

**News Release** 

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COUNTY OF KAUA'I HOUSING AGENCY ADAM ROVERSI, DIRECTOR (808) 241-4444

## Kaua'i County Housing Agency announces the release of Bridging The Gap's 2022 Point-In-Time Count report

LĪHU'E – Kaua'i County Housing Agency officials have announced that the annual Point-In-Time Count report, led by Bridging The Gap Continuum of Care, was released Thursday and is now available online.

The report can be viewed on Bridging The Gap's website, www.btghawaii.org.

The Point-In-Time Count is a real-time count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single night, and is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to access homeless-related funding. It provides an estimate of how many people experienced homelessness in a community on a given night, or "point in time."

Results from the 2022 Kaua'i Point-In-Time Count revealed a total of 444 homeless individuals on Kaua'i, which included 404 unsheltered and 40 sheltered. In comparison, a total of 424 homeless individuals were counted in 2020, which included 369 unsheltered and 55 sheltered – resulting in an increase of 20 individuals this year. In 2021, only sheltered individuals were counted due to COVID-19.

"Addressing homelessness continues to be a whole-community approach, and while there is still much more that needs to be done, we know that recent efforts such as the increase in rental units through our Waimea Huakai, Pua Loke Apartments, and Kealaula affordable housing developments have made huge impacts," said Housing Director Adam Roversi. "Our emergency housing programs for rent,

utility, and homeowner assistance have also been critical to our residents, helping them avoid evictions while experiencing the hardships of the pandemic. Additionally, our county's efforts to upgrade KEO's wastewater system this year will help double its capacity at its emergency homeless shelter. We extend our gratitude to our federal, state, non-profit and community partners for their ongoing efforts to address the various contributors to homelessness, including mental health assistance, as these needs remain a priority for us all."

Bridging The Gap represents Kaua'i County, along with Hawai'i and Maui County, and is the neighbor islands' Continuum of Care program. This year's Point-In-Time Count was conducted from Jan. 24 to 29, and was organized by Kaua'i Community Alliance, which serves as Kaua'i's chapter of Bridging The Gap and our local Continuum of Care. Volunteers canvassed the island asking people where they slept on January 23, 2022 – the official night of focus for this year's Point-In-Time Count.

Volunteers who conducted Kaua'i's Point-In-Time Count in January included the following agencies: Catholic Charities Hawai'i, CARE Hawai'i, Family Life Center, Hale Opi'o Kaua'i, Ho'ola Lahui Hawai'i, Kaua'i County Housing Agency, Kaua'i Economic Opportunity, Lili'uokalani Trust, 'Ohana Christian Fellowship, U.S. Vets, Wilcox Health, Women In Need, and YWCA.

For more information on the Kaua'i County Housing Agency's Homeless Support Program, please visit www.kauai.gov/housing or call (808) 241-4427.

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## **Direct Links:**

- Bridging The Gap's 2022 Point-In-Time Count Report:
  <a href="https://www.btghawaii.org/reports/housing-inventory-counts-point-in-time/">https://www.btghawaii.org/reports/housing-inventory-counts-point-in-time/</a>
- Kaua'i County Housing Agency's Homeless Support Program:
   <a href="https://www.kauai.gov/Government/Departments-Agencies/Housing-Agency/Homeless-Support">https://www.kauai.gov/Government/Departments-Agencies/Housing-Agency/Homeless-Support</a>