ADVISORY BOARD ON VETERANS' SERVICES
MINUTES
Audio Conference Meeting at
Oahu – Tripler Hospital, VBA E-Wing, VTC Room, 1st Floor
Big Island (Hilo) – 1304 Kekuoanaea Street
Kauai – 13-460 Kaumualii Highway
Maui – Puunene Armory, 2701 Mokulele Road
Friday, October 5, 2018
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members:	Ms. Ann Greenlee, Chair Presiding Ms. Bridget Komine, Vice Chair Mr. Harold Bugado Mr. Jim Traxler Ms. Chelsea Fernandez Mr. Wilbert Pereira
OVS Staff:	Mr. Ron Han, Director, OVS Ms. Heather Ho, Recorder
Ex-Officios:	Mr. Juan Babiak, Liaison Yukio Okutsu Veterans Home in Hilo Ms. Karen Gooden, Director, VBA Mr. Gary Vanbrocklyn for Ms. Jennifer Gutowski, Director VAPIHCS
Guests:	Mr. Jim Horton, VA – National Cemetery of the Pacific
Absent:	Mr. Michael Lilly Mr. Clay Park 1Lt. Shao Lee Ms. Aiko Shibuya Ms. Amy Rohlfs, PAO/VHA Department of Health Department of Human Services

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & CALL TO ORDER – A Moment of Silence

Chair Greenlee led the Pledge of Allegiance and after a moment of silence, called the meeting to order at 0913 hours.

II. MINUTES

The Board did not review the September 7, 2018 minutes. Minutes to be reviewed at the November 2, 2018 meeting together with the October 5, 2018 minutes.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

None

IV. BOARD MEMBER'S REPORTS

1. Hilo – Mr. Harold Bugado - No change to submitted report. – See Attached

2. Kona – Mr. Jim Traxler - No change to submitted report. – See Attached

3. Kauai – Mr. Wilbert Pereira - No submitted report.

4. Maui – Ms. Chelsea Fernandez - No submitted report.

5. Oahu – Mr. Michael Lilly - Submitted report. – See Attached

6. Oahu – Mr. Clay Park - No submitted report.

7. Oahu – Ms. Bridget Komine, Vice Chair - No change to submitted report on Project Homeless Connect on 09/27/2018 – See Attached

8. Oahu – Ms. Ann Greenlee, Chair - No submitted report.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Legislative Committee
No report submitted since not currently in session.

B. By Laws and Procedures
No report submitted.

C. Recognition and Awards
No report submitted.

D. Women's Committee
Chair Greenlee and Vice Chair Komine reported that on November 18, 2018 at Keehi Lagoon from 7:30 to 2:30 pm there will be a VFW Women's Conference. Denise Koutrouba, the Women's Coordinator from the health side of the VA is the POC.

E. Project and Events Committee

a. Rededication of the WWII Memorial in 2018 – Komine Liaison
No update.

b. Maui Veterans Cemetery Blessing/Dedication Event in 2018 – Fernandez Liaison. No update.

c. Dedication of the East Hawaii Korean War Memorial – Bugado Liaison. No update.

d. WWI Centennial Commemoration 2018 – Han Liaison
Invitations should be sent out next week for 11 Nov 2018 for Veterans Day (Centennial of WWI) ceremony. Chair Greenlee confirmed that it would be held on the grounds of the Waikiki Natatorium War Memorial.

e. State Veterans Summit – Han Liaison
We are still looking at the 21st and 22nd of June 2019 which is a Friday and Saturday. We are slowly putting together our group but had many other items on the agenda. We will be looking for members.

VI. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mr. Ron Han, Director, OVS - No change to submitted report. – See Attached Introduced Heather Ho from OVS. There will be a WWI Centennial Commemoration Ceremony to be held at the Waikiki War Natatorium Memorial on 11 Nov 2018 between 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Ron added that the event will be followed by an afternoon and evening concert. No Punchbowl or Governor's ceremony.

First Lieutenant Shaoyu Lee, Department of Defense, Engineering Office, Interim Chief Engineering Officer - Not present - Submitted report – See Attached ENGINEERING REPORT Advisory Board on Veterans Services October 5, 2018. Chair Greenlee asked Ron if he could add information on their report. Ron pointed out that there are many projects happening right now, especially in the cemetery. He also advised that 1Lt. Shao Lee has taken over the program from Col. Neal Mitsuyoshi. He also mentioned that if there are any questions, he will forward the questions to the Engineering Department. No questions were asked.

Mr. Juan Babiak, Liaison Yukio Okutsu Veterans Home in Hilo - No change to submitted report. Mr. Babiak wanted to provide some background information on IJRD jeopardy situation. On June 17 a patient eloped from the facility and was found safe and uninjured downtown. The WanderGuard system was not working properly / consistently. They received a new WanderGuard system and it was set up with the wrong parameters on July 24, 2018 for 5 days in lieu of 7 days. This caused problems. On Sunday September 16 another patient eloped and was assessed as a wander risk but not actively seeking exit behavior. Had to change some of their processes and had to alarm outer doors that were not previously alarmed because they were supposed to be locked.

Wanted to share the status. Looking to upgrade the entire facility and the functionality of the system to make it secure. Right now, every time someone opens a door the alarms go off. Looking to purchase an upgrade for the entire system so everyone is safe.

Department of Health - No submitted report.

Department of Human Service - No submitted report.

Department of Labor and Industrial Relations - No submitted report.

U.S. Department of Labor, VETS - No submitted report.

Director Jennifer Gutowski, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs – Medical - Submitted Report – See attached report. Mr. Gary Vanbrocklyn, Acting Associate attended and spoke for Ms. Jennifer Gutowski, Director VAPIHCS.
The big news is there is a new visiting Director on the way. His name is Mr. Brandecker. Not sure of the pronunciation of the name. He is expected sometime around October 16. The CAP issue and getting veterans access to the post is important to VHA. They have launched a very robust campaign to encourage veterans to get their CAP cards. Had a meeting with the Commander of Tripler and the Garrison Commander who is new. Looks like the approach is improved. Instead of putting hard and fast deadlines that are impossible to meet they have reconciled themselves that we have a large veteran population. Garrison Commander seems to be much more inclined to consider the notion that ACC create the cards themselves. The limiting step would be the security check which they have done for us. Needs to be managed incrementally. The gate has been liberal with access to passes which has helped the veteran community right now.
Milestones in Construction:

- Kauai, activating FY20 - Land lease executed. 30% design.
- Maui, activating FY20 - Donation in Maui accepted. 30% design.
- Big Aloha was supposed to execute 4th quarter last fiscal year. Failed but will be executed in the 1st quarter this FY. This will decompress presence on this campus. Will address the demographic need for care on the West side. Waiting for promise from network for 5 Million to add to our 10 million. Talk of the possibility that the facility does not need to pay out money since it is in lieu of construction. Funded off top in lieu of facilities. Hopefully we will have good news by the next meeting. Lease to be awarded this quarter and activation in FY 21. Chair Greenlee asked if this was the old St. Francis West campus. Gary responded that this will be on new property built to specifications and VHA would lease back from entity. It would compete in size to ACC and will also address the access issues currently experiencing for ACC based on square footage. There would also be more room for primary outpatient health care and mental health care teams to be able to function more efficiently. Need staff and care rooms. Chair Greenlee asked if VBA will also be included. Director Gooden responded that the VBA will have a small presence.

- Windward Oahu poses a bigger challenge. It is very challenging to find 9,000 SF to lease. A lease broker helped with a market survey in June and a RFP for lease proposal will be done this month.
- West Hawaii – Kona lease expires 12-31-18. Currently putting a package together for replacement lease. Trying for a 2-year lease extension while the lease broker tries to find another property.
- East Hawaii at Hilo fell through. Building owner requested cancellation. Dated back to FY 2016. Seeking alternative site. Hope to have lease proposal back this month. Proposed minor replacement CVOC has been submitted and waiting for contracting.
- Guam, CVOC changed our pace of play (not trying to do contracting). Navy, NAVFAC will do the work for us. Trying to acquire adjacent property to expand our CVOC.
- American Samoa renovating with local funds and local staff to increase lab space due to distance challenges. This will be for early this fiscal year.

Hispanic Heritage Month on October 5th, today, in the ACC.
Dramatic change in the way we conduct business that warrants attention for recruitment challenges. New chief of Human Resources is reaching out and doing more job fairs that have proven to be very successful. There is another job fair on the 11th of October. This is a better way of conducting business for us and hopefully filling these vacancies for us. Fill vacancy, improve access and the veteran wins.
October 24, new veteran orientation schedule. Townhalls coordinated with VBA and national cemetery for the 4th Wednesday and Thursday each month.
Vice Chair Komine had questions from Clay in abstentia. She will provide a copy of an e-mail from the September meeting when he talked about the minority veterans program coordinator. He wants to know if the board could receive a report of activities and outcomes for 2018 and what's planned for the remainder of 2018 which is now behind us. What the goals and planned activities are for 2019 and what has been approved for women veterans since the board previously raised the concerns (he doesn't have a date as to when that was previously raised). This was his September report back and he is out, but if you could get back to us on these questions, we would appreciate it.

Director Karen Gooden, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs – Benefits - No change to submitted report. – See attached report.
Director Gooden highlighted that they have a very short outreach calendar since they have fortunately put a fulltime outreach and benefits counselor on the Big Island. He has been there for a while and he is covering both Kona and Hilo on a regular basis. He goes to Kona on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of every month so they are no longer traveling from Honolulu. They are almost ready to put their person in Maui which will also eliminate travel from Honolulu. That person will do periodic travel to Molokai and Lanai. They have made an offer and they are working on an onboard date for her. They should have someone by the end of this month. They still have Kauai but as the budget goes, they are under a crunch. Who knows, with the space situation, they are waiting until the one stop shop is put into Kauai. They will continue to travel from here to cover the Kauai outreach that's needed.

The benefit workshops will continue annually.
Clay is not here but they are keeping up with the appeals and they are still doing the nationwide appeals to our veterans to take advantage of the RAMP ahead of the 2019 February date when they go into our new process. A lot of veterans are taking advantage of that. They continue to bring more regional offices into the process to help the appeals management office in DC to help process those cases.
This will be our last meeting in this room. They will be renovating this room and they anticipate the November meeting will be in the new conference room in the front area. Director Han should work with Aiko and everyone to move up there for perpetuity. He thanked Director Gooden for her help.

Director Jim Horton, National Cemetery of the Pacific did not submit report.
The education process of the Honolulu Memorial, the big white stone object, which is not part of the National Cemetery of the Pacific. It belongs to the Battlefield Monument Commission. They've been on and off again with them for about 3-1/2 to 4 years trying to push the bow wave to build an Interpreter's Center which is basically a Visitor's Center. It will go where the overlook restrooms are. Basically, the rock face building built into the side of the hill at the top. What really gelled at the last week is a combination of pushing, shoving and common sense. The bottom line is that they received 5-1/2 to 6 million approved to replace 90% of roads and curbs, another 3 to 5 million to improve and upgrade utilities inside cemetery partly to sustain the new visitor center. 15-20 million for Visitor's/Interpreters Center as well. Physical project work will start somewhere around January and February of 2020 in terms of actual work. The planning is being done right now and there will be a pause of a year or two after the roads, curbs and utilities are done before there is work on the Visitor's/ Interpreters Center. Part of the reason that this has been in the background for a couple of years is that more columbariums will be built adjacent to Visitor/Interpreter's Center. There is a concern to maintain a quiet reflective environment of a cemetery while still allowing the story to be told by ABMC. They will do some town halls and discussions with OVC and other organizations to get the word out so it's not a surprise. Long term it's great.
Director Han thanked Director Horton and 1Lt. Shao. For their participation in nominating a new cemetery operations manager.

Veterans' Centers – No written report submitted.

VII. NEW BUSINESS
None

VIII. OLD BUSINESS
None

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Greenlee welcomed Heather as the new secretary to OVS.

X. <u>WORKING SESSION</u> – OVS / Advisory Board Issues / Ideas
No issues discussed at this time.

XI. <u>ADJOURN</u>
Motion to adjourn by Mr. Jim Traxler and seconded by Vice Chair Komine and Ms. Fernandez. Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 0941hours.

Heather Ho - Recorder
Attachments

State Advisory Board Member Reports for 5 Oct 18:

I plan to attend. No reports for DOL/VETS or me

Ann Greenlee

Aloha Ron,
I will not be attending the governors board meeting this Friday. Time permitting, I will try to call in. I'm interested in the VHA feedback on my last meetings report.

Aloha Clay Park.

Aloha Ron,
Are we on for Friday's board meeting? I didn't see any notice yet, but I will participate. I don't have any report at this time. The problem I was having with my Email has been corrected.

Mahalo,

Wilbert Pereira

Board Member Report
October 2018

I attended the Project Homeless Connect on 9/27/2018 – the event was open to all homeless.

Many Federal, State, C&C, civilian resources came together to make themselves available to the homeless population. According to the VA fifty eight (58) veterans were reported have been in attendance. There were 4 - VA Benefit Applications and 6 - VA Housing Assessments completed at this event. (Results attached)

Bridget Komine
Oahu Board Member, Vice Chair

- Submitted by Bridget Konina -

2018 Project Homeless Connect Results

Ke'ehi Lagoon Memorial, 2685 Nimitz Hwy
September 27, 2018

# of Veterans Attended: 58, Male: 49 Female: 9, Children: 4

# of Non- Veterans: 54, Male: 31, Female: 23, Children: 0

VA Benefit Applications: 4

VA Registration: 0 (VHA not on site)

VA Housing Assessment: 6

Hair Cut: 17

Showers: 12

DERMO: 100 +

Salvation Army Clothing: ?

Demographic

Nimitz Street: 19; Nimitz Bridge: 11; Waianae: 10; Kapolei: 9; Kalihi: 5; Ewa Beach: 2; Waikiki: 2; Salt Lake: 2; Waialua: 3; Waimanalo: 2; King/River Street: 19; Kaakako: 6; Kaneohe: 2; Kailua: 2; Ala Park: 5; Chinatown: 7; Nuuanu: 3; Sand Island: 3

State Advisory Board on Veterans' Services
Monthly Report for East Hawai'i
October, 2018

A.
I will be attending Friday's meeting on October 5, 2018, in Hilo.

B. The monthly East Hawaii Veterans organization's meeting is scheduled for October 3. 2018, 12 PM, at the Hilo Elk's Lodge. I will be attending this meeting and the Disabled American Veterans Hilo Chapter #6 meeting on October 13, 2018, at the Kamana Senior Center, and the VFW Post 3875 meeting at the Elk's Lodge, at 9 AM on October 20, 2018.

C. No report on the Status for the Korean War Memorial.

Harold Bugado

[redacted]

State Advisory Board for Veterans' Services
Monthly Report for West Hawaii
October, 2018

1. I will participate in the October 5th, 2018 Advisory Board meeting via VTC in Hilo.

2. The West Hawaii Veterans' Council (WHVC) meeting and the West Hawaii Veterans Cemetery Development and Expansion Association (WHVCDEA) meetings were held at the West Hawaii Veteran's Cemetery on October 2nd. Plans for Veteran's Day activities are moving forward for November 11th.

3. I will be attending the American Legion Post 20 Meeting in Kona on October 10th. The American Legion is responsible for planning, coordination and execution of the Veteran's Day activities at the Cemetery.

4. I will be attending the Big Island Retired Military Association (BIRMA) Luncheon and Meeting on October 27th.

Jim Traxler

Han, Ronald P Jr. VBAHON

From: Michael Lilly <Michael@NLJLAW.COM>
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2018 5:38 AM
To: Han, Ronald P Jr. VBAHON
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: VA Staff Falsified Documents

Consider this my October report (from Italy!). If true, it's tragic.

It appears as though VA level supervisors instructed VA employees to falsify patient wait times at Veterans Affairs' medical facilities in at least seven states, according to new reports from several media outlets.

In the last two years, investigations have revealed that VA employees at 40 VA medical facilities in 19 states and Puerto Rico regularly "zeroed out" veteran wait times. In some cases, investigators found manipulation had been going on for as long as a decade. In others, it had been just a few years.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Lilly
Sent from my iPhone
Office: 808-528-1100

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "U.S. Veteran Compensation Programs" <admin@veteranprograms.com>
> **Date:** September 19, 2018 at 17:31:01 GMT+2
> **To:** "Michael Lilly" <michael@nljlaw.com>
> **Subject: VA Staff Falsified Documents**
> **Reply-To:** "U.S. Veteran Compensation Programs" <admin@veteranprograms.com>
>
> t appears as though VA level supervisors instructed VA employees to falsify patient wait times at Veterans Affairs' medical facilities in at least seven states, according to new reports from several media outlets.
>
> In the last two years, investigations have revealed that VA employees at 40 VA medical facilities in 19 states and Puerto Rico regularly "zeroed out" veteran wait times. In some cases, investigators found manipulation had been going on for as long as a decade. In others, it had been just a few years.

Department of Defense
Engineering Office (HIENG)
3949 Diamond Head Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816-4495

ENGINEERING REPORT
Advisory Board on Veterans Services
October 5, 2018

I. Veteran Services Projects Funding

Table 1: State Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Funding

No.	Project Title	FAI No. [2]	State Funding Amount [3]	State Appropriation (Lapse Date)	VA Grant Amount/Est. VA Share [2,4]	VA Status [1, 2]	FY18 VA Priority [2]
1	Kauai Veterans Cemetery, Maintenance Facility & Access Rd , Phase 2A & 2B [14-14-7397 (Design)]	HI-09-16	$181,658	Act 287/96 [F-2] (06-30-2012)	~~$194,000~~ $1,243,593	A	Funded
			$183,537	Act 162/09 [F-4] (06-30-2016)			
			$48,472	Act 180/10 [F-4] (06-30-2016)			
2	Kauai Veterans Cemetery, Ph 2A, New Maintenance Facility [14-14-7460 (Construction)] *Project Completed and Closed.		$2,905	Act 287/96 [F-2] (06-30-2012)		A	~~Funded~~ [Final Grant Amount]
			$60,300	Act 180/10 [F-4] (06-30-2016)			
			$0	Act 164/11 [F-1] (06-30-2018)			
3	~~Kauai Veterans Cemetery, Ph. 2B, New Access Road, Expansion and Improvements~~ [14-14-7641] *Project to be closed (see 14-14-7657 below).	~~HI-10-21~~	~~$3,644,000~~ [5]	~~Act 106/12 [F-1] (06-30-2018)~~	~~$6,302,000~~	~~P~~	~~#41, Grp. 1~~
	Kauai Veterans Cemetery, New Access Road, Expansion & Improvements [14-14-7657]	HI-10-21	$630,200	Act 106/12 [F-1] (06-30-2018)	$1,477,000	P	#41, Grp. 4
4	Maui Veterans Cemetery Expansion & Improvements [15-14-7509]	HI-12-31	$1,004,000	ACT 164/11 [F-1] (6-30-2018)	$5,710,280	A	Funded
	Maui Veterans Cemetery, Planning for Site Expansion [15-14-7463] *Project Completed.		$400,000				
	Maui Veterans Cemetery, Land Acquisition for Expansion [15-14-7542] *Project Completed.		$850,000				
5	Hawaii Veterans Cemetery (Hilo 2), Improvements [21-14-7653]	HI-10-18	$6,000	Act 164/11 [F-1] (06-30-2018)	$820,278	A	#39, Grp. 4
6	Lanai Veterans Cemetery, Improvements [25-14-7654]	HI-10-20	$6,000		$581,500	A	#40, Grp. 4
7	Molokai Veterans Cemetery, Improvements [25-14-7655]	HI-10-22	$111,134		$438,000	P	#42, Grp. 4
8	West Hawaii Veterans Cemetery, Non-Potable Well [11-14-7626]	HI-12-30	$210,000	Act 122/14 [F-3.01] (6-30-2020)	$795,000	P	#45, Grp. 4
9	Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery, Upgrades and Improvements [12-14-7628]	HI-13-32	$0	Act 106/12 [F-1] (06-30-2018)	$10,400,000	P	~~#32, Grp. 1~~ [#84, Grp. 3]
			$500,000	Act 122/14 [F-3.02] (6-30-2020)			
10	Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery, Committal Shelter Roof & Ceiling Repairs [CA-1516] *Project Completed	N/A	$65,500 (D) $343,000 (C)	Act 122/14 [I-7.03] (6-30-2016)	N/A	N/A	N/A
11	Molokai Veterans Center [7]	N/A	$4,000,000	Act 124/16 [F-3.01] (06-30-2018)	N/A	N/A	N/A
12	West Hawaii Veterans Center [11-14-7585] *[Note: Grant-in-Aid funds must be appropriated in the future for this project.]*	N/A	$300,000	Act 134/13 [F-3] (06-30-16)	N/A	N/A	N/A
			$850,000	Act 49/17 [F-4] (06-30-20)			

13	Hawaii State Veterans Home, Oahu	15-002	$101,542	Act 122/14 General Fund for Planning (06-30-2015)	N/A	N/A	N/A
			$2,000,000 [5]	Act 122/14 [E-7.02] (06-30-2020)	$0	~~TDB~~ P	FY17 [#53, Grp. 1] ~~#108, Grp. 2-8, Ranking 8.0~~
			$25,384,000 [5]	Act 119/15 [F-2] Second year of Biennium (FY17)	$40,358,357		
14	West Hawaii Veterans Cemetery, Additional Columbarium Niches, Hawaii [11-14-7656]	HI-17-34	$155,841	Act 106/12 [F-1] (06-30-2018)	$845,000	P	#3, Grp. 1

Table 2: OVS Projects Funding (Operating Funds)

No.	Project Title	FAI No. [2]	State Funding Amount (Contract Amount) [3]	State Appropriation (Lapse Date)	VA Grant Amount/Est. VA Share [2,4]	VA Status [1, 2]	FY18 VA Priority [2]
1	Kauai/Hanapepe, Appearance & Improvement (O&M)	HI-10-23	$770,260	Act 164/11 General Operating Fund (06-30-2012)	$26,000	P	#43, Grp. 4
2	Hawaii/Kaneohe, Appearance & Improvement (O&M)	HI-10-24			$3,093,000	P	#85, Grp. 4
3	Maui Veterans Cemetery Gravesite Restoration (Phase 1)	HI-10-27			$1,092,739	A	~~Funded~~ [Final Grant Amt.]
4	East Hawaii 1/Hilo 1, Appearance & Improvement, (O&M)	HI-10-28			$563,000	P	#44, Grp. 4
5	East Hawaii 2/Hilo 2, Appearance & Improvement, (O&M)	HI-10-29			$2,830,000	P	#86, Grp. 4
6	Maui Veterans Cemetery Gravesite Restoration, Phase 2	HI-14-33	~~$270,000~~ $211,000	Act 124/16 General Operating Fund (06-30-2017)	$1,347,323	A	#46, Grp. 4
7	Maui Multi-Service Complex *[Note: Grant-In-Aid funds may be appropriated in the future for this project.]*	N/A	$80,000	Act 122/14 General Operating Fund (06-30-2015)	$10,000,000 (for CBOC)	A	N/A
8	Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery, Tree Trimming & Removal	N/A	~~$800,000~~ $578,621.65	Act 124/16 General Operating Fund (06-30-2017)	N/A	N/A	N/A
9	Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery, Paint Columbarium Walls and Railings	N/A	~~$168,000~~ $62,000 (C)	Act 124/16 General Operating Funds (06-30-2017)	N/A	N/A	N/A
10	Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery, Water Tank Repair	N/A	$200,000	6/30/2019	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 3: Grant-In-Aid Projects Funding

No.	Project Title	FAI No. [2]	State Funding Amount [3]	State Appropriation (Lapse Date)	VA Grant Amount/Est. VA Share [2,4]	VA Status [1, 2]	FY18 VA Priority [2]
1	Oahu Veterans Council, Oahu	N/A	$2,000,000	Act 134/13 [F-2] (06-30-2016)	N/A	N/A	N/A
		N/A	$265,000	Act 122/14 [F-2] (06-30-2016)	N/A	N/A	N/A
		N/A	$75,000	Act 119/15 [F-3] (06-30-2018)	N/A	N/A	N/A
		N/A	$70,000	Act 49/17 [F-1] (06-30-2020)	N/A	N/A	N/A
2	Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor, Oahu	N/A	$550,000	Act 122/14 [F-3.04] (06-30-2016)	N/A	N/A	N/A
		N/A	$250,000	Act 124/16 [F-3.02] (06-30-2018)	N/A	N/A	N/A
		N/A	$400,000	Act 49/17 [F-2] (06-30-2020)	N/A	N/A	N/A
3	Hawaii Island Veterans Memorial, Hawaii	N/A	$425,000	Act 122/14 [E-4.07] (06-30-2016)	N/A	N/A	N/A

4	Civil Air Patrol, Oahu	N/A	$200,000	Act 119/15 [I-7.04] (06-30-2018)	N/A	N/A	N/A
5	The 442nd Veterans Club, Oahu	N/A	$150,000	Act 124/16 [B-5.12] (06-30-2018)	N/A	N/A	N/A
6	~~Molokai Veterans Center, Hawaii~~ ~~*This is not a Grant-in-Aid project.~~	~~N/A~~	~~$4,000,000~~	~~Act 124/16 [F-3.03] (06-30-2018)~~	~~N/A~~	~~N/A~~	~~N/A~~
6	Pearl Harbor – Honolulu Branch 46, Fleet Reserve Association, Oahu	N/A	$300,000	Act 49/17 [F-3] (06-30-2020)	N/A	N/A	N/A
7	USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park (New)	N/A	$215,000	Act 53/18 [5-F4.01] (06-30-2021)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 4: Other Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Funding							
No.	Project Title	FAI No. [2]	State Funding Amount [3]	State Appropriation (Lapse Date)	VA Grant Amount/Est. VA Share [2,4]	VA Status[1, 2]	FY18 VA Priority [2]
1	Kauai Veterans Cemetery Pavilion Renovation	N/A	$400,000 [5]	ACT 119/15 (6-30-2018) Appropriated under the Office of the Governor	N/A	N/A	N/A
		N/A	$700,000 [6]	ACT 124/16 (6-30-2018) Appropriated under the Office of the Governor	N/A	N/A	N/A

Notes:

1 A – Approved/funded by VA; P – Grant pre-application submitted; pre-approved by VA; project placed on VA Priority List

2 N/A – Not applicable; TBD – To be determined.

3. Amount of State Funds that have been ~~appropriated, allotted and~~ programmed for the project.

4. Actual grant amount where VA Status is "A"; Amount of Federal Funds noted on the VA Priority List where VA Status is "P".

5 Pending Governor's release of funds or submittal of an allotment request by the expending agency.

6. "General Fund" = State Operating Funds

7. Error in funding appropriation. State funding amount should be $400,000 and appropriated in a GIA. Project will be changed from CIP to GIA at the next Legislative session.

A. Federal Veterans Affairs (VA) Grants Activities/Correspondence

1. Grant Pre-Applications

a. None pending.

B. State Capital Improvement Program

1. Proviso

a. Due to changes in the VA policy regarding the reimbursement of funds to the States, funds that were appropriated in prior years may not be eligible for 100% federal reimbursement. The Office of Veteran Services (OVS) will include language in future appropriation requests to allow up to 10% of the appropriation to not be required for 100% federal reimbursement.

C. Grant-in-Aid (GIA) Projects

6. Hawaii Island Veterans Memorial (HIVM) (GIA) [pending HIVM input]

a. Obtained renewal of 65-year lease (BLNR approved) for 100-unit affordable housing (preference going to seniors who are veterans.) Still waiting for zoning renewal application from Hawaii County (RM1 zone lapsed).

7. Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum (USS Bowfin)
a. Allotment Request for $215K is being prepared.

II. Veteran Services Projects

A. Island of Oahu

1. Hawaii State Veterans Home, Oahu

a. Orcutt Winslow programming sessions re-scheduled for October 11 and 12. Session on September 11, 12, and 13, did not occur because of Hurricane Olivia preparations.

B. Island of Hawaii

1. West Hawaii Veterans Cemetery, Additional Columbaria Units

a. Award letter from Department of Veterans Affairs, dated September 17, 2018, awarded $934,398 (100% of allowable costs for this project.

C. Island of Kauai

1. Kauai Veterans Cemetery, Phase 2B (FAI No. HI-10-21), New Access Road, Expansion and Improvements

a. Received letter from VA dated October 1, 2018, stating that, "U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) plans to award a grant in FY 2019 to expand the Kauai Veterans Cemetery."

III. Miscellaneous

A. The DOD Engineering Office (HIENG) is at 60% staffing. This will have a significant impact on the department's ability to provide full service engineering support on all its projects. Priority will be given to projects that involve health and safety, and projects with funds that are in jeopardy of lapsing at the end of the federal and/or State fiscal years.

SHAOYU L. LEE
First Lieutenant
Hawaii Army National Guard
Interim Chief Engineering Officer

Date: October 4, 2018

From: Liaison, Yukio Okutsu State Veterans Home

To: Chair, Governor's Advisory Board on Veterans' Services

Subj: Monthly Status Report

Current 5-Star Rating: Overall = 5 star

Health Inspections = 5 Quality Measures = 5 Total Nursing Staffing = 3 RN Staffing = 5

VA Annual Survey: June 12 – 14, 2018.

- CAP accepted for 2 - Not Met - Life Safety Standards.
    - ADHC – Infection Control Log created and implemented during our VA Survey.
    - ADHC – Monthly Fire Safety Inspections are being conducted and posted monthly.
    - NH - VA removed citation for internal inspection of our sprinkler systems metal pipes and replacement of sprinkler system gauges.

CMS Annual Survey: IJ / Immediate Jeopardy situation cited regarding residents risk of elopement.

- Our 2018 Annual CMS Survey was initiated on Tuesday September 2018 and is ongoing.
- 3 Surveyors were on station Tuesday morning through Friday noon.
- Surveyors were unable to complete our annual survey as scheduled due to delays experienced investigating IJ / Immediate Jeopardy Situation regarding residents' risk for elopement.
    - **IJ called at approximately 3pm on Thursday and abated at approximately 11am on Friday.**
    - Surveyors noted our residents' risk for wandering were not accurately evaluated and therefore, the interventions were not appropriately identified and implemented.
        - Specifically, a new resident who eloped on Sunday before of survey had been assessed as a wander risk but not provided a wander guard as he had not displayed any exit seeking behavior. Staff escorted resident back inside, from our parking lot, without injury.
    - Surveyors also noted our current system did not accurately reflect daily functionality checks of a comprehensive wander monitoring system.
        - Specifically, daily documentation of wander guard system was not available in our Building Engines Report System for weekends.
        - Education of staff was lacking with regard to enhanced monitoring system and daily documentation process.
        - As part of our abatement plan, additional alarms were installed on three exit doors in Admin. wing.
- Annual Survey is ongoing until surveyors are able to return to complete our survey.
- Extended Survey will follow with 2 weeks of completion of our Annual Survey.
- CMS may issue fines and prohibit pay for new Medicare/Medicaid admissions until survey findings are accepted as being in full compliance.

Financials Summary:

July 2018	ADC	Revenues	Expenses	Net Revenue	Net Revenue (FY cum.)
NH:	88.3	$ 1,212,809	$ 1,068,956	$ 143,854	$ 939,145
ADH:	16.4	$ 20,125	$ 31,686	$ (11,561)	$ (78,433)

Adult Day Health Care: Priority for ADHC admission is being given to SC veterans who meet VA's enhanced per diem criteria for Adult Day Health Care in SVH. Price rate increase to be implemented in October.

Service Connected (70% or greater) = $ 0 (no change).
All other Veterans = $45 (increase from $35)
Spouses of Veterans/Civilians = $85 (increase from $65)

Nursing Home Care:

In July, we saw a decrease in falls from 27 in June to 16 in July (one resident accounted for 6 falls). IHA Pressure Ulcers are still slightly above benchmarks and we had 2 residents with UTI's which equals our benchmark.

- **Falls:** Falls = 16 in July.
  - 13 falls occurred on 1st floor, 3 on 2nd floor.
  - 13 of 16 falls occurred in residents rooms, and
  - 1 of 16 falls occurred in resident bathroom.
  - PIP Team continues to meet weekly to review all recent falls, review trends in times and locations of falls, review care plans and ensure new interventions are placed in PCC.

- **IHA Pressure Ulcers:** 1 new IHA Pressure identified in July. Residents who have a decline are more at risk for skin breakdown; additional interventions to prevent skin breakdown not put into place early enough.
  - Emphasis on early identification of potential for skin breakdown via use of e Interact tools (Stop & Watch, Change in Condition/SBAR) to prompt additional intervention.
  - Continued education for nursing staff on need for more frequent re-positioning when resident showing a decline.

- **Infection Control:**
  - no trends identified in July.
  - 12 total infections in July (7 IHA/5 CA)
  - 7 IHA – 2 eye, 2 skin, 2 urinary, 1 wound

- **Flu Season:**
  - Influenza/Pneumococcal vaccines should be received in September.
  - Initiating Flu Season protocols with signs and sanitation carts.

Disaster Preparedness/Emergency Plan: Activated Disaster plan related to Hurricane Lane to prepare for possible landfall of a Category 4-5 hurricane. Suffered no losses during the event. Hurricane did not make landfall. However, 40 inches of rain created flash flood situation which caused some staffing adjustments. Staffing levels remained normal.

Women Veterans & Women Service Members

A Day For Me

Sunday, November 18 | 7:30 am to 1:30 pm

Ke`ehi Lagoon Memorial Park | 2685 N. Nimitz Hwy, Honolulu, HI 96819

Receive free massages, facials, manicures, hair consultations, and much, much more!

Million Veteran Program, Veteran Enrollment, VetCenter assistance, and other Veteran services will also be available.

In coordination with the Governor's Advisory Board on Veteran Services.

VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Pacific Islands Health Care System

For more information, call the Women Veteran Program Manage
Denise Koutrouba at 808-433-047

Veterans Affairs Pacific Islands Health Care System (VAPIHCS)

Jennifer Gutowski, Director, VAPIHCS
Sept/Oct 2018

INITIATIVE

- New VISN Director
- UPDATED Controlled Access Pass (CAP) (Flyer) – Extended to OCTOBER 1
- Construction Update

EVENTS

Sept 26 New Veteran Orientation
Sept 27 2018 Project Homeless Connect for all Homeless people of Hawaii
Sept 27 Whole Health "Taking Charge of Heart Failure"
Sept 28 Hispanic Heritage Month Observation 11 a.m. -1 p.m.
Oct 5 Hispanic Heritage Month Observation 11 a.m. -1 p.m.
Oct. 11 VAPIHCS Job Fair
Oct 24 New Veteran Orientation

TOWN HALLS/ RESOURCE FAIR:
2018 Schedule with VBA and NCA – All 11 sites of care tentatively scheduled for the 4th Weds/Thurs

Public Affairs/ Media:
Website:
https://www.hawaii.va.gov/
Twitter:
https://twitter.com/vapihcs
Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/VAPacificIslands
KHVH 830 AM – Veterans Voice Radio updates with Amy Rohlfs (Every Tuesday) 9-10 a.m. repeats at 7 p.m.
http://khvhradio.iheart.com/

VHA Announces New VISN 21 Director – John Brandecker Brings Leadership, Proven Experience to VA Sierra Pacific Network

John Brandecker, VISN 21 DirectorVallejo, CA – The Department of Veterans Affairs is pleased to announce the appointment of John A. Brandecker, MBA, MPH, as the new Director of the VA Sierra Pacific Network (VISN 21) in Vallejo, California. Mr. Brandecker will oversee delivery of health care at seven major health care systems in northern California, Nevada, Hawaii and the Pacific. VISN 21 has an operating budget of $3.9 billion and over 14,300 employees.

"We are excited to bring Mr. Brandecker on board as the new Director of the VA Sierra Pacific Network," said Steve Young, VHA Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management. "His sound leadership qualities and proven experience will be valuable assets for the facility, the employees and volunteers, and most importantly, for the Veterans we are honored to serve. We anticipate he will begin his appointment within the next 4-6 weeks."

For the past five years, Mr. Brandecker has served as the Medical Center Director at the McGuire VA Medical Center in Richmond, Virginia, one of the highest complexity medical centers in the 160-hospital VA Health System. In this capacity, he had full ownership and accountability for all activity related to medical center operations along with four Community Based Outpatient Clinics. The McGuire VA Medical Center has 408 operating beds providing care to nearly 60,000 Veterans in a 52-county area with more than 3,300 employees. Prior to joining VA, Mr. Brandecker served in several executive positions in the private sector including Associate Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of UT Southwestern Hospitals in Dallas Texas; Senior Vice President of Jackson Health System and Chief Administrative Officer for Holtz Children's Hospital and Jackson Memorial Women's Hospital Center in Miami, Florida; Associate Hospital Director at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics and Executive Director, University of Iowa Children's Hospital in Iowa City, Iowa; and Vice-President, University of Chicago Hospitals and Health System and Director, Comer Children's Hospital in Chicago, Illinois. He also served as a System Administrative Director and Chief Financial Officer in the North-Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System in North Hyde Park, New York, as well as the Director of Internal Management Services at Columbia University in New York City, New York.

Mr. Brandecker holds a Master's in Business Administration from St. John's University in Queens, New York and a Master's in Public Health from Columbia University in New York City, New York.

The VA Sierra Pacific Network (VISN 21) comprises seven major health care systems based in Honolulu, HI; San Francisco, CA; Palo Alto, CA; Sacramento, CA; Fresno, CA; Reno, NV; and Las Vegas, NV. In addition, VISN 21 operates the only VHA direct patient care activity located in a foreign country (Manila, Philippines). Together the health care systems in VISN 21 include 67 geographic sites of care. All seven VISN 21 health care systems have highly successful clinical affiliations with prestigious universities in the areas of medicine, nursing and allied health professions. VISN 21 hosts the largest number of Centers of Excellence in VHA, receives the most research funding in VHA, and has expansive and collaborative relationships with its Department of Defense partners.

2018 Project Homeless Connect

Let's put an end to homelessness!

Thursday | September 27 | 7 am - 4 pm
Kechi Lagoon Memorial Park
2685 N Nimitz Hwy | Honolulu, HI

To learn more about the event, or volunteer to support, please contact:
Jade Nguyen (808) 547-4412
Karen Chong (808) 433-0557

VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Pacific Islands Health Care System

OBSERVANCE

National Hispanic Heritage Month
15 SEPTEMBER-15 OCTOBER 2018

Celebracion

FIESTA

September 28, 2018
11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Spark M. Matsunaga
VA Medical Center
Ambulatory Care Clinic
Lobby

VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Pacific Islands Health Care System

OBSERVANCE

National Hispanic Heritage Month
15 SEPTEMBER-15 OCTOBER 2018

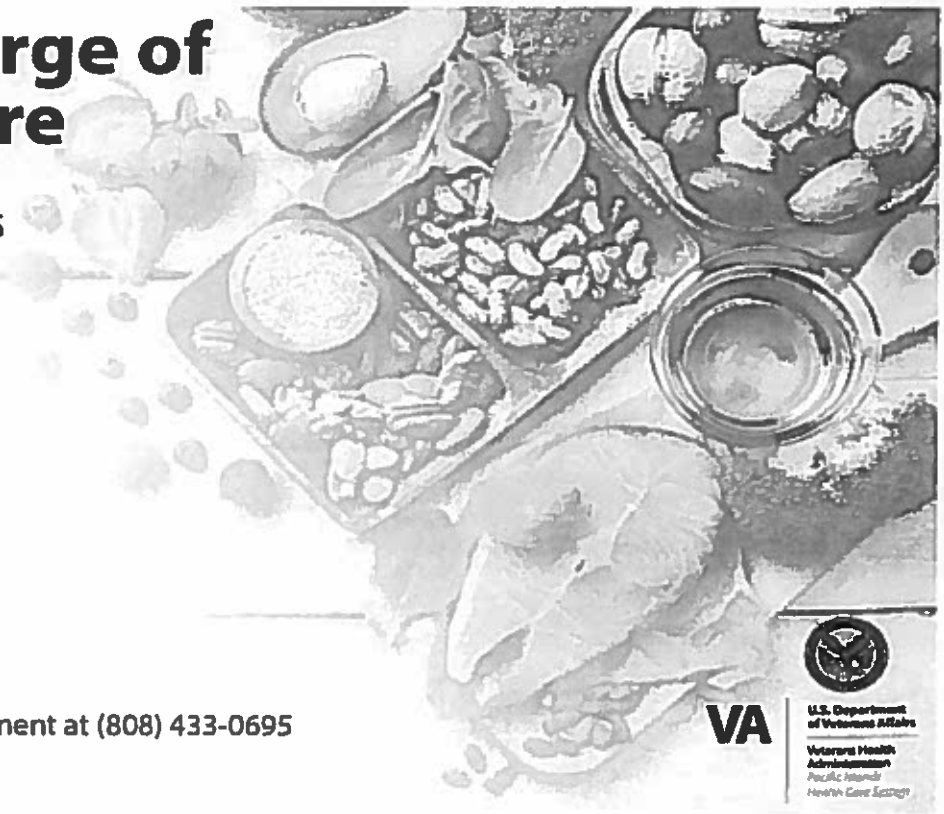
Celebracion

MOVIES

October 5, 2018 | 12:00 pm
Spark M. Matsunaga
VA Medical Center
Ambulatory Care Clinic
3rd Floor Conference Room

Taking Charge of Heart Failure

Whole Health Class open to all Veterans and Caregivers



September 27, 2018
8 am - 9 am
Spark M. Matsunaga
VA Medical Center
3B08 Conference Room

For RSVP and Questions:
Contact the Education Department at (808) 433-0695

VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Pacific Islands Health Care System

VA Pacific Islands Health Care System

HEALTH CARE JOB FAIR

October 11, 2018
11:00 am – 7:00 pm

Oahu Veterans Center, Sullivan Hall
1298 Kukila St., Honolulu, HI 96818

We are currently hiring
HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS
such as Medical Support Assistants, Program Support Assistants, Nurses, and more.

Be prepared for "on the spot" interviews, employment pre-screenings, and tentative job offers!

Please bring the following:

- Resume
- DD 214 (Member 4 Copy)
- Civil Service Preference Letter
- Transcripts (unofficial acceptable)
- Licensure/Certification
- Marriage Certificate and PCS orders (military spouse)
- Three References

VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Pacific Islands Health Care System

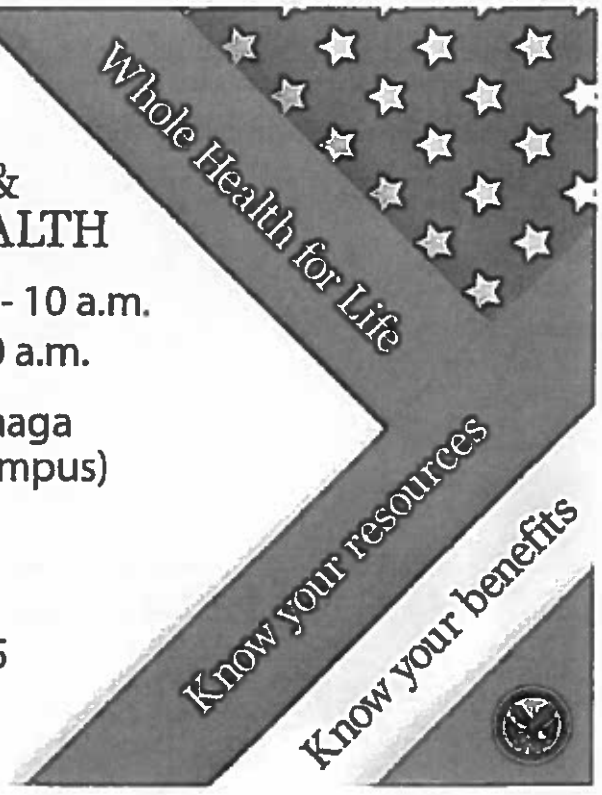
Point of Contact. Mark Van Huss
Human Resources Department
Email: V21HOTHRInquiry@va.gov
Phone number: 808-433-0187

NEW VETERAN ORIENTATION & INTRODUCTION TO WHOLE HEALTH

Wednesday, September 26, 2018 | 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.
Wednesday, October 24, 2018 | 8 a.m - 10 a.m.

3B08 Conference Room, Spark M. Matsunaga
459 Patterson Road, Honolulu (Tripler Campus)

RSVP or Questions, Contact:
Lyn Dubbs, MSN, RN (808) 433-0831
Win Ellorimo-Gil, MSN, RN (808) 433-0695



TRIPLER ARMY MEDICAL CENTER

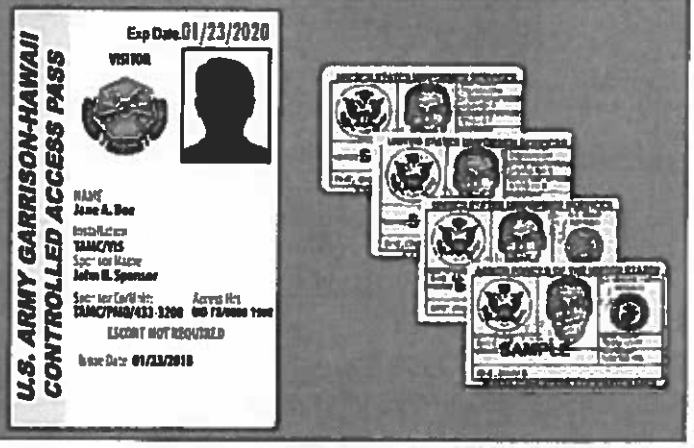
DEADLINE
October 1, 2018

ATTENTION VETERANS & CAREGIVERS:
You may need a new pass for gate access to Tripler soon!

Not Accepted

After October 1, 2018

Accepted After October 1, 2018



Effective October 1, 2018, the Department of the Army will no longer recognize VETERAN HEALTH INFORMATION CARDS for access to Tripler Army Medical Center, but instead a CONTROLLED ACCESS PASS.
(Please note the following does not apply to Veterans and their caregivers who have a Military Retiree ID, Military Dependent ID, CAC ID, or PIV Card.)

In order to obtain a CONTROLLED ACCESS PASS the Veteran and their caregiver must present a valid driver's license or state ID and proof of social security number to have photographs taken at either:

1. **Spark M. Matsunaga Ambulatory Care Center:** 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday – Friday (Modular 5, Second Floor)
2. **Army Garrison Visitor Control Center:** Building 6503, Leilehua, Wahiawa, HI Golf Course 7:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday (VCC is closed daily from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.)
3. **Vet Mobile at Oahu Veteran Center:** 1298 Kukila Street Honolulu, HI 96818 Every 3rd Thurs. of the month
4. **Neighbor Islands Veterans can get their CONTROL ACCESS PASS processed at the VA CBOCs**

* Background Check will be performed and approved (this may take 30 days)
* CONTROL ACCESS PASS valid for two years
* VA will contact Veteran and their caregiver to pick-up pass

*If you have questions regarding this policy contact the Army Garrison Visitor Control Center at (808) 655-1620.

NEW REQUIRED PASS for GATE ACCESS TO TRIPLER

EFFECTIVE OCT 1. 2018

Effective OCT 1, 2018, the Department of the Army will no longer recognize Veteran Health Information Cards (VHIC) for access to Tripler Army Medical Center. Please note the following does not apply to Veterans and their caregivers who have a Military Retiree ID, Military Dependent ID, CAC ID, or PIV Card.

In order for Veterans and their caregivers to obtain timely access and prevent delays to VA services, the following must be completed:

- Veteran and their caregiver must present a valid driver's license or state ID and proof of social security number and have photographs taken at either:

1. Spark M. Matsunaga Ambulatory Care Center between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday – Friday (Modular 5, Second Floor)
2. Army Garrison Visitor Control Center (VCC), Building 6508, Leilehua, Wahiawa, HI Golf Course between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday (please note the VCC is closed daily from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.)
3. Vet Mobile at Oahu Veteran Center –1298 Kukila Street Honolulu, HI 96818, Every 3rd Thursday of the Month
4. Neighbor Islands Veterans can get their CAP card processed at the VA CBOCs

- Background Check will be performed and approved **(this may take up to 30 days).**
- Control Access Pass (CAP), valid for two years
- VA will contact Veteran and their caregiver to pick-up pass

If a Veteran or their caregiver has "non-favorable" background information, that prevents the issuance of a CAP, our CAP Card Taskforce Lead will make contact to discuss the process of submitting a USAG Hawaii Access Control Denial Waiver Application and continued VA services options. Our VA PIHCS Call Center 1 (800) 214-1306

We strive to provide the excellent service you have earned and deserve. Our objective is to provide a smooth process for this transition to ensure timely delivery of care.

If you have questions regarding this policy contact the Army Garrison Visitor Control Center at (808) 655-1620.

VA Pacific Islands Construction/Lease Project Update
August 2018

Kauai Approved Minor Replacement CBOC (one stop shopping concept) Minor Project - Obligated $42,000 (Land Lease)

Kauai CBOC (One-Stop): The award of the Kauai land lease between VAPIHCS and the Kauai Veterans Council was awarded on July 11, 2017. This secures the land/site for the project. 30% design of the new CBOC has been accomplished with a remaining design/build project to be completed by mid FY19. Activation is projected during early FY20.

Next Milestone: Contract for an Architectural Design firm to complete the Request for Proposal (RFP) package for Design-Build contract to be awarded by September 2018 (Proposal received and currently under review for award).

Maui Approved Minor Replacement CBOC (one stop shopping concept) Minor Project – Obligated $937,451.42

Maui Multi-Services Center (One-Stop): A Land Donation Offer has been received from the State of Hawaii and has been approved by VA Central Office. Recent turnover in the State required development of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the Land Donation. VA Contracting, VAPIHCS, and the State of Hawaii are working towards final award, projected to be in early FY19. Thirty percent design of the new CBOC has been accomplished with a remaining design/build project to be completed by mid-FY19. Activation is projected during early FY20.

Next Milestone: Finalize MOA regarding Land Donation late FY18.

Oahu ALOHA Multispecialty Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) – Obligated $256,000 (Design)

ALOHA (Advanced Leeward Outpatient Healthcare Access) VA Multispecialty CBOC: VA issued solicitations to offerors on April 6, 2017 for this approved/authorized VA Major Lease Project, which will create a new 66,000 sq. ft. VA Clinic, to be located at a site, yet to be chosen, on the Ewa Plain area of Oahu. A Pre-Bid Conference was held on May 3rd and a Technical Evaluation Board (TEB) reviewed the offers June 27-29. A second TEB was held Oct. 25-26. A third solicitation for offerors was issued in March with responses due by April 16. The third TEB was completed on April 26, 2018 and the lease award is projected for first quarter FY19. Activation is projected during FY21.

Next Milestone: Lease award in first quarter FY19.

Windward Oahu CBOC - No Obligations
VA has retained the services of a lease broker to assist in the identification of a leasable property of approximately 9,000 sq. ft. The Windward Oahu market is very constrained in available leased sites meeting VA's minimum space requirements and Federal standards. The search for suitable sites remains active; however, the timeframes to activation are difficult to pinpoint at this time.

Next Milestone: A market survey was conducted June 18, 2018. Request for Lease Proposal will be issued in Oct 2018. VA is optimistic that a suitable leased space to open a Windward Oahu CBOC is available.

West Hawaii – No Obligations

Kona CBOC Expansion: The end of term lease date for VA Kona CBOC is 12/31/2018. VA is in the process of developing the requirements package for a replacement lease.

Next Milestone: Requirements package for a new replacement lease was completed in March 2018. Awaiting Contracting Office to assign a lease broker to assist with the advertisement and market survey. Contracting is negotiating with the current lessors on a 2-year lease extension.

East Hawaii: Hilo CBOC - New Replacement Lease - $1,462,313 Obligated Buildout

The building owner of the awarded lease requested cancellation due to his inability to secure the required capital to deliver the building. VA is currently seeking an alternative site and has obtained the services of a lease broker to assist with the advertisement and market survey. Expressions of interest to the Sources Sought advertisement were received in Mid-March. A market survey was held on April 12th to evaluate potential properties. The formal request for lease proposals was issued at the end of April with proposals due on June 13, 2018. A subsequent modified request for proposals was made in June. VA is reviewing offerors' submittals, with one particular property of interest in mind

Next Milestone: Expect to receive a lease proposal back early October.

East Hawaii: Hilo - Proposed Minor Replacement CBOC (one stop shopping concept) Minor Project – No Obligations

A VA Strategic Capital Investment Program (SCIP) project approved in the FY19 SCIP Cycle. Project package is being developed by Engineering service. Expected design solicitation award in 2nd Qtr FY19.

Next Milestone: Project package completed and submitted to contracting July 2018.
Leasing Contracting Officer to work with VAPIHCS to start land lease process.

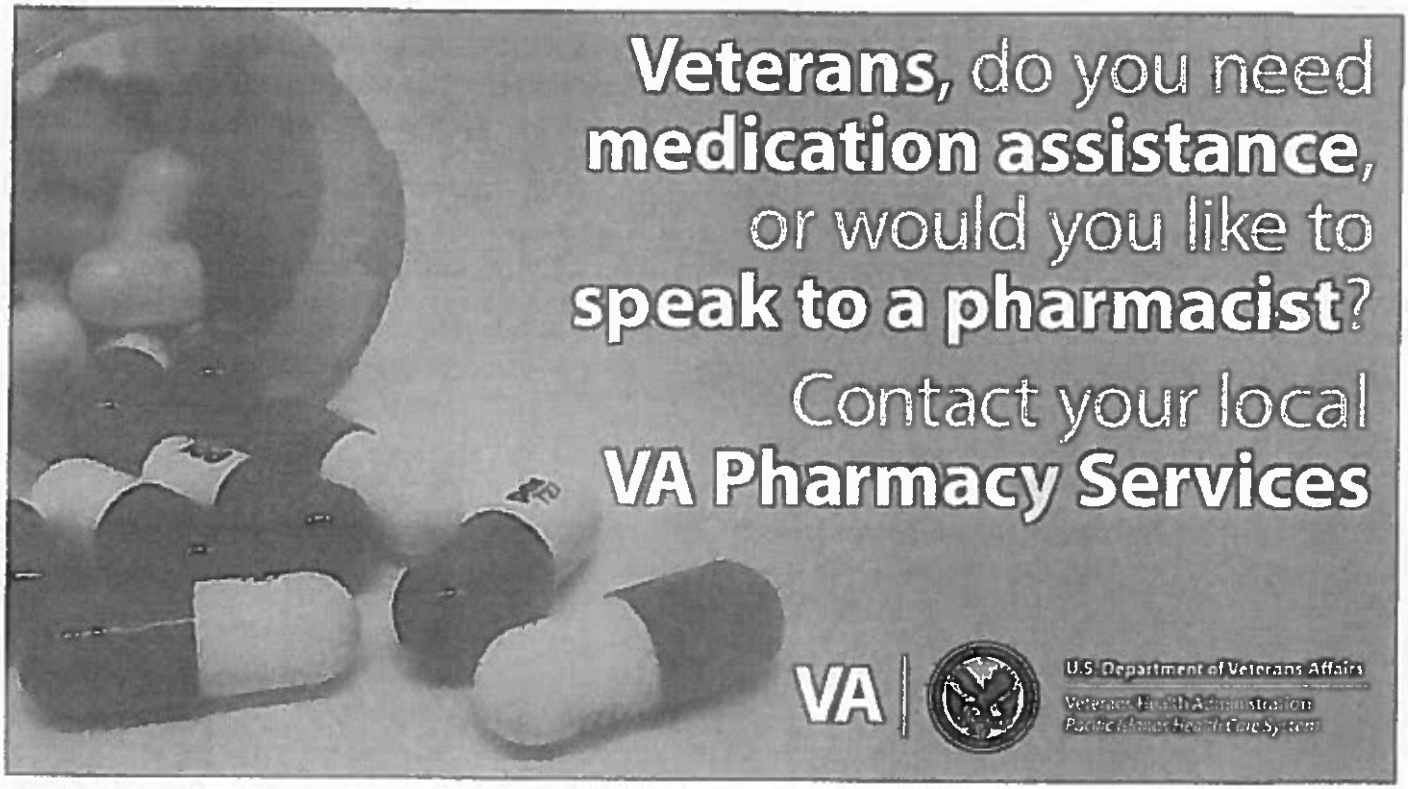
Guam CBOC Expansion Project – Minor Construction Project

A project to expand the existing Guam CBOC by an added 2,800 sq. ft. has been approved. The Navy will serve as VA's general contractor for the project. The Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Team halted the project planning pending VA actions on parking shortfall. A meeting to resolve this parking demand issue is scheduled to occur during July, with resultant way forward

anticipated afterward. VA is pursuing an adjunct leased property that will move some services from the CBOC to another location, thus reducing the number of parking spaces needed at the CBOC site.

American Samoa CBOC Renovation

Space within the American Samoa CBOC will be renovated to create laboratory space and additional Mental Health consultation and group rooms. The project is a funded station project with the design completed and renovation scheduled for completion in early FY19.



If you are in need of assistance with your medications, contact your local VA pharmacy services.

If you are a Veteran in need of assistance with your medications, or if you have questions for a VA pharmacist, you may contact your local pharmacy at: 808-433-0050, for Veterans receiving care on the island of Oahu
1-800-465-8387, for Veterans receiving care on the outer Hawaiian Islands, Guam, and Northern Mariana 684-699-3730 (extension #5), for Veterans receiving care in American Samoa

If you have unwanted, or unneeded medications, please call the numbers listed above and request a "Take-Away Envelope." The VA will send you a postage-paid envelope to put your discarded medications into, then you may drop the envelop off with any USPS carrier for proper disposal.

Director, State Office of Veterans Services, Oct 2018 Update

Personnel: Authorized: 28 Assigned: 26

Veterans Benefits Counselor vacancies: Oahu (1) and Maui (1)…Cemetery Manager job interviews completed 18 Sep 18…welcome our new OVS Secretary: Ms. Heather Ho

OVS-Tactical

Hawaii Network of Care Website for military members, Veterans, and their families. Launched on Thursday, 16 Aug 2012. Reworking OVS as the prime agent…may incur some service disruption….please go to: (www.hawaiinetworkofcare.org)

OVS-Strategic

State Veterans Summit: Bring Veterans together from across the State for a two-day format (guest speakers, breakout groups, State's Dinner, panels on special subjects, exhibitors, and employers). May rotate to other islands…HB 2697 approved by legislature and Governor signed into law on 22 Jun 18…organizing State Summit Team and targeting: Fri-Sat, 21-22 Jun 2019

Reviewing feasibility for a "Veterans Hawaii" biennial magazine highlighting the exceptional accomplishments of our Veterans in the community.

Activities by Island:

Kauai:

State DOD Engineering, KOVS, OVS, and DAGS proposal for Kauai Veterans Cemetery Phase expansion is moving forward after successful County Public Hearing. Federal Funding for Kauai Veterans Cemetery approved for $1.3M for FY 13. New Maintenance facility/entry gate completed…committal shelter repair in progress…polycom meeting held with VA/NCA, DAGS and DOD on 25 Sep 2018 on expansion project

Kauai Veterans Multi-Service Center has also received federal funding ($10M)…MSC will co-locate Kauai CBOC, Vets Center, and OVS…solicitation offer received by VA and is progressing forward with design phase

Maui/Molokai/Lanai:

State land acquisition for 10-acre cemetery expansion project successfully completed in August 2014. Grave restoration started on 27 May 2014 and Phase I is completed… VA/NCA approved Phase II Fed Funding for $1.3M…Pre-con meeting for 17 Oct 18 on Maui…Makawao Cemetery Association (MCA) lawsuit led to mediation by all parties…grading permit and building permit approved…work restarted the week of 22 Feb 16 in the expansion area…layout designs were developed for Lot 1…NPHA 106

consultation session completed on 13 Dec 16 on Maui...published agreements and schematics under review…recent vandalism in expansion area reported to MPD in May 2017…feedback received on 25 Sep 18 on the draft MOA…VA and State have completed review…County of Maui accomplishing final review.

Rep Lynn DeCoite and DHHL working on Vets-Community Center in partnership with Molokai Vets and the community at large…first public hearing completed in Sep 2017

Lanai Veterans Cemetery CIP project VA funded ($582K) …work in progress

DOE and Hawaii DOD HIENG have agreed to land acquisition initiative adjacent to Maui High School. Future Maui Veterans Center, CBOC, and OVS facility…Lloyd Sodetani is our OVS on-island representative for this project… results of ESA completed…DOE submitted completed formal response for SOT in Nov 2015…joint meeting held in Sep 16 with legislators, DOE, DOD, CODELs and VA…VA accepted the Maui DOE land offer…VA/ DOE/DOD meeting held on 9 Apr 18 and on 25 May 18 at Maui High School with the Principal and Staff…as of 1 Oct 18, MOA draft review completed by HI-DOE…sent forward to Maui HS for additional review/coordination

Veterans Counselor outreach visits to Molokai: 1 Lanai: 0 (Next Visit: 12 Oct 18)

Hawaii:

West Hawaii Veterans Cemetery…HIENG/DAGS/OVS submitted VA/NCA pre-application grant for non-potable well…federal priority approved moved up to #41 from #49 with state matching A/E funding but no federal allocation at this time…pre-application award grant for additional niches to keep pace with demand approved by VA for design, planning and construction…8 Dec 17 pre-site meeting completed…19 Jan 18, HIENG/OVS met with West HI Cemetery Assoc. members on island…briefing held in Feb 18 with Hawaii Island Legislators at the State Capitol…final project design approved by VA and pre-bid meeting completed on 1 Aug 18 at West HI Veterans Cemetery…notice to proceed issued for project

Design and assessment contract has been awarded for a Kona Veterans Center after receiving $300K from the State Legislature this past session. Project passed from HIENG to DAGS for establishment and award of contract…meeting took place with Rep Evans, Bob Strickland, HIENG, and OVS in May 2015 at the State Capitol…potential siting has been chosen by West Hawaii Veterans…state funding for additional plans and design earmarked in State Budget of $850K for FY 18…site visit with HIENG/OVS and West HI Veterans held on Fri, 19 Jan 18 on Hawaii island.

Hilo Senior Care Facility and adjoining Vets Center siting initiative discussed with Veterans Bob Williams, Mayor Harry Kim, VA, HIENG, OVS, and other East HI Veterans…property leasing coordination in progress with County and HI Vets Mem Inc.

VA/NCA Compliance Inspection scheduled for 10-13 May 2016 completed…draft reports reviewed…final compliance reports for East Hawaii Vets Cemetery I & II and West HI Vets Cemetery published…Maui response package completed…Feb 18: contacted and will work with County Dir Robbie Sanches in updating compliance report

East Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery II CIP funded by VA/NCA: $870K…OVS/HIENG site visit with East HI Veterans held on Thursday, 18 Jan 18 on Hawaii island…final design completed awaiting permitting and fire hydrant installation…site visit and bid award completed in Sep 18

Tracking Korean War Memorial installation…proposed siting approved in Hilo

Oahu:

Additional State Veteran Home: Primary location has been sited….pre-application award grant completed and accepted by the VA to meet the 15 Apr 2014 deadline. Governor's intent for State match ($27M) prepared and submitted in FY 17 (Jul 2016)… …joint CODEL letter of support sent to SECVA…meeting with DAGS, HHSC, HIENG and OVS on the facility siting survey and way ahead held on 14 Jun 17 at UH…polycom meeting held on 5 Apr 18 with VA State Veterans Home administrators and DOD to discuss upcoming milestones for future grant award…Consultant has been selected and State Historical Preservation Office and Environmental Assessment on the primary site has been completed…35% design has been completed to meet Aug 2018 VA suspense…State and consultants preparing for legislative and public hearings

Hawaii Hires Heroes (H3)…Vets-Flashes occur daily on H3 job announcements

University of Hawaii Task Force on Services for Veteran Students formed by President David Lassner. This task force has met monthly to assess current and future initiatives being provided to Veteran Students at all UH campuses (10 sites) Over 2,400 Veterans are enrolled comprising 4% of the UH student body. UH Board of Regents approved Veterans in-state tuition rate…OVS participated via polycom in meeting held on 9 Mar 18 at UH…polycom on 25 May 18…building UH President/Regents brief for Sep 18

OIF/OEF/ONE/OND Gulf War Memorial Committee now called Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) Memorial Committee submitted a report to the Legislature to design, plan, and to construct a memorial. Published 104 pages report…Rep Kong, Allen Hoe, Dave Brostrom, HIENG, DAGS, State Cultural & Arts, and OVS met in Oct & Dec 16 to restart legislation…OVS testified on HB 2036 in Feb 18…re-rolled to 2019 Legislature

WWII Filipino Vets recognition initiative…Congressional Gold Medal presentation ceremony held for 25 Oct 17 in Washington D.C.…6 May 18 at Hilton Hawaiian event held…2nd recognition event slated for Sat, 26 Jan 19 at the FilCom Center…completed Deputy AG review on burial State administrative rules and State funding match; HB 1420 signed by Governor 10 Jul 17…Public Hearings completed on Oahu, Kauai, Maui and Hawaii islands from 27-30 Nov 17…State Deputy AG has signed off on

administrative rules changes and was sent forward for Governor's approval…HB 942, HD1 signed by Gov Ige on 19 Jun 17 commissioning State Cultural and Arts to plan, design and build a memorial commemorating the contributions and sacrifices made by our WWII Filipino Veterans…completed seven meetings proposed artist selected and site locations narrowed…meeting with artist Kelly Hestir on 10 Sep 18

The State's Women's Military and Veterans Sub-Committee: first and second Women's Veterans Summits were very successful…2017 conferences dedicated to neighbor islands programs (Kauai-Mar 2017)…monthly meetings being held at the Oahu Veteran Center…Women's Veterans Coffee Talk held on 21 Apr 17 at OVC…Committee preparing for State Veterans Summit plans…upcoming Women's event in Nov 18

WWI Centennial State Task Force formed…to educate/honor/memorialize the sacrifices of our WWI Veterans…website on-line…COL Art Tulak-Chair…multiple events planned…goal: Veterans Day 2018 Centennial Event…State GIA approved for $413K…meeting held with co-partners from the State, City and County of Honolulu and Centennial TF on upcoming plans utilizing the exterior grounds of the Waikiki Natatorium War Memorial…flyers and invites forthcoming

No Wrong Door (NWD) Initiative undertaken by VHA/ OVS to support and provide enhanced outreach services…organizational reviews completed… looking for another volunteer senior Disabled Vet to participate on the State Committee (Qtr Mtg)…upcoming meetings completed for 25 Sep 18 for program review

Oahu ALOHA Project (CBOC, Vets Center, OVS)…Congressional breakthrough on solicitation of the lease…bid award projected summer 2018/Opening 2020…consultant design review on 5 Jul 18…user group meetings completed in Sep'18 with design team

Triennial Review of Veteran Memorials and Monuments State-wide…finalizing report

WWII Memorial at Punchbowl and King St…State Advisory Board solicited Oahu Veterans Council to resource plaque for rededication in 2018…status: unsupportable

Marine Corps Museum Heritage Foundation…HI Governor's Liaison Rep: Ron Wright

Legislative Proposals: For Veteran Bills…go to: http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/ and type in the word **Veterans** under key words…State Legislature period: Jan-May 2019

Upcoming Veterans Events:

- Veterans Day and WWI Centennial Ceremony on Sun, 11 Nov 18…11:00 AM at the Natatorium, pre-events in the morning, mid-day concert (Raiatea Helm), evening concert with Harry James Orchestra
- Joint Ceremony Honoring HING Citizen Soldier w/HFD at King St. Cemetery…proposed event: Fri, 16 Nov 18

VA HONOLULU REGIONAL OFFICE

AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2018

VETERANS SERVICE CENTER

Honolulu Rating Inventory: 2,207 claims

Hawaii State FY18 Average Days to Complete	96 days
National FY18 Average Days to Complete	99 days

Honolulu FY 18 Completed Claims: 8,542 claims

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION & EMPLOYMENT

Honolulu Pending Caseload	2,048 cases
Honolulu FY 18 Average Days to Entitlement	84 days
National FY 18 Average Days to Entitlement	41 days
Honolulu FY 18 Average Days in Evaluation and Planning	114 days
National FY 18 Average Days in Evaluation and Planning	80 days

VETERAN BENEFITS OUTREACH EVENTS

Big Island-Hawaii

Hilo: A VA Benefits Counselor is permanently stationed on the Big Island. The Counselor is located at the Hilo Federal Building, 154 Waianuanue St., Suite 327, Hilo, HI 96720, Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 4:00pm.

Kona: The Benefits Counselor staffs the Kona Vet Center, Hale Kui Plaza, Suite 207, 73-4976 Kamanu Street, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740, the first and third Wednesday of each month, from 10am to 2pm.

VTEL

The Honolulu RO has implemented video teleconferencing (Vtel) appointments with Veterans residing on Kauai, Maui, Molokai, and Kona. During the Vtel appointments, Veterans speak with a Veterans Benefit Counselor who answers questions and provides benefit information. For additional information regarding the Vtel appointments and outreach events, contact Eric Gaskin, Public Contact Coach at pctc.vbahon@va.gov

Outreach Location	Type of Event/Visit	Date
Benefits Workshop/Claims Clinic Honolulu, Hawaii	Workshop	3 November 2018

311VET

The 311VET App was designed for Veterans to ask general VA Benefits questions and receive answers 24/7/365 from any mobile device, allowing answers at any time and from anywhere. 311VET allows Veterans to gather information on Health Care Benefits, Pensions, Life Insurance, Dependents and Survivors Benefits, and much more.

E-BENEFITS

The eBenefits portal is a one-stop shop for benefits-related online tools and information. The portal is designed for Wounded Warriors, Veterans, Service members, their families, and those who care for them. eBenefits provides two main services. It's a catalog of links to information on other websites about military and Veteran benefits. It also provides a personalized workspace called My eBenefits which gives quick access to all the online tools now integrated into eBenefits - tools that let you do things like apply for benefits, download your DD 214, and see your benefits status online. You may also generate Civil Service Preference Letters and Verification of Service Letters. To access go to: https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/