



NAME: Rocco Vick

ISLAND: Kailua Kona, Hawaii (Big Island)

BIO: Rocco has lived in Kailua Kona on the Big Island for 12+ years. He and his husband own and operate one of the only LGBTQ+ bars on Hawaii island called My Bar Kona for 10+ years now. In that time, My Bar Kona has become a safe space for LGBTQ+ folks to come together to dance, enjoy a show, and socialize with travelers and locals alike. Five years ago, he along with his husband and one of their close friends, decided it was time to form a non-profit for Kona Pride. In the five years Kona Pride has been an entity, it's yearly festival has grown to now a whole weekend of events every September to celebrate the diversity of our rainbow ohana here in West Hawaii.

PRIORITIES: Rocco's goals of being a voice for our growing community on the Big Island and a focus on Hawaii's support of inter-island pride committees. Also, seeing that the state continues to financially support our supplementary healthcare non-profits such as Kumukahi Health and Wellness, that fill a tremendous space providing LGBTQ+ folks access to HIV/STI testing and treatments and gender affirming care.