Clean Water Branch.** The Clean Water Branch is responsible for the Statewide Water Pollution Control Program for the protection of state waters. It provides water quality monitoring, pollution investigations, and enforcement, responds to complaints on water pollution and to sewage spills and other illegal discharges into state waters, and administers a Polluted Runoff Control grant program for education and demonstration projects to mitigate polluted runoff.

**Safe Drinking Water Branch.** The Safe Drinking Water Branch administers state and federal safe drinking water requirements for public water systems and for underground injection control facilities, implements a revolving loan fund for drinking water system improvement projects, administers a state public water system operator certification program, and develops and implements the State's groundwater protection program.

**Solid and Hazardous Waste Branch.** The Solid and Hazardous Waste Branch conducts compliance monitoring and investigation for proper management of hazardous waste; oversees underground storage tanks (UST) and leaking USTs; and reviews site reports on contaminated soil and groundwater.

**Office of Solid Waste Management.** The Office of Solid Waste Management oversees and permits operation and closures of solid waste transfer, reclamation, and handling facilities; develops alternative solid waste management strategies for special wastes (used oil, lead acid batteries, etc.); facilitates recycling and waste diversion efforts and implements the Deposit Beverage Container Program that allow consumers to redeem eligible beverage containers for fees collected.

**Wastewater Branch.** The Wastewater Branch protects the public health and preserves the environment and fresh, underground, and marine water resources by effectively managing the collection, treatment, and disposal of wastewater (sewage); regulates all public and private wastewater systems; approves all new wastewater systems; administers a revolving loan fund

program to upgrade municipal wastewater systems and oversees a certification program for wastewater treatment plant operators.

### **State Laboratories Division**

The State Laboratories Division provides support to other health programs, including the environmental regulatory programs (which include the air surveillance and analysis, chemistry, environmental microbiology, and medical microbiology branches) and the communicable disease control programs (medical microbiology). The State Laboratories Division also provides specialized services to other health care facilities.

The State Laboratories Division coordinates laboratory testing services for the Department. The Division licenses clinical lab personnel for the Department, substance abuse testing labs, and medical review officers.

**Environmental Health Analytical Services Branch.** The Environmental Health Analytical Services Branch performs monitoring and chemical analysis of environmental samples.

**Medical Microbiology Branch.** The Medical Microbiology Branch analyzes human specimens for communicable diseases.

### **Health Resources Administration** (Deputy Director for Health Resources)

### **Family Health Services Division**

The mission of the Family Health Services Division is to assure the availability of and access to preventive and protective core public health services for individuals and families by providing leadership in collaboration with communities and public-private partners.

The major focus of the Division is the support of families through preventive and interventive health and health support services, emphasizing reduction of infant mortality and support of families with children with special health risks or needs. The Division has three Branches: Maternal and Child Health, Children with Special Health Needs, and WIC Services.

**Maternal and Child Health Branch.** The Maternal and Child Health Branch assures the optimal health of individuals and their families by providing quality preventive and interventive health services through a variety of strategies that focus on core public health functions through community partnerships and collaboration. Services addressing primary care, family planning, perinatal, optimal child health, and family support are provided. Surveillance activities monitor pregnancy and birth outcomes, infant and children's deaths, and screen for lead

in children, depression in pregnant and postpartum women, and substance use and violence that impact families' lives.

Coordination with the Department of Education focuses on improving the health of students (and secondarily their families) through enhanced networking, planning, and resource development. Specific programs overseen by the Branch include Healthy Start, BabySAFE, Parentline, community provider contracts, and the Child Death Review, among others.

**Children with Special Health Needs Branch.** The Children with Special Health Needs Branch promotes family-centered, community-based coordinated systems of services for children with special health care needs (CSHCN) and their families, in order to assure that all CSHCN will receive appropriate services to optimize health, growth, and development, and to assure access to quality health care services. This is accomplished through public health functions including assessing and monitoring health status to identify and address problems, development of standards, community and professional education, community partnerships, linking CSHCN and their families to health and other services, and conducting special studies and projects. Programs include: Newborn Metabolic Screening, Newborn Hearing Screening, Birth Defects, Early Intervention (Part C of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), Respite, Preschool Developmental Screening, Children with Special Health Needs/Social Work, Nutrition, and Genetics programs.

**WIC Services Branch.** The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is a \$30 million U.S. Department of Agriculture federally funded short-term intervention program providing nutrition counseling and food assistance for low-income pregnant and postpartum women and children up to age five. The program is designed to help establish good nutrition and health behaviors through nutrition education, breastfeeding promotion, a monthly food prescription allotment, and access to health and social services. WIC contracts with state Community Health Centers to provide services, resulting in greater integrated health service delivery. Along with income eligibility, all participants must be considered nutritionally at risk.

## **Community Health Division**

The Community Health Division administers community-based programs which plan, provide, promote, and coordinate health intervention services and support for at-risk families, populations, and communities who are most likely to experience unhealthy outcomes. The Division is also responsible for nursing supervision and oversight/intervention in the public schools.

By targeting specific community needs, the Division is able to attain healthier outcomes for all populations by utilizing the resources of the Public Health Nursing and the Chronic Disease Management Branches.

**Public Health Nursing Branch.** The Public Health Nursing Branch collaborates with a myriad of public and private agencies/programs to ensure a system of services that are



accessible, coordinated, and integrated, and in partnerships with individuals and families. The Branch provides generalized clinical nursing intervention services as responders to disasters and public health outbreaks; communicable disease source and contact investigations; immunization services; care coordination services for targeted at-risk populations and families having difficulties accessing the health care system; and school-based health services in the public schools. The focus of public health nursing practice is to work with at-risk individuals/families/communities to improve and enhance health practices and facilitate access to health and other services through a system of comprehensive, family-centered, and community-based services.

**Chronic Disease Management and Control Branch.** The Chronic Disease Management and Control Branch works in collaboration with community partners to prevent and reduce the negative impact of chronic and disabling diseases. Prevention of the occurrence and progression of chronic disease is based on reducing or eliminating behavioral risk factors, increasing the prevalence of health promotion practices, and detecting disease early to avoid complications. The Branch focuses on developing the policies, environments, and systems that are supportive of healthy behavior and appropriate health care.

## Communicable Disease Division

The Communicable Disease Division administers programs and activities to reduce the incidence, severity, and disabling effects of tuberculosis (TB), sexually transmitted diseases (STD), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), and Hansen's disease (HD) by adopting preventive measures and by undertaking programs of early detection and effective treatment. The Division oversees medical and facility operations at Kalaupapa and at Hale Mohalu Hospital at Leahi on Oahu.

**Tuberculosis Control Branch.** The Tuberculosis Control Branch coordinates and provides screening for active TB disease and latent TB infection. Public health nurses, physicians, pharmacists, and outreach workers evaluate, treat, and monitor patient compliance with treatment protocols, as well as track and manage contacts of active TB cases.

**STD/AIDS Prevention Branch.** The STD/AIDS Prevention Branch provides surveillance, prevention, and treatment in conjunction with community partners to reduce the spread of STD and HIV infection and screen those who are most at risk. The STD Clinic, located at Diamond Head Health Center, offers free examination, treatment, counseling, health education services, and anonymous HIV testing.

**Hansen's Disease Branch.** The Hansen's Disease Branch prevents the spread of Hansen's disease through case management, treatment and epidemiological follow up of new cases. They also provide long-term care to Hansen's disease patients who have been disabled directly from pathological effects of the disease or psychologically or socially from the effects of prolonged institutionalization. The branch manages medical and facility operations at Kalaupapa and at Hale Mohalu Hospital.

## **Dental Health Division**

The Dental Health Division develops public policy to help assure adequate access to basic dental care through the development and implementation of early detection, disease prevention, and treatment programs targeting high-risk populations.

**Dental Hygiene Branch.** The Dental Hygiene Branch develops, produces, provides, and maintains dental health promotion and education materials and programs and teaching curricula addressing the needs of Hawaii's populations at highest risk for severe, chronic dental disease.

**Hospital and Community Dental Services Branch.** The Hospital and Community Dental Services Branch provides dental evaluation and treatment services to clients residing in facilities operated by the Department, including Kalaupapa Settlement, Hawaii State Hospital, and Waimano Training School and Hospital, and clients that are community-based from these facilities. Services are primarily targeted to accommodate indigent severe mental health developmentally disabled and medically compromised, frail elderly clients.

## **Disease Outbreak Control Division**

The Disease Outbreak Control Division is responsible for the prevention and control of infectious diseases in Hawaii, with the exception of tuberculosis, Hansen's disease, and sexually transmitted diseases (including HIV/AIDS), which are managed by the Communicable Disease Division. The Division is responsible for coordinating all department bioterrorism preparedness planning activities and integrating these activities with surveillance and response mechanisms. The Division is also responsible for the uniform application of policies, procedures, and practices as they relate to the control and prevention of infectious diseases, emerging disease threats, and potential acts of bioterrorism through the State.

**Disease Investigation Branch.** The Disease Investigation Branch is responsible for the surveillance and investigation of communicable diseases, including potential bioterrorism agents, with the exception of tuberculosis, Hansen's disease, and sexually transmitted diseases (including HIV/AIDS), which are managed by the Communicable Disease Division. The Branch is responsible for the uniform application of policies, procedures, and practices as they relate to the control and prevention of communicable diseases throughout the State.

**Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Branch.** The Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Branch is responsible for preparing the Department, state and local emergency response agencies, the health care communities, and ultimately the State of Hawaii to respond effectively and efficiently to public health emergencies, including bioterrorism events and severe outbreaks of a dangerous infectious disease. It is responsible for planning for such an event, for ensuring that needed mutual assistance agreements and memoranda of understanding are in place to supplement the resources of the Department in time of need, for providing training to all sectors to prepare them for their roles, and for exercising leadership during an actual public health emergency.

**Immunization Branch.** The Immunization Branch is responsible for the prevention and control of vaccine preventable diseases (VPDs) in Hawaii among children and adults. VPDs are serious infectious diseases for which specific immunizing agents are available. The Branch is responsible for promoting wider acceptance of immunization and for the uniform application of policies, procedures, and practices as they relate to vaccine preventable diseases.

### **Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention System Branch**

The Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention System is responsible for expansion and enhancement of the State Comprehensive Emergency Medical Services System with the mission to minimize death, injury, and disability due to life threatening conditions by assuring the availability of quality emergency medical care and injury prevention statewide. The Branch also collaborates and coordinates with the Civil Defense Division of the State Department of Defense to prepare for and respond to health emergencies.

## **COUNTY OF KALAWAO**

The County of Kalawao consists of that portion of the island of Molokai known as Kalaupapa, Kalawao, and Waikolu, commonly known as the Kalaupapa Settlement. As a county, it has only the powers especially conferred by sections 326-34 to 326-38, Hawaii Revised Statutes. None of the provisions of the Hawaii Revised Statutes regarding counties are deemed to be applicable to Kalawao.

The County of Kalawao is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Health. It is governed by the laws and rules relating to the Department and the care and treatment of persons with Hansen's disease.

**Sheriff.** The Sheriff is the only county officer of Kalawao. The Sheriff is generally a resident of the County appointed by the Department of Health.

## **ATTACHED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES**

### **State Health Planning and Development Agency**

The State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA), established under section 323D-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is the State's health planning and resources development program. Its purpose is to promote accessibility for all the people of the State to quality health care services at reasonable cost. The Agency partners with communities statewide and the private sector health care industry to design Hawaii's health care future. Program objectives are: to develop and maintain the State's Health Services and Facilities Plan (HSFP--also known as the Hawaii Health Performance Plan--H2P2) to guide development of Hawaii's health care industry; coordinate and staff community health councils that focus on collaborative health needs assessment and achieving health outcomes projects; administer the certificate of need program per the parameters of the HSFP; and collect and report health industry data.

**Statewide Health Coordinating Council.** The Statewide Health Coordinating Council is advisory to the State Health Planning and Development Agency under section 323D-13, Hawaii Revised Statutes. There are up to twenty members of the Council appointed by the Governor with consent of the Senate plus one ex officio member from the Veterans Administration.

### **Office of Environmental Quality Control**

The Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC), established under section 341-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and headed by the Director of Environmental Quality Control, reviews environmental assessments and impact statements, to assure compliance with chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and chapter 11-200, Hawaii Administrative Rules, and informs the public of the availability of documents through the semi-monthly OEQC Bulletin to facilitate the required public review.

The Office works to assist in restoring, protecting, and enhancing the natural physical environment of the State by stimulating, expanding, and coordinating efforts of government agencies, industrial groups, and citizens.

**Environmental Council.** The Environmental Council, also established under section 341-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, consists of fifteen members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Director of Environmental Quality Control serves as an ex officio voting member of the Council. The Council Chairperson is elected by the Council from among its members. Members are appointed to assure a broad representation of educational, business, and environmentally pertinent disciplines and professions. Pursuant to section 341-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Council serves as a liaison between the Director and the public on matters concerning ecology and environmental quality.

### **Disability and Communication Access Board**

The Disability and Communication Access Board, established under section 348F-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is composed of seventeen members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, including at least nine persons with various types of disabilities, or their parents or guardians, and at least one resident from each of the counties of Honolulu, Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai. Among its functions, the Board establishes guidelines and reviews plans for the construction of state and county buildings and facilities; credentials sign language interpreters who do not possess national certification; administers the statewide program for parking for persons with disabilities; serves as public advocate of persons with disabilities; serves as the state coordinator for the Americans with Disabilities Act; and advises the State and counties on meeting the requirements for state, federal, and county laws providing for access for persons with disabilities.

**Special Parent Information Network.** The Special Parent Information Network, within the Disability and Communication Access Board, encourages parent-to-parent communication among parents of children with special needs and provides information, referral, and support.

### **Developmental Disabilities Council**

The Developmental Disabilities Council, established under the federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act and chapter 333E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, consists of members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Sixty per cent of the membership must be individuals with developmental disabilities or family members; other members must represent principal state agencies, the Center for Excellence, the state protection and advocacy agency, and nongovernmental agencies concerned with services to people with developmental disabilities. The Council engages in systems change, capacity building and advocacy activities that demonstrate new approaches to services, supports, and assistance, informs federal, state, and local policy makers, trains individuals with developmental disabilities, their families and staff, fosters interagency collaboration and coordination, eliminates barriers and enhances the design and redesign of systems, develops and supports coalitions, and educates the public. The state plan developed by the Council serves as a guide for the development and delivery of all services to individuals with developmental disabilities.

### **Hawaii Health Systems Corporation**

The Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC), governed by chapter 323F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is a public benefit corporation, the nation's fourth largest public hospital system, with over 1,200 staffed beds in twelve facilities, located in five different regions:

- East Hawaii--Hilo Medical Center, Hale Ho'ola Hamakua, and Ka'u Hospital;
- West Hawaii--Kona Community Hospital and Kohala Hospital;
- Maui--Maui Memorial Medical Center, Kula Hospital, and Lanai Community Hospital;
- Oahu--Leahi Hospital and Maluhia; and
- Kauai--Kauai Veterans Memorial Hospital and Samuel Mahelona Memorial Hospital.

HHSC provides acute, long-term, rural health care. Patient care at HHSC is marked by two defining characteristics:

- HHSC offers many types of complex, highly specialized health care services, including neurosurgery, medical oncology, sleep disorder lab, and renal dialysis.
- HHSC is the largest health provider for Neighbor Island residents and the primary provider of care to low-income, uninsured, and underserved populations.

Across Hawaii, residents, Neighbor Island visitors, and thousands of tourists rely on HHSC's advanced medical expertise. In many cases, an HHSC facility is the "hospital of last resort," providing care and treatment and serving those who cannot afford to pay.

Act 290, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, established regional system boards for community-based governance for HHSC and amended the composition of the HHSC Board of Directors to reflect the new governance.

**Regional System Boards.** Under section 323F-3.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, a regional system board of directors is established to govern each of the five regional systems: Region I--City and County of Honolulu; Region II--Kauai; Region III--Maui; Region IV--East Hawaii; Region V--West Hawaii. Each board consists initially of twelve members appointed by the Governor: four from nominees submitted by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate; four from nominees submitted by the Regional Public Health Facility Management Advisory Committee; three physicians from nominees submitted by the medical staff of the public health facilities in the regional system; and the HHSC Board Chairperson or Chairperson's designee who serves as an ex officio, non-voting member of each regional system board. After initial terms of two or three years, new board members will be selected by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the existing board members. Each board will consist of not less than seven and not more than fifteen members, as determined by the board, and will elect its own chair. Except for ex officio members, all other board members will be residents of the region.

**Board of Directors.** Under section 323F-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, HHSC is governed by a fifteen-member Board of Directors. Twelve members are appointed by the Governor as follows: two from each of the five regions from nominees submitted by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate, and two who reside in the State. Two members are physicians with active medical staff privileges at one of HHSC's public health facilities from within a designated region as prescribed by Act 290, who are appointed by a majority vote of the HHSC Board from nominees submitted by the public health facility management advisory committees or by any regional system board. The fifteenth member is the Director of Health.

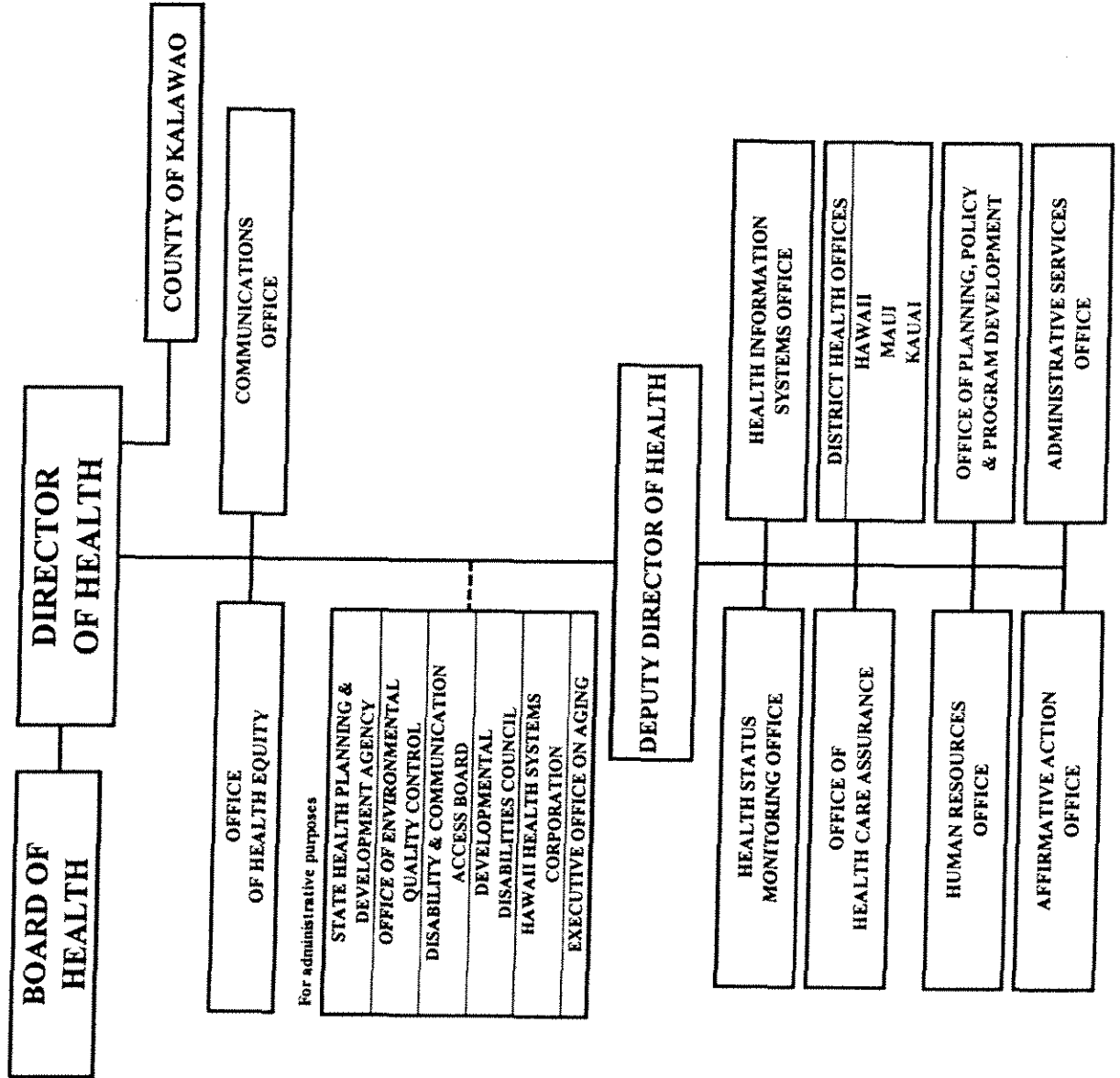
## **Executive Office on Aging**

The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), established under section 349-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is the leader relative to all aging issues on behalf of older persons in the State. The EOA's primary mission is the well-being of the State's 240,000 older adults (sixty years of age and older) and their family caregivers. It provides leadership in programs for older adults, helps formulate aging policy, serves as a clearinghouse for information, and partners with the Aging Network to provide home- and community-based care for frail, vulnerable seniors.

**Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs.** There is a Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, established under section 349-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to advise the Director of Health. The Board consists of not less than twenty-one nor more than twenty-nine members, a

majority of whom are over sixty years of age and who are selected on the basis of their interests and knowledge in and their ability to make contributions to the solution of problems relating to aging. The Board includes at least one member each from the counties of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai, and the City and County of Honolulu. There are nine members who serve as ex officio members from the heads of Health, Human Services, Education, Labor and Industrial Relations, University of Hawaii, Transportation, the State Retirement System, the Office of Consumer Protection, and by invitation, the Hawaii representative of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

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