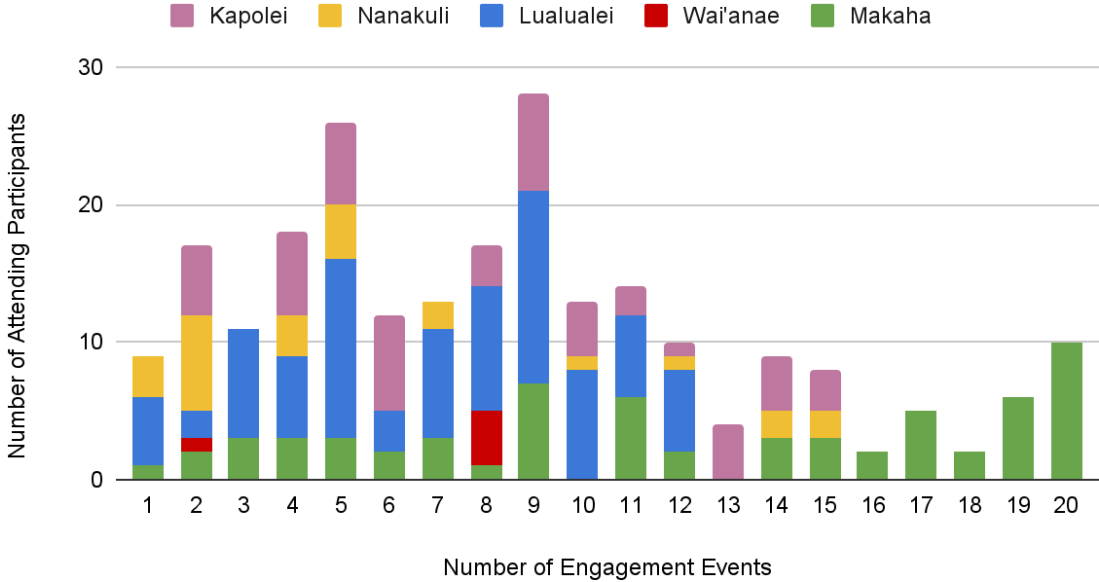


# Restore, Reconnect, Revive

## 2023 RESULTS

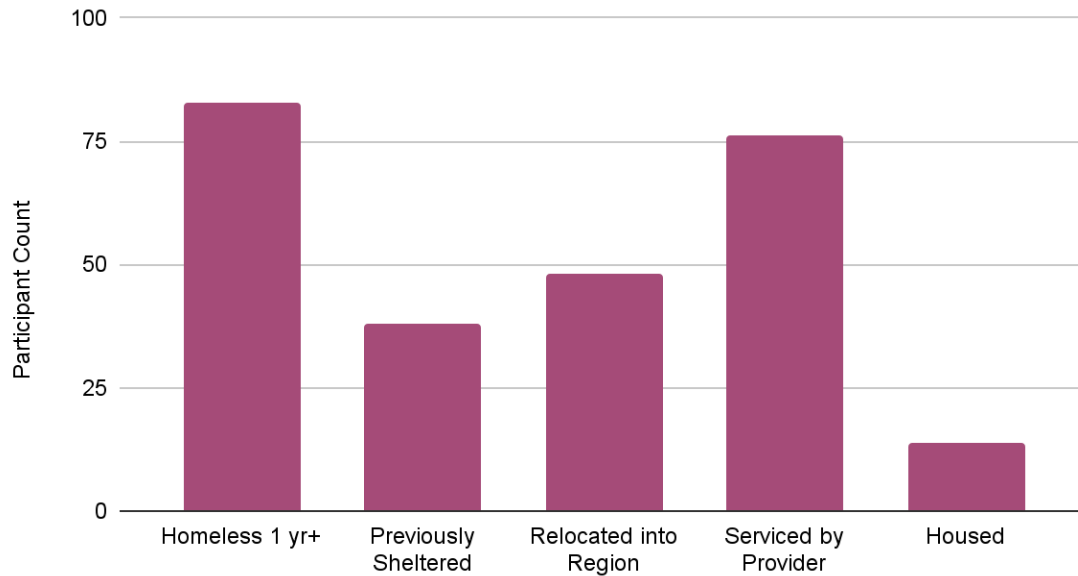
Cohort II serviced five areas in Honolulu City Council District I over a 16-week period starting the first week of February and ending the 2nd week of May. Some of the service areas met more than once a week and therefore ended with higher days of engagement. The Lualualei site engaged with participants 12 times; Wai’anae, Kapolei & Nanakuli sites engaged with participants 15 times; and the Makaha site engaged 20 times. We were unable to recover a complete attendance log from the Wai’anae site, so the data is lower than the actual attendance numbers.

### Weekly Restore, Reconnect, Revive Area Attendance



A total of 12 participants from Nānākuli (1), Lualualei (6), Makaha (1) Kapolei (4) attended R3 more than 6 times seeking to improve their situation and progress into a better living situation. One volunteer said “It was a success to engage with clients that would continuously show up. I believe the food has a lot to do with it but it was easier to find them after being forced to relocate.”

## Restore, Reconnect, Revive Aggregate Data



### OVERVIEW

Our vision is to restore Lahilahi beach park, Sewers (Lualualei Beach Park), Auyoung to Mohihi along the beach, Ulehawa channel (behind Sack and Save), and Kapolei District Park as a public space and beach area, with prohibited overnight camping; reconnect individuals with community court, job opportunities, documents, shelter, family, or permanent housing; and revive the outreach process by treating people with dignity, communicating a clear message, establishing clear timelines, asking for accountability, and synchronizing follow-ups to help the goers go!

### GOALS

1. All individuals who consistently attend and show effort will have a plan for progress
2. Partner with DPR, DFM, and private property owners to return public spaces to the public
3. Teach non-profits how to empower homeless individuals with resources and follow-up

### PROGRAM LOGISTICS AND SPECIFICS

Each location chose the day and time that worked for their facility and limited it to one hour for providers, agencies, and services to assist attendees. The program concluded the second week of May. The Honolulu Police Department did intake forms at various locations and distributed flyers to homeless individuals on the beach.

Every person that voluntarily joined the program had a folder with a cover sheet about the

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program, an intake form, a disclosure form, a checklist of items needed, and a provider sign-in sheet to track interaction and progress. Donations of hot meals were provided for participants as they worked with service providers to improve their living situation.

The providers, organizations, and businesses participating in the program were Ark of Safety, Waianae Assembly of God, Ulu'ae, Dreamhouse Ewa Beach, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Catholic Charities, the City of Joy, the Department of Transportation State of Hawaii, the Department of Transportation Services, Hale Na'au Pono, the Honolulu Police Department, Pastor Bu, Kealahou West, Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, LMS Church of Hawaii, Premier Benefits Consultants, Empower Hawaii Foundation, Project Vision Hawaii, Public Defender's Office, Prosecutor's Office, Revive & Refresh, US Vets Waianae, Waianae Store, Waianae Wags, and Waianae Coast Comprehensive.

## **Program Highlights**

*What makes this program different and necessary for progress*

### **Community Involvement**

R3 seeks to involve non-profits in the community that already have human service interests to do more than just food and clothing homeless outreach. In the 2023 Point In Time Homeless Count, the Westside showed a 48% increase in unsheltered homeless, and community support could make a big difference.

### **Geographic Prioritization**

R3 was created to connect program participants to community members and community services in their own geographic areas. This cohort had a small overlap with HONU from April 1 to mid-May which was in Ma'ili and also able to help provide geographic services but it is not permanently in the District boundaries.

### **Consistent Collaboration**

Every homeless situation is unique and different and it is hard to do any follow-up without frequently seeing the person who needs help. As homeless individuals frequently move areas, having a place to gather and see individuals allows agencies to do their work which sometimes takes months to get accomplished.

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## Program Messaging

*Unified messaging from all providers, agencies, and organizations clarifies program goals.*

### No Camping

Overnight Camping is not allowed in the areas where these individuals live. The law must be communicated clearly and equally to all community members.

### Trash Removal

Community members are responsible for their own trash. Once a week trash removal services are coordinated by DPR or DOT Highways in the areas being serviced. We gave trash bags out every time we walked the beaches, equipped providers with trash bags, and left trash bags at all locations to assist homeless individuals to keep their areas clean and tidy.

## 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.

*"We helped a couple of clients with applications for Community Outreach Court. A few of them were accepted into court." - R3 Volunteer*

## Cohort II Learning Points

*Review is essential for evaluation, which is essential to progress.*

I will share a few learning points on our expansion from one area to five areas and enhanced collaboration with other services and providers.

- It was very difficult to teach this concept to 5 areas all at once. Some of the areas were very good at outreach to attract attendees. Some areas were not accustomed to offering

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help alongside the providers regarding job services or other household needs. Some areas very easily incorporated their own outreach alongside the providers and became very helpful to all the attendees.

- It was hard to have everyone take attendance and be specific with their data collection. The first cohort was easy to monitor as we did not miss a day of attendance and every day we were communicating back to the main area's service provider. We need a system or person to digitally put in names for each location to assist each area.
- Each of the areas needed regular outreach. We do not have enough outreach workers on the Westside and many homeless individuals do not keep track of what day it is or what time it is which is why outreach is one hour prior to outreach every week. One provider said "awareness of the program needed to be presented in a stronger manner."
- We need area hosts and volunteers to jump in alongside providers and help with job applications. We do partner with Work Hawaii, however, we really need regular assistance with jobs and work opportunities. We are looking to involve other workforce-related groups in the next cohort such as the rotary club, goodwill, and any other groups that have vocational connections.
- The program would benefit from having vouchers specifically related to the progress shown by the individuals who are actively showing effort to complete documentation, earn income, and clear citations or get enrolled in community court.
- We should stick to two days a week in each area. It would be good to plan a job opportunity day, teach skills, do a budgeting class, etc. There are other things besides working with a provider that can fill the time, increase contact with attendees, and provide updates

*"With the HieHie showers that were provided at our location were a beneficial factor for this program. This provided a large incentive for our homeless community who don't have access to a hot clean shower. After the shower, a good meal to end the day gave me a sense of purpose to fight for a better tomorrow." - R3 Volunteer*

## **Needed Program Changes**

*Every change you make should be a change for excellence.*

- The VISPDAT needs to be changed. Partners in Care did submit written testimony in support of Resolution 23-41 which asked to change the measurement tool to do homeless intake. We don't know the timeline but it's a step in the right direction.
- We need more outreach workers. We need dedicated outreach workers for the area and specifically for the program. We have 2 people from our lead agency and sometimes one or two from other agencies but everyone has a very very heavy caseload and it is hard to make progress even if the attendee is showing effort and consistency.

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- Vouchers are needed for this program. Department of Community Services has stepped up with a pilot program to determine if vouchers for progressing participants are useful and allows more flexibility for providers to work expeditiously.
  - Kapolei needs a physical gathering place. Although meeting at the park was convenient for participants, it also didn't weed out people who would not have attended if there was more required. It was hard to serve attendees because there wasn't a clear place for attendees to enter and exit.
  - Work opportunities. We need more volunteers or service providers that can just focus on connecting people with ways to generate income. Even with a voucher if attendees qualify they will still need some type of income and this needs to be an integral part of services.
  - Stored Property Ordinance. It would be useful to have a leader at the SPO meeting that is able to adequately plan the restoration of public places to the public. It does seem like the SPO meetings in District 8 are specifically for beach parks and therefore we should have clear communication to the illegal campers, a clear message of the restoration of public spaces, and allow for a repeat SPO within 3 months of the same area to sustain the results, do smaller SPOs and not try to do large beach parks. One provider said, "It was a challenge to have HPD clear out the area we are servicing the day or day before our outreach."
  - Permanent Location for Services. The District I Council Office visited Punawai Reststop, Habilitat, Clubhouse, and many other places that provide services to homeless individuals. We contemplated the pros and cons of providing services out of churches versus a permanent location.
    - The upside of services being offered temporarily at a church is that it will be there for a long time, the church provides help through in-kind donations and doesn't require funding, and having church members learn how to be caseworkers is very helpful with the amount of homeless that need assistance, and homeless individuals can permanently connect with a church on non-service days and build a support system. The downside of providing services temporarily at a church is that it is already hard to locate participants and even harder if we continue to move the area where services are offered.
    - The upside of providing services out of a permanent facility is that we can build out what we offer, be more consistent, tie in caseworkers to the geographic area and the program, and program funding. The downside of providing a permanent location is that it can turn into something where people become heavily dependent on free services and large encampments can form around these facilities.