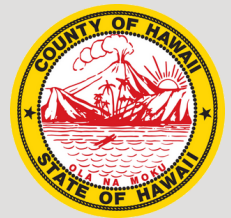


Office of Housing and Community Development Newsletter

Spring 2023



Proposals Sought for Affordable Housing Production Funds



Up to \$18 million will soon be available to qualified applicants working to increase, support, or sustain and availability of affordable housing in Hawai'i County. The funding, an unprecedented investment in the Hawai'i Island community, was made possible through Ordinance 22-77, which appropriates a minimum of \$5 million annually to facilitate programs that support the production of much-needed affordable housing. Proposals will be accepted May 1 to June 30. Interested parties are encouraged to attend information sessions via Zoom. To register for the first session at 1:30 p.m. May 4, visit tinyurl.com/386ce4xb. To register for the second session at 9:30 a.m. May 9, visit tinyurl.com/4tjcr58d. For full details on the Affordable Housing Production Program, visit www.hawaiicounty.gov/ahp.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Future of 34 Rainbow Drive (Old Hilo Memorial Hospital) to be Discussed May 15

The Hawai'i County Office of Housing and Community Development will host a community meeting on May 15 to gather input and recommendations for the development of a master plan for the old Hilo Memorial Hospital site at 34 Rainbow Drive. Residents, service providers, stakeholders and other interested parties are encouraged to come have their say in the future of the 25-acre property from 5 to 6 p.m. May 15 in the Aupuni Center Conference Room in Hilo. The plan will help determine the future



uses of the site, including the number of affordable housing units and/or services that could be offered.

Taking Good Care of Your Rental Unit



Taking good care of your rental unit is not only important to remain eligible for rental assistance but is also the *pono* thing to do while living in a rental unit and when getting ready to move out. Households must keep rental units in good condition to remain eligible in the current rental unit and to be eligible to move to another rental unit with housing assistance.

Responsibilities of the tenant:

- Live up to the terms of your lease.
- Do your part to keep the unit safe and sanitary.
- Cooperate with the owner by informing him or her of any necessary repairs.
- Cooperate with the OHCD for initial, annual, and complaint inspections.

For more tenant resources, visit www.hawaiicounty.gov/tenants

Reporting Income or Family Changes is Required

Section 8 families are required to report in writing any change in income (increase or decrease) within 30 days. Also, any changes to a household composition, must be reported within 30 days. Email updated information to sec8info@hawaiicounty.gov, or drop off a letter in our office or drop box outside the building.

Landlords: Do You Have a Vacant Rental Unit? Earn a \$3,000 bonus

Let's partner to house more Hawai'i Island residents! The Office of Housing and Community Development is offering a \$3,000 sign-on bonus to landlords renting with a one-year lease to Emergency Housing, Veteran, Non-Elderly & Disabled, and Foster Young Adult voucher holders. To learn more about the benefits of being a partner landlord, call the Existing Housing Division at (808)959-4642, ext. 1904.



Get Help with Utility Bills

Need help with electric or gas bills? The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is here to assist. LIHEAP provides help to eligible households to offset the rising costs of home energy. The Hawai'i County Economic Opportunity Council will accept applications for the program June 1 through June 30. For more information, including program requirements, visit <https://hceoc.net/energy/liheap>.

Rental Help for Native Hawaiian Kūpuna



Are you a kūpuna on the DHHL Wait List who needs help paying rent? The Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement, in partnership with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, is providing rental subsidies for eligible kūpuna (age 62 and older) on the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) Wait List in Hawai'i. Learn more about the Kūpuna Rent Subsidy Program, and apply, at www.hawaiiancouncil.org/kupuna

Upcoming Office Closures

Monday, May 29 — Memorial Day

Monday, June 12 — King Kamehameha I Day

Tuesday, July 4 — Independence Day



Website: www.housing.hawaiicounty.gov

County of Hawai'i
Office of Housing and Community Development



Stay Connected   [@hawaiicounty.officeofhousing](https://www.instagram.com/hawaiicounty.officeofhousing)

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