



HAWAII STATE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
PUBLIC MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 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 Thursday, November 4, 2021.

If you are only interested in attending, please register here and the Zoom invitation will be sent directly to you: <https://tinyurl.com/r44tkhs> Mahalo!

COMMISSIONERS:
CYD HOFFELD
DEJA OSTROWSKI
TERRI ANN MOTOSUE
STACEY MONIZ
EDIE
IGNACIO-NEUMILLER

Executive Director
KHARA
JABOLA-CAROLUS

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- I. PUBLIC NOTICE, CALL TO ORDER, ESTABLISH QUORUM (2 Minutes)
- II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 5, 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 Thursday, November 4, 2021.
 - B. Due to the timing of this meeting, public comments may be addressed at the next Commission meeting.
- IV. REPORTS (46 Minutes)
 - A. Executive Director's Report (14 Minutes)
 1. AG Feedback
 2. Budget
 3. Feminist-Related Submissions for Legislative Session 2022
 - a) HWC List
 - b) OHA
 - c) Independent
 4. Community Events
 - a) Ma'i Movement Report Launch November 16
 - b) Proposal HSCSW Annual Award
 - c) Women's Economic Recovery Report Sponsorship Request Discussion and Vote
 - d) Governor David Ige's Appointee List Evaluated for Gender Equity
 - e) MMIWG Taskforce
 - f) Racial Healing

- B. State Commissioners' Reports and Updates (32 Minutes)
 - 1. Cyd Hoffeld, Hawai'i Commissioner (8 Minutes)
 - a) Hawai'i County Committee Update
 - b) "Malama Makuahine - Year of the Mother 2022" Project
 - 2. Terri Ann Motosue, O'ahu Commissioner (8 Minutes)
 - a) Discussion and Vote HSCSW Commission Conference - Summer 2022
 - 3. Stacey Moniz, Maui Commissioner (8 Minutes)
 - a) HB73/SB183: Change 911 Operators Categorization
 - b) Midwifery Legislation 2022
 - c) Maui CSW Gender Equity in Public Places
 - 4. Edie Ignacio-Neumiller, Kaua'i Commissioner (8 Minutes)
 - a) Breast Cancer Awareness

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS (1 Minute)

VI. ADJOURNMENT (1 Minute)

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
THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 2021, 12:00 PM –1:15 PM
Public Meeting Minutes
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

Members Present: Deja Ostrowski (Ostrowski), Stacey Moniz (Moniz), Edie Ignacio-Neumiller (Ignacio-Neumiller), Terri Ann Motosue (Motosue)

Excused: Cyd Hoffeld (Hoffeld); O'ahu Commissioner – Vacant; O'ahu Commissioner – Vacant

Ex-Officio: Erin Lau, AG

Public: Retchel Oyao

Staff: Khara Jabola-Carolus (Jabola-Carolus), Laney Trinh (Trinh)

- I. **Public Notice, Call to Order (2 minutes)** -- 12:11 p.m. Quorum declared
- II. **Review and approval of minutes (5 minutes)** -- **MOTION to accept minutes from April 21, 2021 by Moniz, seconded by Ignacio-Neumiller – ALL IN FAVOR, ADOPTED**
- III. **PUBLIC COMMENT (20 minutes)** -- No public testifiers
- IV. **REPORTS (22 minutes)**
 - A. Executive Directors' Report (23 minutes)
 1. Chairship
 - a) Open chairship, call for nominees, and overview of chair duties and expectations
 - b) Ostrowski nominated Hoffeld as chair who is absent
 - (1) Moniz seconded the nomination
 - (2) **Motosue moved to vote to have Hoffeld be Chair, seconded by Moniz**
 - (3) **All in favor for Cyd Hoffeld as Chair**
 - (4) **Ayes - Motosue, Ostrowski, Moniz and Ignacio-Neumiller - MOTION ADOPTED - Cyd Hoffeld recommended for Chairship for the Commission**
 2. Budget
 - a) DHS restrictions explained
 - b) Formal budget cut \$7K from Legislature 2021
 - (1) Amount is substantial in terms of sponsorships we give out
 - (2) Can be offset this year by virtual attendance of NACW this year
 - c) First quarter tends to cover bills, subscriptions e.g., \$1,999 annual subscription for Zoom. \$2500 left for the first quarter
 - d) We typically wait until 2nd or 3rd quarter to give bulk of sponsorships
 3. Legislative Session 2022
 - a) State process is onerous to be included in Governor's Package
 - (1) Inclusion in Executive Package does not guarantee support or hearings
 - (2) Submit Gov. Pkg. bills as commissioners to ED as soon as possible

- b) Primary issues - Housing
 - (1) Anticipating biggest housing crisis since Great Depression due to state and federal moratorium ending and red tape for rental assistance
 - (2) Last year Section 8 bills end discrimination against tenants with Section 8 vouchers because currently can be prohibited from applying - did not pass
 - (3) Ostrowski – Support renewed campaign against Section 8 discrimination and eviction expungement which is huge issue separate from others
 - (4) Jabola-Carolus will make special note of this and eviction moratorium
- c) Overhaul of Hawaii Sex Trafficking Statute
 - (1) 2021 overhaul passed into law. Hawaii went from worst to best in nation/ Bill shifts from blaming the women to focusing on blaming structure of exploitation.
 - (2) Still needed for 2022:
 - (a) Reparation fund to take fees from exploiters and distribute to prostituting people and sex trafficking survivors, not law enforcement
 - (b) Decriminalization of the exploited - anyone in the sex trade wherever they fall in the spectrum will not be arrested or charged. Met with AG Connors and HT Coordinator about that and their office is supportive tentatively
 - (c) Paid Sick Leave - Coalition is pushing
 - (d) Paid Family Leave - Fiscal leave, not sure if anyone will be landing on it in 2022
 - (e) List of 2022 Legislative Session women's bills from HWC and community orgs will be available on Oct. 15

4. Gender Impact Assessment

- a) Discussed this at previous meetings and with DBEDT after CARES monies came down
- b) A tool for government departments and employees to think through gender impacted and whether equitable and accessible in funding and programs
- c) Two fellows are analyzing comparative models internationally
- d) Target government, those who don't understand gender equity
- e) Not meant for women's commissions since already aware but they can also utilize
- f) Ignacio-Neumiller asked if it was equitable in funding in government
- g) Jabola-Carolus said it's forward facing not about correcting CARES Act initiatives
 - (1) For ARPA use tool to ensure programs are fair for women
 - (2) Gives a checklist to go through

- (3) Normalizes gender analysis in governance and design of new programs
- 5. Ma'i Movement Survey
 - a) Lack of Hawaii specific data on menstruation, only national data
 - b) Survey instrument is complete, planning to launch it hopefully this Friday
 - c) Helped them to adapt national survey to Hawaii and removed stigmatizing language
 - d) Survey will remain open for one month
 - e) Commissioner assistance needed to disseminate to community members
 - f) Will work with MM to produce a formal report that summarizes findings. Release date this fall
- 6. Community Events
 - a) Motosue and Ostrowski support continuance of public community trainings and brown bags based on hot topics for women
 - b) Topics could include new laws related to the eviction process with Medical Legal Partnership and Ostrowski

V. State Commissioners' Reports and Updates (20 Minutes)

- A. Edie Ignacio-Neumiller, Kaua'i Commissioner (10 Minutes)
 - 1. Status of each county's feminist economic recovery plan
 - 2. Commission director secured groundbreaking gender report from Mayor Kawakami
 - 3. Pleased very detailed, impressed with all the information and accountability on funding
 - 4. Austerity Concerns: YWCA Kauai - lost \$350K funding for Domestic Violence services
 - a) YWCA Kauai is a center for women on Kauai
 - b) Jabola-Carolus advised if any advocacy needs, we can connect with Renee Hamilton, Executive Director
 - c) Renae Hamilton shared with Ignacio-Neumiller:
 - (1) Did not get grant relied on to fund many domestic violence services
 - (2) Therapist for DV clients in/out shelters
 - (3) Children's specialist
 - (4) Housing specialist who assists shelter residents
 - (5) Funding for paid legal for TRO and dispute divorce cases
 - (6) Funding DV advocate
 - (7) lost \$350K for DV services
 - (8) Solicited two grants and TRO specialist and case management
 - (9) Priority to reinstate the children specialist position and some funding for paid legal equivalent to \$70K
 - d) Jabola-Carolus would like to determine where funding originated
 - e) Next step - Ignacio-Neumiller should have it published
 - f) Jabola-Carolus wants to push other islands to issue a report to do the same

- g) Create a women's demands from other items, or committee demands list for ARPA and can build off of Kauai's report
 - h) Jabola-Carolus clarified for Ignacio-Neumiller that Oahu's resolution did not have as much teeth as it did not have an audit, just a resolution
 - (1) Ignacio-Neumiller offered to contact Hoffeld to see status of the Hawaii resolution
- 5. Sponsorship for Women's Leadership every year
 - a) Trinh confirmed in response to Ignacio-Neumiller's comment about working with Renee Hamilton, YWCA Kauai previously
- B. Terri Ann Motosue, O'ahu Commissioner (10 Minutes)
 - 1. Discussion of committee on judicial selection controversy
 - 2. Motosue suggested given the interest in the recent judicial nominee good time to talk about committee to evaluate these nominees
 - a) Proposed report card, grade, or endorsement to give input on the process. Can use to influence the Governor, working with nominees, or judiciary committee at leg, etc.
 - (1) Ostrowski supports idea
 - (2) Approaching it from a lot of different angles of why women don't apply or do apply, and why they are not most qualified
 - (3) Jabola-Carolus like idea of doing an event, reflect on why happened and talk more broadly
 - (4) Motosue will contact Hawaii Women's Lawyers to explore event
 - (5) Moniz agrees, build on momentum, strong community engagement as a community discussion and brown bag
 - b) Board asked for list of Governor Ige's appointees to check for gender equity; Trinh will ask Boards and Commissions for full list and secure by the next CSW meeting
 - c) Ignacio-Neumiller also proposed social media sharing a public statement for issues like this

VI. **Announcements (4 minutes)**

- A. Commissioner Ignacio-Neumiller: Kaua'i project
 - 1. Ignacio-Neumiller undertook passion project to support survivors with YWCA Kauai on July 13th set up a table at Kukui Grove and asked people to donate lightly used bras for an hour. Raised total of 88 bras including donations from Macy's
 - 2. May repeat fundraiser next quarter and refer them to YWCA Kauai Women's center to get a confirmation of donation
 - 3. Board send thanks to Ignacio-Neumiller for great initiative
- B. Housing press conference with women legislators on shortly, maybe will see Jabola-Carolus on news

VII. **Adjournment (1 minute) – MOTION TO ADJOURN by Ignacio-Neumiller, seconded by Ostrowski, ALL IN FAVOR, ADOPTED - ADJOURNED 12:53 p.m.**

Funds Available by Quarter
For SFY 2022
As of November 4, 2021

	<u>July - Sept 2021</u>	<u>Oct - Dec 2021</u>	<u>Jan - Mar 2022</u>	<u>Apr - June 2022</u>	<u>SFY 2022 Total</u>
Payroll:					
Quarterly Funds	32,976.00	32,976.00	32,976.00	25,895.00	124,823.00
Expenditures	(32,976.00)	(10,992.00)			(43,968.00)
Salary adj					-
Trf allotment from others				7,081.00	7,081.00
Transfers (reversions)					-
Balance	<u>-</u>	<u>21,984.00</u>	<u>32,976.00</u>	<u>32,976.00</u>	<u>87,936.00</u>
Other Current:					
Quarterly Funds	10,606.00	7,085.67	7,085.67	7,085.66	31,863.00
Expenditures	(3,834.58)	(994.58)			(4,829.16)
Reversion	(2,359.42)	2,359.42			-
Reversion					-
Restriction					-
Trf allotment to payroll	(4,412.00)	(889.67)	(889.67)	(889.66)	(7,081.00)
Encumbered Claims Balance					-
Transfers (reversions)					
Balance	<u>-</u>	<u>7,560.84</u>	<u>6,196.00</u>	<u>6,196.00</u>	<u>19,952.84</u>
Total Payroll & Other Current funds available					<u><u>156,686.00</u></u>

Total funds appropriated by Legislature:

Payroll	124,823.00
Collective Bargaining	
Add transfer from "Others"	<u>7,081.00</u>
Funds available	<u>131,904.00</u>
Other Current	44,656.00
Less restrictions	(12,793.00)
Contingency Restriction	
Less transfer to "Payroll"	<u>(7,081.00)</u>
Funds available	<u>24,782.00</u>

26 October, 2021

Khara Jabola-Carolus

Executive Director

Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women

Dear Khara,

On behalf of the Hawai'i County Committee on the Status of Women I would like to introduce to you our new initiative "Malama Makuahine, Year of the Mother 2022". We are hoping to have your support at the State level for this initiative, and we are counting on any advice you may have on how to make this effort more effective.

We are envisioning "Malama Maluahine" to be a year-long celebration to honor and promote the health, protection, and well-being of all Mothers, including our "Mother Earth", or Haumea, as she is known in Hawai'i. Our initiative will focus on the following:

1. We will strive to create and promote legislation that strengthens the institution of motherhood, family, and the environment in which we live and breathe. To start our effort we are working with our State and local legislators to have a Resolution and a Proclamation passed;
2. We will recognize the Mother every month in various ways, and will advocate for a healthier, more vibrant planet on which to raise the next generation. We will organize monthly community roundtables, presentations and podcasts in collaboration with local, national, and global organizations in support of the role of the Mother, families, and our "Mother" Earth;
3. We will bring awareness to the struggles and strengths of Mothers today within the Hawai'i County, the State of Hawai'i, nationally, and internationally, and we will speak up for those who cannot speak up for themselves;
4. We will advocate for governmental reforms within the justice system and other agencies who have an impact on the family and on the global environment.
5. We will support Mothers from all backgrounds, genders, and ages, and we will work to strengthen the institution of the modern family, in any form it takes.

6. We will lead activities for community engagement such as donation drives, shelter supports, educational outreach, and various community events. All in person events will be per COVID 19 protocols.

The Hawai'i County Committee on the Status of Women is counting on your support for this initiative.

Sincerely,

Mihaela Ryer, PhD

Chair, Hawai'i County CSW



GOV. MSG. NO. 1164

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

June 23, 2021

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,
President
and Members of the Senate
Thirty First State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki,
Speaker and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty First State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on June 23, 2021, the following bill was signed into law:

HB73 HD2 SD1 CD1

RELATING TO EMERGENCY WORKERS
ACT 063 (21)

Sincerely,

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

ORIGINAL

Approved by the Governor

on JUN 23 2021

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE, 2021
STATE OF HAWAII

ACT063

H.B. NO.

73
H.D. 2
S.D. 1
C.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EMERGENCY WORKERS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that telephone and
2 emergency dispatchers perform critical services under stressful
3 conditions. These services are much more than clerical in
4 nature, yet dispatchers are currently characterized and
5 compensated as clerical employees. Therefore, the legislature
6 believes that telephone and emergency dispatchers should be
7 compensated at a higher rate than personnel who primarily
8 perform clerical functions.

9 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
10 human resources development to review the existing
11 classification and compensation schedules for telephone and
12 emergency dispatchers and employees who perform similar
13 functions and to recommend modifications to their classification
14 and compensation schedules to more accurately reflect their
15 duties and responsibilities.



1 SECTION 2. (a) The department of human resources
2 development shall review the existing classification and
3 compensation schedules for:

4 (1) Telecommunications dispatchers, including police,
5 fire, or emergency medical dispatchers, any Hawaii
6 state hospital telephone operators or call takers, and
7 any persons who perform any combination of these
8 functions;

9 (2) Emergency dispatchers; and

10 (3) Any other telecommunications dispatch personnel who,
11 while operating a 911 automated terminal, uses
12 multiple robust lifesaving procedures and technologies
13 to obtain critical information from the caller,
14 analyzes the information given and, from specialized
15 mapping systems, sends the appropriate and closest
16 available emergency unit, and communicates the best
17 course of action for the caller to take before the
18 arrival of that unit.

19 (b) The department of human resources development may
20 consult with appropriate county human resources personnel to
21 fulfill the purpose of this Act.



1 (c) No later than twenty days prior to the convening of
2 the regular session of 2022, the department of human resources
3 development shall submit a report to the legislature
4 recommending modifications to the classification and
5 compensation schedules reviewed pursuant to subsection (a) that
6 more accurately reflect the critical duties and responsibilities
7 of those positions.

8 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

APPROVED this 23 day of JUN, 2021



GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII



HB No. 73, HD 2, SD 1, CD 1


THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: April 27, 2021
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-First Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021.



Scott K. Saiki
Speaker
House of Representatives




Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives

THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I

Date: April 27, 2021
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate
of the Thirty-First Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i, Regular Session of 2021.


President of the Senate


Clerk of the Senate

MICHAEL P. VICTORINO
Mayor

SANANDA K. BAZ
Managing Director



COUNTY OF MAUI
**COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS
OF WOMEN**

200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793

October 12, 2021

**STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FROM THE MAUI COUNTY
COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

Support for Amendments to Act 32

The Maui County Committee on the Status of Women (MCCSW) stands in full support of the proposed changes to Act 32 proposed by the Hawai'i Homebirth Collective after working on the Hawai'i Home Birth Task Force. The requests laid out in the amendment are reasonable and should be supported as midwives provide an important and valuable role in our communities.

MCCSW believes that passing Act 32 into law (requiring licensure of midwives in the State of Hawai'i) was too harsh and restrictive and unreasonable for many midwives who have been practicing for years and even decades. The numerous data presented by midwives and others showed no justification for such strict regulations, in fact, when compared to hospital births, the outcomes for home births with midwives showed better results.

The proposed amendment seeks to recognize "Traditional Midwives," who are trained according to culture with experienced midwives. The amendment would also recognize "Direct-entry Midwives," to honor the paths of non-traditional and non-certified midwives who have had many years of training with mentors and with peers in addition to formal and informal training and education.

MCCSW believes in the abilities of women to give birth to their babies and we support safe, healthy options for all birthing moms. Act 32 takes away the options for women who would choose a homebirth with a Traditional or Direct-Entry Midwife.

The amendments suggested will have no impact on the already Certified Professional Midwives but would create a way to recognize the training and expertise of Traditional and Direct-Entry Midwives and take away sanctions and punishments that are unnecessary and are another way to oppress women and our reproductive rights. Women have been giving birth to babies since the beginning of time, it is unnecessary to overregulate birth without documented justification.

The Hawai'i State Legislature passed this law based on individual horror stories of bad home birth outcomes that were terrible, but not the norm. Report after report from Hawai'i and from across the country was submitted that showed home birth to be safer than hospitals and midwives didn't push their own experiences with horrible outcomes happening in hospitals because the power structure doesn't flow that way. There are new reports, especially during the pandemic, of the value of having home birth as an option.

Bill 32 as it stands disproportionately affects Black, Indigenous and all People of Color (BIPOC) who are statistically proven to have worse maternal outcomes.

Furthermore, MCCSW recognizes that the wants and needs of women living in Hawaii are diverse. It is a fact that the State of Hawai'i faces unique challenges due to its geographical makeup as an island chain as well as its isolated location in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. The availability of birthing options and resources already varies widely by island. For example, women on Moloka'i and Lana'i are forced to move to either O'ahu or Maui a month before their due date, at their own expense, to give birth in a hospital on another island without their support systems.

Increasing professional pathways for Traditional Midwives and Direct-Entry Midwives may have more significant benefits for BIPOC households, as data shows BIPOC populations are statistically proven to have improved maternal outcomes when working with midwives for prenatal, birth, and postpartum care. Given that 74.5% of the population of Hawai'i is non-white (2019 American Community Survey), it is critical that the women in this State have a diverse range of options that will enable safe birthing care.

This bill disproportionately affects BIPOC midwives and other birth workers because there is no midwife certification program in the State so there is a huge geographical disadvantage for midwife candidates in Hawai'i. In addition, if midwifery students are able to participate in a program on the continent, there are very few preceptors available to supervise the students locally, particularly on neighbor islands. Most of these preceptors are white, intensifying the effect on BIPOC students.

This law is part of the continuum of government overreach into women's reproductive rights. Women have a right to choose not to go to the hospital where outcomes often include a higher rate of unwanted medical interventions, cesarean operations, evacuation births and even forced sterilizations, particularly again in BIPOC women. These are the reasons more women in Hawai'i are seeking midwives and home births so they can have better control over what happens to them while they are giving birth.

Birth is a natural process and has been happening in home settings since the very beginning of time. Birth is an easy money maker for hospitals and the medical systems because it nearly always happens naturally without intervention, but can rake in the billing with each and every intervention. This is the real reason for government regulation and professionalization of a natural, human event.

The Hawai'i State Legislature did not consider the data, testimony and information provided by midwives fairly in comparison to the information provided by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG)

After meeting for nearly a year, the Hawai'i Home Birth Task Force submitted a diminished version of the information to the Legislature. Not included were numerous studies and data verifying the safety and positive outcomes of home birth in Hawai'i presented by the Hawai'i Homebirth Collective, as well as testimony from Cultural Practitioners and organizations from Hawai'i and from other states and countries supporting the valuable work being done by midwives.

Women should be allowed to choose how and where they have their babies without government regulations. Homebirth and midwifery must be an option, especially for BIPOC women and babies.

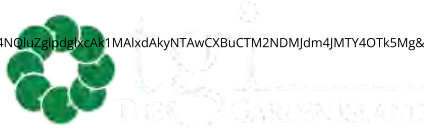
Cultural and Traditional Midwives as well as Direct-Entry Midwives need to be allowed a pathway to practice and ultimately be recognized as professionals and experts in their fields in the State of Hawai'i.

Sincerely,

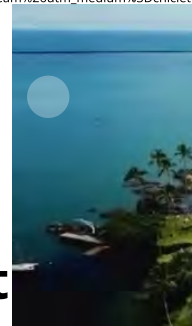
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Griffiths". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Kate Griffiths
Chair,
Committee on the Status of Women

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County recognizes Breast Cancer Awareness Month

By Dennis Fujimoto The Garden Island (https://www.thegardenisland.com/author/dennis-fujimoto/) | Monday, October 25, 2021, 12:05 a.m.

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 (mailto:?subject=County recognizes Breast Cancer Awareness Month&body=https://www.thegardenisland.com/2021/10/25/hawaii-news/county-recognizes-breast-cancer-awareness-month/)


Dennis Fujimoto / The Garden Island

Regina Carvalho of the Kaua'i County Committee on the Status of Women, left, thanks the county Department of Water employees for wearing pink to show their commitment to ending breast cancer, Friday at the DOW offices in Hanalei. Carvalho is the Kaua'i commissioner to the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women. Edie Ignacio, second from left in the group, who has extra pink ribbons for those not having any pink. The group from left includes Judy Hayducsko, DOW engineer and deputy manager, Ignacio Neumiller (DOW retired), Ana Erorita (breast-cancer survivor and DOW employee) and Gina Gudoy. The middle row from left are Dr. Kaohelauli'i, Mary-Jane Akuna and Ferdinand Mariano. At top from left are Mark Knoff, Jas Banwait and chief engineer).

Edie Ignacio Neumiller, Kaua'i commissioner on the Hawai'i State

Commission on the Status of Women, said the wearing of pink by county Department of Water employees is a commission event that started during the time she was a DOW employee.

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I Agree

"This is a status-of-women thing," Neumiller said. "Jonell Kaohelaui'i

picked this Friday to be the photo day when all DOW employees

wearing pink could be photographed. Actually, Jonell adjusted this so, today, every Friday in October is pink day."

Regina Carvalho, chair of the Kaua'i County Committee on the Status of Women, thanked the group, including DOW employee Christine Erorita who is a breast-cancer survivor, for their efforts at ending breast cancer forever.

Through the efforts of the Kaua'i County Committee on the Status of Women, the county has been illuminating with pink lights the Historic County Building and the Mo'ikeha Building at the Lihue Civic Center in observance of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

"Most of us know someone who has been diagnosed with breast cancer, and we have seen the suffering and effects it has had on the patient and their families," Carvalho said.

"Although this is a challenging time, please don't make COVID-19 an excuse. Schedule your regular screening because early detection and diagnosis is key."

This is the fourth year the Historic County Building has been lit with pink lights. The tradition has expanded to the Mo'ikeha Building joining the illuminated buildings for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The public has been encouraged to wear pink throughout the month of October to show support for those affected by breast cancer.

This challenge has been answered by a number of community groups like the Kaua'i Pop Warner Football League, whose staff wear pink at all October games, the players don pink socks, and the officials from the Kaua'i Officials Association don pink during their officiating games at the Pop Warner and Kaua'i Interscholastic Federation football games.

"Building awareness is important, but taking action is essential," Carvalho said. "The Kaua'i Committee on the Status of Women encourages regular screenings and monthly self-exams, because early detection of breast cancer saves lives. Mahalo to the County of Kaua'i and all those who help make our pink vision a reality."

...

Dennis Fujimoto, staff writer and photographer, can be reached at 245-0453 or dfujimoto@thegardenisland.com.

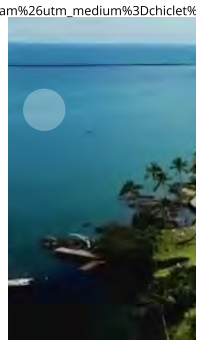
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15 new COVID-19 cases on Kaua'i Saturday

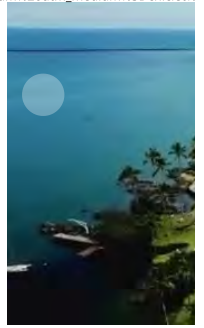
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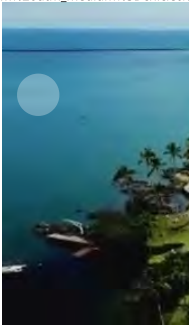
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Upcoming Events

Mon, Oct 25 @12:00pm
ART Kaua'i 2021

Kaua'i Society of Artists Gallery at Ku...
(<https://www.thegardenisland.com/calendar/#/details/ART-2021>)

Mon, Oct 25 @2:00pm
Understanding and Responding to Dementia...
Online
(<https://www.thegardenisland.com/calendar/#/details/UNDERSTANDING-AND-RESPONDING-TO-DEM>)

Wed, Nov 17 @7:00pm
Vail Comedy Show

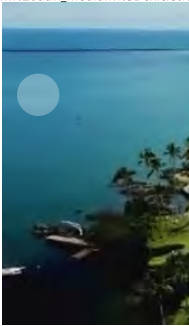
Bridge Street Bar
(<https://www.thegardenisland.com/calendar/#/details/VAI>)

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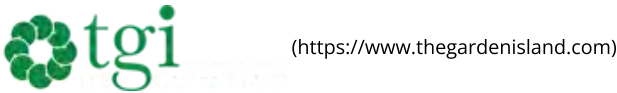
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Lihue, HI - (808) 246-4653

HawaiiUSA Federal Credit Union
Honolulu, HI - (808) 534-4300

Garden Island Mortuary
Lawai, HI - (808) 332-7321

Tire Warehouse Kauai
Lihue, HI - (808) 245-6754

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VOICES: Feminist resolution enacts change

By Edie Ignacio Neumiller, Other Voices | Wednesday, November 3, 2021, 12:05 a.m.

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Ever wonder if the county's Administration office is supporting equity and economic justice during COVID-19's feminist recovery initiative plan?

You might ask what does that mean to you or your 'ohana? This economic plan supports the entire family by sustaining household needs and provided nourishment and services to families on Kaua'i.

Did you know that the County of Kaua'i took the lead and action in the feminist recovery plan after the County Council unanimously voted and approved Resolution No. 2021-04 that was introduced by Councilwoman Felicia Cowden and Council Chair Arryl Kaneshiro on Dec. 16, 2020.

A certified copy of RESOLUTION No. 2021-04: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AND URGING EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE PRINCIPLES IN COVID-19 RELATED RECOVERY INITIATIVES was transmitted to the United States Senator Brian E. Schatz, United States Senator Mazie K. Hirono, United States Representative Ed Case, United States Representative Kaiali'i Kahele, Governor David Y. Ige, Lt. Governor Josh Green, Senate President Ronald D. Kouchi, Representative Daynette "Dee" Morikawa, Representative Nadine K. Nakamura, Representative James Kunane Tokioka, the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women, the Kaua'i County Committee on the Status of Women, Mayor Derek S.K. Kawakami, and the Administrative heads of each County department, agency and office.

On Sept. 14, 2021, the County published a press release titled: "County continues efforts for feminist economic recovery plan." The press release mentioned Resolution 2021-04 and its efforts that included formulating the Kaua'i Economic Recovery Strategy Team (KERST) under the leadership of Office of Economic Development

Director Nalini B. Prichard has included a diverse 90-member team. By clicking "I Agree" you are acknowledging and agreeing to our updated Privacy Policy (<http://www.oahupublications.com/terms-of-service/>) and our Terms of Service (<http://www.oahupublications.com/terms-of-service/>).

As Kaua'i's representative to the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women, I want to commend and applaud Mayor Kawakami and the KERST team for stepping up in keeping Kaua'i visible with its efforts on the recovery plan during the pandemic supporting families.

Here is a list of awardees who received funding listed in the August 2021 Office of the Mayor's Report to the County of Kaua'i Commission on the Status of Women on the Resolution Supporting and Urging Equity, Inclusion, and Social and Economic Justice Principles in COVID-19 Related Recovery Initiatives that supported programs for women, children, houseless community, and kupuna.

- Food distribution for kupuna and houseless populations (partners): E Ola Mau Na Leo O Kaua'i, Kaua'i Independent Food Bank, Kaua'i Government Employers Federal Credit Union, Ho'omana, Kaua'i Economic Opportunity, Nourish Kaua'i, Hawai'i Food Bank, Church of the Pacific, United Church of Christ (Project: Hookipa Kaua'i Food Pantry)
- Non-Profit Economic Loss Support Grants: Women in Need (Project WIN's Rent/Mortgage Ass. & Childcare Subsidy), Homestead Community Development Corporation (Project: Micro Business Recovery Project), Easterseals Hawaii (Project: Coronavirus Pandemic Support), Big Brothers, Big Sisters (Project: BBBS Kaua'i Connection for a Virtual Future)
- Mental Health & Domestic Violence Prevention Grants to Non-Profits: Kaua'i Economic Opportunity (Project: Mental Health Counseling for Houseless), Women in Need (Project: WIN's Domestic Violence Intervention Program), Hale Opio Kaua'i (Project: Fostering Mental Health Wellbeing, Domestic Violence Prevention & Suicide Prevention), YWCA Kaua'i (Project: YWCA of Kaua'i Domestic Violence Services COVID-19 Response)
- Educational Support: Kaua'i Community Science Center (Project: Hookui Project), ClimbHi (Project: Educational Portal), St. Teresa (Project: Distance Learning)
- Employment Assistance: Rise to Work – Non-Profit Grants (e.g., Ag. IT, and Conservation Workers), County of Kaua'i (Project: Rise to Work)
- Housing Assistance: County of Kaua'i received funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to work with Kaua'i Government Employee's Federal Credit Union in providing rental assistance and mortgage assistance.

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Edie Ignacio Neumiller is the Kaua'i Commissioner for the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women

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Vail Comedy Show

Bridge Street Bar
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