



PŪPŪKAHI

HAWAI'I ISLAND UNITED WAY NEWSLETTER
FIRST QUARTER 2022



KEEPING OUR HAWAI'I ISLAND COMMUNITY INFORMED

The **Hawai'i Island United Way (HIUW)** is honored to serve the Hawai'i Island community for over 54 years. We plan to continue serving our community to improve the lives of our neighbors.

By partnering with local organizations, corporations, foundations, and individuals in our community, we are able to help 43 health and human services programs unique to our island. We need your help to continue to provide these much-needed program services.

[DONATE](#)

[VOLUNTEER](#)

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Message from our President

Karen Davis, President & Chief Professional Officer



“When the going gets tough, the tough get going” – a familiar term to many, has been on full display in our community in these most recent times. This year as Hawai‘i Island United Way continues its efforts to raise funds to support our 33 nonprofit partner agencies with over 40 critical human service programs focused on health, education and finance, I am gratified with the results. We are so close to reaching our 2021-2022 campaign goal as of April to raise funds through our workplace and general campaign, grants, and our most recent fundraising event. We are so grateful for the amazing work that our nonprofit partners engage in every day through the toughest of times to improve the quality of health in our community. We are equally grateful to continue to be able to support their missions.

With the past two years firmly behind us, and moving full steam ahead, Hawai‘i Island United Way is more than ever, resolved to stand with the community and continue to do our part to strengthen and improve upon the future of the people of Hawai‘i island. We could not reach our mission to unite people, organizations, and resources without the generosity and support of our community, donors, local government, volunteers, and partners. Mahalo nui loa to each of you! I also want to remember and honor HIUW’s past volunteers and board members for their time and commitment to the organization, including the late Mr. Russell Chin. He was a gracious individual who did so much for HIUW and the community for many years. Moe me ka maluhia Russell.

I also want to express my gratitude to the current Board of Directors and staff who are among our most important assets. We need all of you in order to continue this collective journey to ensure the overall health of our community and to help change lives for the better. Won’t you unite and join us as we embark on another journey to fulfill HIUW’s mission to serve Hawai‘i island? Life is short. Let’s make it count by continuing to lend a hand and heart to those who are most in need.

Yours, in service,



Karen Davis, President & CPO

Board Member Highlight

Breeani Sumera-Lee, Board Chair

A‘ohe hana nui ke alu ‘ia means “no task is too big when done together.” I have gotten to experience just how true this saying is in my work with Hawaii Island United Way. During these especially challenging times, Hawai‘i Island has remained resilient and steadfast in helping our keiki and our kūpuna. It is so inspiring to see the impact of our efforts. I am proud to be a part of such a beautiful community. Mahalo to our Board of Directors and partner agencies for helping make our mission to uplift and strengthen our community, a reality. I am honored to be a small part of HIUW.



MAHALO

MAHALO

MAHALO

MAHALO

GENEROUS DONATIONS PERSIST THROUGH THE PANDEMIC

BY MINGXIA HAWKINS
INTERN

Through these difficult times of increasing inflation, high unemployment, exponentially increasing gas prices and the coronavirus pandemic, there has been an increased need for food, medical supplies, and home care assistance. During the pandemic resources have been scarce, but thanks to generous donations we have been able to help those in need.

Every community has their strengths and ours is our people. Hawaii Island United Way would like to thank businesses and community members who donated during these difficult times.

*You are the true example of **Living United!***



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

A donation of any amount will make a difference in someone's life. If you cannot contribute financially, please consider donating your time. If you are interested in volunteering, check out the next page.

If you are wondering how your contributions are making a difference in our community, check out our Impact Story on page 5.

Mahalo to Helco, Matson, FHB, and all of our donors!



“
*It's not how much we
give, but how much
love we put into giving.*

-Mother Teresa



TIPS FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS

BY CAPPI WINTERS
INTERN

In honor of National Volunteer Month, here are some tips for those who have never been a volunteer:

- Decide how much time you can offer.
- Research opportunities around you- many local non-profits will have volunteer opportunities!
- Think about how YOU can benefit from volunteering- what skills can you gain?
- Research the organization you wish to volunteer with- what are their values? Their goals?
- It's okay to take your time and find the perfect volunteer position!



Volunteer Spotlight

I VOLUNTEER FOR HAWAI'I ISLAND UNITED WAY

“

“My wife Paulette and I truly enjoy volunteering with HIUW. We are able to have an indirect interaction with our community through HIUW that has a positive impact for many families here on the Big Island. Whether helping with fundraising activities or physically supporting their many functions such as Luck of the Irish and Mayor's Cup Golf Tournaments, An Evening in Paradise and other community events, the personal satisfaction of giving behind the scenes is just an awesome feeling. I believe that our community is a better place through the many volunteers and donors who make and take the time to give to HIUW and to those who directly benefit from the many programs that HIUW supports. We Support Hawaii Island United Way by volunteering and you should too. ”

- William "Bill" Wilson



Choke Mahalos Bill for supporting our mission!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON VOLUNTEERING VISIT: HIUW.ORG/VOLUNTEER/

CHANGE DOESN'T HAPPEN ALONE.

Mahalo

TO OUR 2020-2022 PARTNER AGENCIES

We wanted to give a big CHEEHOO! To our partner agencies for their incredible work in the Hawai'i Island community

Alzheimer's Association Aloha Chapter • American National Red Cross Hawaii County • Big Island Substance Abuse Council • Big Island Mediation Inc. DBA West Hawaii Mediation Center • Boy Scouts of America, Aloha Council • Boys & Girls Club of the Big Island • Brantley Center, Inc. • Bridge House, Inc. • Child and Family Service • Family Support Hawai'i • Friends of the Children's Justice Center of East Hawaii • Girl Scouts of Hawai'i, Inc. • Habitat for Humanity Hawai'i Island Hale Kipa • Hāmākua Youth Foundation • Hawai'i County Economic Opportunity Council • Hawai'i Island Adult Care, Inc • Kumukahi Health and Wellness (formally HIHAF) • Kona Adult Day Center • Hawaii Island Home for Recovery Inc. (HIHR) • HOPE Services Hawai'i, Inc. • Hospice of Hilo DBA Hawai'i Care Choices • Hospice of Kona • Ku'ikahi Mediation Center • Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i • Mental Health Kokua • Neighborhood Place of Puna • P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc. • PATCH - People Attentive to Children • The Arc of Kona • The Food Basket, Inc. • The Salvation Army Kona Corps • YWCA Hawaii Island



IMPACT MO'OLELO: ADULT DAY HEALTH PROGRAM

ARC OF KONA

Many of us felt socially isolated during the stay-at-home order but then imagine having the only support you depended on taken away. Even though the in-person Adult Day Health Program closed temporarily, the Arc of Kona was able to provide various services via telehealth with a secured HIPAA compliant video conferencing system.

As so many, Arc of Kona's clients depended on this program, one client in particular and their family decided to try the one hour a day, five days a week telehealth service. Not only was technology a struggle but the client didn't feel comfortable in the beginning. There were days of sessions cut short and the clients showed no interest in the virtual activities.

As time passed during the pandemic and through each person's hard work, this client became more engaged in the program and is currently running their own one-hour sessions. In these sessions they enjoy baking, mask making, arts and crafts, music and story time. "This story illustrates that increases in inclusion and independence can occur in a variety of different ways including via electronic service delivery," expressed by an Arc of Kona representative.

As COVID caused many things to change around us we learned to adapt and Pūpūkahi I Holomua (Unite to move forward).

Mahalo to the Arc of Kona for all their hard work in the Hawaii Island community.



19TH ANNUAL LUCK OF THE IRISH GOLF TOURNAMENT

BY CHELSY WALPORT
CAMPAIGN & SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR

The Hawaii Island United Way's 19th Annual Luck of the Irish Golf Tournament was held on March 20th & 21st, 2022. This long-awaited event was a tremendous success bringing participants together to help raise money and awareness. This is one of HIUW's largest fundraising events. All proceeds from this event will benefit the 43 health and human service programs that help Hawai'i Island families and individuals each year.

The first night involved a silent auction reception at the Outrigger Kona Resort and Spa. A night full of great company, ono pupus, and live music from a local Hilo band called Body and Soul. Guests were able to place bids on auction items like a round of golf at Kohanaiki, a 2 night stay at the Royal Kona Resort, a snorkeling tour with Body Glove Hawaii, and so much more. Day two of the event consisted of a beautiful day for golf and fun in great weather conditions held at the pristine Jack Nicklaus designed golf course at The Club at Hōkūli'i.

Continued on next page.



Mahalo!

TO OUR LUCK OF THE IRISH SPONSORS!

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HōKULI'I

Major Sponsor

POT OF GOLD

Spectrum



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LEPRECHAUN



ACI
Communications, Inc.



CLOVER



R.M. TOWILL CORPORATION

Hawai'i Island Mayor Mitch Roth, and other respected individuals were among those to participate and help raise money for a good cause — in addition to some healthy competition with one another on the golf course.

Winning Team: Vernon Kato & Ryan Lee.

Mahalo to all of sponsors, donors, volunteers, and staff for making our 19th Annual Luck of the Irish Golf Tournament a huge success! We would also like to give a special shoutout to our Major Sponsor, The Club at Hokulia. The General Manager Jason Trim, Golf Pro Ryan Cole, and their staff for their phenomenal support of our event.

We are currently planning our Mayor's Cup Golf Tournament. Hope you can join us for this fun-filled event. Connect with us on social media for Mayor's Cup updates!



Mahalo!

TO OUR LUCK OF THE IRISH DONORS!



KONA COFFEE TOTES



AKATSUKA ORCHID GARDENS

SJ Jewelry



KADOTA LIQUOR



OUTRIGGER KONA RESORT AND SPA



Hawai'i Island United Way is dedicated to uniting people, organizations, and resources to improve the education, financial stability, and health of our island's communities. In response to COVID-19, we are continuing to support front-line community response efforts through the 'Eleu Grants Program. We will continue to partner and award 'Eleu grants to address the most urgent needs in our community.

Ho'omaika'i

TO OUR 'ELEU GRANT RECIPIENTS

American National Red Cross Hawaii County • Arc of Kona • Big Island Substance Abuse Council • Boys & Girls Club of the Big Island • Brantley Center • Bridge House, Inc. • Child and Family Service • Cooper Center Council • Friends of Big Island Drug Court, Inc. (FOBIDC) • Friends of the Future • Full Life • Hamakua Youth Foundation • Hawai'i County Economic Opportunity Council • Hawai'i Diaper Bank program • Hawai'i Rise Foundation • Hawai'i Island Home for Recovery, Inc. HIHR • Homeless Task Force • Honeybee Education • Hospice of Kona • Hui Mālama I Ke Ala 'Ūlili (huiMAU) • Island of Hawaii YMCA • Ka'u Rural Health Community Association • Kailapa Community Association • Kanaka 'O Puna • Ku'ikahi Mediation Center • La'i'ōpua 2020 • Malama O Puna • Mental Health Kokua • North Kohala Community Resource Center • 'O Maku`u Ke Kahua Community Center • Pa'a Pono Miloli'i Inc • Paauilo Mauka Kalopa Community Association(PMKCA) • Pahoa Lava Zone Museum • PATCH • Small World Preschool • St. James' Episcopal Church • The Aloha Club of Hilo • Unitarian Universalists of Puna • Vibrant Hawai'i • West Hawai'i Mediation Center • YWCA of Hawaii is Developmental Preschool



Save the Date

OCTOBER 2022

Teams Unite! Join us for our Annual Mayor's Cup Golf Tournament fundraiser! We once again tee up to raise money for our Hawaii Island communities. Follow us on social media for an official announcement and details coming soon.

