

**COMMUNITY COUNCIL ON PURCHASE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
MEETING**

September 14, 2006
10:30 a.m.
1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 416
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Members Present:

Mary Lou Barela, Chair
Christine Chun, Vice-Chair and Secretary
Pauline Pavao
Debbie Shimizu
Jamie Woodburn

Absent:

Ann Higa
Joanne Lundstrom
Stella Wong

Others:

Aaron Fujioka, State Procurement Office
Mara Smith, State Procurement Office
Corinne Higa, State Procurement Office

I. Call to Order

Mary Lou Barela called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes – Meeting of July 27, 2006

Debbie Shimizu moved that the minutes be approved. Pauline Pavao seconded. The motion was carried.

III. Planning for Conference on Purchase of Health and Human Services

Debbie Shimizu and Chris Chun, conference planning subcommittee members, presented conference themes for council discussion. At the July 27, 2006, meeting, Joanne Lundstrom had suggested that the conference be based on what was, what is, and what should be. Subcommittee members agreed that this would be a good way to showcase health and human services through past, present and future trends in the economy, technology, and workforce of health and human services. Discussion ensued about the time period that the conference would focus. The last ten to fifteen years was considered a reasonable time period, noting topics that providers and the State should be looking at.

A discussion on sustainability followed. Debbie Shimizu indicated that there is a legislative task force making projection to the year 2050. Council members

agreed that health and human services should be a part of the year 2050 discussions. Mary Lou Barela spoke about sustainability in health and human services. She indicated a good topic would be sustainability of staff. Some occupations, such as nurses have made dramatic improvements in salaries, while others such as residential youth workers and social workers continued to be poorly paid. Jamie Woodburn discussed priorities for taxpayer funds. Christine Chun added that would be a good segue for demonstrating the \$700 million for health and human services in terms of accolades and accomplishments. Pauline indicated that budgets versus actual costs should also be brought to the forefront to demonstrate actual costs. Jamie Woodburn added that the change needed to be systemic and reflect real budgets rather than what can be done with available funds. There was also discussion about grants-in-aid and how they are used to subsidize programs procured but underfunded. Pauline Pavao asked who was the intended audience as the conference had to have meaning for attendees while not “preaching to the choir.” The discussion also included the fact that too much dependence on state dollars for a provider was not healthy and did not facilitate sustainability of the sector. Debbie Shimizu indicated that the 2006 report on nonprofits should be out in October and may add some information to the discussion.

Discussion also focused on community planning and service coordination. The discussion on better coordination of services led to May Lou Barela’s relating a recent experience at a meeting called by Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division attended by some 44 people from various state and private agencies. The meeting centered on a number of service areas, but particularly emergency shelters. Attendees discovered the rates being charged for emergency shelters varied quite a bit but when they examined it more closely they found that the types of services they were requiring of an emergency shelter varied widely with the population served.

Logistics of the conference were discussed. It appears September is a relatively good time for the conference. Possible places to hold it would be the Sheraton or the Convention Center. The last conference was quite expensive at \$40,000. Council members indicated that charging \$50 registration fee was not unreasonable, especially compared to other conferences. A significant cost for neighbor island attendees is the air travel cost. Perhaps the Weinberg Foundation would be willing to help with air travel costs.

IV. Solicitation for Qualified Private Providers for Treatment Services – Update on Applications Received

Corinne Higa reported 38 applications were received for over 100 services and that evaluations were underway.

V. Contracts Database – Update

Mara Smith shared a brief report on age groups served in 2006.

VI. Future Procurements
Preparation for Upcoming Fiscal Biennium Procurements

Mary Lou suggested that the proposal submittal deadline be extended by two weeks due to the fact that it currently is just after the holidays and is so close to the beginning of the New Year. Aaron Fujioka questioned the amount of time needed by state agencies to review proposals and asked about the length of time needed to prepare proposals. Mary Lou indicated that shortening the length of time between the release of RFPs and the submittal deadline was not a problem. Jamie Woodburn moved that the timeline be amended to move the proposal submittal deadline from January 12 to January 26, 2007 and it was seconded and approved.

There was discussion on the particularly late execution of contracts which seemed to be especially prevalent in the Department of Health though Mary Lou Barela indicated it was also true in the Department of Human Services. Mara Smith indicated she had done some review and it appeared that there was a shortage of deputy attorney generals for the Department of Health along with a number of other issues having to do with staff changes. They are working on a template for the scope of services that may help decrease the delays. SPO will review the matter further.

IX. Next Meeting

The next meetings are still scheduled for October 12, 2006 and November 9, 2006.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Christine Chun, Vice-Chair/Secretary
Community Council on Purchase of Health
and Human Services

10-11-06

Date