



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

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**HAWAI'I RECEIVES \$1.3 MILLION FOR PANDEMIC INFLUENZA
PREPAREDNESS PROJECTS**

HONOLULU – The Hawai'i State Department of Health (DOH) has been awarded \$1,382,741 from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for influenza pandemic preparedness. The awards are for projects implementing promising practices or developing effective approaches and models that can be replicated nationally. Hawai'i's award is out of a total \$24 million awarded nationally to fund 55 projects in 29 state and local public health departments.

"These federal funds build on our existing partnership with the CDC and will allow us to move forward with innovative approaches for influenza pandemic preparedness," stated Director of Health Chiyome Fukino, MD. "We are very proud to have four of our projects selected for funding. Securing federal funds is especially important as we seek creative ways to increase service to the public in the wake of current financial challenges."

"What is learned from these projects can benefit everyone because it could improve national, regional and local public health detection and response to a pandemic involving influenza," said Richard Besser, MD, Director of CDC's Coordinating Center for Terrorism Preparedness and Emergency Response.

Hawai'i's projects will focus on four areas: Countermeasure and State Immunization Information Systems Integration (\$350,374), Public Engagement Demonstration Project on Pandemic Influenza (\$178,112), Distribution and Dispensing of Antiviral Drugs to Self-isolated or Self-quarantined Persons (\$136,255), and Electronic Laboratory Data Exchange (\$718,000).

A total of 184 funding applications were submitted in a competitive application process. The focus of the funding is on practical, community-based procedures that could prevent or delay the spread of an influenza pandemic. A list of the 29 award recipients and their projects can be found at <http://emergency.cdc.gov/cotper/coopagreement/>.

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