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SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

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September 2018 Newsletter

PBTRC Assists with DOH Early Intervention Services Training



PBTRC serves on the State of Hawaii Department of Health Early Intervention Section (HDOH EIS) telepractice working group. The HDOH EIS is a federal and state-mandated program that provides services to support the development of infant and toddlers from birth to three years of age. The working group planned and developed a pilot project for delivering EIS services to families of children with special needs (developmentally delayed or having a diagnosis/condition with a high probability of resulting in a developmental delay) in their home via telepractice. PBTRC assisted in the development of the training program, telepractice “go-kit”, and reviewed their telepractice protocols. The HDOH EIS and PBTRC jointly delivered the on-line training program and the in-person hands-on training to the four

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The HDOH EIS is implementing their telepractice program as part of their State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) required by the federal Office of Special Education.

FCC RHC Program Funding Cap Order

As of June 25th, 2018, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), issued an order that increases the annual Rural Health Care (RHC) Program funding to \$571 million. Also beginning in 2018, there will be annual adjustments to the RHC funding cap in agreement with inflation. The order also will establish a way to carry over unused funds for future funding years. Because of the increase in funding, all previously approved FY2017 funding requests will be approved for 100% of their funding amount.

PBTRC Attends the 2018 Hawai'i Health Workforce Summit

The Pacific Basin Telehealth Resource Center (PBTRC) participated in the 2018 Hawai'i Health Workforce Summit, held on September 8th at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballrooms. The PBTRC Co-Program Director, Christina Higa, provided an update on Pacific Island telehealth initiatives and new opportunities for collaboration. Summit documentation and presentations can be found here:

<https://www.ahec.hawaii.edu/2018-hawaii-health-workforce-summit/>

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