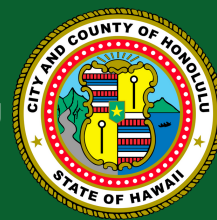




CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU



Mayor's Highlights

October 2022



THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHTS:

- CORE and HOME Programs
- Honolulu's First Responders
- Honolulu Zoo Receives Reaccreditation
- City Wins Award for One Water Initiative
- Employee and Manager of the Year Awards

HELPING OUR HOMELESS NEIGHBORS

Homelessness is a crisis in Hawai'i and across the country. In many instances, homelessness is a crisis convergence of health care issues and lack of available affordable housing.

In recognition of this, the City's CORE (Crisis Outreach Response Engagement) program was established to provide support to our homeless neighbors on O'ahu. CORE is based in Chinatown but responds to calls from 'Ewa Beach to Hawai'i Kai. The CORE team responds to calls for assistance and works to create relationships and build trust with homeless individuals with the goal of encouraging them to accept shelter, medical care, and other assistance.

By providing support to homeless individuals, the CORE program reduces the need for emergency police and medical calls, allowing those resources to be used where they are needed most. To date, Community Health Workers (CHWs) and EMTs have responded to 310 individuals in non-emergent situations and the team has been able to redirect the need to contact emergency services for approximately 150 individuals.

For many homeless individuals, relatively minor injuries can become major health problems due to a lack of care. To meet this need, the City is also collaborating with the UH John A. Burns School of Medicine to expand the Hawai'i Homeless and Medical Outreach Education (HOME) Project. Under the leadership of Dr. Jill Omori, HOME provides student-run free clinics, where medical students, pre-medical students, and other volunteers manage most of the duties of running the clinics under the direction and supervision of faculty physicians from the medical school and volunteer physicians from the community.

Commitment to the homeless and Chinatown remains a key focus of the Blangiardi administration. To better provide services, the City is colocating CORE and HOME in a City-owned space. Additionally, HomeAid Hawai'i is assisting in building out additional space for even more wrap around services. More about this collaboration will be announced later this fall. To learn more about these programs, visit oneoahu.org/newsletter/#Oct2022.

Mayor's Message: A few words from Rick Blangiardi

“If you believe the street is not a home...for anyone young or old?

If you believe that being homeless is not a crime?

If you find it completely unacceptable to see our brothers, sisters and our children suffering in our midst... in doorways, on our sidewalks, in make-shift tents...many in desperate need for medical and psychiatric treatment for various addictions and diseases...

If you believe we share a moral responsibility to try and help these people, many of whom cannot seem to help themselves...then you can understand the heart and soul of our CORE program!



Honolulu's First Responders

Director Spotlight: Emergency Services Department Director Dr. Jim Ireland

Dr. Ireland enlisted in the army reserves right after high school as a combat medic and served with the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry at Fort Derussy in Waikiki before joining the City and County of Honolulu Ambulance Division as an Emergency Medical Technician in the early 1990s. As a physician, he returned to Hawai'i after completing a fellowship at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota in 2005 and has worked in EMS, private practice and as an Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine at the John A. Burns School of Medicine since that time. Appointed Director of Emergency Services for the City and County in March 2021, he has managed EMS, Ocean Safety, Health Services and the newly formed CORE program.



"We have such a great team in our Department that save lives on a daily basis--it is humbling to be able to work with such a talented and dedicated group of men and women."

Honolulu Fire and Police Department Updates

From our newest first responders to seasoned career professionals, the City honors the men and women who serve. Honolulu's first responders are dedicated, selfless public servants whose commitment to protecting our community is unmatched. In September, the City welcomed new police recruits and celebrated the promotion of 11 battalion chiefs.

HPD 203rd Recruit Class

After six months of intense academic work and physical fitness training, members of the 203rd Police Recruit Class will soon join the ranks of HPD. A graduation ceremony was held on September 16. The class of 13 recruits comes from diverse backgrounds including a former flight attendant, stay-at-home mother, roofer, and military service member. The new officers will be assigned to the Field Training and Evaluation



Program, where they will partner with current officers to gain experience in the field.



HFD Battalion Chief Promotions

On September 14, Fire Chief Hao announced the promotions of 11 Fire Captains to the rank of Battalion Chief (BC) and recognized them at an official ceremony. All HFD ceremonies were placed on hold during the COVID-19 pandemic making this a long-awaited event for all involved. BCs are responsible for a battalion's or branch's day-to-day operations and performing administrative and managerial duties. As an Incident Commander, a BC is in charge of managing emergency resources and personnel at large-scale incidents. These 11 BCs have a combined total of 247 years of experience within the HFD.

HONOLULU ZOO RECEIVES REACCREDITATION

The Honolulu Zoo announced in September that the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) Commission completed its mid-cycle review and voted to continue the zoo's accreditation. AZA accreditation requires zoos and aquariums to maintain or exceed standards, updated annually, in categories which include animal care and welfare, veterinary programs, conservation, financial stability, education, and safety. The AZA inspection team report mentioned the Honolulu Zoo's "conservation programs are extensive and broad in scope," noted that the zoo nurtures "plants for use as natural animal food and enrichment for many species, especially birds and reptiles," and that the native "growing snail and native butterfly propagation programs are particularly outstanding."

"We are very pleased with the AZA's announcement," said Linda Santos, zoo director. "Retaining accreditation will allow us to continue to fulfill our mission by enhancing conservation education, breeding programs, research, and modernization efforts, which will help to improve the overall guest experience for our visitors."

The Honolulu Zoo is home to many unique and endangered animals from Sumatran tigers to the Zoo's current Mayor, Squirt the Giraffe. Learn more about the zoo and its many animals and activities at honolulu zoo.org.



CITY WINS AWARD FOR ONE WATER INITIATIVE



The City's One Water Initiative was awarded the US Water Prize 2022 for Outstanding Public Sector Organization by the US Water Alliance. Winners were selected from a pool of more than 160 nominations and applications. The awards celebration took place September 13 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin as part of the One Water Summit 2022.

The US Water Prize recognizes the individuals and organizations that are driving innovation in the water sector and imagining new possibilities in water. [The winners] were selected for their work to forward sustainable, integrated, and inclusive solutions to our nation's water challenges.

-US Water Alliance

One Water is a strategy that integrates the management of stormwater, wastewater, groundwater, sea water, freshwater, graywater, and recycled water in order to create resource and financial efficiencies to help the City address climate change impacts and preserve water resources for future generations.

The One Water Panel is a collaboration between eight City departments: the Board of Water Supply, the Departments of Environmental Services, Facility Maintenance, Parks and Recreation, Transportation Services, Design and Construction, Planning and Permitting, and the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resilience. The Department of Budget and Fiscal Services also participates.

Learn more at resilientoahu.org/onewater.

October is National Bullying Prevention Month

VISIT STOPBULLYING.GOV TO LEARN MORE



Employee of the Year

JAMES "KIMO" CULLEN JR.
OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER



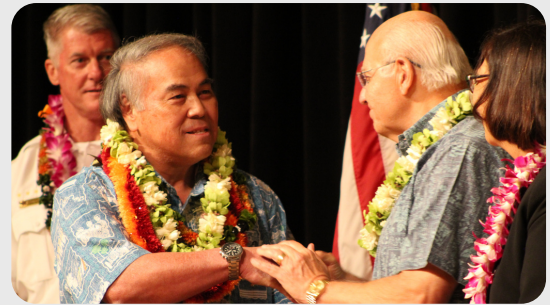
James (Kimo) Cullen Jr., has 37 years of experience as an autopsy technician adding up to assistance in over 20,000 examinations. He has been deployed to natural and man-made disasters through Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team and his priority is always ensuring that loved ones are returned to their family.

Manager of the Year

ERWIN KAWATA
BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

Over his 40-year BWS career, Erwin has acquired exceptional water quality knowledge and experience. He successfully manages the employees who ensure the safety of O'ahu's drinking water and continues to develop BWS's careful response to the Navy's Red Hill fuel leaks.

"We're proud of Erwin," said BWS Manager and Chief Engineer Ernest Lau.



"He is truly a champion of safe drinking water and highly regarded by his staff, peers, and the public."

Report an Issue in Your Community

You can report anything from a pothole to graffiti to a parking violation using the City's 311 app or website. Visit your phone's app store or honoluluhi.citysourced.com to learn more!

Get Emergency Notifications and City Services Updates

HNL.info is a one stop site for City services from emergency alerts to registering for City activities. Visit the website or download the app today!

Get in touch

THE CITY WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

MAYOR'S OFFICE	HONOLULU.GOV/MAYOR	(808)768-4141
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	HONOLULU.GOV/ENV	(808)768-3486
PARKS DEPARTMENT	HONOLULU.GOV/PARKS	(808)768-3003
COVID-19 INFORMATION	ONEOAHU.ORG	(808)768-2489
SATELLITE CITY HALLS	HONOLULU.GOV/CSD	(808)768-4325
NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION	HONOLULU.GOV/NCO	(808)768-3710
GOLF COURSE & ZOO INFORMATION	HONOLULU.GOV/DES	(808)768-5400

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