HAWAʻI STATE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
PUBLIC MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 2021, 12:00 PM – 1:15 PM
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

In light of the evolving COVID-19 situation, protecting the health and welfare of the community is of utmost concern. As such, this will be a virtual meeting and written and verbal testimony will be accepted. If you would like to testify virtually via Zoom, please email ctrinh@dhs.hawaii.gov for more information by Noon on Tuesday, August 3, 2021.

If you are only interested in attending, please register here and the Zoom invitation will be sent directly to you: https://tinyurl.com/d48scawv Mahalo!

I. PUBLIC NOTICE, CALL TO ORDER, ESTABLISH QUORUM (2 Minutes)

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 21, 2021 MEETING (5 Minutes)

III. PUBLIC COMMENT (20 Minutes)

A. Verbal or written testimony should be requested via email to ctrinh@dhs.hawaii.gov by Noon on Tuesday, August 3, 2021.

B. Due to the timing of this meeting, public comments may be addressed at the next Commission meeting.

IV. REPORTS (22 Minutes)

A. Executive Director’s Report (23 Minutes)
   1. Chairship
   2. Budget
   3. Legislative Session 2022
   4. Gender Impact Assessment
   5. Mai Movement Survey
   6. Community Events

B. State Commissioners’ Reports and Updates (20 Minutes)
   1. Edie Ignacio-Neumiller, Kaua‘i Commissioner (10 Minutes)
      a) Status of each County’s feminist economic recovery plan
   2. Terri Ann Motosue, O‘ahu Commissioner (10 Minutes)
      a) Discussion of committee on judicial selection

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS (4 Minutes)

A. Commissioner Ignacio-Neumiller: Kaua‘i project

VI. ADJOURNMENT (1 Minutes)

The public meeting is accessible for individuals with disabilities. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request by calling the Hawai‘i State Commission on the Status of Women’s office at: (808) 586-5757 (voice); 711 (Hawai‘i Relay Service); or email to ctrinh@dhs.hawaii.gov. A request for an auxiliary aid or service should be made no later than four (4) working days prior to the public meeting. Requests made as early as possible will allow additional time to fulfill your request. We will try to obtain the accommodation, but we cannot guarantee that the request will be fulfilled.
**Hawai‘i State Commission on the Status of Women**  
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 2021, 12:00 PM – 1:15 PM**  
Public Meeting Minutes  
Executive Session Minutes - Confidential  
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

**Members Present:** Judy Kern (Kern), Marilyn Lee (Lee), Cyd Hoffeld (Hoffeld), Deja Ostrowski (Ostrowski), Stacey Moniz (Moniz), Edie Ignacio-Neumiller (Ignacio-Neumiller)  
**Excused:** Terri Ann Motosue (Motosue)  

**Public:** Vera Zambonelli (Zambonelli), Sarah Hamid (Hamid), Tanya Smith-Johnson (Smith-Johnson), Leela Bilmes Goldstein (Goldstein), Amanda Shaw (Shaw), Kristin Hamada (Hamada), Ann Freed, Laurie Field, Younghee Overly, Amy Monk  
**Staff:** Khara Jabola-Carolus (Jabola-Carolus), Laney Trinh (Trinh)

**I. Public Notice, Call to Order (2 minutes - 12:02p)**  
A. 12:00 p.m. Quorum Declared

**II. Review and approval of minutes (5 minutes - 12:03-12:08p)**  
A. **MOTION** to accept minutes from January 19, 2021 by Ignacio-Neumiller, seconded by Hoffeld – ALL IN FAVOR, ADOPTED

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT (20 minutes - over by 14 minutes from estimate - 12:09p - 12:46p)**  
A. **Public Comment** - 2 minutes each (12:09-12:23p)  
1. Sarah Hamid – Testified about how minorities/women of color (WOC) have been prejudiced in the Hawaii Women’s Coalition and State Commission has been beneficial in internally mediating issues that have surfaced  
2. Vera Zambonelli - Testified in support of minorities/WOC who have been harmed by racism within the Hawaii Women’s Coalition. Testified in support of collective demands of the Anti-Racism Advisory Council, and how the State Commission has been beneficial in mediating issues that have surfaced.  
3. Ann Freed - Declined to comment  
4. Laurie Field - Declined to comment  
5. Younghee Overly – Declined to comment  
6. Amy Monk - Declined to comment  
7. Kathleen Algire - Did not appear  
8. Kern thanked members of the public for sharing experiences  
B. **Presentations** - 10 minutes each (12:24-12:46p)  
1. 12:10 pm - Tanya Smith-Johnson, Policy Director, Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies (12:21-12:30)  
a) Introduced the Hawaii Anti-Racism Advisory Council (ARAC) as a subcommittee of the Hawaii Women’s Coalition (HWC) and facilitated by Commission ED Jabola-Carolus to support women of color (WOC). Critical opportunity for positive change on systemic racism and to nurture genuine Diversity Equity and Inclusion
b) ED/State Commission created a safe space for Black, indigenous and women of color to decompress and improve sense of belonging within HWC

c) ARAC is not selective group; ARAC is 12-15 members who previously left or are uncomfortable within HWC, and are now coming back now that issues are trying to be rectified

d) Provided review of why ARAC submitted “demands” to create a more empowering culture

(1) Consensus vote gives more powerful organizations control so one-organization, one-vote is standard and preferred in social justice coalitions

(2) Need internal process to address harm

(3) Retaliation is serious concern

(4) White leadership proposed outside mediator, but this is not needed; respect for and trust in the expertise of WOC members is needed

(5) May come as a surprise because harmful incidents have been occurring but now there is a group brave enough to come forward

2. 12:20 pm - Dr. Amanda Shaw, Dr. Leela Bilmes Goldstein, & Kristin Hamada, Women’s Fund of Hawaii (WFH) (12:31-12:40)

a) Goldstein introduced WFH which focuses on funding Hawaii women/girls programs, invests in research, publish reports by identifying challenges and opportunities needed in Hawaii

(1) Commissioned gender impact of COVID-19 in Hawaii report, to be disaggregated by race, ethnicity and indigeneity

(2) Thanked HSCSW for commitment to support, not only financially but in partnership, invite further support if possible

b) Shaw is lead researcher, assisted by Hamada

(1) Report will focus on intersectional and gender impacts during the pandemic

(2) Scope of her work: collect and synthesize data, gather impacts stories from communities, document data knowledge gaps for policy makers - move entry points and mobilization

(3) Timeframe:

   (a) May/June - Data collection

   (b) June - Write up

   (c) July - Finish report - plan to share; Looking for peer reviewers and critical feedback on July draft report

c) Goldstein announced that project received significant fiscal support from TIMESUP organization and Jabola-Carolus also helped to disseminate the information

d) Jabola-Carolus congratulated on the funding, has worked with Tina Chen this past year

(1) UN women is doing a launch of the Feminist Economic Recovery plan, which Shaw has cowritten

e) Shaw requested insights on community data compiling
f) Questions or concerns on Women Impact Report:
(1) Kern asked if aware of DOH data/statistics, Shaw confirmed she is aware
(2) Ostrowski expressed concerns on when funding community projects, in the past Commission funding more data/research versus for needs in the community
(3) Should ensure collaboration with community is balanced, especially for programs who are not able to get funding elsewhere
(4) Shaw thanked for insights

3. Kern thanked for sharing

IV. REPORTS (22 minutes) (12:46-1:00p)
A. Executive Directors’ Report (5 minutes) (12:46-12:50p)
   1. Legislation – Jabola-Carolus:
      a) Final week of session
      b) Resolution of multi-year task MMIWG task force is poised to pass
         (1) Bill list included for reference for full status
      c) Will give full legislative overall and forensics on where the bills went next meeting when Session done
   2. Budget
      a) FIN and WAM completing HB200 CD1, Budget bill by Friday, worksheets will be posted, during the conference committee no details. Possible cut: $11K
      b) DHS, BPMO and HR/accounting sent notice that retro and salary adjustments unpaid over a number of years and will be deducted soon
         (1) Unexpected and will impact current budget because could deduct $7-10K more. Budget has not proportional increased to cover the mandatory CBA salary adjustments
         (2) Due to timing requests will need to be carried over to FY22
         (3) May 20th will find out the final lump sum amount
         (4) Was not informed this was happening, multiple years that this was occurring
   3. Anti-Racism and Diversity Equity and Inclusion Update
      a) CSW received late notice of public who signed up at the last minute to testify today so feel compelled to provide context although not initially planned
      b) HWC is an informal network, not NGO, meant to be community based and CSW operate as bridge between legislative caucus and the women's nonprofits. Has with active, regular 20-25 members
         (1) Jabola-Carolus is one of longest serving members on the Hawaii Women’s Coalition; 10 years w/Cathy Betts as an her intern
         (2) For over 10 years, the community co-chair who represents community in Hawaii has been white
         (3) Validated experiences of testifiers
            (a) No pipeline for WOC to lead and hostile environment that undermines WOC empowerment
(b) Acknowledged not all WOC share same experiences of Hawaii Women’s Coalition but socioeconomic class, colorism and age also factors compound racism

(c) Corroborated systemic racism and harmful behavior extant for entire 10 years; Race determines who is respected and who is considered divisive. Behavior amounts to a whole system, not bad apples, it’s about the culture. Double standard for women of color: rules changed arbitrarily, WOC heavily vetted, WOC assumed to be less smart and experienced, WOC spoken down to, WOC retaliated against and smeared

(4) CSW facilitated Anti-Racism subcommittee and Popolo Project to address internally. ARAC is not exclusive or new group. Subcommittee already existed over a year, anyone can join, and brave group of women who represent about half of the HWC

(5) ARAC put in exhaustive work to create collective demands to address internal issues of racism

(6) Does not serve self-interest of ED to stand with ARAC, additional work, Trinh and ED have been meditating disputes, comforting members, all behind the scenes, no credit, but may be fired for, but right thing to do

(7) ARAC’s demands are modest, rooted in equity

d) Kern acknowledged big issues for discussion

e) Moniz thanked Jabola-Carolus for taking a bold stand because easier to leave and not come back; harder to stay. Issue is not new and can speak from personal experience

(1) Willing to do subcommittee to discuss further

f) Trinh validated experiences of WOC members of Hawaii Women’s Coalition; Racist and harmful behavior not new, has experienced and witnessed it

g) Kern thanked all for sharing as it takes courage

B. Chair’s Report (5 minutes) (12:51-12:50p)

1. Legislative Policy: Vote on Sunshine Law & Delegation to Staff

a) Carried over from previous agendas

b) Previous meetings it was suggested to go with Option #1 delegation

c) MOTION TO ACCEPT OPTION #1 DELEGATION TO STAFF, BY LEE, SECONDED BY MONIZ

d) Lee discussion

(1) Important that the board can delegate to the staff and provide directives previously adopted by the board

(2) ALL IN FAVOR (Ignacio-Neumiller, Ostrowski, Lee, and Hoffeld) - MOTION ADOPTED

e) Transition Planning

(1) Acknowledged Lee and Kern are terming out June 2021, Lee was not sure when
Nominating and electing a chair for the next period

Moniz/Kern support meeting to discuss new chairs

Trinh reminded would need to be put on the agenda

Kern confirmed will put out a Doodle, 20-minute discussion or via email or pre-send in new Chair nominations to Trinh before the end of May

C. State Commissioners’ Reports and Updates (12 Minutes) (12:51-1:02p)

1. Stacey Moniz, Maui Commissioner - (4 Minutes) (12:51-12:52p)
   a) Maui purchased canvas tote bags, with COM seal filling with diaper for women’s drive, slippers, underwear, feminine hygiene products, 100s of these bags distributed
   b) Ma’i Movement working to get feminine products with EBT, not that it will take away from food/cash benefit, but will be its own line-item
   c) Discussion of social media for COM CSW: committee will post under COM’s page, sincere appreciation to State Commission
   d) Continue discussion from August 26 & November 12, 2020, January 19, 2021: Plan for event on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women’s event on May 5th, 2021
      (1) May 1st, next week Saturday event on Maui, to honor MMIWG and happy about the task force will keep fingers crossed
      (2) COM sponsored Lita’s Women biker group event on Maui and online: will have a page that will be posted, and streaming Facebook live from bike ride on Maui and San Diego. With non-profit fiscal sponsor
   e) Ma’i Movement partnership
      (1) Support for county proclamations all over Hawaii on period poverty
      (2) Ma’i Movement awareness events in May
      (3) Moniz will share with Trinh to share

2. Cyd Hoffeld, Hawai’i Commissioner - (4 Minutes) (12:53-12:56p)
   a) Update from Hawai’i Committee on the Status of Women
      (1) Held COH meeting this morning
      (2) Continue on projects: domestic violence, real women’s’ essay: adult women/men, who empowers them and what kinds of situations and events empowered them, open mic
      (3) Finalizing family services directory, draft launching next month
      (4) Human Trafficking Panel in Hilo: Drive in movie format, cars listen to panelists via radio station - July 30th, 2 hours in Hilo
      (5) Equal Pay with other counties
   b) The Status of Women in Hawai’i County Report
      (1) Sent to everyone and was looking to see if any feedback. If there are any databases around the state that have resources that can add to or reference in the report
   c) Ma’i Movement working on county proclamation

3. Edie Ignacio-Neumiller (4 Minutes) (12:57-1:00p)
a) Collaboration with Chair of the Fairfax, Virginia Commission for Women, Lisa Sales, regarding legislation that impacts violence against women and gender equality
   (1)  Sales contacted Ignacio-Neumiller and Jabola-Carolus to discuss collaboration
   (2)  Jabola-Carolus met with Sales, who seeks Senator Mazie Hirono to be champion on reso to extend deadline for equal rights amendment
   (3)  Reso already introduced and other covid/urgent competing matters
   (4)  Next step meeting with Senator Hirono and national organization to see if there’s an opportunity there

b) COK CSW has a Teams meeting at 5pm today
c) High School Essay Contest for Women’s History Month
   (1)  Last year, 14 participants and narrowed down to 4 and received a $100 cash prize, had 7 participants and will decide winners with press release to follow. Will share with Trinh later to share
d) Ignacio-Neumiller working with Ma’i Movement partnership
   (1)  Advised that the proclamation draft has to be submitted to our Mayor, and if any other agencies on Kauai can provided period products to accompany with proclamation reading
   (2)  Ignacio-Neumiller confirmed Kawakami only allows 6 people at events
e) Jabola-Carolus also working with Governor, can host a Zoom and invite Governor, but no ceremony; Will send information once confirmed
f) Maui, Kauai, Hawaii and State Commission will confirm when each proclamation is scheduled to share with all by Trinh

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Commission anticipates going into Executive Session to discuss the perpetuation of HRS 92-5 (a)(2) and HRS 367-2.5 (24 mins) (*29 Mins 1:00p-1:28p)
A. Motion to Adjourn Public Meeting and Enter into Executive Session by Ignacio-Neumiller, seconded by Hoffeld, ALL IN FAVOR - ADOPTED 1:09 p.m.
B. Motion to Adjourn Executive Session and Return to Public Meeting by Lee, seconded by Ignacio-Neumiller, ALL IN FAVOR - ADOPTED 1:33 p.m.
C. Results of Executive Session - Motion by Moniz, seconded by Ignacio-Neumiller to Extend Executive Director Jabola-Carolus’s tenure for two fiscal years (FY2022-2023) - ADOPTED
   1. Executive Session attendees Kern, Lee, Hoffeld, Ostrowski, Moniz, and Ignacio-Neumiller

VI. Announcements (1 minute) (1:29p)
A. Ignacio-Neumiller retired - Congratulations!

VII. Adjournment (1 minute) (1:30p)– MOTION TO ADJOURN by Lee, seconded by Ignacio-Neumiller, ALL IN FAVOR, ADOPTED - ADJOURNED 1:42 p.m.
## Funds Available by Quarter
**For SFY 2022**
**As of July 29, 2021**

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<th>July - Sept 2021</th>
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<th>Jan - Mar 2022</th>
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<td>Transfers (reversions)</td>
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|                      |                  |                |                |                |               |
| **Other Current:**   |                  |                |                |                |               |
| Quarterly Funds      | 10,606.00        | 10,606.00      | 10,606.00      | 12,838.00      | 44,656.00     |
| Expenditures         | (242.46)         |                |                |                | (242.46)      |
| Reversion            | -                |                |                |                | -             |
| Restriction          | (3,198.00)       | (3,198.00)     | (3,198.00)     | (3,199.00)     | (12,793.00)   |
| Trf allotment to payroll | -              |                |                |                | -             |
| Encumbered Claims Balance | -              |                |                |                | -             |
| Transfers (reversions) |                |                |                |                |               |
| **Balance**          | 7,165.54         | 7,408.00       | 7,408.00       | 9,639.00       | 31,620.54     |

**Total Payroll & Other Current funds available:** 156,686.00

**Total funds appropriated by Legislature:**

|                      |                  |                |                |                |               |
| **Payroll**          | 124,823.00       |                |                |                |               |
| **Collective Bargaining** |                |                |                |                |               |
| Add transfer from "Others" |                |                |                |                |               |
| **Funds available**  | 124,823.00       |                |                |                |               |
| **Other Current**    | 44,656.00        |                |                |                |               |
| **Less restrictions** | -                |                |                |                | -             |
| Released Contingency Restriction | (12,793.00) |                |                |                |               |
| **Less transfer to "Payroll"** |                |                |                |                | -             |
| **Funds available**  | 31,863.00        |                |                |                |               |

**Appropriated amounts:**
- Cat 10: 124,823
- Cat 20: 44,656
- Total: 169,479

Office of the Mayor
August 2021
The County of Kauai recognizes the vulnerability faced by women, children, and minorities, especially during the most challenging of times such as the crisis we are currently experiencing with the COVID 19 pandemic.

With the reality that women most often serve as provider and caregiver to their children, one of the first steps Mayor Kawakami introduced in the support and recovery of the COVID 19 crisis was implementing a flexible work schedule. The flexible work schedule was created with the coordination of the Department of Human Resources Director, Annette Anderson; HR Manager II, Janine Rapozo; and HR Manager III, Jill Niitani.

This flexible work schedule included the ability to telework from home with flexible hours, and a 4-10 schedule (four 10-hour shifts). Ideally, this schedule allowed the flexibility of caregivers to work from home and offer not only love and support to their children, curriculum assistance as most schools transitioned to distance learning, and a safe work environment that continued the financial support for the family. Employees’ work product was reviewed by department heads in daily reports.

Additionally, Mayor Kawakami introduced the Kauai Economic Recovery Strategy Teams to support the recovery to the COVID 19 crisis. Under the leadership of the Director of Economic Development, Nalani Brun, ten teams were developed to address and guide the County in recovery and support efforts. The ninety members of these teams were comprised of forty-five women and forty-five men and included a diverse range of ethnic backgrounds along with the expertise in their areas.

We are grateful for the leadership, time, and expertise these team members gave in providing direction and stability in the early days of our COVID response. The Office of Economic Development continues to guide our residents with the Kupaa Kauai webpage https://kauaiforward.com/economic-recovery/.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, also known as the CARES Act, provided the economic stimulus in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of our grantees were awarded funds for programs that support women, children, our houseless community, and kupuna. Please see some of our awardees below.

Food distribution for kupuna and houseless populations:

Seven grants were awarded for food distribution programs to support kupuna and/or houseless populations, awarded $1,279,816 total to support thousands of individuals and families per week. These providers allowed for those most vulnerable to continue to provide healthful food to their families and selves during this economic and health crisis.

- Partners included:
  - E Ola Mau Na Leo O Kauai
  - Kauai Independent Food Bank
  - Kauai Government Employers Federal Credit Union
  - Hoomana
  - Kauai Economic Opportunity
  - Nourish Kauai
  - Hawaii Food Bank
Organization: Church of the Pacific, United Church of Christ  
Project Name: Hookipa Kauai Food Pantry  
Funding: $101,186

- The Hookipa Kauai Food Pantry saw a 133% increase in family participation as a result of the COVID-19 epidemic and 163% increase in the number of individual family members being served from April through December of 2020.
- Provided food supplementation for an average of 495 Kauai residents. The level of participation has continued in 2021.
- The CARES Act funds enabled them to upgrade their facilities and fully serve these people providing a large variety of food items, personal hygiene supplies, pet food and safe and sanitary facilities.
- Distribute approximately 2 1/2 tons of food each week. They also provide food, facilities, and administrative support for a weekly food pantry in Anahola, a bi-weekly food pantry at Kilauea Elementary School, and a weekly delivery of food to local beach camps for houseless residents.

Non-Profit Economic Loss Support Grants:

Organization: Women in Need  
Project Name: WIN's Rent/Mortgage Asst. & Childcare Subsidy  
Funding: $360,000

- Women in Need’s program were able to provide services for 192 households for rent/mortgage assistance and 18 families for childcare subsidy to Kaua‘i residents who have suffered a loss of income due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Organization: Homestead Community Development Corporation  
Project: Micro Business Recovery Project  
Amount: $28,715

- This project made it possible for almost two dozen micro businesses on Kauai to keep their physical locations.
- Made required COVID-19 improvements to their facilities.
- Worked on improving their online business presence.
- 100% of the microbusinesses awarded are owned and operated by Kauai residents, with 5 or fewer employees
- 82% native Hawaiian, female, or minority-owned businesses

Organization: Easterseals Hawaii  
Project Name: Coronavirus Pandemic Support  
Funding: $92,450

- Easterseals Hawaii has been serving the disabilities community for more than 73 years and the generous support from the Kauai County Cares grant will allow us to purchase personal protection equipment and rigorously sanitize our locations to help ensure the health and safety of our program participants, their families and our staff on Kauai. A huge thank you from our more than 200 program participants and more than 30 team members on Kauai.
Organization: Big Brothers, Big Sisters  
Project Name: BBBS Kaua‘i: Connection for a Virtual Future  
Funding: $40,000  
- Big Brothers Big Sisters Hawaii expanded mentoring services virtually, through a new free Mentoring App that connects keiki with supportive mentors who will supervise their mentees as they learn, practice, and master important new skills.  
- Served Kauai youth in need of additional support to deal with the many challenges of 2020 through an online virtual application.  
- Youth were able to continue meeting with their Big Brother or Big Sister despite social distancing requirements and the closure of many spaces and activities.  
- Mentors helped provide an outlet for youth who were facing adversity even before the pandemic began, to offer advice, to model good social emotional health, and to provide a fun supportive distraction from stressful home environments.  
- Youth also received mentoring relationship support from a Big Brother Big Sister staff member who helped to facilitate and monitor conversations as well as provide virtual mentoring activity ideas.  
- 50% of youth are male; 50% of youth are female  
- 75% of youth were native Hawaiian  
- 50% of youth qualified for free or reduced lunch  
- 75% of youth lived with a single parent or guardian  

Mental Health & DV Prevention Grants to Non-Profits:  
Organization: Kauai Economic Opportunity  
Project Name: Mental Health Counseling for Homeless  
Funding: $37,800  
- Through the CARES Act grant, KEO will be providing a licensed private provider who will be available for mental health counseling during scheduled appointments for all participants in the Homeless and Housing Programs. These services include psychological assessments, individual or family counseling with a licensed, certified mental health professional.  

Organization: Women in Need  
Project Name: WIN’s Domestic Violence Intervention Program  
Funding: $40,000  
- WIN’s Domestic Violence Intervention Program is designed to assist clients, who could not otherwise afford to pay for Domestic Intervention classes, who experienced job loss, business closure, furlough and reduction in work hours due to the COVID-19 pandemic.  

Organization: Hale Opio Kauai  
Project Name: Fostering Mental Health Wellbeing, domestic violence, & suicide prevention utilizing Circle powered Social Emotional Learning  
Funding: $250,000  
- Hale Opio Kauai will use the grant to foster Mental Health Wellbeing, Domestic Violence Prevention, and Suicide Prevention utilizing TrustCircle powered Social Emotional Learning Programs for the Kauai community impacted by COVID-19 Pandemic.
Organization: YWCA Kauai  
Project Name: YWCA of Kauai Domestic Violence Services COVID-19 Response  
Funding: $178,587  
- The YWCA will eliminate access and transportation barriers related to COVID-19 for temporary restraining orders by creating a Temporary Restraining Order Mobile Unit.  
- Ensured that all direct service staff can continue to operate in remote work environments.  
- Installed social distancing upgrades in the Shelter and Women's Center.

Educational Support

Organization: Kaua’i Community Science Center  
Project Name: Hookui Project  
Funding: $176,506  
- Purchased a van to create a mobile WIFI STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Culture, and Math) resource.  
- Served K through 12 students, parents, and teachers from Kekaha to Eleele.  
- Provided mobile Wi-Fi and STEAM events.  
- 9 free community events featuring 3D printing and robotics demonstrations.  
- “Brown bag” hands on activities, free books.  
- Provided a small socially distanced community event supporting the welfare of students and allowing for some social interaction.

Organization: ClimbHi  
Project Name: Educational Portal  
Amount: $42,000  
- All of Kauai’s HI DOE schools (high schools, middle schools, and elementary) have a career development tool to connect with business directly  
- Over 200 local businesses are now connected with Kauai educators  
- Contractor for business development was sourced from Kauai  
- Marketing materials sourced from Kaikini on Kauai
Organization: St Theresa  
Project: Distance Learning  
Amount: $28,000

- Integrated technology to continue to enhance education despite the challenges of COVID-19.  
- Bought laptops and improved wifi.  
- Utilized School Speak and Google Classroom.  
- Increased academic rigor for learners and 6th and 8th grade by offering forensic science in participation with Na Lei Wili with expanded network.

### Employment Assistance

With the first launch of the Rise to Work program 280 people were employed with 100 employers, both in non-profit organizations and private businesses. The second launch supported 365 employees with 150 employers. Several of the non-profits previously highlighted in this report were able to extend their services to women, children, and minorities through this employment boost including Malama Kauai, Kauai Food Hub, Hawaii Food Bank, Kauai Independent Foodbank, Nourish Kauai, Hale Opio, and Kauai Community Science Center. We will forward a breakdown of how many women were specifically employed through this initiative when we receive that data.

One of the most visual and beautiful products of the Rise to Work program can be seen in the murals on the Lihue Civic Center. One of the teams included an all-woman team of young artists.

### Housing Assistance

In addition to CARES funding, the County of Kauai has also received funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Our Housing Agency continues to work with the Kauai Government Employees Federal Credit Union in providing rental assistance and soon will also be providing mortgage assistance.

As of Aug. 3, there were 1241 applications requesting just over $8.5 million in rent assistance and $440k in utility assistance. $6,187,439 has been dispersed. We expect this number to increase significantly in late August early September as we issue a second three-months of assistance to already qualified and assisted applicants.
The County of Kauai is a proud partner of the Resolution Supporting and Urging Equity, Inclusion, and Social and Economic Justice Principle in COVID-19 Related Recovery Initiatives and looks forward to continuing to work with the Kauai Commission on the Status of Women.