



## **Public Health Nurses (PHN)**

Public Health Nurses (PHN) are Registered Nurses found in every community across the state. PHNs work to improve the conditions and behaviors that affect the health of our communities by applying a complement of services in addressing root causes of poor health and chronic conditions.

*Public Health Nurses listen and respond to community needs based on professional knowledge and relationships with individuals, families and communities.*

Public health nursing is the practice of promoting and protecting the health of populations using knowledge from nursing, social, and public health sciences. The practice is population-focused with the goals of promoting health and preventing disease and disability for all people through the creation of conditions in which people can be healthy (American Nurses Association, 2007; American Public Health Association, 1996).

### **A PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE CAN HELP YOU!**

Free community based Public Health Nursing (PHN) services to the frail, vulnerable elderly 60 years and older with functional limitations by providing:

- Nursing assessment
- Planning of care
- Coordination of service delivery to meet the needs of the client, caregiver, and/or family

### **PURPOSE**

To help the elderly manage their care through case management services in order to remain in their home for as long as possible.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

- Clients must be 60 years or older and living at home.
- Have chronic medical conditions.
- May have no family or caregiver available, or have a caregiver in need of support.
- May need assistance in understanding their medical condition and health needs.
- May need assistance linking up with appropriate resources in the community.

### **SERVICES**

- Meet with client/caregiver to obtain information on health and medical needs.
- Jointly plan care with client/family.
- Provide health teaching and information.
- Assist with medication and treatment management.
- Communicate with physician and other providers regarding the health care plan in order to maintain the client in the home.
- Assist with coordinated referrals to appropriate health care providers and community services.
- Provide periodic reviews of service and care provided.

If you know someone who may be eligible, please call a PHN Section for more information.

**Central Oahu PHN Section**

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