

## What to consider when looking for housing:

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|--|---|
| Where do I want to live?                     | Who will be living with me?             |
| How many bedrooms do I want?                 | Who can support me?                     |
| Where do my supports live?                   | Who do I contact in an emergency?       |
| Do I need an accessible unit?                | How much can I afford for rent?         |
| How much would I need for food?              | What other things do I have to pay for? |
| How much can I afford for rent?              | How much can I afford for utilities?    |
| Do I have enough money for security deposit? |   |



## Realities

Waitlists

Other Challenges

## 10 (Housing) Keys to Success

### Preparing for a housing unit



1. Keep track of all applications sent out and update information at least once a year.
2. Gather all required documents to prepare for housing applications and interview.
3. Be polite when talking to housing agencies about the status of your housing applications.
4. Impress your potential landlord during interview. Be polite, dress well, check your own credit history, ask previous landlords for a favorable letter of reference, ask friends or employers for a letter of support of your character.

### When you have a housing unit

5. Know who is on your lease and READ the lease.
6. Pay your rent and utilities ON TIME.
7. Get to know your house rules and FOLLOW the rules.
8. Be responsible not only for yourself, but also your guests/visitors.
9. Keep the inside and outside of your home clean, safe and clutter free.
10. Develop and maintain a positive relationship with your neighbors and landlord.

*Money Follows the Person or Hawaii's Going Home Plus project is funded through Center on Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) and administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS). Med-QUEST Division Going Home Plus is collaboration between the DHS, Med-Quest Division and University of Hawaii, Center on Disability Studies.*

# HAWAII'S GOING HOME PLUS PROJECT

## Independent Housing Resources – Practical Tips

### *Success Stories In Finding "A Place to Call their Own"*



*"I was hesitant and scared having him go home without a leg as it was a life changing experience. Services and equipment were delivered which made it easier and more comfortable. The hospital gave up, but with the services and therapy, he is able to stand and transfer from bed to (wheel) chair and continues to make progress," said Kathy.*

*Lambert stated, "I am happy to be back together with my family. I tried to do the things I used to do like exercise. I wanted to go back to church. Everyone at church was happy to see me again."*

Going Home Plus provides individuals with the opportunity to transition out of hospitals, nursing facilities and ICF-ID's. It also provides assistance to those interested in finding their own home with health care supports. Living in the community in a home of their choice results in significant positive changes in the person's quality of life.

**SNAP**  
**(Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)**

When applying for SNAP (formerly known as Food Stamps), please bring the following documents to your appointment to assist in determining your eligibility:

- ✓ Photo identification
- ✓ Social Security card
- ✓ Birth certificate or passport
- ✓ Bank statements
- ✓ Employment pay stubs
- ✓ Statement of Benefits (social security letter, unemployment, etc.)
- ✓ Rental agreement or mortgage statement
- ✓ Utility bills
- ✓ Verification of childcare/child support payments
- ✓ Medical bills

Take your completed application and all necessary documents to one of the Department of Human Services Oahu Processing Centers:

**Kapolei Processing Center**

601 Kamokila Blvd. #117 Kapolei, HI 96707

Phone: (808) 692-8384

**Koolau Processing Center**

45-260 Waikalua Road. Kaneohe, HI 96744

Phone: (808) 233-3621

**KPT Processing Center**

1485 Linapuni Street, Ste. 122 Hon. HI 96819

Phone: (808) 832-3800

**Luluku**

45-513 Luluku Road Kaneohe, HI 96744

Phone: (808) 233-5325

**OR&L Processing Center**

333 N. King Street #200 Hon. HI 96817

Phone: (808) 586-8047

**Pohulani Processing Center**

677 Queen Street, Ste. 400B Hon. HI 96817

Phone: (808) 587-528

**Wahiawa Processing Center**

929 Center Street Wahiawa, HI 96786

Phone: (808) 622-6315

**Waianae Processing Center**

Farrington Hwy., Ste A103 Waianae, HI 96792

Phone: (808) 697-7881

**Waipahu Processing Center**

94-275 Mokuola Street, #303A Waipahu, HI 96797

Phone: (808) 675-0052

## Necessary Housing Documents

The following is a list of documents that the housing agency generally asks in order to verify the person's income and ability to meet monthly rental payments. Make sure you gather all of these documents to take with you to your appointment.

1. **COPIES OF IDENTIFICATION** (for all household members)
  - Photo identification (driver's license, state photo identification card, passport)
  - Social Security Card (copy)
  - Birth Certificate (copy)
2. **PUBLIC BENEFITS AND SUPPORT INCOME**
  - Verification letter stating the amount of Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) determined by individual's work history and Supplemental Security Income (SSI). This information can be requested from [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)
  - Additional income granted via court order
  - Child support, alimony income and gifts of income
  - Food stamps (SNAP) or other financial assistance
  - Veterans assistance
  - Housing assistance (Housing Choice Voucher – Section 8), etc.)
3. **INCOME AND ASSETS** (additional updated documents may be required)
  - IRS Form 1040
  - Pay stubs – most recent over the past two months for each job worked
  - Most recent savings account statement, last six months of checking account statements
  - Documentation of any other assets (stocks, bonds, real estate, cars, etc.)
4. **RENTAL HISTORY DOCUMENTS**
  - Previous landlord's name(s), contact information and address of previous rental lease unit
  - Copy of previous lease, if available
5. **CERTIFICATIONS**
  - Standard Disability Certification from a qualified party (physician, etc.) on letterhead indicating disability status
  - U.S. Department of HUD Homeless Certification
6. **MONTHLY OUT OF POCKET EXPENSES**

## HELPFUL RESOURCES FOR COMMUNITY LIVING

### Department of Human Services – Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

Blind Rehabilitation Services	1901 Bachelot St.	586-5269
Disability Determination		973-2244
West Section	600 Kapiolani Blvd., Room 304	586-4922
East Section	600 Kapiolani Blvd., Room 303	586-5164
Metro Section	600 Kapiolani Blvd., Room 302	586-5163
Windward Section	600 Kapiolani Blvd., Room 301	586-5163
Central Section	600 Kapiolani Blvd., Room 306	586-5169
Deaf Section	600 Kapiolani Blvd., Room 306	587-5650
Kapolei	601 Kamokila Blvd., Room 515	692-8605
		692-8603

### Social Security Office

Federal Building  
 300 Ala Moana Blvd., RM1-114 Federal Building  
 Honolulu, HI 96850  
 1-800-772-1213

### Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO)

<http://www.hawaiianelectric.com>

	<b>Hawaiian Electric</b>	<b>Maui Electric</b>	<b>Hawaii Electric Light</b>
Call Center	(808) 548-7311	(808) 871-9777	(808) 969-6999
Payment Center	1001 Bishop Street 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Lobby Honolulu, HI 96813	210 Kamehameha Ave. Kahului, Maui, HI 96732	1200 Kilauea Ave. Hilo, HI 96729
Payment Processing Centers	P.O. Box 3978 Honolulu, HI 96712-3978	P.O. Box 1670 Honolulu, HI 96806-1670	P.O. Box 909 Honolulu, HI 96808-0909

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**To qualify for Hawaii's Going Home Plus, the participant must be a Medicaid recipient, living in a hospital, nursing facility or ICF-ID for at least 90 continuous days with Nursing Facility level of care.**



Damon had been in the foster care system for ten years prior to participating the Going Home Plus project. Going Home Plus assisted him with completing and submitting applications for affordable and accessible housing options. Damon had the opportunity to apply his independent living skills with the support of friends and health plan agencies to successfully live independently. Damon has been able to accomplish the following: (1) certification for OHA entrepreneurship class at Kapiolani Community College; (2) actively involved in community; (3) helped create Reeve Foundation Chapter in Hawaii; (4) certified Reeve Peer Mentor; and (5) learned money management, bill paying and grocery shopping responsibilities.

Lola was in long term care facility for more than three years and wanted to reunite with her grand-daughter and live in her own home. While in the nursing facility, the family home burned down forcing them to find alternate housing. Going Home Plus assisted Lola in applying for various affordable housing. "I don't want to be sick and thought I was going to pass away over there (nursing facility). I want to be healthy and visit friends and show everybody I'm still alive!" said Lola. When she was informed about a potential unit through the Hawaii Public Housing Authority project, she jumped at the opportunity. Lola continues to exercise every day and changed the foods she ate. She has lost 61 pounds since returning to her own home. She goes out shopping and makes doctor appointments or family gatherings. "I'm very happy having my own place and living with my granddaughter," said Lola.



After suffering a stroke, Cee was hospitalized and transferred to a nursing facility where he remained for eight months. Physical therapy and the desire to live independently helped him regain much of his skills and strength. GHP assisted Cee in contacting the resident manager to reactivate his application for consideration of senior apartment while accessing his medical benefits. Transitioning back to independent living with supports was the result of a team effort between the nursing facility, health plan, community mental health case manager and GHP. "I am happy being here (apartment). My peace of mind is back. I want to continue my peace in myself. I can go under the banyan tree and enjoy the breeze," Cee shared. In regards to GHP, Cee said, "I love you folks because of the services you did for me. You showed personal caring in working with me and I am thankful that I am associated with you. You don't tell me what to do, we share and talk story."

Huck was involved in an accident and due to paralysis of his legs, uses a wheelchair. Due to his lengthy hospitalizations, he struggled to pay his mortgage and his house foreclosed. Nevertheless, Huck stayed strong for his son who lives with his ex-wife, but frequently visits. Going Home Plus assisted him with completing and submitting applications for affordable and accessible housing. Huck was fortunate to be selected for an affordable one-bedroom unit. With the support of his financial institution, housing agency and health plan, he was able to move into his unit and has become an integral participant in his neighborhood community.

