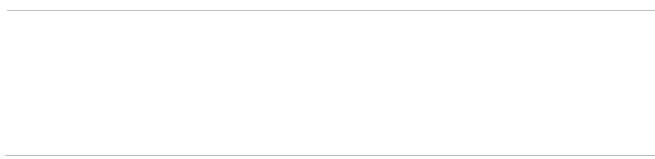




2018 Annual Report
State of Hawai`i

Nā Kupa Alo Ana
O Hawai`i

June 30, 2018



Aloha e

Since its inception seven years ago, Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawaiʻi Citizen Review Panel has worked collaboratively with Hawaii Child Welfare Services on achieving its goals on behalf of Hawaiʻi's abused and neglected children.

The Panel would like to thank Akikatsu Minoyama, Assistant Program Administrator, Program Development, Child Welfare Services' Citizen Review Panel Liaison, for his continued support to Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawaiʻi. He has been a corner stone for the Panel since he became the CRP Panel Liaison last year, and without his efforts, Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawaiʻi would not be able to accomplish its goals. Akikatsu meets with the Panel monthly to share information regarding Hawaiʻi's child welfare system and responds to issues and discusses recommendations. We sincerely appreciate working with Akikatsu, as we continue to build our relationship with the Department.



Akikatsu Minoyama, CWS Citizen review Panel Liaison

Kupa Alo Ana O Hawaiʻi would like to welcome its newest member, Crystal Chong-Wong, Family Programs Hawaii on Oʻahu. Crystal's addition to the Panel helps us to achieve our goal of having varied membership across the islands. We continue to recruit new members, with a goal of having at least 12 members on the Panel.

We would also like to thank Grace Oba, Secretary to Program Development, Child Welfare Services, who coordinates our travel so that the Panel can be effective in addressing issues and achieving goals.

Mahalo to Office of Hawaiian Affairs for graciously providing us with a beautiful meeting room when Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawaiʻi conducts face-to-face meetings on Oʻahu.

Finally, with much respect and appreciation, we would like to thank Blake Jones, Program Coordinator of Citizens Review Panels, College of Social Work, University of Kentucky, for his continuing guidance, friendship, and support of Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai`i.

Mahalo,

Jacqueline Perry, Vice Chairperson

Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai`i

Who We Are

Hawai`i's Citizen's Review Panel (CRP) is comprised of citizen volunteers, as mandated by the Federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA). Our mission is to examine the policies, procedures, and practices of Hawai`i's child welfare services system to evaluate agency practice and to enhance the agency's capacity to help Hawai`i's children and families engaged in child welfare services achieve positive outcomes.

Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai`i is comprised of citizens who represent their organizations and have knowledge about children from their respective islands. Representatives are committed to meeting the needs of children. Together, we make recommendations to the child welfare system on making improvements to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the children and families in our community.

Participation in Monthly Meetings

Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai`i members, representative from each county, have met monthly either through face-to-face visits on O`ahu or through telephone conference to establish goals and discuss projects and issues related to Hawaii Child Welfare Services (CWS).

Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawaiʻi

Monica Kaʻauwai, Partners in Development, Kauaʻi, Chairperson

Jacqueline Perry, Hawaii Child Welfare Continuous Quality Improvement Project, Maui,
Vice Chairperson

Jeny Bissell, Department of Health, Maui

Crystall Chong-Wong, Family Programs Hawaii, Oʻahu

Jacque Kelley-Uyeoka, Hale Kipa, Oʻahu

Kimberly Lani, Department of Education, Molokaʻi

Sharie Liden, Department of Education, Lanaʻi

Stephen Morse, Blueprint for Change, Oʻahu

Maylyn Tallett, Department of Health, Hilo



Summary of Panel Activities

Participation in 2018 National Citizen Review Panel Conference

Two members of Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai'i, *Monica Ka'auwai and Crystal Chong-Wong* attended the 2018 National Citizen Review Panel Conference, June 5 to 7, in Mackinac Island, Michigan. The theme of the conference was *CRP: Navigating the Road Ahead*, in recognizing that protecting children is everyone's responsibility, and that there are many ways citizens can participate. The conference was two and a half days, and there were many networking and educational opportunities for both new and seasoned CRP members, state coordinators, child welfare staff, and child welfare partners. Monica and Crystal were able to network with other states to dialogue about their CRPs and various projects and recommendations. Furthermore, the conference featured a keynote speaker and many interactive sessions covering relevant topics, such as *secondary traumatic stress in child welfare workers, exploring member perspectives on citizen review panels, the challenge of neglect, engaging community partners from prevention through collaboration, and enhancing strengths-based supervision in child welfare programs.*



2017 CRP Retreat



The members of Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawaiʻi held its annual retreat On December 1, 2017, at the Ala Moana Hotel Plumeria Conference Room. There were opportunities for team building and setting goals for the year. Presenters included Ms. Kathy Martin from Partners in Development, who gave an overview of the needs of the Micronesian and Chuukese families involved in CWS, and Mr. Jerry Redman, co-founder and CEO of Second Life Chattanooga, who talked about the realities of human sex trafficking and the strategies, as a nation, needed to stop this abuse. The Panel also re-committed their membership to Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawaiʻi and proclaimed the efforts needed to be an effective member. The retreat concluded at the end of the business day with a vote for the next year's officers of Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawaiʻi.

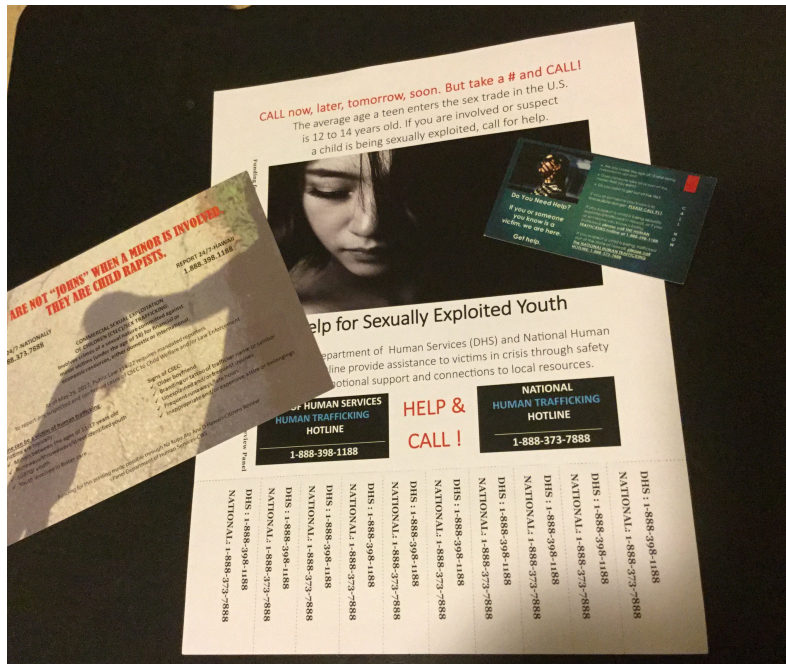
Projects

1. Increase the public's awareness about the new mandated reporting law, regarding victims of commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking of children

Members of Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawaiʻi were motivated to participate in this project, as we all are concerned about the sex trafficking of children.

Polaris, an organization that has the largest available data set on human trafficking in the United States, revealed in their 2017 report that each year there is a jump in reports of human trafficking. The reason for the increase is largely due to people spreading awareness of human trafficking and the national Hotline. It is clear that community awareness is the key to ensuring that Hawaiʻi's child victims of commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking are accurately identified and receive appropriate services and protections.

The committee, lead by Jacque Kelley-Ueoka, requested CRP funding for \$5,000 to develop and print materials—flyers with tear off call numbers, victim cards, information cards, and bus placards. There were 9,000 printed materials, which were handed out to the islands' churches, police, outreach workers, social workers, and community agencies servicing youth, specifically CWS units Statewide, Department of Health—Maternal Child Division, Department of Education, Department of Attorney General, Hoʻōla Nā Pua, and Hawaii Youth Services Network.



2. *Educate the public about the harm of exposing newborns to drugs.*

Members of Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai'i were eager to incorporate the voices of youth in this project in order to make young adults, especially, aware of the dangers of exposing newborns to drugs. The Panel group tasked with this project, lead by Kimberly Lani, worked with Akaku, Ho'omana Hou Alternative School on Molokai, and Maui Police Department to produce the two videos as a public service announcement on Vimeo.com and Instagram.com (popular sites for both youth and adults to watch videos). One of the videos focuses on the importance of reporting parents who are impaired caregivers while using alcohol or drugs in the infant's environment. The other video highlights the harm of exposing infants to substances. The videos are relatable to youth in Hawaii who may witness a parent or be a parent who has been under the influence of substances while caregiving or may be exposing infants to alcohol or other substances harmful to vulnerable children.

<https://vimeo.com/270207003>

<https://vimeo.com/270203816>



Ho‘omana Hou Alternative School video production artists



A scene from “Truth from the Youth—Be the Better.”



Students filming with Maui Police Department

CRP Recommendations

This year's recommendations are suggestions with respect, and are based on the topics of the projects Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai'i completed this year—sexual exploitation and sex trafficking of children and infant drug exposure.

Recommendations:

1. Child Welfare Services ensures that information with regard to reporting sex trafficking—CRP created flyers with tear off call numbers, victim cards, and information cards—be available as resources to educate Hawai'i's communities and social services providers, so that citizens can be aware of federal mandated reporting requirements and be engaged in addressing this type of child abuse.
2. Child Welfare Services continues to provide effective trainings to caseworkers, supervisors, and section administrators with regard to case practice in assessing and addressing the harm of sex exploitation and sex trafficking of children.

3. Child Welfare Services ensure that caseworkers have access to the videos that CRP sponsored, which makes youth, parents, and the community aware of the problems associated with exposing infants to substance abuse by parents/caregivers, and why reporting this type of neglect is important to the safety of children.

4. Child Welfare Services continues to provide effective trainings to caseworkers, supervisors, and section administrators with regard to case practice in assessing and addressing the harm of drug exposed infants.

Final Thoughts

Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai'i has worked diligently this year to reach some of the Panel's goals, to ensure that our community is aware of the harm and concerns with regard to infant exposure to substance use and sexual exploitation and trafficking of children. We enjoyed and appreciated working with Florence Calderon and Bernadette Lane, Assistant Program Administrators, for they shared valuable information as to the Department's need to provide community awareness with regard to these topics of sexual exploitation and sex trafficking of children; and infant drug exposure.

The Panel looks forward to continued work with Hawaii Child Welfare Services to address issues and topics of interest and continue to help children and families involved in the child welfare system have positive outcomes. We appreciate the opportunity the CRP has in continued dialogue with the community and the Department of Human Services, Child Welfare Services Branch. We are presently exploring topics as the subject of future projects, and we certainly look forward to, once again, the support and engagement of the Department, in our efforts to enhance Hawaii Child Welfare Service's capacity to help Hawai'i's children and families achieve positive outcomes.

