



Community Alliance for Mental Health

LATE

Board of Directors

Anne Chipchase
President

Robert Scott Wall
Vice President

Crystal Aguinaldo
Secretary

William Lennox
Treasurer

Sunny Algosu

Jessica Carroll

Randolph Hack

Gina Hungerford

Susan King

To: The Hawai'i State Senate Committee on Housing
Re: SB 518

To: The Honorable Senator Chun-Oakland and the members of the committee.

Aloha,

The Community Alliance for Mental Health along with United Self Help strongly supports SB 518. This measure is a necessary tool in the transformation of the delivery of health care to Hawai'i's most vulnerable population.

Whether it is Supported Housing, Housing First, Section 8, or H.U.D. Housing, the goal is to get our most vulnerable population off of the streets, into housing, and supply them with health care. We know through evidenced based practices that this is the best, most cost efficient method for dealing with the multiple chronic illnesses which are devastating our health care system.

In all of these programs recovery is the pillar upon which these programs rest. It is the ability of a person to turn their life around that drives our investment not only in the individual but the fundamental change in which health care is delivered. If these individuals are not given the benefit of the doubt in their ability to change then no changes will be made and we will remain mired in our predicament.

For any of this to work there must be housing. If HPHA is not allowed to give these people the chance to prove themselves then none of these programs will even get off the ground. SB 518 must be given a chance to prove itself for the benefit of us all.

Mahalo,

Robert Scott Wall
Vice-President