

March 25, 2023

A Snapshot of Facilities for the Homeless on Oahu by Location

This report provides an overview of homeless facilities on Oahu that meet essential needs - emergency shelters, medical clinics, meal stations and hygiene centers. The report includes basic information on each facility, and compares the number of facilities by location.

The location chart (pg.2) shows that **the Chinatown/Iwilei area has a far greater percentage of homeless facilities than any other area on the island (46% of the total facilities).** This is perhaps no surprise to some, given Chinatown's decades long homeless crisis.

Since the mid-1980's, public and private entities have chosen to locate many facilities for homeless people in Chinatown and in Iwilei, a short walk to Chinatown. Over time, given the essential nature of the resources provided, the Chinatown/Iwilei area has become a "hub" for the unsheltered and for the many referring agents island-wide in search of resources for the homeless they encounter (e.g., HPD, social service agencies and churches).

The disproportionate concentration of homeless facilities in the Chinatown/Iwilei area has contributed to the high number of unsheltered homeless people on its streets, 65% of whom report one or more of the following disabling conditions: mental health illness, substance use problem, and/or a physical, developmental or other disability.¹ **Also, for the last twelve years, the Point in Time Count on Oahu has reported that, of Oahu's seven Regions, Region 1 (which includes the Chinatown/Iwilei area) has had the highest percent of unsheltered people on Oahu.**¹

Over the years, various steps have been taken to address the impacts of homelessness in Chinatown, including increased police surveillance, crime prevention programs, improved street lighting, frequent street sanitation, etc. Yet the crisis persists. Why? It is because these measures have addressed the symptoms of Chinatown's crisis and not the cause. **A root cause of Chinatown's Homeless Crisis is the unacceptable concentration of homeless facilities in or near to Chinatown, a densely populated neighborhood of less than one square mile.**

The environmental, social and economic impacts of homelessness have devastated Chinatown. **Any effort to revitalize Chinatown will inevitably fail if it does not include prohibiting additional homeless facilities in the area, and reducing the volume of those served at existing facilities by expanding their services to additional sites on Oahu.**

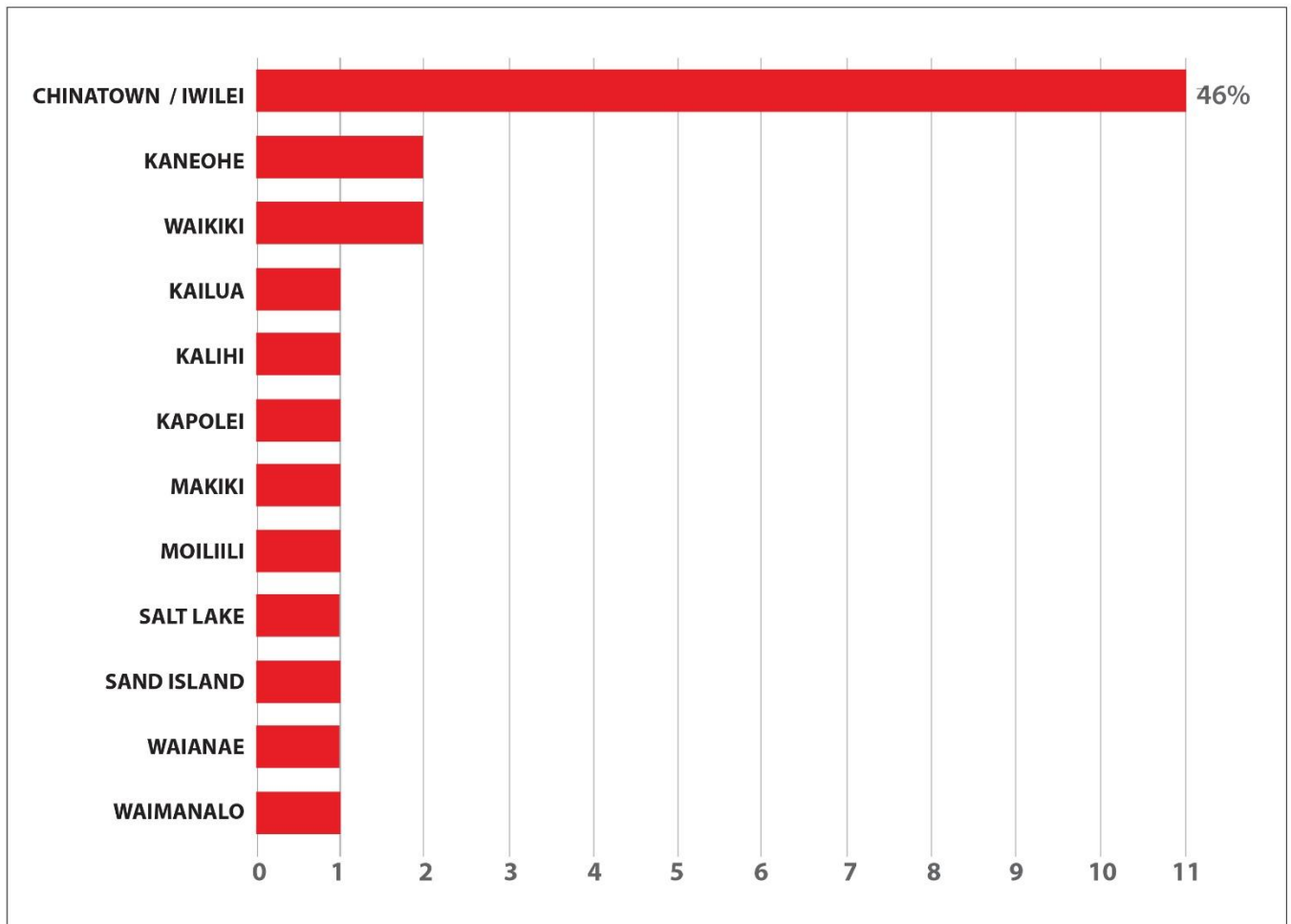
The goal to support, treat and permanently house our fellow citizens in need should remain a top priority, however it is critical that the responsibility be shared more equitably island-wide so that individual communities, such as Chinatown, are not severely impacted.

Christine Trecker

¹ 2022 POINT IN TIME COUNT COMPREHENSIVE REPORT Partners in Care Oahu Continuum of Care 2022+PIT+Count+Report+7.6.22.pdf Page 21 & 14

Number of Oahu Homeless Facilities by Location

(Emergency Shelters, Medical Clinics, Meal Stations and Hygiene Centers)



NOTES

1. The Chinatown and Iwilei areas are linked due to their close proximity (a 10-minute walk apart).
2. The emergency shelters included in this report are listed on the websites of the State Office of Homelessness and Housing Solutions and Partners in Care.
3. The above chart does not include small emergency shelter programs that are located in houses or churches in multiple locations. Also, the chart does not include the HONU mobile shelter that moves from one area to another every 90 days, nor medical outreach programs and mobile hygiene trucks that are not facility-based and serve many locations on Oahu.

There are no homeless facilities in the following locations:

Aiea, Aina Haina, Ewa Beach, Halawa, Haleiwa, Hauula, Hawaii Kai, Kaaawa, Kahaluu, Kahuku, Kaimuki, Kunia, Laie, Makaha, Makakilo, Manoa, Mililani, Nanakuli, Nuuanu, Pearl City, Pupukeya, Wahiawa, Waialae-Kahala, Waimalu, Waialua, Waikele, Waipio and Waipahu.

Facilities for the Homeless on Oahu

(Emergency Shelters, Medical Clinics, Meal Stations and Hygiene Centers)

Chinatown/Iwilei

1. **Sumner Shelter**
A men's shelter for up to 140 men. (IHS)
2. **Kaaahi Women & Family Shelter**
A shelter for women and/or families for up to 66 single women and 100 family members. (IHS)
3. **Safe Haven**
An outpatient psychiatric/medical clinic and a residential facility for up to 25 people for the homeless with severe mental illness. (Mental Health Kokua).
4. **KPHC Punawai Clinic**
A full-service medical clinic and medical respite program for the homeless (operated by the Kalihi-Palama Health Center)
5. **Kaaahi Street Clinic** A medical clinic for guests staying at the Kaaahi shelter for women and families and for others in need of services. (IHS/Kalihi-Palama Health Center)
6. **CORE Medical Clinic**
A medical clinic operated by CORE (Crisis Outreach Response and Engagement program) providing service to the homeless in the Chinatown area and to those referred from 911 calls island-wide with non-emergency medical needs. (City Department of Emergency Services)
7. **Homeless Outreach Clinic and Medical Education Clinic**
A free wound-care clinic (a collaboration between the city and medical students from the University of Hawaii's John A. Burns School of Medicine).
8. **Punawai Rest Stop**
A hygiene center providing free restrooms, showers and laundry facilities for homeless men, women and children. (Mental Health Kokua)
9. **IHS Meal Program**
A 3 meals/day program for those staying in Iwilei emergency shelters and to other homeless or needy individuals in the area. On average 1,000 meals provided per day.
10. **Imi Ola Piha Triage Center**
A 24-hour medical detox center for homeless people with mental illness, substance abuse, and other urgent health conditions. (IHS)
11. **Affordable Housing & Homeless Resource Center (not yet open)**
A two-story center that includes a large commercial kitchen, dining room and drop-in center for the homeless. (IHS)

Kaneohe

1. **The Shelter**
A program that provides dome shelters for up to 60 homeless single moms and children. (First Assembly of God church)
2. ***Kaneohe Joint Outreach Center***
A medical clinic providing a range of primary care services 4 hours/day three days a week. (H4 Hawaii Homeless Healthcare Hui)

Waikiki

1. **Youth Outreach (YO)**
A drop-in center for homeless youth that provides medical services and food. (Waikiki Health)
2. **St Augustine's Soup Kitchen**
A food service for those in need, 11:00am - noon 5 days a week. (St. Augustine's Church)

Kailua

RYSE Shelter

RYSE (Residential Youth Services & Empowerment) provides emergency shelter for up to 25 young people (18-24) and 5 minors (14-17). (RYSE non-profit organization)

Kalihi

Shelter of Wisdom

A faith-based emergency shelter for up to 20 men. (non-profit entity)

Kapolei

Onelauena Shelter

An emergency shelter for up to 63 families. (Kealahou West Oahu)

Makiki

Kulaokahua Emergency Shelter

A shelter for homeless individuals and couples aged 60 and older. Provides 30 units with space for up to 60 people. (Dynamic Healing Center)

Moiliili

Keauhou Shelter

An emergency shelter facility for up to 75 individuals and couples. (Waikiki Health)

Salt Lake

LCRS Program

LCRS (Licensed Crises Residential Services) is a short-term program (up to 2 weeks) for homeless adults who have a serious mental illness and are experiencing a crisis in managing their illness. (Adult Mental Health, Hawaii Dept of Health)

Sand Island

Hale Mauiola Housing Navigation Center

Provides temporary housing in 30 container units for up to 100 singles and couples. (IHS & C&C Honolulu)

Waianae

The Waianae Civic Center

An emergency shelter for up to 225 veterans and civilian families. (US Vets Hawaii)

Waimanalo

Waimanalo Shelter

An emergency shelter for 54 individuals and/or families with children. (Kahumana-Alternative Structures International)

* The listings above include emergency shelters versus transitional housing. Although both are considered temporary housing for the homeless, emergency shelters are defined as "a facility with the primary purpose of providing temporary shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness. Short-term overnight sleeping accommodations," while transitional housing is defined as "mid-term accommodations, designed to provide housing and supportive services to clients to facilitate movement to independent living within 24 months."

Partners in Care: <https://www.partnersincareoahu.org/definitions>