

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

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Daryl Selman, President

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Aloha House

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii

Assistive Technology Resource Ctrs. of HI

Bay Clinic, Inc.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu

Big Island Substance Abuse Council

Blueprint for Change

Bobby Benson Center

Catholic Charities Hawaii

Central Oahu Youth Services Assn.

Child and Family Service

Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii

Domestic Violence Action Center

EPIC, Inc.

Family Support Hawaii

Friends of the Missing Child Center of HI

Hale Kipa, Inc.

Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.

Hawaii Behavioral Health

Hawaii Student Television

Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition

Hina Mauka Teen Care

Hui Malama Learning Center

Kahi Mohala Behavioral Health

Kama'aina Kids, Inc.

KEY (Kualoa-Heeia Ecumenical Youth) Project

Kids Behavioral Health

Kids Hurt Too

Kokua Kalih Valley

Kula No Na Poe Hawaii

Lanai Community Health Center

Life Foundation

Marimed Foundation

The Maui Farm, Inc.

Maui Youth and Family Services

Palama Settlement

P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.

Parents and Children Together (PACT)

Planned Parenthood of Hawaii

Queen Liliuokalani Children's Center
Kona Unit

REAL

Salvation Army Family Intervention Svcs.

Salvation Army Family Treatment Svcs.

Sex Abuse Treatment Center

Susannah Wesley Community Center

The Catalyst Group

The Children's Alliance of Hawaii

Waikiki Health Center

Women Helping Women

YouthVision

YWCA of Kauai

March 19, 2012

To: Senator Rida Cabanilla, Chair
And members of the Committee on Housing

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HCR 82/HR 57 SUPPORTING EFFORTS
BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT ASSIST IN
FINDING OPPORTUNITIES AND SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS
HOMELESSNESS IN HAWAII**

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving Organizations, supports HCR 82/HR 57 Supporting Efforts by Non-Governmental Organizations That Assist in Finding Opportunities and Solutions to Address Homelessness in Hawaii

Since 1981, Hawaii Youth Services Network and partner organizations statewide have successfully utilized federal funds to meet the needs of runaway and homeless youth and those at-risk of homelessness. In cooperation with Hale Kipa, Maui Youth and Family Services, Family Support Hawaii, Salvation Army Family Intervention Services, Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawaii, and Hale 'Opio Kauai, we provide street outreach, emergency shelter, and transitional living services to young people ages 12 – 21. Currently, we bring more than \$462,000 a year in federal funds into our state to provide services in both urban and rural communities.

Runaway, homeless and street youth are an often overlooked segment of the homeless population and one that has unique needs and challenges. These youth are separated from their families and are living without adult support and guidance. Hawaii Youth Services Network's street outreach and shelter programs reach more than 700 runaway and homeless youth annually.

Communities benefit when young people and their families have the resources needed to be safe, healthy, and ready to succeed in life. Programs for the homeless help families to become self-supporting, contributing citizens of Hawaii.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director