

Report to the Twenty-Fourth Legislature
State of Hawaii
2008

PURSUANT TO ACT 213 (H.B. NO. 500, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1), PART 3, SECTION 64,
REQUESTING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING TO COORDINATE FAMILY
CAREGIVER SUPPORT SERVICES

PREPARED BY:

State of Hawaii
Department of Health
Executive Office on Aging
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INTRODUCTION

Act 213 (2007), Part 3, Section 64 appropriates \$80,000 for each year of the fiscal biennium 2007-2009 to the Department of Health, Executive Office on Aging (EOA) to coordinate family caregiver support services. This Act also specifies that the family caregiver support services program shall develop strategies to assist these individuals with the available support services, provided that the strategies include, but not be limited to, (1) assessing and identifying caregiver services needed by these individuals referred to the program, (2) referring these individuals to resources at the appropriate level of care needed, and (3) creating public awareness by building community networks and providing information to individuals requiring services. Act 213 also requires EOA to prepare a detailed report to account for all of its activities, including outcome measures, and to submit this report to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the 2008 and 2009 Regular Sessions.

EOA executed a one-year contract with the University of Hawaii Center on Aging Research and Education (CARE) on February 1, 2007 to be the statewide coordinator of the Caregiver's Resource Initiative (CRI) Project. The goal of the CRI Project is to build a comprehensive support system for family caregivers, including support for persons caring for older adults as well as grandparents raising grandchildren. The CRI Project is expected to end on January 30, 2008. EOA plans to use the funds allocated in Act 213, which is an appropriation of \$80,000 for fiscal year 2007-2008, to continue the CRI Project by extending the contract with CARE for another year with an execution date of February 1, 2008. EOA is not in a position to report directly on the specifications set forth by Act 213 because the new contract has not yet been implemented; however, many of the objectives of the current CRI Project indirectly addresses the provisions of Act 213. Therefore, this report will summarize the progress of the current CRI Project to demonstrate how the CRI Project has coordinated caregiver support services and policies statewide.

This report summarizes the activities of the current CRI Project. This report begins by describing the CRI Project's role with and projects of the Hawaii Caregiver Coalition, and then summarizes how the CRI Project has implemented the Brookdale Foundation's Relative as Parents Program. Next, this report highlights the current research initiatives that the CRI Project is coordinating. Finally, the responsibilities of the CRI Project in the development of the Aging and Disability Resource Centers are described.

Hawaii Caregiver Coalition

The Hawaii Caregiver Coalition (HCC) was formed to develop new partnerships at local and state levels to advance a coordinated approach to address the needs of Hawaii's family caregivers. As caregiving touches everyone, the mission of the Hawaii Caregiver Coalition is to improve the quality of life of those who give and receive care by increasing community awareness of caregiver issues through continuing advocacy, education, and outreach. There are over 40 organizations statewide who are members of the HCC. EOA is directly involved with the HCC's growth and sustainability by assigning CRI Project personnel to convene the HCC and to work on the HCC's projects.

In January 2007, the HCC held its Annual Statewide Meeting and 3rd Annual Holo Imua Kakou (Moving Forward Together) reception. In March 2007, the HCC organized the 1st Annual Caregiver's Day at the Capitol. The HCC convened this celebration at the Hawaii State Capitol to give Legislators the opportunity to learn more about the issues involved in caregiving and about the legislative tools, which, if enacted, would help families meet their responsibilities. The event also gave service providers an opportunity to showcase, for Legislators and the public, the services and products that they provide. The day consisted of over 40 exhibits by organizations involved in aging and caregiving services, the unveiling of the new "Aging Issues 2007" booklet for Legislators and the public, scheduled visits with Legislators to brief them on aging and caregiving issues, a luncheon with a short, informative program, an 8-page insert in the Honolulu Star-Bulletin, and staff support at KHON2's Action Line to answer aging and caregiver related questions.

In 2007, the HCC also developed the Family Caregiver's Resource Kit for Businesses (Kit). The Kit was meant to help businesses whose employees are caring for elders and grandchildren by providing information that can help ease the burden of care and save them time by putting quality information at their fingertips. Businesses are encouraged to use this Kit to start their own caregiver resource center in the workplace. The Kit can be kept intact or individual items can be ordered in quantity for distribution to employees.

Also during the calendar year, the HCC formed strong partnerships with local television stations by serving on the advisory boards for KHON2's Elderhood Project and KGMB's Genius of Aging. The partnerships have allowed the HCC to recommend content for its news stories, to find older adults and their families to be interviewed and taped, and to strategically plan for their future projects. The HCC also co-sponsored with KHON2's Elderhood Project the 1st Annual Family Caregiver Awards Program. The goal of this awards program is to improve the quality of life of family caregivers by recognizing and supporting the work of community organizations that support family caregivers.

To sustain its work, the HCC has applied for and has been awarded \$5,000 from the Hawaii Community Foundation's Mo Bettah Together grant and \$5,000 from the National Alliance for Caregiving. The Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society and Comfort, Security, and Independence, Inc. have served as the HCC's fiscal agents.

Brookdale Foundation's Relative as Parents Program

EOA is the recipient of the Brookdale Foundation's Relative as Parents Program and was awarded \$10,000 to encourage and promote the creation and expansion of services for grandparents and other relatives who have taken on the responsibility of surrogate parenting when the biological parents are unable to do so. The CRI Project is responsible for implementing this grant.

To date, EOA has contracted with the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii – Maui Branch to develop the Kincare Adoption Outreach Project to conduct legal outreach and education to grandparents and other relative caregivers on the island of Molokai. EOA has also contracted with the Neighborhood Place of Wailuku to establish the Hi'i Na Kupuna Grandparent Support Group. Finally, EOA contracted with Child and Family Services to

expand its existing Grandparent Support Group on Kauai to both the Eastern and Western sides of the island.

In partnership with community stakeholders such as Na Tutu and the Queen Liliuokalani Children's Center, the CRI Project successfully advocated that the issue of grandparents raising grandchildren be statutorily added to the scope of work of the Joint Legislative Committee on Family Caregiving, thereby raising awareness of this issue as well as prioritizing kinship caregiving as a policy matter.

Finally, the CRI Project helped plan and promote conferences for kupuna raising children on Kauai and Waianae, and assisted with the needs assessment and conference evaluation.

Research

The Joint Legislative Committee on Family Caregiving (JLCFC) was established by Act 285 (2006) and was extended for another year by Act 204 (2007). The JLCFC envisions a comprehensive and sustainable, community-based family caregiver support system that includes the following components: a coordinated referral and case management service; centralization of available services; volunteers; education and training; and financial assistance.

To assist the JLCFC in its efforts, the CRI Project is coordinating the data collection and drafting of the following substantive research reports:

- **Family Caregiver Needs Assessment.** A random dialing statewide telephone survey will be conducted to evaluate, among other things, the extent of the unmet caregiving needs of persons age 60 and older with physical or cognitive disabilities, the size of the current family caregiver population, the percentage of care recipients' needs being met by paid versus unpaid caregivers, and the impact of caregiving on family caregiver's employment and income.
- **Eldercare Survey of Hawaii's Employers.** A random sample of the members of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, the Hawaii Business Roundtable, Small Business Hawaii, and the Hawaii Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations will be surveyed to determine the extent of eldercare policies and benefits in the workplace, the effect of eldercare on workers, the views of eldercare as an employer issues, and why eldercare policies and benefits are offered or not offered. These findings will help shape organizational and public policies, strengthen the delivery of services, and ultimately support Hawaii's employed caregivers. Employers will also benefit by understanding how company policies may affect retention of productive and valuable employees who are also caregivers.
- **Cash and Counseling.** Cash and Counseling is a consumer-directed program with essentially two basic components. First, the "Cash" portion is the method through which recipients are able to pay for the services or products that they choose to receive. "Counseling" refers to the services provided by an agency where a case manager collaborates with the recipient to construct a needs assessment and

budget in order to make a determination about services and/or products. Cash and Counseling programs in other states will be researched, including the examination of models that include individuals receiving Medicaid personal care services or home- and community-based services, as well as individuals who are not Medicaid recipients. Based on the results of the research and the policy direction of the JLCFC, EOA and the University of Hawaii School of Social Work are prepared to develop a plan to implement a Cash and Counseling program in Hawaii to serve the needs of residents who are not Medicaid recipients, and to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of implementing such a proposal.

- **Cost-benefit Analysis of a Family Caregiver Refundable Tax Credit.** A cost-benefit analysis of a \$1,000, \$750, and \$500 family caregiver refundable tax credit as proposed in S.B. No. 1199, S.D. 2 (2007) will be conducted.
- **Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Needs Assessment.** A statewide survey with organizations working with grandparents raising grandchildren, including advocacy groups, will be conducted to identify, among other things, services that are needed to better serve grandparents raising grandchildren. Focus groups and surveys with grandparents raising grandchildren will also be conducted statewide to determine their service needs. Finally, existing data sets from the Hawaii Health Survey, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey, the 2000 U.S. Census, and Maui, Kauai, and Waianae needs assessments will be analyzed to describe the demographic characteristics and service needs of grandparents raising grandchildren in Hawaii.
- **Respite Inventory.** Respite services are primarily to provide substitute support for care recipients in order to provide a period of relief or rest for the caregiver. An inventory of respite services in Hawaii that are supported by federal, state, and county funds, including a description of each program and the amount and source of funding, will be conducted.

Aging and Disability Resource Center

The Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) are being developed as a “one-stop shop” at the community level to help people make informed decisions about their service and support options, and to serve as the single entry point into the long-term care services and support system. EOA is working with the Area Agencies on Aging, the disability community, other government entities, and key community stakeholders to better coordinate and/or redesign their existing systems of information, assistance, and access. ADRC will provide information and assistance to both public and private paying individuals, and serve as an entry point for publicly administered long-term care programs, including those funded under Medicaid, the Older Americans Act, and other long-term care state programs.

The CRI Project integrates family caregiver support with the ADRC by providing policy guidance and participation in the development and implementation of the ADRC services, including those directed to family caregivers, and assisting EOA with the drafting

of ADRC grant reports that are required by the U.S. Administration of Aging, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Summary

It is premature to report directly on the specifications set forth by Act 213 because the new contract with CARE to extend the CRI Project has not yet been implemented. However, many of the objectives of the current CRI Project indirectly addresses the provisions of Act 213. Therefore, this report has summarized the progress of the current CRI Project to demonstrate how the CRI Project has coordinated caregiver support services and policies statewide.

This report began by describing the CRI Project's role with and projects of the Hawaii Caregiver Coalition, and then summarized how the CRI Project has implemented the Brookdale Foundation's Relative as Parents Program. Next, this report highlighted the current research initiatives that the CRI Project is coordinating. Finally, the responsibilities of the CRI Project in the development of the Aging and Disability Resource Centers were described.

On February 1, 2008, the CRI Project will be extended to continue its work and will include additional provisions set forth by Act 213.