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STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
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No. \_\_\_\_\_

December 24, 2019

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,  
President and Members of the Senate  
Thirtieth State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki, Speaker  
and Members of the House of  
Representatives  
Thirtieth State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 431  
Honolulu, HI 96813

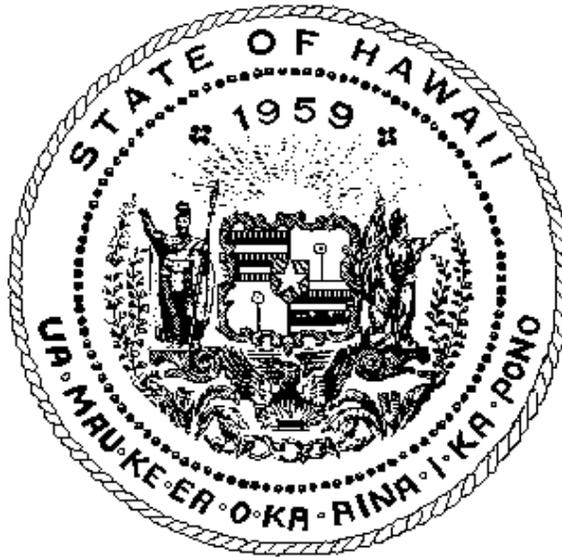
Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

For your information and consideration, I am transmitting a copy of the **Corrections Program Services Division Report on Gender-Responsive Community-Based Programs for Women**, as required by §367D-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes. In accordance with Section 93-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, I am also informing you that the report may be viewed electronically at: [https://dps.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Corrections Program Services Division Report on Gender-Responsive Community-Based Programs for Women.pdf](https://dps.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Corrections_Program_Services_Division_Report_on_Gender-Responsive_Community-Based_Programs_for_Women.pdf).

Sincerely,

Nolan P. Espinda  
Director

Enclosures



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
REPORT TO THE 2020 LEGISLATURE**

**HRS 367D-008  
GENDER RESPONSIVE COMMUNITY BASED  
PROGRAMS FOR WOMEN**

**Department of Public Safety  
Corrections Program Services Division**

**December 2019**

## **Introduction**

The 2006 Hawaii State Legislature mandated through Hawaii Revised Statutes §367D-2 that the Department of Public Safety (PSD) foster a gender-responsive environment by providing model gender-responsive programs for female offenders that are responsive to statewide needs and geographical areas and award contracts for programs subject to funding by the Legislature. The gender-responsive environment and programs were to:

- (1) Respond in a rehabilitative way to the type of offense female offenders generally commit and address pathways to crime;
- (2) Respond to the problems of female offenders with dependent children;
- (3) Respond to the importance of developing self-determination through independent living and marketable job skills;

Assist female offenders in overcoming their own extreme degree of dependency by developing and fostering strong and healthy relationships without losing self-esteem;

- (4) Respond appropriately to the specific health care needs of women, including but not limited to mental health and substance abuse services;
- (5) Offer transitional support for female offenders and their families to promote successful reentry into their families and communities; and
- (6) Offer technical assistance and training toward the implementation of other similar programs.

This report is being submitted in response to §367D-8, which requires PSD to report on the following areas: program descriptions, type and costs of contracts made, name of the private agency awarded each contract, and the success of each contract in meeting program specifications.

## **Contracted Programs for Incarcerated Women Program Descriptions**

### **Women's Community Correctional Center**

**Culinary Arts Program** - The culinary training at the Women's Community Correctional Center (WCCC) provides a quality education in culinary arts. It is a credited program, meaning that women who finish the program in the facility may enroll in the culinary program at the Kapiolani Community College (KCC), and the earned credits are transferrable to KCC.

Four modules were offered, as follows:

- Module 1: Introduction to Culinary Industry (CULN111) – 12 of 12 (100%) completion
- Module 2: Food Safety and Sanitation (CULN 112) – 9 of 9 (100%) completion
- Module 3: Fundamentals of Cookery (CULN 120) – 7 of 7 (100%) completion
- Module 4: Intermediate Cookery (CULN 130) – 8 of 8(100%) completion

Women who completed Module 2 – Food Safety and Sanitation, received the Serv-Safe Certificate, a national certification. Eight women who completed and passed the four modules earned 14 college credits from Kapiolani Community College. They also earned a Certificate of Professional Development.

This program was provided through a Memorandum of Agreement with Kapiolani Community College. The total cost for the Culinary Arts Program was \$90,186.70 for delivery, materials and supplies for the 4 modules.

**Explorations** – is designed to prepare participants at WCCC to enter workforce with the tools and skills needed to make good work-related decisions and to build successful careers. It aims to provide practical, sound advice that will enable the participants to secure employment and succeed on the job. It is meant to empower inmates to take control of their long-term careers. The program cost \$7,062.00 per cohort. 25 women enrolled and 17 or 68% completed.

**Lifestyles for Women** – is a comprehensive transition skills training program planned to provide assessments, cognitive skills, job development, job placement, transition services, and intensive re-entry services. The program uses social education and skills training to assist inmates to recognize behavior patterns so that the commission of errors and their unintended consequences are minimized. This training covers Cognitive Skills Training, Life Skills Training, Self-directed Job Search and Personal Transition Planning. Of the 28 enrollees, 15 or 54% completed the program.

This program grew out of the Intensive Reentry Program that was originally funded by the 2006 Legislature. Last year, the City & County of Honolulu granted Worknet, Inc. a Grant in Aid in the amount of \$125,000 to conduct Lifestyles for Women, together with comparable programs for men at the Halawa Correctional Facility and Waiawa Correctional Facility.

**Mother Read (Level II-Parenting)** – is a family empowerment and literacy program sponsored by the Hawaii Council for the Humanities. All parents are welcome, including average and poor readers. Participants can improve their parenting skills and learn how to make reading with their children a family experience that is fun and educationally rewarding. Through a variety of books, parents strengthen reading skills, communication with their children, and family bonds. Parents find through participation in the Mother Read class, they can also help their children become better students.

This program was provided through a purchase of service with the Hawaii Council for the Humanities. The total cost of the program was \$2,600.00.

Hawaii Community Correctional Center also offers a Parenting class as well as a Cognitive Skills class. The classes are taught either by a volunteer or by a Corrections Education Specialist.

**The Office Worker Business Applications Training** - is comprised of modules designed to prepare students interested in entering careers in the business environment. The program provides instruction, hands-on training, and exercises to reinforce and apply the student's computer skills. The program focuses on the following training modules:

- Introduction to the World of Computers: To gain an overview of the basics of Microsoft Windows 7 from opening, editing, and saving applications to copying and pasting, and learning shortcut features.
- Microsoft Word 2016 for the Business World Level 1: To learn to work with text using formatting tools, creating and using tables and more.
- Microsoft Word 2016 for the Business World Level 2: To format text with styles and set up Mail Merge documents and labels.
- Business Applications Using Microsoft Excel 2016 Level 1: To create charts in Excel, modifying column width and row heights and transmitting.
- Business Applications Using Microsoft Excel 2016 Level 2: To apply advanced formatting to worksheet contents.
- Business Presentations using Microsoft PowerPoint Level 1: To integrate charts to display numerical data and create a SmartArt diagram.

The program was provided through a Memorandum of Agreement with the Windward Community College - Community and Career Education. The cost was \$14,318.00 per cohort. WCCC offered two cohorts. The total cost of the program was \$28,636.00.

Of the 23 inmates enrolled, 21 (91%) completed the training

**General Education Development (GED) Diploma Program** - GED program provided a high school equivalency diploma. Courses were taught either by the CPS Corrections Education Specialist or by part-time teachers (PTT), through the McKinley Community School for Adults-Moanalua Campus. Five women received their GED diploma.

**Post-Secondary Program.** Inmates at WCCC were offered college courses through the Windward Community College. Tuition and other fees are funded by the college's Pu'uhouoa Grant, a federal grant for at-risk women. Forty-eight women attended college courses under this program.

### **Outpatient Treatment Services (OPS-Level 2):**

Through a Purchase of Service Contract with the Salvation Army, PSD provides a cognitive-behavioral treatment component that meets weekly for a total of 44 hours, which utilizes an evidence-based cognitive-behavioral therapy curriculum. Level II services are for female inmates who are at lower risk for criminal conduct and meet diagnostic criteria for substance abuse or dependence. Women receiving services in this modality of treatment have had minimal disruption in their psychosocial or vocational functioning attributed to substance abuse.

FY 2019 had seen 14 women enroll into outpatient programming with 24\* women completing programming with a greater than 100% completion rate. \*(10) women were carried over from the previous fiscal year.

### **Intensive Outpatient Treatment Services (IOP-Level 2.5):**

Through a Purchase of Service Contract with the Salvation Army, PSD provides IOP substance abuse treatment services to the female offenders housed at WCCC. The IOP treatment modality consists of group sessions lasting two to three hours, four days a week, with accompanying individual counseling sessions. Level 2.5 services are for female inmates who are at moderate risk for criminal conduct and meet diagnostic criteria for substance abuse or dependence. The female participants in IOP work through gender-specific, evidenced-based journals purchased through The Change Companies' Residential Drug Abuse Program. These journals allow the participants to address gender-specific situations to develop and practice the skill sets necessary for a successful transition back into the community. The duration of the program is approximately 9 months. Each group is a closed-ended group with a maximum of 15 women per group. Assessment and treatment planning, individual and family counseling, and aftercare services are provided for each participant.

For FY 2019 there was a decline in the number of participants serviced within the women's IOP program, due to vendor staff vacancies and turnover that included both line staff and supervisory positions. Still, the completion rate was 93% (13 out of 14 admissions completed the program).

### **Residential Treatment Services (RES- Level 3):**

The Ke Alaula therapeutic community (TC), a 50-bed capacity is operated by Hina Mauka through a purchase of service agreement with PSD. The program is an intensive long-term, 9- to 12-month therapeutic community for moderate to high-risk women with moderate to high needs.

Cognitive-Behavioral Treatment and Social Learning Theory combine to address criminal thinking and behavior. As the TC residents live and work together, apart from the general population, they hold each other accountable to practice recovery skills and change their criminal thinking and behavior. Specialized services are also provided in the area of sexual and physical abuse, domestic violence, criminality and other types of gender responsive issues.

FY 2019 showed that 65 women participated in the Ke Alaula Program with 32 women completing the program successfully. A 49% completion rate. The highly structured environment leaves very little room for participants to make mistakes. The high-risk and high-need nature of the program's population will typically produce elevated rates of non-completion.

### **Re-Entry/Transition Services (The Bridge Program):**

**The Bridge Program** is a residential substance abuse reentry, work furlough program operated by PSD for inmates who are of moderate- to high-risk for recidivism and have completed IOP, or residential substance abuse treatment while incarcerated. The program provides opportunities for up to 15 women at a time to practice social learning, cognitive, and recovery skills in treatment while transitioning to the community.

Participants work through evidence-based, interactive journals focused on transitional issues that may arise, and the development of skills to effectively work through those issues. Family Therapy services are offered via a POS contract through Salvation Army Services as the inmate reconnects with family and community resources. Goodwill Industries also is contracted with the Department to provide educational and vocational services.

FY 2019 experienced a slight decline in program participation due to various eligibility and facility criteria. However, 15 women were able to benefit from programming, of which, 14 were able to complete programming; a 93% completion rate.

### **Women's Furlough Community Housing Program:**

The Department has contracted with the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) of Oahu at Fernhurst. The contract focus is to provide housing for female offenders on furlough as they transition and re-integrate into the community. This program provides access to many support and referral services including, but not limited to, job development, money management, life skills, anger management, and domestic violence, and relapse prevention within the community. The program is currently called Ka Hale Ho'Ala Hou No Na Wahine (Home of Re-awakening for Women) and provides up to 14 beds per month.

In FY 2019, 33 women participated in the housing program provided by the YWCA. Of the 33 women, 22 moved on to either extended furlough, parole, or completion of their sentence (66% completion rate). The remaining 11 either continue to reside at the Fernhurst residence or have been returned to the facility for misconducts.

### **Volunteer Programs for Incarcerated Women Program Descriptions**

#### **Haku Mo'olelo (Author, Story Writer) Program**

This pilot program is a creative-writing, read-aloud program for inmates at the Women's Community Correctional Center (WCCC). It is designed to help inmates write their own stories or tales. A teacher and a work line inmate assist with writing and preparing the stories for publication. The culminating event is a shared read-aloud session of literary works for children, parents, and community members. Haku Mo'olelo enhances the inmates' self-esteem, sharpens their writing skills, and provides the necessary tools to share the joy of reading aloud to their children. Read to Me International, Hawaii Chapter, a non-profit organization, provides the services.

**Women in Need** is dedicated to providing women at the WCCC with the tools for healing and empowerment. It provides intensive case management, stabilizing courses in parenting, understanding and awareness of domestic violence, self-esteem, job readiness, basic life skills, and mentorship. It is provided by Women in Need (WIN), a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization.

#### **Hilo Community Correctional Centers**

**Victim Impact** - is a program that helps participants to learn about the impacts of crime on victims. The program is delivered by volunteers through the Office of the Hawaii County Prosecuting Attorney. Of 34 enrollees, 18 or 53% completed the program.

## **Maui Community Correctional Center**

**Prep Chef Culinary Arts Training** at MCCC provides a 58-hour training that enables participants to gain skills to work as service prep workers or pantry cooks in the hospitality or food industry. Participants who completed and passed the training earned a Certificate of Professional Development; and those who passed the ServSafe Certification test earned a certificate that verifies basic food safety knowledge. It is for individuals in food handler employee-level positions. Seventeen women earned both certificates. The total cost of the program was \$28,000.00.

All prisons and community correctional centers offer adult basic education and preparation classes for high school equivalency testing. The prisons offer GED testing, while the community centers offer High School Equivalency Test (HiSET) testing.

## **CONCLUSION**

The 2006 Hawaii State Legislature appropriated \$225,000 to support the intent of §367-2, Gender-Responsive Community-Based Programs for Women. The appropriation assisted PSD in establishing an Intensive Re-entry Program for high-risk women offenders in need of specialized services in transitioning into employment and pro-social lifestyles in the community. However, budget reductions in the ensuing years required the contracted services to lapse in July of 2009. By the end of FY 2010, PSD was required to restrict correctional programs solely to constitutionally or legally mandated (core) programs. Most of PSD's contracted vocational and self-development programs were, therefore, discontinued as a result of budget reductions. In FY 2019, PSD continued to offer more vocational and self-development programs. With additional funding, PSD will be able to offer more programs supportive of HRS Section 367-2.