



State and Partner Report 2006*

State: Hawaii

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Projects/Issues Addressed This Year:

Legislative:

- Codification of public health nursing services program into the Hawaii Revised Statutes was signed into law by Governor Linda Lingle. The statutes clarify the role and functions of public health nursing and establishes the statutory base for public health nursing services in Hawaii.
- State legislature appropriated Registered Professional Nurse V and three (3) clerical positions to support Public Health Nursing Branch in meeting all of the rules and regulations of IDEA, Part C, Early Intervention Services

Emergency Preparedness:

- Skills and Competencies for Disaster Preparedness for Public Health Nurses completed. Plans are underway for training programs for PHNs.
- PHNB presented at the 3rd Annual Hawaii Bioterrorism Preparedness Conference on February 17, 2006 on the role of nurses in Bioterrorism Emergencies.
- PHNs were part of the Disaster Assistance and Recovery Center to providing assistance to families during the recent flooding on Oahu and Kauai.
- Involvement in developing guidelines for Emergency Shelters for the Special Needs Population

Other Public Health Nursing activities:

- Development of Skills and Competencies for Diabetes Care Management, Immunization Services, Tuberculosis Nursing, and Disaster Preparedness. Skills checklist for validation of skills have been developed for all except for Tuberculosis Nursing and Disaster Preparedness, which are being worked on.
- Update on Tuberculosis Nursing Workshop was held on December 7, 2005 with Judy Gibson, Nurse Consultant at CDC, as guest speaker.
- Continue with the facilitation of the Hawaii American Academy of Pediatrics-PHNB-DOE Advisory Partnership related to school health practices. The following has been finalized:
 - a." Formulary of Medications", which is a guide of list medications that are appropriate to be given during the school day.
 - b. Standardized Emergency Action Plans for Respiratory Difficulties, Severe Allergies; Convulsive Seizures, and Gastrostomy Tube Replacement
- Continued reimbursement for Targeted Case Management for infants and Toddlers under Medicaid, and Carve Out reimbursement for Early Intervention Services
- Collaboration with Child Welfare System, Department of Human Services regarding coordinated services for children in the Child Protective Services system.
- Active involvement with the Medically Fragile Coordinating Council regarding services to medically fragile technology dependent children



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- PHNB re-organization to add the Quality Assurance/Technical Assistance staffing within the Branch
- Collaboration with the HIPAA Office within Department of Health in developing and implementing HIPAA policies and procedures for covered entities (PHNB is a covered HIPAA entity)

Projects/Issues Pending:

- Collaboration with the State Medicaid Program to allow for direct billing for skilled nursing services in the public schools
- Chairperson of Confidentiality Work Group in the development of the Hawaii Immunization Registry
- Completion of Skills checklist and validation of skills for Tuberculosis Nursing, Disaster Preparedness, and Child Health
- Collaboration with the University of Hawaii School of Nursing addressing enhanced integration of education and practice

Issues and Special Concerns for Public Health Nursing:

- High cost of skilled nursing services in the public schools for identified eligible students under IDEA, Part B
- Challenges in recruitment of Licensed Practical Nurses for administration of skilled nursing procedures; shortage of qualified licensed nurses with pediatric experiences for provision of skilled nursing services in the public schools under PHNB
- Movement of School Health Services to the Department of Education effective July 1, 2007. The skilled nursing component of school health services will remain during the interim with PHNB, Department of Health
- Continued challenges in recruitment of qualified applicants for public health nursing positions on Oahu
- Increased workload for the PHNB staff in a generalized program, which includes school health services in the public schools.

*Reports must be sent electronically to Justina Novak (justina.novak@doh.wa.gov) by April 15, 2006 in order to be included in packets. If your form is not received by then, you need to bring 50 copies of your report to the meeting.