



# MAUI COUNTY COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

CAMERON CENTER • 95 MAHALANI STREET, ROOM 20 • WAILUKU, HI 96793 • PHONE (808) 270-7755 • FAX (808) 270-7935

## COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (CPD)

May 3, 2018

12:30 p.m.

J. Walter Cameron Center  
95 Mahalani St., Wailuku, HI 96793

**Call to Order: 12:30 p.m.**

### Introductions

**Members Present:** David Courson, Cranston Kapoi, Ricky Sanches, Kevin Souza, and Kimberly West

**Members Excused:** Faraz Azizsoltani and Sheila Villanueva

**Members Absent:** Petrina Castillo

**Guests Present:** Councilmember Alika Atay, Oliver Caberto, Harry Johnson (MEO), Roxann Kehus (State Council on Developmental Disabilities), and Shauna Tanner (Department of Vocational Rehabilitation)

**County Staff Present:** Vicki Belluomini (Office on Aging), Kevin Dusenbury (Office on Aging), Jennifer Oana (Dept. of the Corporation Counsel), and Ralph Thomas (EEO/AA Specialist)

<b>Topic/Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
Review/Approve Minutes	Members reviewed the April 12, 2018 meeting minutes.	Chair Souza moved to approve the minutes; Motion to approve minutes carried unanimously.



# MAUI COUNTY COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

CAMERON CENTER • 95 MAHALANI STREET, ROOM 20 • WAILUKU, HI 96793 • PHONE (808) 270-7755 • FAX (808) 270-7935

<p>Public Comments and Testimony</p>	<p>A staff member from the community outpatient clinic, Makana 'O Ka Ola Health &amp; Wellness Clinic, informed the Commission that persons with disabilities are not be able to obtain durable medical equipment due to non-participating providers with Medicare on Maui. The guest asked if this item could be placed on the agenda for next month's meeting. Ms. Jennifer Oana, Deputy Corporation Counsel for the County of Maui, inquired if a staff member from the health clinic would like to provide a presentation at next month's meeting. Commissioner Courson questioned whether this particular item is an area that the Commission has oversight, and Commissioner Courson recommended the community member discuss this item with Corporation Counsel. Ms. Oana shared with the community member that she would be happy to discuss her concern at the conclusion of the meeting to identify whether the Commission can address this concern.</p>	
<p>New Business</p>	<p>a. Discussion with Councilmember Alika Atay regarding closed captioning concerns on Akaku and employment opportunities for persons with disabilities (pending availability of Councilmember Atay).</p> <p>Councilmember Atay introduced himself to the Commission on Persons with Disabilities, and he notified the Commission that he recommended an inclusion in the County's budget to fund closed captioning on Akaku. According to Akaku's website, their three cable television access channels serve more than 53,000 Spectrum Cable homes on Maui, Molokai and Lanai. In addition, Akaku streams "live" and "Video on Demand" (VOD) content online through the dev.akaku.org website.</p> <p>Councilmember Atay shared that the County Council did not include funding for the proposed item. Since the funding has not been included in the County's budget, Councilmember Atay requested the Commission to contact the Mayor's Office and the County Council regarding the closed captioning concerns. Councilmember Atay informed the Commission that he sought an increase in the budget for all agencies, but the County Council was unable to agree on the requested proposals.</p>	



# MAUI COUNTY COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

CAMERON CENTER • 95 MAHALANI STREET, ROOM 20 • WAILUKU, HI 96793 • PHONE (808) 270-7755 • FAX (808) 270-7935

Commissioner West inquired the estimated cost for closed captioning service on Akaku, and Councilmember Atay responded that \$25,000 is the estimated cost.

Ms. Oana notified Councilmember Atay that the Commission shared their recommendation with the Mayor's Office a few years ago to fund closed captioning on Akaku. During a recent conversation with the County Council, it was brought to Ms. Oana's attention that the County Council was unaware of the Commission's request and recommendation from a few years ago.

Ms. Oana encouraged the Commission to consider advocating for closed captioning service on Akaku during next year's budget hearings. Since the final budget is not finalized until June 2018, Councilmember Atay suggested to the Commission that it would not hurt to request a re-insertion into this year's budget to include funding for closed captioning services on Akaku. In the event the funding is not included for the upcoming budget, Councilmember Atay informed the Commission that he would work to include this measure in next year's budget.

Ms. Roxanne Kehus, representing the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, shared with the Commission that she would contact community members to testify in favor of closed captioning services on Akaku. Ms. Kehus also shared that she spoke with a member of the public, Mr. Oliver Caberto, regarding the proposed changes with Maui's paratransit services. Since the topic of paratransit services was not included on May's agenda, Chair Souza informed Ms. Kehus that this conversation would need to take place at a future meeting.

Regarding employment opportunities for persons with disabilities, Councilmember Atay shared that individuals with disabilities should continue to advocate for employment opportunities.

Regarding the closed captioning concern, Ms. Oana offered a suggestion to the Commission to recommend via letter to the Mayor's Office and County Council to



# MAUI COUNTY COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

CAMERON CENTER • 95 MAHALANI STREET, ROOM 20 • WAILUKU, HI 96793 • PHONE (808) 270-7755 • FAX (808) 270-7935

	<p>include program funding for closed captioning on Akaku. Ms. Oana also recommended that the Commission authorize one or two Commissioners to attend the final Budget Committee and County Council meetings in June to provide testimony to the County Council in support of funding close captioning of county meetings on Akaku.</p> <p>Chair Souza inquired if Commissioner West could write a recommendation letter, but she informed Chair Souza that she is in the process of drafting an invitation letter to the Section 8 HUD office. Commissioner Courson recommended Commissioner Kapoi to complete the recommendation letter. Commissioner Kapoi agreed to draft the recommendation letter and attend and testify at the final Budget Committee and County Council meetings in June.</p> <p>b. Discussion with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regarding Section 8 Housing and persons with disabilities (pending availability of HUD).</p> <p>Commissioner West communicated that she invited Ms. Gail Rumbaoa from the Section 8 HUD Office, but Ms. Rumbaoa was unavailable for May's meeting. Commissioner West informed the Commission that Ms. Rumbaoa would be available in July or August to discuss a specific topic that the Commission would like to address.</p> <p>c. Presentation from the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation regarding employment opportunities for persons with disabilities (pending availability of presenter).</p> <p>Ms. Shauna Tanner, representing the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), informed the Commission that the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation seeks to assist individuals with disabilities to obtain meaningful employment. In addition explaining a brief background to the Department of Vocational</p>	<p>Commissioner Courson moved to nominate Commissioner Kapoi to draft the budget recommendation letter and attend the Budget Committee and County Council meetings in June to testify on behalf of the Commission in support of the funding of closed captioning of county meetings on Akaku; Commissioner Sanches seconded. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Chair Souza expressed his intention for this item to remain on June's agenda for further discussion and a tentative presentation from Section 8 HUD in June or July 2018.</p>
--	--	---



# MAUI COUNTY COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

CAMERON CENTER • 95 MAHALANI STREET, ROOM 20 • WAILUKU, HI 96793 • PHONE (808) 270-7755 • FAX (808) 270-7935

Rehabilitation, Ms. Tanner provided further information about the “Order of Selection.”

In October 2017, a new process was implemented at the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation. According to Ms. Tanner, the “Order of Selection” is a systematic way to serve eligible individuals when the state vocational rehabilitation program is unable to serve all eligible individuals who have applied for services. According to federal law, individuals with the most significant disability are provided first priority and served first under this process.

Ms. Tanner shared that the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation works in partnership with the Department of Education, Department of Health, Department of Labor, and community based providers. Due to funding and the “Order of Selection,” the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation seeks ways to share funding to benefit all of their clients.

Ms. Kehus informed the Commission that the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation and the Department of Labor works with the County of Maui and other government offices with the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). Ms. Kehus requested the Commission to promote this program with the County. Ms. Tanner shared with the Commission that the response rate was not very high from the County agencies who were offered the ability to participate with the program.

Ms. Tanner gave further background about the Summer Youth Employment Program. According to Ms. Tanner, the program targets students aged 16-24 with the intention of providing the participants the opportunity to obtain valuable work experience, which helps to build good work habits and skills. Ms. Tanner notified the Commission that the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation and the Department of Labor are still seeking partner agencies at the County level.



# MAUI COUNTY COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

CAMERON CENTER • 95 MAHALANI STREET, ROOM 20 • WAILUKU, HI 96793 • PHONE (808) 270-7755 • FAX (808) 270-7935

	<p>Mr. Ralph Thomas, Equal Employment Opportunity Specialist for the County of Maui, inquired if participants in the Summer Youth Employment Program are accompanied with a job coach. Ms. Tanner responded that a job coach may be present with a participant in the program, but it is not the case with all participants. Ms. Tanner further shared that each participant in the program is matched based on his or her criteria and/or job skills. Ms. Kehus expressed that the programs can help to foster social benefits for the participants.</p> <p>Commissioner West inquired if there a shortage of workers for the program, and Ms. Tanner responded that there is not a shortage of workers; rather there is a shortage of County and State work sites for job placement. Ms. Tanner further explained that the County and State agencies do not incur any employment costs related to the program because all costs are covered by the Department of Labor.</p> <p>Ms. Oana suggested to the Commission that they might want to share the information regarding the shortage of participating agencies with the Mayor’s Office, as the Mayor may wish to notify the County Departments and Division heads of the Summer Youth Employment Program opportunity.</p> <p>d. Upcoming Events  Adaptive Sports &amp; Ocean Accessibility on Maui  Community Talk Story, May 3, 2018; 5:00 PM Community Talk Story at Adventure Sports Maui</p> <p>Pacific Media Group Job Fair  Saturday, May 19, 2018 from 10 AM to 2 PM at the Queen Kaahumanu Center</p> <p>Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program- Re-Opening of the Housing Choice Voucher Program Wait List  May 14, 2018- May 28, 2018</p>	<p>Chair Souza requested Commissioner Sanches to prepare a notification letter to the Mayor’s Office regarding the Summer Youth Program and the participating agency shortage.</p>
--	---	--



# MAUI COUNTY COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

CAMERON CENTER • 95 MAHALANI STREET, ROOM 20 • WAILUKU, HI 96793 • PHONE (808) 270-7755 • FAX (808) 270-7935

Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Presentation from Ms. Amy Gonzalez regarding the Hire Abilities Hawaii Disability Employment Initiative (DEI) (pending availability of presenter). Deferred as presenter was not available.</li> <li>b. Presentation from the Blue Zones Project (pending availability of presenter). Deferred as presenter was not available.</li> </ul>	
Agenda Items for Future Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Opportunities for children with parents with disabilities (Commissioners Castillo and Villanueva) (June 2018, tentative)</li> <li>b. Discussion to identify a presentation topic regarding Section 8 Housing and persons with disabilities (June 2018)</li> <li>c. Discussion regarding paratransit services and the County of Maui budget (June 2018)</li> <li>d. PowerPoint Presentation from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation regarding employment opportunities for persons with disabilities (July 2018, tentative and pending availability of presenter)</li> <li>e. Presentation from the Housing Choice Voucher Section 8 Program regarding the outcome of June's discussion (July or August 2018, pending availability of presenter)</li> <li>f. Presentation from Makana 'O Ka Ola Health &amp; Wellness Clinic regarding the inability to obtain durable medical equipment due to non-participating Medicare providers on Maui (pending Corporation Counsel's determination of the Commission's authority with this subject matter and availability of presenter)</li> </ul>	
Next Date	June 14, 2018 at 12:30 PM at the J. Walter Cameron Center, 95 Mahalani St., Wailuku, HI.	
Motion to Adjourn	1:24 PM	Commissioner Souza moved to close the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.