# Maui Strong

**August Newsletter** 

뢌 HO'ŌLA NĀ PUA

#### Aloha all,

The devastation in Maui is beyond what most of us can imagine, and our hearts go out to everyone who has been affected – particularly the keiki who are now more vulnerable than ever. When we were given our name, Ho'ōla Nā Pua, it was intended to bring forth new life to Hawai'i's children experiencing unimaginable trauma. We are in a moment where the need for culturally competent, trauma informed care is needed now more than ever. It's important to remember that we are still in the initial crisis phase, even though it has been weeks, and that the healing process will take time. Many of us wonder what we can do to help right now. Perhaps the most important thing to remember is that help will be needed for a long time to come, and that we need to continue to show up long after the actual fires have been put out. To that end, our team is primed to respond, and we are ready to mobilize to support the people of Maui in whatever way we can now and into the future.

*Jamee Miller Executive Director* 

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AN EVENING OF HOPE SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 PRESENTING SPONSOR Southwest:

Ho'ōla Nā Pua's 8th ANNUAL PEARL GALA is set to return on Saturday, September 30, 2023 at The Four Seasons Resort O'ahu at Ko Olina. The night will be filled with exceptional live entertainment, a multi-course dinner, live and silent auctions, a curated wine pull, hope-filled testimonials, live streaming, and the Advocacy Awards.

## **Individual Tickets**

Individual tickets are now live. Special discounts are offered for law enforcement, First Responders, Firefighters, and all of those dedicated to keeping our lives safe.



## **Call for Sponsors**

It's not too late to sponsor a table at the Gala. There are a few remaining Diamond level (\$15,000), Sapphire level (\$10,000), and Topaz level (\$5,000) tables for you to enjoy the night while supporting Ho'ōla Nā Pua. For more information, please email Alana Anderson at alana.anderson@hoolanapua.org.

# DONATE TODAY TO MAKE A

DIFFERENCE

Please join us in shining the light. #ShineTheLight #NightOfHope #HoolaNaPua



# **47th Annual Honolulu Intertribal Pow Wow** September 9, 2023 – September 10, 2023

A Pow Wow is a cultural gathering for Indigenous people to celebrate their cultural traditions and join together as a community.

Because a disproportionate number of victims and survivors of sex trafficking are members of Indigenous communities, Ho'ōla Nā Pua will have an educational info table at the event where we will share about our Hōkū Services program. With issues like these, it is crucial to engage in intercultural conversation and collaboration.

> CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION



## Summer Jam 2023 Hilo Civic Auditorium July 29, 2023

At this annual event put on by Big Island Substance Abuse Council, Hoʻōla Nā Pua shared information about what sex trafficking looks like in Hawaiʻi, how we serve vulnerable communities, and what individuals can do to help address systemic issues with attendees. It was an honor to be at this large public gathering with over 1,000 children and adults in attendance and share about our work.





# World Day Against Trafficking in Persons Sign waving event on Oahu and Hawai'i Island July 30, 2023

Hoʻōla Nā Pua would like to thank our extended 'ohana for joining us in sign waiving to raise awareness for World Day Against Trafficking in Persons on July 20, 2023! With over 80 people on Oʻahu and 100 on Hawaiʻi Island in attendance, we were happy to see that the community is becoming more energized in their efforts to eliminate the abuse that impacts our most vulnerable populations here in Hawai'i.







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## **KJEC Institute** Guest Speaking at the East-West Center August 4, 2023

The KJEC Institute is a free 12-day intensive experiential educational program that brings together 20 university students from Korea and Japan. This year, Ho'ōla Nā Pua was invited to the institute to speak about our work and its correlation with this year's program "Think Globally, Act Locally." We're grateful to Mathew Goldberg for extending this invitation to us, and for all those who we were able to connect with at this event!



## AUW Workplace Campaign Kick-Off Rally Sign waving event in Honolulu

August 9, 2023

Mahalo to our own Jamee Miller, Tammy Bitanga, and Alana Anderson for representing Ho'ōla Nā Pua in Aloha United Way's Workplace Giving Campaign Kick-Off Rally in Honolulu. The sign-waving event is a decades long tradition joining the non-profit and the business communities to rally together for change. Ho'ōla Nā Pua (AUW #80370) is a proud recipient and supporter of AUW's Workplace Giving Campaign.





# Calvary Chapel Pastor's and Leader's Conference

August 18 - August 19, 2023

It was great to meet people from around the state and share our mission at the Calvary Chapel Pastors and Leaders Conference! Dozens of people stopped by our HNP table to learn more about what sex trafficking looks like in Hawai'i, how HNP serves vulnerable communities, and what individuals can do to help address systemic issues.

Mahalo nui to Mona & Fabian Loo for

inviting us to share the information about Ho'ola Na Pua's Community Programs!

# Soroptimist International of Honolulu

This past month, we gratefully received a generous donation of \$1,000 from Soroptimist International of Honolulu. HNP Executive Director, Jamee Miller attended Soroptomist's monthly meeting, where she received a check for the organization.

We would like to extend our heartfelt mahalo to Soroptimist International Honolulu for their support of Hoʻōla Nā Pua, and for the work they do supporting girls and women around the world.



Pearl Llaven Mpdate



# **Reflecting On A Summer Of Fun**

Aloha friends and supporters of Pearl Haven,

The youth have been having a fun month participating in traditional summer fun activities as well as continued learning to keep their minds active and focused on the opportunities they have for their futures.

As part of their summer learning, the youth all completed a CPR and First Aid course and earned their certifications. The youth learned important life-saving skills and all about how to assess someone who may need help. The youth shared that "there was a lot of surprising situations that can come up and I feel like I would know what to do or how to find help."

In their cultural arts programming, the youth had the opportunity to go to Kapena's music studio and watch him record music and learn how recording in the studio works. As a special opportunity, the youth got to be a part of the chorus of one of the songs being recorded that day! What a wonderful and inspiring day for our kids. Thank you Kapena for helping our teens feel connected to the healing power of music and for being a part of their journeys toward better health and limitless opportunities. One of the youth shared "I loved being a part of this today and it was so fun to learn about how the music is made."

The youth have really been enjoying their equine therapy programming. The team with Kualoa Ranch have been so generous with their time, talents and horses for our teens to increase their learning and interactions with the horses. This month, they learned about horseback riding and had the chance to go on a ride at the ranch. The rhythmic movement of horseback riding is soothing and healing. It encourages a sense of connection to self and the horse, as well as the nature around them as they engage mind and body in the ride. The youth were all smiles and really appreciated the opportunity to get out and spend more time with the horses. The youth shared statements such as "that was so fun!" and "I thought it was going to be scary and then I liked it and wasn't scared anymore."

Some of the youth had the chance to travel to the mainland to visit the Lake Tahoe area and participate in a youth camp of sports and summer activities. Youth from several states arrived in Nevada to compete in sports activities and to share with other youth about where they are from and what is special and unique about Hawaii and their culture. One of the youth had never been on a plane or off the island to see the mainland and they were so excited to participate and be a part of a larger network of youth working on their own paths to wellness.

As summer comes to an end and the youth are back in fall programming with regular school hours and therapeutic groups and individual sessions, they are learning the natural rhythm of a soothing routine and how to manage transitions that come along with the changing seasons of the year.

Thank you to everyone for being a part of this program focused on healing and wellness. We appreciate all of you.

Mahalo, Elizabeth Porter Program Director



# Hōkū Group Update



Feeling emotions is completely normal, and sometimes we forget to give ourselves grace when we experience them. In our Hōkū groups this month, we empowered youth with the concept of 'riding the wave' of their emotions. Instead of fighting these perfectly normal feelings, we discussed healthy ways we can show ourselves kindness as these waves ebb and flow and eventually pass. Together, we illustrated what our various 'waves' may look like depending on what we are feeling.

Interested in becoming a Hōkū volunteer? Visit our website at <u>www.hoolanapua.org</u> for more information. Want to donate supplies? Check out our <u>Amazon Registry.</u>



To learn more about the progress of Pearl Haven and receive a copy of our booklet, *Two Years in Review,* <u>click this link.</u>



## Interested in becoming a mentor?

Join our team of essential mentors on O'ahu and Big Island! All young people deserve a trustworthy dedicated adult in their lives. Many vulnerable youth in our community would benefit greatly from your participation in our Starfish Mentoring program. Our mentors are paired with boys and girls ages 11–24.

If you're interested, join us for an interest meeting on September 6, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. HST.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER



## September Education Webinars Wednesday's 4:00 - 5:00 p.m

Aloha! Let's join together and raise awareness to the reality of Sexual Exploitation. Check out the list of upcoming events where we will host live, free, public webinars.

#### September 6th – CSEC: An Overview

Myth vs reality, trafficking in Hawaii, Risk vs Protective Factors, identification and response.

#### September 13th - CSEC: Trauma Informed Response

Checklists and hotlines serve a purpose, trafficking and trauma go hand-in-hand. Our response needs to meet survivors where they are.

### <u>September 20th – Online Safety</u>

We'll take a look at some of the dangers of the internet and some tips and considerations to stay safe online.

#### September 27th - Practical Ways to Fight Sex Trafficking Today

You might not be able to end trafficking today, but you can do something to fight it! We will provide some action steps.

For more information, please contact Eric Madden at eric.madden@hoolanapua.org

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