UNIVERSITY OF HAWAIʻI SYSTEM
ANNUAL REPORT

REPORT TO THE 2009 LEGISLATURE

ANNUAL REPORT FROM
THE JOHN A. BURNS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
SUBSTANCE ABUSE PILOT PROGRAM
FOR 2008 AND 2009

Act 178, SLH 2007

November 2008
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I

ANNUAL REPORT FROM
THE JOHN A. BURNS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I ON MONEYS EXPENDED IN SUPPORT
OF THE SCREENING, BRIEF INTERVENTION, AND REFERRAL TO
SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT (SBIRT) INITIATIVE

AS REQUIRED BY ACT 178, SLH 2007

Summary:
Act 178 of the 2007 Legislature appropriated $84,000 toward a pilot program in substance abuse intervention, to be situated in the emergency department of a major urban medical facility. The Act stipulates to a two-year duration, with appropriation for the fiscal year 2007-8. This followed upon draft legislation requesting $1.2 million in support of an established model for reduction in morbidity and mortality from substance-abuse associated trauma, known as Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Substance Abuse Treatment (SBIRT). The appropriation was to be expended by the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM). Act 178 requires submission of an annual report to the Legislature.

Financial Report:
As of 01 November, 2008, no funds have been released by the Executive for expenditure.

Discussion:
The preceding report, to the 2008 Legislature, proposed a productive use of the allocated funds in lieu of the $1.2 million originally requested. The project’s scope would be narrowed to providing augmentation of an existing program that is presently focused on the consequences of only alcohol abuse. In the absence of release of the funds, this project has been tabled. Interest in the subject remains very high and the need has become, if anything, more acute. The Principal Investigators for initiative are Deborah Goebert, Dr. P.H., and William Haning, M.D., of the University of Hawai‘i JABSOM.

Future:
Consideration should be given to a new, fully-funded version of the original legislative proposal (HB 367 2007). Short of this, release of funding for the existing Act 178 is respectfully requested.

[Attachments:
  • Annual Report November 2007 (2 pp.)
  • Acting Governor’s cover letter, Act 178 (1 p.)
  • Act 178 (3 pp.)]
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAIʻI SYSTEM
ANNUAL REPORT

REPORT TO THE 2008 LEGISLATURE

Annual Report on the
Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to
Substance Abuse Treatment (SBIRT) Initiative for 2008

ACT 178 Session Laws of Hawaiʻi 2007
(House Bill 367, HD1, SD1, CD1)

November 2007
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I

REPORT TO THE 2008 LEGISLATURE

ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE JOHN A. BURNS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I ON MONEYS EXPENDED IN SUPPORT OF THE SCREENING, BRIEF INTERVENTION, AND REFERRAL TO SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT (SBIRT) INITIATIVE

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Summary:
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Financial Report:
As of 01 November, 2007, there have been no expenditures.

Discussion:
The Principal Investigators designated for this project have been meeting with the clinical service directors of the Queen’s Medical Center to determine the most effective means of employing the appropriation compatible with the terms of the Act. This planning is complicated by the 93% discrepancy between the proposed budget and that actually provided, requiring proportionate adjustment of the scope of the Act. The Department of Psychiatry, John A. Burns School of Medicine currently administers a Hawai‘i Department of Transportation service grant to provide such interventions in an inpatient trauma unit, and thus has both dedicated staffing and experience in the operations of such a project. The Principal Investigators for this latter grant are also the Directors for the SBIRT initiative, Act 178 (Deborah Goebert, Dr. P.H., and William Haning, M.D.).

Future:
The intent of the initiative directors is that planning will be completed by the end of January, 2008, with implementation of the initiative to follow within the remainder of the fiscal year.
June 14, 2007

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, President
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Madam President and Members of the Senate:

This is to inform you that on June 14, 2007, the following bill was signed into law:

HB367 HD1 SD3 CD1 A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SUBSTANCE ABUSE.
(Act 178)

Sincerely,

JAMES R. AIONA, JR.
Acting Governor
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SUBSTANCE ABUSE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I:

SECTION 1. Medical personnel, particularly in emergency rooms and trauma centers, regularly encounter patients who have sustained injuries or trauma resulting from the use of alcohol or other drugs. This initial point of contact in a medical setting is a recognized window of opportunity where patients are most vulnerable and open to intervention and dialogue that address their underlying alcohol or illegal drug issues. It is at this "teachable moment" that individuals can benefit from an assessment, education, counseling, or if necessary, referral to treatment.

The medical personnel working in the "screening, brief intervention, referral, and treatment" program may seize this "teachable moment" in medical settings by offering screening, brief intervention, education, and if necessary, referrals to appropriate care or treatment for individuals at risk for, or diagnosed with, alcohol and other substance use disorders.

This evidence-based, cost-effective program is recognized as a best practice model by the Substance Abuse and Mental

HB367 CD1 HMS 2007-4177
Health Services Administration, an agency of the United States Department of Health and Human Services. Successful screening, brief intervention, referral, and treatment programs have been implemented and are ongoing in other states, including California, Alaska, Illinois, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Washington. Evidence from existing screening, brief intervention, referral, and treatment programs conducted in medical settings has shown dramatic reductions in alcohol and other drug use among patients receiving services.

The purpose of this Act is to establish and fund a pilot program for screening, brief intervention, and referral to substance abuse treatment in the State.

SECTION 2. (a) There is established a two-year pilot program for screening, brief intervention, and referral to substance abuse treatment, which shall be sited at the emergency department of a major urban medical facility in Honolulu or any other facility deemed appropriate by the administering agency.

(b) The University of Hawaii John A. Burns school of medicine shall establish and administer the pilot program.

(c) The University of Hawaii John A. Burns school of medicine shall submit a report to the legislature concerning the status of the pilot program and make findings and
recommendations, including proposed legislation and whether to continue the program, not later than twenty days before the convening of the regular sessions of 2008 and 2009.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $84,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 to implement a pilot program in the emergency department of a major medical facility in Honolulu or other appropriate facility for screening, brief intervention, and referral to substance abuse treatment.

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University of Hawaii, through its John A. Burns school of medicine, for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

APPROVED this 14 day of JUN, 2007

JAMES R. AIONA JR.
ACTING GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII