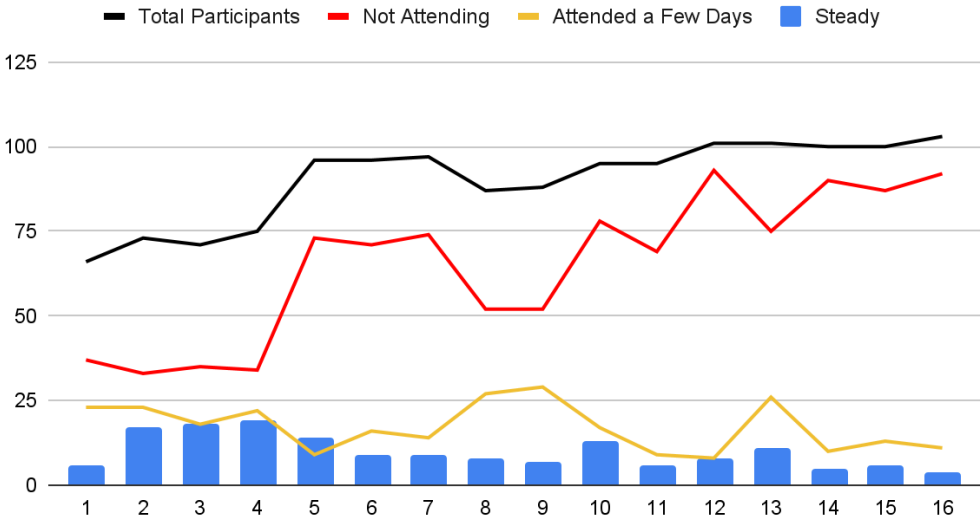


Restore, Reconnect, Revive

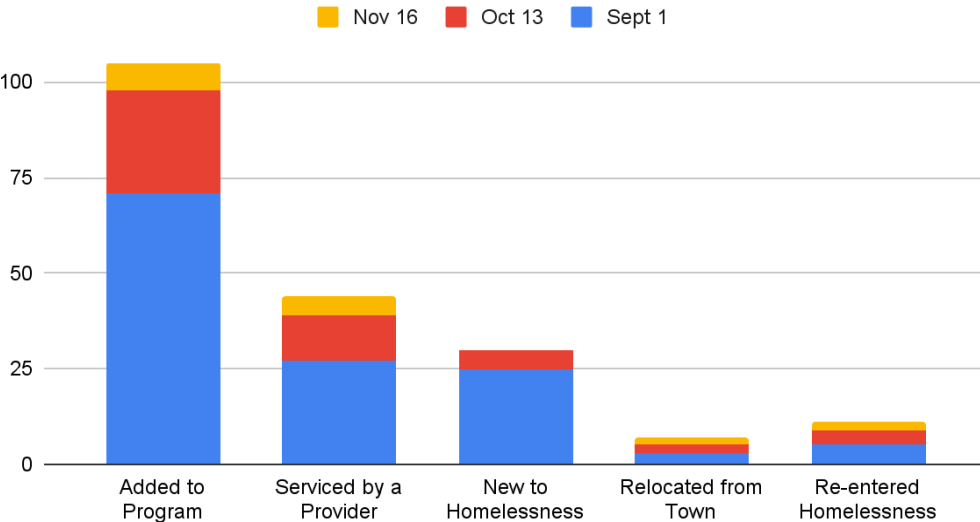
2022 RESULTS

We were able to help 7 people get into housing, 7 people enter a shelter, and 2 people return to live with family for a total of 16 people during the 16 weeks of outreach in a very small geographic area in Nanakuli. The program also helped 7 people enter the workforce, many individuals obtain documentation through the help of legal aid, and 4 people enroll in community court.

Program Participation



Participant Demographics



OVERVIEW

Our vision is to restore the area from Depots to Lualualei Naval Road as a public space, and beach area, with prohibited overnight camping; reconnect individuals with documents and have a clear message, a clear timeline, more accountability, and dedicated focused follow-up; and revive the outreach process by treating people with dignity, having conversations, knowing what drives them, what they dream about, increasing human interaction, and serving hot meals.

GOALS

1. All individuals will have a plan for progress with dedicated follow-ups
2. A dedicated push to return public spaces to the public from Depots to Ulehawa
3. Participants will be empowered with responsibility, a job, and incentives for progress

PROGRAM LOGISTICS AND SPECIFICS

R3 started as a pilot program on August 1, 2022 at the “City of Joy” located at 87-2070 Farrington Highway in the Nanakuli area. During the months of August and September, the program was run from Monday through Thursday from 5-6 pm every week aside from any holidays. The program concluded on November 16th and during the months of October and November the program was run on Monday and Wednesday from 5-6 pm at the Samoan Church of Hawaii located at 87-140 Kahau Street. The Honolulu Police Department did 56 intake forms from Depots to Ulehawa canal and invited every homeless individual on the beach to join the program and receive any housing or work assistance.

Every person that voluntarily joined the program had a folder with a cover sheet about the program, an intake form, a disclosure form, a checklist of items needed, and a provider sign-in sheet to track interaction and progress. At 5 pm, individuals arrived at the program location and were given their personalized folders before entering. Donations of hot meals were provided for participants as they worked with service providers to complete any documentation assistance, work assistance, or housing assistance. There were 4 specific leads assisting to execute the program: a check-in lead, a provider/volunteer lead, a participant lead, and a food lead.

The providers, organizations, and businesses participating in the program are A&G Steaks, Catholic Charities, the City of Joy, Clean & Sober Living (MOKA) DOE Homelessness, Department of Transportation State of Hawaii, Good Will, Hale Na'au Pono, HCAP, Ho'omau Ke Ola, Honolulu

Police Department, Staceylynn Eli - House of Representatives, Jes-us, Kahumana Farms, Kaiser, Kealahou West, Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, LMS Church of Hawaii, Maili Kai Ward, Nanaikapono Protestant Church, Paradise Chapel, Premier Benefits Consultants, Empower Hawaii Foundation, Project Vision Hawaii, Prosecutor's Office, Revive & Refresh, State Office of Homelessness, US Vets Waianae, Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive, Wai'anae Store, Waianae Wags, Work Hawaii - Job Readiness, Work Hawaii - Rent to Work, and Zippys.

Program Highlights

What makes this program different and necessary for progress

Community Relationships

R3 seeks to build personal relationships with community volunteers and program participants. The volunteers help to connect attending participants to the correct provider services and use the personalized folder to create a dedicated path towards a better living situation.

Geographic Prioritization

R3 was created to connect program participants to community members and community services in their own geographic areas. A specific geographic area is chosen for a duration of time to restore specific beach areas and work with participants as a community.

Consistent Collaboration

Every homeless situation is unique and different. There are many different services needed to progress into work or housing and R3 seeks to bring all necessary entities to the weekly dinner table. The consistent collaboration of assistance is really the key to progress.

Empowered Ownership

R3 is voluntary and individuals attending regularly have to take the initiative to show up at the program and need to do the work to complete the steps necessary. R3 offers incentives for progressing program participants such as mobile laundry services, enrollment into community court to convert citations into community services, dog food, bus passes, Wai'anae Store gift cards, and donated clothes and shoes.

Program Messaging

Unified messaging from all providers, agencies, and organizations is necessary

No Camping

Overnight Camping is not allowed in the area from Depots to Ulehawa Canal. Daytime camping is not allowed in this area; it is designated for picnics only. The law needs to be equally applied to all community members.

Trash Removal

Community members are responsible for their own trash and once a week trash removal services are coordinated and they can bring out trash, metal, and recyclables separately to the rock wall area. DO NOT say to anyone they can leave their stuff and someone else will clean it. You can say “Please take your things to a trash receptacle,” “Please dispose of items you do not want,” or “You can wait for the disposal that is coming on such and such a date.”

Hot Meals

Enrolled community members are responsible for getting to the hot meal gathering Monday through Thursday in the months of August and September and Monday and Wednesday in the months of October and November

Program Processes

The ability to restore public areas back to the public can only happen with regular enforcement

Enforcement

HPD will continue to give citations in the area as individuals are not allowed to camp overnight in the area. Individuals engaging in unlawful activities are also subject to (additional) citations and/or arrest by HPD.

Community Court

If individuals qualify for community court, they will be entered into the screening process and the public defender’s office and judge determine if citations can be dismissed or converted to community service. The individual is subject to termination from the community outreach court if there is no progress.

Success Stories

I will share a few stories of interactions that our team had with successful participants. The participants have been de-identified for confidentiality.

- One individual living on the beach who had a 2-year-old daughter and was pregnant with her second daughter joined the program right after being invited by HPD. She filled out all the necessary paperwork, worked with legal aid to get her documents, moved into Kealahou West Shelter, and had a successful pregnancy.
- One individual who was not living on the beach but stayed in her vehicle at a beach park wanted to join the program. She shared that after losing her job, she fell into a depression, lost her ID and just really wanted to talk to Legal Aid. We were able to connect her with the appropriate services and asked if she had any employment interests. She mentioned that she was a cook at Norwegian Cruise Lines. We encouraged her to put in an application at Wai'anae Store. She applied, was hired, and is currently in a managerial position.
- One individual had citations from her residency on Hawaii Island but previously worked at a grocery store there. We were able to connect her with the public defender's office and they are working to clear her record. She submitted an application to Wai'anae Store and was hired and hasn't missed a day of work. We were able to help her with a monthly bus pass and she has submitted an application to Rent-to-Work through the City Work Hawaii program.
- One family was living on the beach with a child in high school, a child in elementary, and a two-year-old. They were not steady participants in the program. But the children came every day on their own or with others to come and eat dinner. Ohana Ola was key in helping this family get into housing and the DOE homeless liaison visited them on the beach to help the kids transfer their school registration from Ewa Beach schools to Wai'anae schools.
- One individual came frequently to the program to partake in the meal and work on her steps toward progress. She had a father and mother in Nanakuli Valley that wanted her to come home but due to their status as foster parents, she could not come home without first entering a clean and sober program. She finally consented to enter a program. She cleaned her campsite area and she returned back to her family.
- One individual lived on the beach, had a mother in US Vets Shelter, desired to be with her mother, had an elementary-aged son that lived with the family, and she would pick him up and take him to school. She was enrolled in community court through R3, immediately finished her community service, and didn't want to live on the beach anymore for fear of

acquiring new citations and blemishing her newly cleaned record. She now lives off the beach and with family.

- One family had an 18-year son and an 11-year-old daughter who was living in a truck with them. After many visits and building relationships of trust, the daughter was enrolled in Nanaikapono with the help of the DOE homeless liaison. The son got a job at the Wai'anae store and the family did move into Ohana Ola
- One individual worked part-time at a nearby lu'au and lived out of her car. She was a very diligent participant and through a lot of coordination and help from Catholic Charities she was able to enter an apartment at Ulu Ke Kukui. She is still at risk of being homeless as she is not able to make her monthly studio payments. We are continuing to find options for her so she is able to remain housed.

Needed Policy Changes

- The VISPDAT is not a validated tool. Racial inequities in the VISPDAT are evident in the outreach scores and a new tool should be investigated that can better help and place homeless individuals.
- The system prioritizes working with the most vulnerable which means providers are constantly working in a state of triage. There need to be ways to work with all types of homeless in a geographic area and including the most vulnerable but not limited the most vulnerable.
- Individuals are being assisted instead of groups of people. People are more successful when they have a support system. If there are ways to work in groups there could be a different outcome.
- The coordinated entry system is not community-based. We need geographically close community members, churches, and businesses outside of the coordinated entry system to be part of the solution.
- Service contracts are too big and pull service providers in too many directions. The service areas should be smaller as the work is very laborious and complicated which is hard for just 2 outreach workers. Because of frequent interaction with providers and repeat homeless individuals there is sometimes a lack of belief that help will be effective.
- Housing Vouchers are too hard to get and only on certain days is the portal open. We also had places like Hale Wai Vista that had 60 openings for the past year and did not house any of our qualified applicants.
- Community Court can play a bigger role. Their caseload should prioritize homeless and possibly have providers at the table with the judge giving recommended steps to life changes.
- Extensive planning for RESTORING areas needs to be an interagency effort prior to a Stored Property Ordinance and needs to include a transformation of the area.