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LETTER
FROM THE
FOUNDER
& CEO

We welcomed 2021 with HOPE and GRATITUDE. Today, our hope is that each of you, together with your loved ones, are thriving and in good health! And our gratitude is for your steadfast support amid the shared challenges of a two-year global pandemic. Your unwavering commitment has sustained Hoʻōla Nā Pua's essential services through these unprecedented times. We are forever grateful for your generous partnership.

As is our tradition at Hoʻōla Nā Pua, we embrace each new year with a 'word of life' that sets a trajectory for the year ahead. A single word that serves as a guiding compass to keep our efforts focused and resilient. 2021 launched with the word **ABUNDANCE**. In our mission, the word abundance has various meanings; our goal was to engage 2021 with an "abundance" mindset. As a team, we remained committed to the courageous work of social justice with determined purpose, faithful stewardship, and gratitude. We know that when gratefulness abounds, fear disappears, and abundance appears. For more than 12-years of service to our youth, we have received abundant blessings from each of you and our hearts are overflowing with gratitude for your support of this vital mission and its essential work.

2021 will be remembered as a milestone year in the history of Ho'ōla Nā Pua. The Bromley Family Pearl Haven Campus opened its doors in June of 2021, amid an otherwise crushing pandemic with a myriad of obstacles that had the potential to keep those doors closed. Together, we not only opened Pearl Haven, we welcomed the first cohort of youth who are thriving in transformational healing as a result of your abundant generosity, confidence and trust. We are humbled to offer this residential treatment center to the most vulnerable youth of Hawaii and those beyond our shores; establishing a new standard and model of care to end child exploitation and sex trafficking.



The global pandemic also afforded society with a compelling awakening, raising the level of the awareness, conversation and embolden community advocacy against trafficking and exploitation, the pandemic within the pandemic. Remember, that it is only through collective public and private sector partnership that we can achieve systemic change on this issue.

2021 also marked a new season of transitional growth for Ho'ōla Nā Pua, with executive expansion and organizational restructuring for both programmatic operations and Pearl Haven leadership. Change is not easy, it often requires stepping outside of a comfort zone, however, each HNP decision is based on sustaining support for the youth and communities we serve. As pioneering advocates, they remain our priority and focus as we continue to drive transformational impact in this service sector. Ho'ōla Nā Pua will continue to press forward with our longstanding commitment and founding creed of "shining the light into the darkness."

I am incredibly proud of our staff, volunteers, law enforcement, fellow agencies and community stakeholders in their relentless support of Hoʻōla Nā Puaʻs mission. With a progressive and innovative approach, we are creating new pathways of healing to bright futures for exploited youth, while advocating for the essential services desperately needed by survivors of trafficking. Now, more than ever, we depend on your support and partnership. 2022 has already ushered in a new season and mandate for Hoʻōla Nā Pua, with an abundance of hope for Hawaii's youth.

With Aloha,

Jessica Muñoz Founder I CEO

MSN, APRN-RX, FNP-BC



# **OUR MISSION OUR JOURNEY**

Hoʻōla Nā Pua, meaning 'new life for our children,' was founded to shine the light on the dark criminal enterprise of sex-trafficking. The journey of Hoʻōla Nā Pua began over a decade ago when Jessica Muñoz, at the time a Nurse Practitioner in a Honolulu emergency room, observed physical and psychological abuse in the youth admitted to ER. Muñoz acutely identified a pattern of undetected and misidentified harm, identified now as the exploitation of children. It was evident that the gravity of the problem was greater than anyone knew, and it immediately became clear that more needed to be done. Muñoz embraced her charge, committing to "shine the light" on this crisis and began the journey of Hoʻōla Nā Pua.

"We are committed to the prevention of sex trafficking while providing a continuum of care for children who have been exploited."

#### **RESILIENCE**

Hoʻōla Nā Pua's journey has been one of resilience, in many ways taught to us by the youth we have the privilege of serving. Their courage to seek healing and new beginnings, in the face of unspeakable adversity is our daily inspiration to adapt amid the challenges of this work. Resiliency builds strength, which produces growth. As a young organization, we have in many ways grown alongside our youth.



#### **GROWTH**

Over the last decade, Hoʻōla Nā Pua has significantly grown, not only in its organizational infrastructure, but moreso, in its capacity to fulfill its mission.

- We have shifted from a volunteer-led organization to being volunteer-supported with executive leadership at the helm together with board and stakeholder advisors.
- We have gained profound knowledge on the complex issue of child sex-trafficking and exploitation.
- We have developed progressive and proven programming to engage community advocacy, raise government and legislative awareness, while preventing exploitation of at-risk youth.
- We have diligently pursued education and training to understand the individualized needs of our youth to better implement HNP's trauma-informed methodologies designed to garner sustainable healing and reintegration into society.
- Amid the global pandemic, HNP's organizational growth was seen across all of our community programs; but 2021 reached a milestone of exponential progress with the opening of The Bromley Family Pearl Haven Campus; the first residential treatment program of its kind for Hawaii's exploited youth. The opening of Pearl Haven also set a new standard and model of care that is garnering potential for replication on a national level.

#### **COMMUNITY**

At the heart of Hoʻōla Nā Pua's advocacy is community. Our efficacy and legacy is only as strong as the partnerships found within the communities we serve. Our hope is that Hawaii, as a community, will be united in a 'no-tolerance' advocacy standard to protect our youth. And this collective effort is seen every single day, with hundreds of volunteers, thousands of mentorship hours, and financial or in-kind support that sustains the essential work of HNP making what was once a vision, a true reality. Unified, community commitment, starting in each home, school and neighborhood is what will eliminate sex-trafficking.Hoʻōla Nā Pua is honored to be a trusted organization that ensures each exploited heart will receive the care they need.

#### SYSTEMS CHANGE

Hoʻōla Nā Pua has boldly disrupted the systemic narrative around child sextrafficking. From its pioneering days in 2009, it has consistently challenged both the response approach and classifications of the abuse, especially as it pertains to the exploitation of minors in Hawaii. While HNP does not claim to be experts on the crisis, we do work relentlessly to keep the dialogue top-of-mind and at the forefront of legislative reform with government officials, law enforcement, partnered agencies on the state and federal levels and key stakeholders - all of whom have the power to drive a radical systemic change that is essential to ending the exploitation of children.

# THE FIGHT AGAINST TRAFFICKING

#### **SEX-TRAFFICKING IS A CRIME**

Ho'ōla Nā Pua was founded to shine the light on the criminal enterprise of sex-trafficking. Our goal is to disrupt perpetrating patterns by maintaining an undeniable dialogue and community awareness that will end the atrocities against innocence and to offer a trauma-informed, progressive response – a continuum of care framework – to rightfully restore Bright Futures back to Hawaii's exploited youth.

**Sex Trafficking** defined is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age.(22 USC § 7102)

**Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE)** refers to when a person provides, agrees to provide, or offers to provide a fee or anything of value (including food; shelter; drugs; protection) to another to engage in sexual conduct.





### **QUICK FACTS**

Sex trafficking is a crime under federal and state law; and commercial sexual exploitation is a crime under Hawai'i law.

11 years old is the average age a child is sex trafficked in Hawai'i.1

3 out of 4 survivors in Hawai'i stated their trafficker was a family member, friend, or significant other.1

7% of human trafficking involved kidnapping/ abduction

#### **RECRUITMENT METHODS**

Befriend. Predators become a new friend that is fun. They gain trust by grooming to then exploit.

Alienate. The predator will look for opportunities to create division from caregivers, and will look to validate anger or sadness that came from a disagreement or conflict.

Isolate. A predator replaces old friends or trusted family members. They point out flaws to decrease interaction between the individual and their support network.

Desensitize. Predators disorient the moral compass by introducing illegal or unethical actions and activities and reassure they are normal.

Offers. Predators offer to meet basic needs (food, shelter, and clothing), make fraudulent promises (modeling, job, etc.), or provide expensive gifts and experiences.

Contact on Social Media. Predators follow and connect through common apps like Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, and TikTok. Conversations start innocently with the goal of recruitment or exploitation, via one of the above methods.

#### **WARNING SIGNS**

- Second cell phone.
- Unexplained money, gifts, or employment.
- Substance abuse or addiction.
- Signs of physical or sexual abuse, neglect, or deprivation.
- Significantly older partner.
- Disconnection from family, friends, or community.
- Runaway, truancy, or missed appointments.
- Dramatic changes in behavior, attitude, appearance, or activities.
- Inability to speak alone or on own behalf; scripted or coached responses.
- Submissive or fearful.

# PATH TO A BRIGHT FUTURE

Hoʻōla Nā Pua's continuum of care framework addresses not only the traumatic impact of those who have been exploited but also focuses on the prevention and resilience of those who are vulnerable. This progressive pathway is individualized to meet specific needs, and includes the following integration to ensure a bright future:

**EMPOWERMENT** & SUSTAINABILITY



REINTEGRATION



Advocacy > Transition to Adulthood > **Care Coordination** 

**TREATMENT** FOR THE VICTIMIZED



Starfish **Mentoring Program Care Coordination** 

**Pearl Haven Residential Treatment Campus** 

**RESILIENCE FOR** THE VULNERABLE



**COMMUNITY AWARENESS** 



**Student and Community** Education/Prevention & Awareness/Professional **Trainings** 

Hōkū Group Services - group programming with community partners/Starfish **Mentoring Program** 

#### **ACTION STEPS**

- Build programming frameworks that are trauma informed, trauma integrated, and uniquely designed for those at risk and those who have been exploited
- Understand the vulnerabilities that lead to victimization and develop strategies to reduce those vulnerabilities
- Survivor perspectives incorporated into all programming
- Strategically build programming that both impactful and sustainable

Hoʻōla Nā Pua has developed a suite of programmatic opportunities uniquely designed for the population we serve. These programs, led by our exceptional staff, will be featured throughout this report.



# **EDUCATION & TRAINING PROGRAM**

Hoʻōla Nā Pua provides year-round education, in-person and virtual training for both middle schools and high schools. Students, faculty and educators are encouraged to incorporate our curriculum into their course studies. HNP also provides community presentations and private/public sector corporate training across all industries. To prevent exploitation of our most vulnerable population, we also provide educational forums for parents, first responders, social service providers, rotary clubs, churches, youth groups, and community leaders. Hoʻōla Nā Pua stands ready to educate and train the hearts and minds of those who want to become fellow advocates.



#### **2021 STATISTICS**







SEL\* Pilot Program activated with Hawai'i Specific Curriculum located at Ha'aheo Elementary on the Big Island of Hawai'i

\* Social Emotional Learning

#### **COMMUNITY AWARENESS & WEBINARS**

Prevention and Awareness are key to ending the exploitation of children. Hoʻōla Nā Pua offers free and publicly accessible weekly webinars that offer issue-informed and evidence-based knowledge derived from case studies that are culturally and linguistically appropriate. HNP webinars provide practical and applicable skill sets for everyday awareness and vigilance.

#### **IN-SCHOOL EDUCATION**

Today's youth want to be empowered to guard against the risks of trafficking. They are eager for knowledge and informed guidance against perpetrators. School settings provide a structured opportunity to support mindful decision making at an early phase of a child's development. As a result of the pandemic, HNP diversified its presentation formats to be available in-person and with virtual reach, as best serves the school's operations. Equipping students and faculty

with awareness and best-practices results in measurable progress for youth safety. As trainers, we are mindful that we may be speaking to a student that is currently being exploited yet not able to self-identify as a victim or ask for help. Candid dialogue with relatable examples can reveal vulnerabilities that may have otherwise been overlooked.



For example, if a student has (2) phones at school, that could be a red flag.

#### **SEL WITH SHELL**

SEL stands for Social Emotional Learning. It's a developmentally appropriate 5th grade curriculum that was created by Ho'ōla Nā Pua and The Lili'uokalani Trust. SEL builds knowledge and skills designed to protect young people from exploitation. During the pandemic, at-risk and exploitation youth became acutely vulnerable with unprecedented isolation, elevated depression, limited access to social support and service providers, and increased activity online. SEL curriculum holds the power of prevention as it supports healthy emotional identification and development which is essential to all aspects of a youth's life.

#### **ONLINE SAFETY TRAINING**

As of today, there are over 3.48Million apps available on Google Play, with no end in sight as commerce and NFTs aggregate within the global metaverse. While technology is an essential advancement for society, it is also a virtual universe of (dangerous) opportunities for minors to be lured and exploited. With a social culture that condones over-sharing, it is imperative that parents and guardians know the risk factors on their child's device(s). Security settings, location identifiers and camera portals, chat rooms, coding, emojis/acronyms and hashtags can all easily engage perpetrator-led algorithms allowing access to our most vulnerable population.

Syncing devices, adding two-step
verifications, reviewing app downloads,
knowing chat-room participants and
setting browser classification restrictions
are immediate steps to protecting
innocence. For many, technology is
overwhelming and easier to avoid
altogether, it can divide generational

dialogue and inadvertently create risk for those we love. HNP is committed to having practical yet candid conversations with caregivers, offering free online training and best practices for immediate implementation to make technology safer at home, at school and in life.

#### PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

When our community comes together, the community plays a role in ending the exploitation of our children. We provide professional training on identification, intervention, and responding to situations of exploitation. Information is key, educating the community leads to the prevention of sex trafficking.

**Harmony Vuycankiat Education and Training** Program Manager



Harmony was born in Nashville, TN, and led the Education and Training Program from January 2022 – Summer 2022. She has a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Mid-America Christian University and certifications in Trauma Care and Biblical Counseling. She has worked with trafficking survivors for over 15-years through multiple outreach organizations in Alabama, Oklahoma and Texas. She co-founded the "Reformation Task Force" in South Korea to support women that were being trafficked into the country from China and the Philippines. She pioneered South Korea's first ever A21 "Walk for Freedom" in October 2019, bringing awareness on the issue of human trafficking to Koreans in their native language. She has four children and has been married for 20 years.

#### Why did you choose to work with Ho'ōla Nā Pua?

I wanted to work for an organization making a difference in the anti-trafficking space. I was impressed with the impact of HNP's Starfish Mentoring Program in its education, prevention and awareness efforts and in the way the program models healthy relationships. As a mother and professional advocate, I quickly learned how essential education and knowledge are to sustainable prevention for both children at-risk and those who have already been exploited.

## How do you know when your program is making a true impact?

When students are empowered to tell me what CSEC is in their own words, I know that our education presentations are making true impact. Personalized knowledge put in practice, demonstrates they have learned how to ensure safety for themselves and those they care about.

# THE IMPORTANCE **OF EDUCATION**

Education and Training on the issue of exploitation keeps behavioral and situational "red flags" top of mind. It makes one consider their loved ones and question if there are indicators that may be impacting their safety. Exploitation comes in many forms, and often, it is initially disquised as a 'normal' situation, but that does not mean a child is not at risk. One must intentionally consider their environment, exposure, support system and familial factors.



When 'stats' become more than numbers, when we recognize innocence is at stake, Education and Training become paramount. When one can identify a pattern or red flag, Ho'ōla Nā Pua stands ready to support with community resources and specialized services such as Starfish Mentoring, Hōku Groups and Pearl Haven – but it starts with Education and Training, which build active awareness and advocacy.

While the crisis is real, so are the solutions. We welcome people to ask questions like:

I need help for an individual? What can I/we do?

How can I learn more to keep my loved ones safe?

Hōla Nā Pua's FREE Wednesday Webinars are a great place for parents, teachers and guardians who want to learn more about the issue of exploitation. Remember that trafficking can happen to anyone, regardless of social status. Sadly, it could easily happen to someone you know. But today's decision can protect their future.

# Knowledge is power.

A unified and informed community fosters safety for our children.

HNP seeks to remove sensationalized media portrayals of trafficking without normalizing it's severity; it is more common than one may realize and its impact more personal than we could ever fathom.

HNP seeks to empower those who have been exploited and those entrusted to care for their safety.





Alyssa Bailey Health Teacher Aiea Highschool



# Why did you welcome Ho'ōla Nā Pua into your school?

I wanted my students to learn more about sex trafficking and I wanted the faculty at our school to understand that this is a present crisis in our communities. This way, we can take appropriate measures to protect and inform our students.

# What was the most troubling fact you learned about this issue?

Larning that a sex work advertisement in Hawaii had six times the demand and engagement rate than that of a large city on the mainland. This demonstrated that trafficking and exploitation is a present danger, even here in paradise.

# How has HNP impacted the awareness of your students and staff?

One of my students chose to highlight the issue of sex trafficking for her senior project. She asked students and staff to write messages of solidarity on red ribbons which were tied at the front of our school so passer byes could

see that our school stands in awareness and advocacy for victims of exploitation.

# Why do you think HNP educational presentations are important for students?

If students are not aware of sex trafficking and its every day threat, it may be impossible for them to recognize when it happens. Knowing the signs and patterns are a necessary first step for our students, who represent the population most vulnerable to becoming victims.

# If you could give the community one message, what would it be?

Make this issue a priority. At home and in our children's lives. Take time to listen and understand the information readily available through HNP presentations. Empathy comes from a place of understanding and recognition, and in order to show it, we need to understand what victims go through and reckon with the painful reality that this is a very real issue in our community.

# Is there anything else you'd like to share about working with Ho'ōla Nā Pua?

Hola Nā Pua leads with kindness. They are generous with their time and genuinely devoted to the cause, which our students noticed from their presentation. I have no doubt that the work of this organization is fundamental to seeing a systemic shift that is needed to hold perpetrators accountable and to provide resources for victims to find their healing.



# **HOKU RESILIENCE**

Hōkū Group Services provide resiliency-building weekly group lessons that aim to create healthy connections, promote self-empowerment and instill safe social skills. Hōkū Group activities are delivered in collaboration with behavioral and mental health professionals to provide services for youth in correctional facilities or residential programs who are suspected, at-risk, and/or confirmed to be commercially sexually exploited.

Over the years, Hōkū Groups has grown from a program providing fun and engaging activities for youth ,to a veritable example of multidisciplinary trauma-responsive care, with many agencies and service providers coming together to educate, empower and support the youth. Today participants are empowered with a toolkit of skills to navigate their future, including:

- goal setting
- · the power of choice
- communication skills
- Values of self-worth and social safety

"They are learning that they are so much more than their story or their experiences or statistics that apply to them."



**2021 STATISTICS** 



new clients





youth expressed an interest in the Starfish Mentoring or **Advocacy Programs** 

Shari Bautista, LSW Hōkū Group Services Program



Shari Bautista, LSW, has led as the Hōkū Group Services Program Manager since August 2019. She oversees programmatic development, leadership management, training, and quality improvement initiatives in higher education, health-care, and social services. She has implemented statewide training for "personcentered counseling," and led statewide projects improving services for families and individuals with disabilities. Born and raised in Hilo, Hawai'i, Shari is passionate about enhancing the lives of all children and believes that supporting their empowerment is key to their health and wellbeing.

#### Why did you choose to work with Ho'ōla Nā Pua?

I was drawn to Ho'ōla Nā Pua's mission, and the more I learned about sex trafficking in Hawai'i the more I realized I could make a positive difference in the lives of youth affected by this terrible trauma. I remain committed to Ho'ōla Nā Pua because the work we do is so important and because of the passionate team I get to work with.

# How does the impact of Hōkū Groups empower your advocacy?

Watching as our youth grow and develop throughout their time in Hōkū Groups, often while enduring various placements, is very rewarding. Each youth derives something unique from their Hōkū experience- some gain the ability to openly share their thoughts and feelings, some discover their capacity to self-regulate when traumas are triggered, and others learn how to advocate for themselves based on newly formed boundaries, values and a deeper understanding of knowing what is important to their health and happiness.

# 2SG\_DRAFT-2

In 2021, Hōkū Groups expanded its reach across nine facilities statewide, and we continue to grow with the help of donors and volunteers. As a result, HNP together with each location's respective team, can be a consistent, familiar and safe support as youth transition to new placements throughout their continuum of care.

#### THE BROMLEY FAMILY PEARL HAVEN CAMPUS

- Hale Kipa Ewa Shelter
- Hale Lanipolua Assessment Center
- · Hale Ho'omalu Detention Home
- Hawai'i Academy of Arts & Science
- · Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility
- Kahi Mohala
- · Noho Olu
- Salvation Army Home
- · Youth Challenge Academy-Hilo



#### P.F.F.R. GROUPS

(Prevention, Education, Empowerment & Resilience)

As Ho'ōla Nā Pua strives to build resiliency in Hawai'i's youth, we continue to learn and grow. P.E.E.R Groups launched in 2020 with the Coconut Wireless curriculum developed to educate youth about commercial sexual exploitation in a safe trauma-informed/ trauma-responsive approach. The curriculum provides:

- Tools, lessons and activities that empower youth to make safe, preventative choices.
- · Discussions that are participant-focused, facilitated through a non-judgmental, nonshaming approach.

- Lessons that carefully engage participants in dialogues about commercial sexual exploitation without requiring youth to disclose their individual experiences.
- Discussions that are built on what youth already understand from their own experiences, while integrating mindfulness of current influences that can potentially impact their lives.



#### **2021 STATISTICS**



**Marissa Gordon** O'ahu Programs



Marissa Gordon has been the Programs Coordinator for O'ahu island since 2019, previously starting her journey with Ho'ōla Nā Pua as a volunteer and Starfish Mentor in 2017. As the Programs Coordinator, Marissa assists in the development and implementation of the resilience-based curriculum for Hōkū group services, the training of Hōkū volunteers and facilitators, and provides client services and supervision within the Starfish Mentoring Program. Marissa grew up on the east side of O'ahu, an avid volleyball and track athlete recruited to the University of Mānoa track team. During her studies she worked with elementaryaged youth in an afterschool program where she discovered her passion for community work with keiki, leading her to forego corporate career opportunities to work with Ho'ōla Nā Pua.

# Why did you choose to work with Ho'ōla Nā Pua?

When I learned of Ho'ōla Nā Pua and its mission I chose to volunteer here and during that time I was made aware of the prevalence of sex trafficking in Hawai'i. I then decided to devote all I could to its prevention and to support those affected by it. Ho'ōla Nā Pua's direct service team empowered me to commit to the mission - to serve our keiki to the best of our ability and support them on their path to healing.

## Can you share something about the impact your program makes that fills your cup?

My favorite thing about our Hōkū Groups is the opportunity it provides our youth to be their authentic selves without judgment. During our weekly time together they have the freedom to advocate for themselves and their needs, explore their interests, and develop skills and values. Hōkū affords youth choice, however big or small, something taken from them for too long. We never ask or expect anything of our youth - we simply provide them with consistency, support, and a space where they know they are seen, heard, and valued.

Rebecca Malpass Program Hōkū Groups Coordinator



Rebecca was born in Colorado and has lived throughout The United States and overseas before moving to Hawaii. She is a mother of two teenagers and has a degree in Social Work from Liberty University in 2020.

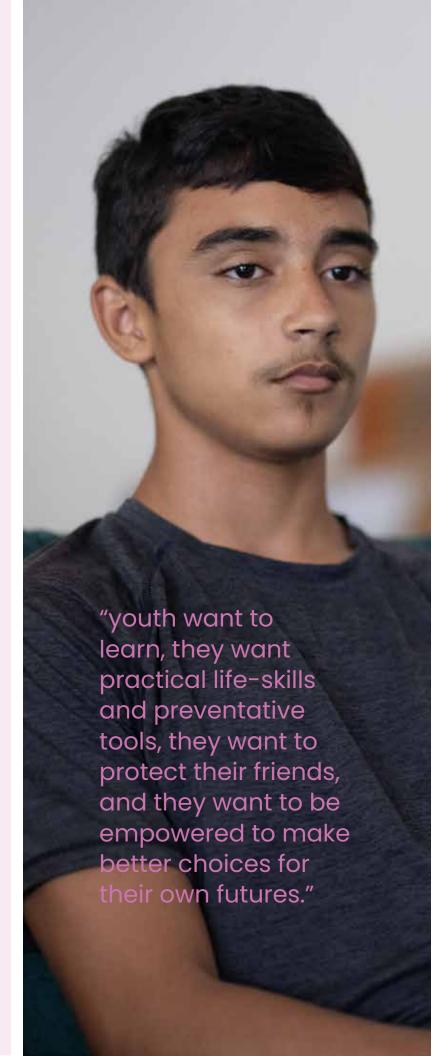
## Why did you choose to work with Ho'ōla Nā Pua?

While interning with HNP I was inspired by the way the team advocated for at-risk youth. The mission of Ho'ōla Nā Pua aligns with my personal belief that the dignity and worth of every person should be valued and honored. I want to make a positive impact in the lives of youth.

# How does the impact of Hōkū Groups empower your advocacy?

Teaching youth necessary yet practical life skills and watching them apply those strengths to their daily lives – with excitement – makes my day!





# WHY PEARL HAVEN MATTERS



When our Founder & CEO, Jessica Muñoz first recognized the need for a continuum of services uniquely designed for sexually exploited youth, one of the biggest gaps in care was the lack of a comprehensive residential treatment center specific to this population. In 2009, there were less than 50 residential treatment beds specific to sex trafficked children in the United States and most of our Hawaii youth were being sent to the mainland due to lack of services being available in the islands.

#### 2009

While working as a nurse practitioner in the ER, Jessica Muñoz is exposed to the issue of domestic minor sextrafficking in Hawaii.

#### 2010

Jessica Muñoz has vision of creating a safe place for girls to heal.

#### 2011

Volunteers join in the search for land and helping to create awareness to the issue of child sexual exploitation.

#### 2012

Statewide advocacy begins addressing need and scope of the issue of child sex trafficking.

HNP starts their in-school prevention education program for students.

#### 2013

Hoʻōla Nā Pua, formed with an all volunteer team and creates a board of directors.

#### 2014

Volunteer site development team finds the Pearl Haven site and secures a 30-year minimum cost lease for 13 acres and 24,000 sf building from the state DLNR

#### 2015

Consultants provide pro-bono services to secure land use and special permits obtained.

#### 2016

In response to an RFP, AHL and Design Partners contract for pro bono design services. All design subcontractors provided pro bono design work. Rotary and Soroptimists organizations provide volunteer support and early seed funding for Pearl Haven clean up.

She and her volunteer team knew this needed to change and was determined to make sure Hawaii youth had access to this level of care. There is a need for creation of a residential treatment model of care that is replicable, sustainable, and truly customized for this population of vulnerable youth. Pearl Haven has been designed to pave the way towards developing this model through innovation, research, and utilizing the entire campus/environment and all that it has to offer. As a clinician, Jessica's goal for Pearl Haven was to first and foremost create a safe place where the most traumatized youth can heal and secondly, to seed the creation of a model of residential care that will help drive a systemic change and more access to this level of care across the United States.



Within the first couple of months of the first youth's arrival, they expressed that this was the first time they felt safe enough to begin to heal. This program touches many lives everyday, not just the youth who call Pearl Haven home, but the stakeholders, community members, families, volunteers and donors who interact with our team and are blessed with the opportunity to walk on the campus

Our premier 32-bed Special Treatment Facility located in the peaceful O'ahu country is designed to provide unparalleled residential treatment and services for youth ages 11-17. Pearl Haven is intentionally designed to help youth overcome trauma so they can begin pursuing their Bright Futures.



see. But you don't know the process, the journey perfecting me. The pain that i endure, and the fear hidden inside — you'll never know the heartache, or the moment that i died. I died and built layers, layers around my heart. Layers to protect me, to save me from falling apart. It's been a life of survival, it's how i make it through each day. But then someone reached out — they said there's another way. They said that i have value — that i have the ability to shine! Some say, "THE WORLD IS YOUR OYSTER" and now i can make it mine. Just an ordinary clam shell — that may be what you saw, but now i'm a pearl — beautiful and raw.

– Ashley Romano, RN

#### 2017

Hawaii Five-0 produces two episodes featuring the issue of sex-trafficking and child exploitation in Hawaii, concluding with a vision of Pearl Haven and its mission. Broadcast gleans more than 9MM viewers, securing national attention for the organization and the need for the facility, Pearl Haven

#### 2018

**Building Renovation Permits** approved

Ground Breaking and Hawaiian Blessing

Summer: Renovations begin with about 1/3 of the funds raised for the campaign. Construction never stopped one day despite limited funds

#### 2019

Furniture, Fixtures, Equipment (FFE) and products donated to help support build.

#### 2020

#pearlhaven19challenge social media campaign launches amid Covid-19 global pandemic The Bromley Family Foundation donates \$2million dollars to help close the \$3mm campaign gap.

#### 2021

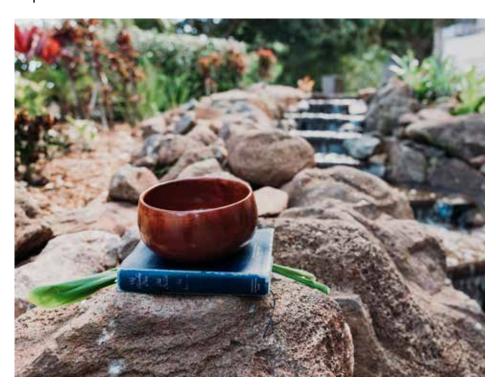
Final Finishing furniture, art, and fixtures donated April: Licensing of the Pearl Haven Campus from the Department of Health obtained and Blessing of the campus occurred.

June: The Pearl Haven Program is operationalized and receives its first resident.

\*\* Throughout this entire journey to build Pearl Haven, HNP developed and implemented community based programming to meet the needs in the gaps of care. HNP ran a capital campaign parallel to fundraising for the community based programming and building the infrastructure of the organization.

# THE BLESSING

In 2013 when Ho'ola Na Pua was incorporated, the Department of Land and Natural Resources awarded us a 13-acre parcel of land in a rural setting with buildings in need of renovation. In May 2018, Ho`ola Na Pua broke ground and construction continued without interruption until it was blessed in April 2021. The Bromley Family Pearl Haven Campus, a place of healing was celebrated with community stakeholders through small gatherings due to the COVID-19 pandemic to honor this tremendous milestone of hope, healing, and new beginnings for youth who have been sexually exploited.



THE BLESSINGS OF THE CAMPUS HELD IN APRIL 2021 TRULY MARKED A TRANSFORMATIONAL MOMENT FOR HO'OLA NA PUA AND THE STATE OF HAWAII.

"Today, this moment marks a time in the history of our state where for the first time, our girls will have access to a uniquely designed treatment program and safe space that cultivates holistic healing. Additionally, we are adding to the number of specialized treatment beds nationally for exploited youth and have the opportunity to build a model of care that can be replicated. Through this journey, we have navigated many challenging moments......But when you are shining the light into the dark places and addressing an issue

that has been allowed to thrive in that dark seedy space—its disruptive... but the reality of what our youth are up against compels us forward in this fight for their future. This work truly began with one conversation at a time. A mere idea in a moment can become a movement. All it takes is a spark of light... that spark of light can create a chain reaction."

"Creating a unique safe and healing space for girls was the goal. The exact detailed map of how we were going to get there wasn't always clear. In 2009, this service space was in its infancy. The issue of trafficking and exploitation of our youth was not well understood.... however; we have been able to use this physical tangible space to make an invisible population visible and









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The Bromley Foundation could envision that the need for a facility such as Pearl Haven, the first of it's kind in the State takes enormous courage. Jessica Muñoz and her team made remarkable strides against the enormous adversity on the issue of trafficking. The future and safety of our children is a community's responsibility. Partnering up with HNP is a cause that should be top priority".

- Lauran & Bryann Bromley





The first time I came to Pearl
Haven I literally could FEEL the
healing power of this place.
There is something about the land
here, the way the building sits
cradled against the mountain,
the closeness of the ocean....
There is not a better place for this
incredible facility."

- Karen Polivka, Board Chairman HNP

create systemic change. We have helped to identify and implement elements of the continuum of care needed for exploited youth."

"Who would have thought we would finish this phase one buildout, development, fundraising, licensing, and final program design during a global pandemic with a volatile economy and the challenges of navigating an ever changing landscape. The vulnerabilities for our youth have increased. The continued need for a space and place for traumatized youth like Pearl Haven has become even more evident as exploitation has increased with Covid-19."

For such a time as this.....this place has taken form in just the right timing.

To the many advocates, staff, board members, volunteers, contractors, laborers, and community partners who have come alongside us in this mission, I am forever grateful for each one of you. You have locked arms to create a safer community for our youth. You have helped form the shield needed to protect the most vulnerable.

As we put a period on the end of this era of development, we are excited for this next season as we journey together and create more transformative moments. Choosing to face your trauma and heal is not an easy thing for our youth, we are humbled that we have this opportunity to walk alongside them through this process. Every room, every hallway, every space on this property has been designed to create safety and joy. Together we surround the most vulnerable with our love, attention, resources, and a fervent commitment to their health and healing."

Adapted from the opening blessing speeches,
 Founder & CEO Jessica Muñoz

#### **GRATITUDE**

Bernard Kane stopped by the gates of Pearl Haven one day while it was still being constructed. Our Founder & CEO Jessica Muñoz went to the gate and met this sweet and gentle Hawai'an man who had been driving by with his lovely wife Millie. Mr. Kane shared with Jessica that in 1947, at the age of twelve, he had been placed at what was then the Waialee Home for Wayward Boys ("Home"). The Home was built in the early 1900's and was operational from 1906 to 1947 and housed an average of 180 boys ranging in age from 7 to 25. Mr. Kane has fond memories of his eight months at Waialee, recalling it as a beautiful time learning mechanics, planting kalo (taro), tumbling classes, movie nights, and lots of time at the beach. He remembers the staff as being kind and he is full of gratitude for the time he spent there learning and growing.

Ho'ōla Nā Pua is full of gratitude to have been blessed to meet Mr. Kane. His story and spirit affirm all Ho'ōla Nā Pua is striving to do at Pearl Haven in creating a safe space for healing and growth for the youth who come here, and that they may leave here with a sense of renewal and hope. Ho'ōla Nā Pua is forever grateful to Mr. Kane, his wife Millie, and his entire 'ohana for sharing his story with us, for celebrating the blessing of Pearl Haven with us, and for sharing his beautiful spirit of gratitude, love, light, and hope.

Ke Akua pū Bernard Kane a me ku'u 'ohana. Aloha (God be with you Bernard Kane and with your family).



#### **WORDS OF LIFE**

Advocacy is both verbal and nonverbal. Its power is found in action and in speaking words of life over the future. At the start of each calendar year, Hoʻōla Nā Pua Founder, Jessica Muñoz, has shared a theme that charts a course of intention for the organizations' staff, volunteers, board members and stakeholders. These 'words of life' serve as a compass amid the inevitable challenges of this work, providing resilience and a reminder of why unified advocacy is essential. This tradition began in 2009 and has included the following words of life:

2021	Abundance	2016	Fulfillment	2011	Stewardship
2020	Amplify	2015	Steadfast	2010	Abundance
2019	Faith	2014	Reach	2009	Shine The Light
2018	Courageous	2013	Sustain & Believe		
2017	Persistence	2012	Mana		

Our "words of life" are also a testament to our youth that while life has its ups and downs, we at HNP are committed to persevere through an issue that many do not want to acknowledge, let alone engage. But our shared guiding values, words of life, and stones of remembrance help us as an organization to step out with bold faith to make the impossible possible and to end child exploitation and sex-trafficking permanently.

These stones and words line the driveway of Pearl Haven and are a testament to our journey in creating systemic and generational change and undeniable impact.

Pearl Haven is more than a vision fulfilled, it is a declaration of hope and victory for our once silenced youth, and our remembrance stones hold daily reminders of truth for all who enter. Together we are creating bright pathways and futures for generations to come!



#### "THE PEARL HAVEN STONES OF REMEMBRANCE"

## A reflection by HNP Founder, Jessica Muñoz

Remembrance is an essential part of celebrating growth. Intentionally pausing to reflect on the journey, the lessons, and the victories...the fulfillment of a promise. The story of Hoʻōla Nā Pua's Bromley Family Pearl Haven Campus is no exception, and its gated entrance is lined with "12 Stones of Remembrance" anchoring the center's vision, faith, and generational commitment to the youth it serves.

As the Founder of Hoʻōla Nā Pua, its vision and guiding principles are built on the values of my personal faith in God. Inspired by the biblical book of Joshua (4:1-23), I wanted to incorporate 'remembrance stones' at Pearl Haven to serve as a reminder for future youth to better understand its origins and historical, life-changing significance for the youth of Hawaii and beyond. Similarly, in the book of Joshua, 'stones of remembrance' were used to commemorate a transformational crossing from an old way of living into a new and promised land set apart for a life of restoration and redemption. The same holds true for Pearl Haven, a place of renewal and healing for exploited youth.

Each stone is marked with a "word of life" that is staked in the front of each stone. Each word has significant meaning to the history of HNP and our journey of advocacy.



# **A NEW JOURNEY**

ELIZABETH PORTER, PEARL HAVEN PROGRAM DIRECTOR

It has been our privilege to welcome youth to Pearl Haven since June 2021 and to have the opportunity to provide each youth with a safe space to advance their healing journey. A new journey begins when a youth arrives here, and each day brings forth a new journey with a new opportunity to heal and grow. Here at Pearl Haven our primary goal is to create a space for healing and to provide care that best meets the needs of each youth we serve. We are able to lead the charge in addressing a youth's trauma, sexual or otherwise, by obtaining and maintaining data on trauma symptomatology, health, and social factors of victimized youth upon intake. Treatment is tailored to each youth's needs, with success measured by clinical benchmarks to make progress in their plan at an appropriate pace.

We incorporate adjunct therapies as part of our treatment modality, including art therapy, music therapy, hula (dance), and therapeutic gardening as we believe and know therapies grounded in art, nature, and culture have a profound impact on healing. These wraparound therapies are effective in empowering youth to process traumatic events without having to talk about the events that may be too painful to express verbally.

Education is essential and youth attend school on campus through a curriculum approved by the Hawai'i Department of Education, supplemented by enrichment and extracurricular activities. To ensure the youth are staying educationally on par, the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) examined are 1) grades 2) progress 3) credits. These are measured through completion of classes assigned; attendance rate; student satisfaction. Each graduating youth has a discharge plan, which includes post-graduation follow-up sessions to occur between 6-12 months. We want to ensure that each youth who completes our program successfully reintegrates with their family and community.

The best part of being here at Pearl Haven is witnessing the youth enjoying themselves cooking in the kitchen, playing out in the yard or sports courts, dancing in the studio or halls, or simply listening to music. To see that they feel comfortable and relaxed in a safe space brings a true sense of reward and joy. Every day is a new journey for the staff and youth at Pearl Haven – one embraced each day with a sense of hope and opportunity for growth, healing, and renewal.





Elizabeth (Liz) Rea Ku'upuamailani **Porter** Pearl Haven Program Director



Elizabeth is from Waimanalo, O'ahu, and brings over 13-years of experience working in residential treatment and over six years serving in program leadership with extensive training in implementing trauma-informed services as a certified facilitator in Thinking for a Change, Trauma-Responsive Supervision, University of Cincinnati Substance Abuse, and Motivational Interviewing and as a certified instructor for Safe Crisis Management. Liz joined the Pearl Haven team as the Program Director in September 2021. Prior to taking the helm leading the program, she served as an active member of the Pearl Haven Program Development Committee which played a key role in designing Pearl Haven's progressive 'continuum of care' program.

# Why did you choose to work at Pearl Haven?

I am passionate about the work I do and having the opportunity to do this work in service to this vulnerable population in my own community is especially important to me. To be able to work with and support these youth daily is a privilege and knowing that the work we do here will not only improve their lives but that it benefits the well-being of our whole community made this an opportunity I wholeheartedly embraced.

## Can you share something about the impact your program makes that fills your cup?

Simply being able to provide a safe and healing space that allows the youth we work with to process the trauma they have experienced, begin to heal, and begin to grow is what keeps me committed to this work and Pearl Haven every day.

Jill Follensbee
Jill Follensbee
Pearl Haven
Clinical Director



Jill was born and raised in Seattle,
Washington and holds a bachelor's
degree in Sociology from Arizona State
University, and obtained a Master's Degree
in Professional Counseling from Ottawa
University in 2009. She is Licensed in
Professional Counseling and is a Registered
Clinical Supervisor in Arizona where she lived
for 20 years where she also served on the
Board of Directors for the Arizona Counselor
Association. Jill has been a Clinical Director
for over 8 years.

# Why did you choose to work at Pearl Haven?

When I learned about the new specialized program being developed at Pearl Haven for this very vulnerable population, I believed I could contribute to the program given my skill sets and professional experiences and was excited to be a part of what would be a new journey for Ho'ōla Nā Pua, for the youth served at Pearl Haven, as well as a new journey for me. To be a part of developing and implementing a program with an emphasis on healing is professionally and personally fulfilling.

# Can you share something about the impact your program makes that fills your cup?

When I get to witness the magical moments of healing and growth a youth experiences as a result of the opportunities created through the programmatic elements built-in at Pearl Haven. The moments that capture the kids being kids are my favorite and for me validate the work we do here. To see the youth, feel safe, that sense of safety demonstrated when they allow themselves to seek support and accept care, is why I am here.

#### TRUST - THE FOUNDATION OF CARE

JILL FOLLENSBEE, PEARL HAVEN CLINICAL DIRECTOR

Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) is the foundation to the provision of care at Pearl Haven. TBRI is a therapeutic model that utilizes an attachment-based, trauma-informed approach that is designed to meet the complex needs of vulnerable children. The three identified principles are 1) Empowering 2) Connecting and 3) Correcting. This intervention is based on attachment styles and sensory processing to assist in developing an effective implementation of self-regulation. The heartbeat of TBRI is connection.

TBRI is at the core of our program and approach to assist in emotional regulation and understanding attachment here at Pearl Haven. TBRI verbiage is embedded in the language used here and in communications we have with our youth. I have been trained to become a TBRI practitioner and train all staff at Pearl Haven in TBRI, ensuring our commitment to this intervention approach and that it is at the forefront of everything we do. Employing TBRI ensures we are creating environments that are socially, physically, and psychologically in a manner that recognizes the youth's immediate needs through structured experience. TBRI focuses on practicing mindful awareness and implementing proactive strategies with the goal that the youth build and strengthen resilience and secure attachments.

Jonny was born and raised in Waimanalo, on the Island of Oahu. He has 17 years working in the field of both Dual Diagnose (Mental Health/ Substance Use) adult population and atrisk, chronic homeless youth. He is a Certified Substance Abuse Counselor (CSAC) with the State of Hawaii for 10 years. He has 20 years of experience in the construction trade. What was once building and constructing homes, he has transitioned to rebuilding and re-constructing lives through the work he has done in the field. He also volunteers his time and services with other nonprofits to improve the overall wellness in the community, develop community relationships and partnerships in the place where he calls home.

Why did i choose to work at pearl haven?

"I didn't choose Pearl Haven, Pearl Haven chose me." When I first walked on the property on the first day of demolition, it brought back many memories of my childhood and my grandfather residing here when it was formally known as Crawford's Convalescent Home. During the demolition phase of construction, I walked through the dark dingy halls of the facility and had a very difficult time navigating my way, but with the help of a very small ray of light coming through a sky light in the roof that guided my footsteps through that space. I interpreted this as confirmation of the things to come for the future of this facility and our program that "the light that would outshine the darkness." From that day forward everything I did and touched, every thought, idea, and inspiration I received; I was constantly reminded of my Kuleana (responsibility) to this space. I have done many construction projects throughout my career, but this one was very special, it was a calling. You see, there was a story of a little girl who had some bad things happen to her from those that she trusted and loved. She then went on the run, not just literally but from her from her hurt, her pain and her trauma, with no one to turn to but the streets. The streets also did some bad things to her, which caused her to slip deeper into the darkness. Throughout the many years running from her hurt and pain she fell deeper into "the life." One day this little girl, who was now a woman, found the light amongst the darkness.

**Jonathan** "Jonny" Bitanga Director of **Ancillary Service** Pearl Haven



The light that would change her life forever. You see, I met this courageous woman, this woman who brings light to the darkness, who is passionate and compassionate, who inspires me but most of all who I am honored to call my Mana Wahine, my best friend and wife. When Pearl Haven chose me, I felt a level of great responsibility. It is a mission that I am committed to so that every little girl (keiki) can have a safe space, a place to call home and above all, a place to feel and be LOVED.

#### The impact of my program that fills my cup?

As we continue to build out many of our second phase projects, such as our sports courts, equine program, small animal enclosure, garden spaces, cultural garden, hiking trails, seating areas and soccer field, I think of the many opportunities that our keiki will have and experience that they otherwise would not have if it was not for the vision of our fearless leader, and the disruptor, Jessica. When our keiki are able to utilize our learning kitchen to prepare their favorite baked goods, share in their own cultural foods and be so excited to see the smiles on people's faces, this pours into my cup. Being able to hear the laughter throughout the halls, allowing our keiki to express their thoughts, feelings and experiences without the fear of silencing their voices, this pours into my cup. The ability to use their voices to advocate for themselves, and yes, even the occasional Cheehoo's! When they celebrate each other for receiving an award, a birthday or achievement, this pours into my cup. It is the good mornings from our keiki, the inquiries and questions around projects being built out, the request for assistance with picking and processing the many fruits from our fruit trees and the enjoyment that they get from it. My cup overflows with joy every day that I get to experience our keiki in this safe space called Pearl Haven.

# **DONOR PROFILES**

# **Church of Jesus Christ** of Latter-day Saints

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints provides humanitarian aid to relieve suffering, foster self-reliance, and provide opportunities for service. The Church seeks to follow the admonition of Jesus Christ to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, take in the stranger, clothe the naked and visit the sick and afflicted. In addition to more than one million workdays of labor contributed each year by Church volunteers in support



of initiatives that care for those in need, the Church gives assistance without regard to race, religious affiliation, or nationality. Aid is based on the core principles of personal responsibility, community support, self-reliance, and sustainability.

## Why did the Church choose a partnership with Ho'ōla Nā Pua?

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints works with thousands of community organizations to expand its reach and amplify its impact throughout the world. The Church recognized the impact Ho'ōla Nā Pua is making and was grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the important work of the Bromley Family Pearl Haven Campus in providing a place of care and healing through specialized clinical and therapeutic programs for our community's most vulnerable keiki.

"The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' partnership with Ho'ōla Nā Pua addresses one of our core missions, which is caring for those in need," said Elder Voi Taeoalii, an Area Seventy. "Contributing with other charitable donors to provide our children and young adults compassionate and specialized care is a great blessing for all."

"I have been so impressed with the way that Ho'ōla Nā Pua has become part of the

North Shore community," expressed Vonn Logan, Welfare and Self-Reliance Services manager in Hawai'i. "Families support their efforts by committing to ongoing service on the grounds and facilities. All of those working hands nurture hearts that bless us all."



# Rotary Club of Hawai'i and **Rotarian Winton Schoneman**

Rotary Club of Hawai'i is dedicated to improving lives and creating a better world. With its 1500 members in 53 Clubs, their dedication and passion for the community is unprecedented.

## What inspired you to become a Rotarian?

I joined Rotary in 1996 shortly after retiring with twenty-one years of service from the U.S. Navy Submarine Force. I was looking for community connections as I ventured into small business, and I found what I was looking for and more in Rotary; people dedicated to seeing the world differently with the desire and resourcefulness to make the world a better place.

# What inspired you to be a champion for Ho'ōla Nā Pua?

There are so many unique needs in our community and when I joined Rotary, I wasn't certain where I would focus my efforts until I attended a Rotary Peace Conference in California. The conference offered a variety of topics and I chose the one I knew the least about - Human Trafficking. Speakers at the conference included Bazzel Baz-President of Association for The Recovery of Children and Life Guarantor, Rebecca Bender- sex-trafficking survivor and advocate, and Father Greg Boyle-founder and director of Homeboy Industries. I learned that the average age of a child introduced to trafficking was twelve years old and I instantly thought of my elevenyear-old granddaughter who was being raised by my daughter, a single parent. I returned to Hawai'i a different person and I wondered about



the status of trafficking in Hawai'i. There was little information available but I learned of Ho`ola Na Pua who seemed to be taking a proactive role in our

community on this issue. I attended an informational session they offered, and I was both impressed by their organization and grateful for the information they were able to provide.



At that time Pearl Haven was still a dream and I was invited to tour the proposed site. I toured the site along with fellow Rotarian and small business owner, Mark Merriam. What could be said other than "do you believe in miracles?" The possibilities were clear, but it was going to take a miracle to transform that site. But miracles can happen through challenging work and perseverance and we were convinced Pearl Haven was necessary for Hawai'i's children and community. Rotarians began the work. Hand clearing brush, cutting down overgrowth, painting over graffiti, building picnic tables, we did it all. And we just kept coming back to do more.

# What drives you to make this world a better

It is the recognition that every person, every life, is valuable, and it is our duty to shine the light where evil exists. I was taught some time ago that if I see a need and if I have the capacity to fill the need, then I should do what I can to help. There is a great need to fight against human trafficking and we need to stand up for these souls. Who will stand up for the exploited? If not me, then who? Our Rotary vision - "Together we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change, across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves" – speaks to our commitment, to my commitment, to stand with Ho'ōla Nā Pua in the fight against sex trafficking, to provide care for the exploited, and to bring forth lasting change and make this world a better place.

> scan for more information



# **DONOR HIGHLIGHTS**



# **INspiration Interiors**

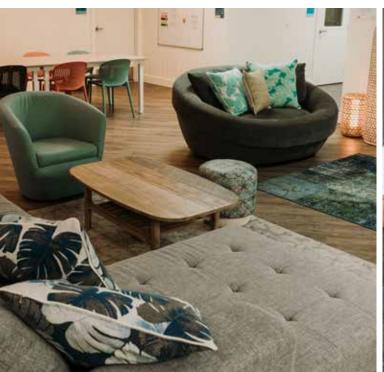
INspiration Interiors opened its doors and welcomed modern European furniture to Hawai'i in 1997. The vision started with founder and current CEO, Thomas Sorensen who has been in the industry since his teens. A Danish native, Sorensen knew the market and the need for fresh modern furniture in Hawai'i. Inspiration now has three showrooms on O'ahu and a warehouse stocked with more than 10,000 items on island ready for Hawai'i's families. INspiration is a family company with Thom's daughter Julia now working alongside her father, curating for Hawai'i's current and the next generation. Holding strong family values, INspiration gives back to our community in many ways and Ho'ōla Nā Pua is immensely grateful to be a recipient of their pronounced generosity in providing furnishings for Pearl Haven, helping to create a beautiful and comforting space for the youth who reside there.

#### How did INspiration Interiors learn of Ho'ōla Nā Pua and what inspired your generous support?

Jessica Muñoz and Jonny Bitanga invited us to visit Pearl Haven while it was still under construction. The vision and magnitude of what was being accomplished were remarkable and we could see the important impact Hoʻōla Nā Pua and Pearl Haven would have in the lives of Hawaiʻi's youth and in the prevention of sex-trafficking. The unfortunate reality of child sex-trafficking existing in Hawaiʻi is no longer overlooked and the youth affected had a safe place to heal in Pearl Haven. Pearl Haven needed furnishing, lighting, and art and it was one we were without a doubt readily happy and honored to fulfill. Furniture has the ability to create an environment of comfort, trust, and relaxation and that is what we wanted to contribute to in giving to this prominent place of healing.

#### If you could leave our community with a message, what would it be?

As would say, "let the light shine." The issue of sex-trafficking needs more attention, support, and awareness. We encourage everyone to learn more about this issue, about the work of Hoʻōla Nā Pua, and to support however you might be able to help protect and bring forth justice and hope for the innocent who have been stripped of their dignity and voice. A small light shines bright, even in the darkest of places. We know that Hoʻōla Nā Pua is dedicated to making a brighter world for those who need it most and we are grateful to be a part of this journey.







"Pearl Haven brings hope and healing to our community. We're grateful to partner with HNP in this difficult work to facilitate support, safety, and recovery for exploited youth, while ultimately working to end sex trafficking in Hawaii."

- Melissa Jackson, Zilber Family **Foundation Trustee** 



"Inspire Church proudly supports Ho'ōla Nā Pua's vision to shine a light into darkness, and ensure all youth are safe and free from sexual exploitation and human trafficking. Their work has become a catalyst for a statewide chain reaction of awareness, advocacy, systemic change and creation of innovative programming birthed in Hawaii but having a positive ripple effect worldwide. "

- Lisa Kai, Senior Pastor Inspire Church





### Office Pavilion Hawaii

I was raised by a single parent and somehow, by the grace of God, this did not happen to me. I support the hard work and dedication of Ho'ola Na Pua & Pearl Haven because I feel that every child should feel safe. I believe that Pearl Haven gives these girls a place to feel safe, to heal and that these young women will be an incredible force of change. They will be stronger than many of us and will continue to expose these issues and be guiding lights for others. I am truly inspired by the work of the CEO & Founder; Jessica, thank you for all you have done. I am sure that you are an Angel on earth! -Wendy Shewalter, CEO I President

# PEARL HAVEN CONSTRUCTION TEAM

# **Big Mahalo to Landmark Builders**

Landmark Builders, Inc. is a small General Contracting firm based out of Haleiwa on Oahu's North Shore. Founded in 2006, our core business model prioritizes people, including clients, subcontractors, employees, and vendors, and a quality product before profits. Our team includes 12-14 employees including (4) project management/office staff and (8)+ tradesman. We focus on jobs predominantly in the North Shore area including work on custom homes, agricultural structures, and commercial buildings and have a penchant for projects that have a meaningful purpose.

"The Pearl Haven project is vital to our community by providing a safe haven for youth, that prior to the existence of Ho'ola Na Pua, were often cast as criminals with limited options to break out of the cycle of abuse and violence. The now completed Pearl Haven serves as the physical manifestation of prioritizing the safety and health of our youth, and focusing on healing, support, and rehabilitation rather than shame, punishment, and judgment. We are humbled to have been part of the project and proud of our efforts to make the facility a reality." – President Mark Woodfield

### **Sub-Contractors Pearl Haven Project**

Integrated Security Technologies, Inc.

Island Signal & Sound, Inc.

Bohne and Sons Construction, LLC

Rhema Electric Pacific, LLC

Bargreen Ellingson

Mana'o Construction, LLC

**Grover Masonry** 

Cool Living, LLC

Industrial Fire Sprinkler Co., Inc.

Gutter King, Ltd.

EcoShade

808 Gates & Doors, LLC

Kili Builders, Ltd.

Pax Bello Security Solutions Hawaii, LLC

**Road Builders** 

Hawthorne CAT

**Applied Surfacing Technology** 

Elite Fire Services, Inc.

Island Pacific Installers, LLC

Hi-Low Studio











We are immensely grateful to Ho'ola Na Pua for recognizing that young girls in Hawaii are being sexually exploited and for their leadership in providing desperately needed help. As architects, AHL has the opportunity to provide design expertise and resources to create a healing home for these girls. We are grateful and proud of our design and engineering partners, who joined us in continuing to provide all services pro bono. The project team is led by AHL and Design Partners, and includes KAI Hawai'i Inc. and InSynergy Engineering, Inc. for engineering services."

-Bettina Mehnert, CEO AHL



#### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

Sincerest Mahalo to our Capital Campaign Committee for their tireless work to ensure Pearl Haven became a reality

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS** Jessica Muñoz & John Dean

Jeff Arce

Karen Polivka

Kenton Eldridge

Mel Jackson

Patrick Boyce



scan for more information

# BEGINNINGS OF THE PEARL HAVEN PROGRAMMING

#### **PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY**

At Pearl Haven we believe that healing is not something a child does on their own, but that it takes a community surrounding the child with aloha (love and compassion). That community includes the entire Pearl Haven team, the youth's 'ohana, and other members in their multidisciplinary team all working towards the same goal: healing and protecting traumatized and exploited youth. The community comes together to nurture and connect our youth with supportive, prosocial resources that bolster growth, inspire progress, and empower the youth towards ola (health and wellbeing).

Just as a piece of sand transforms gradually into a pearl, healing from sexual trauma requires layers of consistency, structure, safe nurturing relationships, and corrective experiences. At Pearl Haven, youth and their 'ohana are provided the space to process the hurt, heal the fractures in their relationships, and be surrounded with the support to create newer healthier relationships. Together, youth and their community work towards healing, hope, and a bright future.

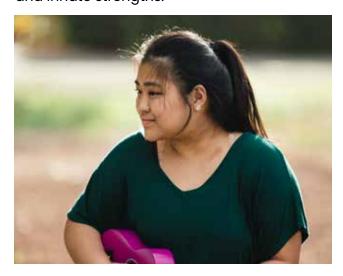


#### THERAPEUTIC MILIEU

Pearl Haven's trauma-responsive and attachment-focused milieu catalyzes a uniquely beneficial experience for youth. Utilizing Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI®), an evidence-based, holistic approach to treating trauma, Pearl Haven focuses on helping youth feel safe through connection and structure. This improves emotional regulation, proactively identifies and prevents traumatic triggers, and supports trauma processing, ensuring youth can develop and practice skills that support successful transition back into their home community.

#### **CLINICAL INTERVENTIONS**

At Pearl Haven, assessment, evaluation, and treatment are not separate processes: they comprise a holistic program that begins at admission and continues throughout the youth's stay. By achieving collaboration between youth and family, Pearl Haven's treatment planning connects each youth to targeted, gender-specific, evidence-based interventions; it also establishes individual treatment goals designed to lower risk factors and build upon protective factors and innate strengths.





#### **FAMILY ENGAGEMENT**

Family involvement is integral to the success of our youth. We engage families as active participants in youth treatment planning and programming, and we encourage their participation in a full spectrum of treatments, including family therapy, TBRI® skills groups, support groups, spiritual and cultural celebrations, and on-campus events, such as graduations and holiday celebrations.



**EDUCATION, VOCATION & EXTRACURRICULAR** Pearl Haven provides 5th through 12th grade level courses through a school structure that is conducive to the high needs of our youth population. Our on-site school

operates year-round; classes run five days a week; and we are fully aligned with Hawai'i Academic Standards. This model offers us incredible advantages: learning extends far beyond the classroom and includes opportunities for youth to participate in engaging extracurriculars, including art, music, and athletics.

The Pearl Haven program accepted the first youth in June of 2021!

The program has begun to take root and continues to be fine tuned as the census continues to increase and the staffing solidifies. We were able to celebrate our first "holidays' and begin many traditions we will hold near and dear in years to come.



#### **CELEBRATING HAWAIIAN CULTURE**

Youth participated in a creative activity inspired by the Pixar movie Inside Out. In the movie the main character holds several islands of personality in her brain created from her past core memories, experiences, interests, and passions. Pearl Haven youth discussed this concept and then decorated images of the Hawaiian Islands and gave them new names based on their own happy core memories. Through creative expression, youth used their imagination to create something that represented a part of themselves.

Lei po'os are an important part of Hawaiian culture that are traditionally given as a symbol of Aloha. This month, staff and youth participated in lei making, which supports cultural practices and lessons while fostering a stronger sense of connection with one another and with Hawaiian culture. One of our young ladies was given a beautiful lei po'o from the staff in celebration of her birthday.



#### CONNECTING WITH THE 'ĀINA

Connecting with the 'aina is vital to supporting our youths' physical, spiritual, emotional and mental health. This month brought beautiful weather and numerous opportunities for our girls to get outside.

While flying kites with the girls on campus, staff used the sky as a simile for our youths' potential to achieve their treatment goals—like the sky there is no limit to what our youth can accomplish!

One of our girls was able to enjoy a fun beach outing after demonstrating significant progress on her treatment goals and continuing to demonstrate safety throughout her program.

#### **CREATIVE OUTLETS**

The Fall season was celebrated by walking the campus grounds to find leaves to incorporate into seasonal art projects.

The girls used their leaves to create festive turkeys and abstract leaf-stamp paintings. Art is incorporated throughout the Pearl Haven program as it has many benefits including promoting creativity and connection and serving as a creative outlet to express perceptions and emotions.



# HELPING YOUTH GROW THROUGH GARDENING!

Youth and staff have begun planting Pearl Haven's raised gardens. Our girls are very excited to participate in the learning process through hands-on engagement with science and horticulture. The gardens will allow youth to learn firsthand how their food is grown, while developing a greater sense of connection to nature and respect for the environment.

#### CHRISTMAS AT PEARL HAVEN

Youth enjoyed decorating gingerbread houses which will be on display for all visitors to admire through the holiday weekend.

Pearl Haven youth and staff decorated the campus to exude the warmth and cheer of the holiday season. Our goal is to create a safe home-like environment where our

youth can thrive, which this month included decking the halls for Christmas!

Youth were able to showcase their artistic skill sets while giving back to their local community by creating festive Christmas cards for the residents at Ann Pearl Care Home. Ann Pearl Care Home is an assisted senior living facility that provides essential care for seniors with Alzheimer's.

Creating charcuterie boards with local volunteers provided an opportunity for youth to explore the concept of perfect imperfections. Not everything has to fit in a specific box; it's okay to be different! The youth each designed their board as they liked, with the end result being as unique as the individual who created it.

In preparation for the new year, youth created word of the year cards which depict the concepts that they plan to focus on in 2022: strength, personal development, and mana (spiritual energy of power and strength). We look forward to helping them continue to reach for the stars and accomplish their goals!



PEARL HAVEN YOUTH HAVE FUN IN THE SUN! During the month of December, all of our Pearl Haven youth continued to demonstrate safety and their commitment to treatment,

which allowed us to plan off-site activities. Youth enjoyed a picnic lunch at the Kaneohe Botanical gardens, which was followed by a visit to a local beach for some self-reflection and engagement with the beautiful Hawaiian 'aina.



# SINCEREST MAHALO TO MCINERNY **FOUNDATION**

One of the key programming components of Pearl Haven is physical fitness and activity which we know is essential for holistic health and healing. Research surrounding adolescent health has consistently shown that physical exercise reduces feelings of depression and anxiety and promotes psychological health. Research also shows that justice-involved youth have limited skills in using leisure time in a healthy way. This is often coupled with abnormal eating habits and a lack of interest in physical exercise or conversely a compulsion to exercise to excess. Each youth develops an Individual Wellness Plan, an initiative that will empower clients to establish their own goals for health and fitness. Sports provide critical support to the therapeutic healing. The structure and social interactions, in addition to the physical and mental health implications of sport can help facilitate healing in young people affected by trauma.

# REINTEGRATION

#### STARFISH MENTORING PROGRAM

Starfish Mentoring Program serves to facilitate the reduction of victimization or revictimization of youth. It also serves to support healthy social reintegration for those who have been victimized. The program connects youth and young adults between the ages of 11-24 who have been exploited or are at risk of



being exploited with a trusted, committed positive adult mentor. Mentors are thoroughly vetted, make a sincere commitment to supporting the youth for at least one year, and undergo Ho'ōla Nā Pua's extensive Mentor Training. The program manager aims to match the youth with the mentor that is best suited for them-someone the youth will be comfortable with, can relate to, can learn from, and trust. Together the youth and mentor participate in meaningful activities that guide the youth towards healthy choices, self-efficacy, and empowered living.

#### **2021 STATISTICS**









Mentor/Mentee Contact





Attendees at

Trained



\*Impacted by COVID

#### **VOICES OF OUR YOUTH**

Malia A.K. -Starfish Mentee

When I first heard about the Starfish Mentorship Program, I was in a Hale Kipa shelter for young girls and boys, where the Hōkū Group Services were available. The Hōkū program then introduced me to the Starfish Mentoring Program. At first, like many teens, I didn't really want a mentor because I thought to myself, "Why do I even need one?" Over the next few months, I continued to participate in the Hōkū Groups and it really helped me to grow as a young lady. Hōkū Groups helped me learn how to love myself, helped me to become independent, and helped me understand that it's okay for me to put myself first, even though it might be hard. In learning how to put myself first, I finally decided that I wanted to be a part of the Starfish Program and I really wanted to see what it was like to have a mentor, to meet someone similar to me, and I wanted to see if I would enjoy it. Today, I can definitely say that it was one of the best decisions I made in 2021.

I was seventeen when I first got my mentor. The process of matching me with a mentor was super easy and fast, but only because there was someone, I described in my application, available to be a mentor. Not everyone finds a match that easy, and more mentors are needed so that when a youth is ready for a mentor, one can be easily found for the youth. So future mentees, while it can take time to get your mentor, be patient, it will be worth the wait. The staff at Starfish want to make sure they have a perfect fit for you, and that is one of the best parts of the program, they listen to you!

Having a mentor who has similar interests as me, someone I can tell me problems to and can relate to what I share feels great! It truly feels like I have a best friend that I can rely on and share anything with. I personally have grown from having a mentor. I used to hold so much of my emotion in and having someone who will not judge me based on how I feel allowed me to feel better about expressing my feelings. Having this positive relationship in my life has had a positive impact on my relationships with other people.

My goal right now is to major in Social Work. Coming from the background of being a former foster youth and seeing how the system is, I want to change it and be an advocate for youth who are just like me, and I was just like them. If my plans do change, and I choose another career path, I want to become a mentor when I get a little older and help youth the same way my mentor helped me. I know I would be a good fit as a mentor because I can relate to future mentees and their hardships.

Lydia Leaños



Lydia is originally from Sacramento, California and has been the Starfish Mentoring Program Manager since September 2019. Lydia has worked with at-risk and vulnerable populations in California, as well as in foreign countries through mission work, throughout her life and career.

## Why did you choose to work at Ho'ōla Nā Pua?

I have worked with at-risk and vulnerable populations my whole life and realized that working with survivors of commercial sexual exploitation is my calling. I love empowering other people and mentoring has always been a passion, whether I was getting paid for it or not. When the opportunity arose to work in Hawai'i and combine my calling and passion, I knew it

was meant to be and could not say no.

# Can you share something about the impact your program makes that fills your cup?

I really love getting to match youth with their mentor! Seeing two strangers come together and find common ground and witness mentors work their magic helping youth feel loved and supported is such a cool experience. When I hear mentors say things that I have taught them, like using particular words and providing encouragement that helps our kids is icing on the cake. Seeing our kids blossom under the unconditional positive regard their mentor gives them is really beautiful. When our kids say that they want to take my job one day is the best feeling, and when it does happen one day we will really know we've succeeded.

# **ADVOCACY**

#### **EMPOWERMENT & SUSTAINABILITY**

We believe youth should have a support system available to them in order to empower them to take steps toward a brighter future. Youth and adults who are vulnerable to traffickers or who have experienced exploitation need to have resources available that will help them begin the process of regaining their sense of self-worth, strength, and independence.

Ho'ōla Nā Pua believes in empowering youth by meeting each youth where they are in their stage of change. We focus on increasing safety, meeting tangible needs, such as transitional shelter or stabilization, assisting in teaching life skills, modeling, and discussing healthy relationships, building economic empowerment, and improving health and wellness. Ho'ōla Nā Pua is committed to supporting youth beyond the age of eighteen and will continue to provide that support as long as the now young adult wants our support. Ho'ōla Nā Pua works alongside government agencies and other non-government organizations to ensure the youth receive all the support available.

#### ADVOCACY SUSTAINS EMPOWERMENT

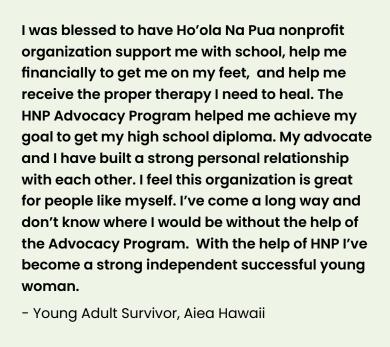
The right to be protected from sextrafficking, abuse and violence, along with the right to have access to appropriate care is sustained through advocacy efforts. As a survivor-informed organization, Ho'ōla Nā Pua knows that while survivor self-advocacy is the most powerful voice, advocating on their own in the midst of working through their trauma and healing can be very difficult and challenging. We are here to be that safety net and provide

an additional layer of support and serve as a bridge between the systems of care, the justice system, the community, and the survivor. Advocacy has been a core pillar for Ho'ōla Nā Pua since our inception and it is interwoven into the fabric of all of our programs and is fundamental in our overall approach to systemic change.Ho'ōla Nā Pua collaborates with both our local community stakeholders along with our national partners to ensure we remain relevant with current trends and best practices as well as continue to build on our subject matter expertise. We also bring forth our innovative ideas and expertise so as to best support this evolving anti-trafficking movement while ensuring the survivor voice and choice is central to guiding effective change.

#### **2021 STATISTICS**







I'm a human trafficking survivor. At 17 years of age Ho'ola Na Pua came into my life. Since that time, I have not felt alone when I have breakdowns, flashbacks, daily life problems. My advocate and I overcome these challenges together. I am very thankful for this program to be in my life. I'm now 25 years old and it still amazes me that they are still here doing all they can to stand by my side. I have 3 kids. I'm a single mom but yet I feel I have all I need as they have been there for all my children, through pregnancy and watching them grow up. I have turned into a very mature young adult. My favorite aspect of HNP is that I know I am not alone no matter how far away.

-Young Adult Survivor, Haleiwa Hawaii

Today I am celebrating my grandson's one year birthday and a big part of that is because of the HNP Advocacy Program. I will never be able to repay you for everything that you have done for our family, my daughter, and grandson. The HNP Advocacy Program is heaven sent and we love you folks.

-Parent of Program participant, Mokuleia Hawaii



Tammy Bitanga
Advocate & Community
Outreach Coordinator



Tammy was born and raised in Windward, O'ahu. She has been a volunteer with Ho'ōla Nā Pua since 2013 and has been the Advocate & Community Outreach Coordinator on staff since 2018. Tammy is an avid cook and in addition to her advocacy and community outreach work, she enjoys supporting the youth and staff at Pearl Haven in many ways but particularly through her love of cooking and baking. Tammy also provides guidance and input across all HNP programs and organizational direction to ensure survivor voice and perspective remains central to decision making. In addition, Tammy represents HNP on a national and international level, as she partners with other survivors to drive sustainable systemic change.

# Why did you choose to work at Ho'ōla Nā Pua?

Because of the need to bring awareness to the complex crime of Human Trafficking. I believe in and value Ho'ōla Nā Pua's victimcentered approach and survivor-informed response, to serve those who come through our programs with the utmost care.

# Can you share something about the impact your program makes that fills your cup?

Supporting youth who are going through a transitional time in their lives. Whether they are transitioning in their living situation, or when they are transitioning from a minor to a young adult, I love being able to provide them the support or resources they may need, and to help fill the gaps. To encourage survivors and remind them that they can thrive despite what has been done to them is my reason and drives me to keep doing this work!





# HAWAI'I ISLAND

Ho'ōla Nā Pua's Hawai'i Island office has a small but powerful team that provides all of Ho'ōla Nā Pua's programming - Education & Training, Hōkū Groups, Starfish Mentoring - to the Hawai'i Island community and youth.

Youth served through Hawai'i Island programs represent a variety of backgrounds and familial circumstances, many of whom are underage homeless runaways or part of the foster care system who have suffered physical, sexual, and/or emotional abuse or neglect in their homes. They are often involved with the Juvenile Justice System, and have histories of mental health issues, past trauma, or substance abuse, with parental mental illness and drug addiction present in their sphere of childhood. The majority reside in lowincome households and desperately need Ho'ōla Nā Pua's continuum of programs to help them address the core roots of attachment wounds, shift negative self-perceptions, reframe negative self-talk, and build positive self-esteem.

The Starfish Mentoring Program provides a muchneeded positive, healthy, supportive adult in the lives of our Hawai'i Island youth. Mentors connect youth to treatment programs, therapies or reconnect them with learning, whether they complete high school, pass the General Education Diploma (GED) test, or engage in structured activities that focus on employment for youth aging out of the foster system, such as practice with job applications, resume writing, and interview skills. This support is necessary to help break the cycle of trauma and poverty in the community.

The Hawai'i Island team provides weekly trauma-responsive group programming through Hōkū Group Services in collaboration with the

- · Youth Challenge Academy in Hilo
- The Salvation Army's Noho Olu Safe House for Girls
- The Hawai'i Academy of Arts and Sciences.

The Hope & Healing partnership with Child & Family Service has enabled Ho'ōla Nā Pua to provide these services to the Hawai'i Island community and we have the vision to increase the provision of services on Hawai'i Island.

#### **OUR HAWAII ISLAND REACH**

 Monthly participation and attendance with the Hawaii Exploitation and Trafficking Community (HEAT) Team Meetings w/ District 5 Councilmember Matthew Kaneali'i-Kleinfelder and Community Partnerships/ Stakeholders

- Ongoing partnerships and collaborations with The State Human Trafficking Coordinator at the Hawaii Attorney General's Office, The Department of Homeland Security and Lili'uokalani Trust
- On-going outreach and recruitment of mentor volunteers, hosting monthly or as needed mentor interest meetings and monthly mentor meetings for active mentor volunteers.
- Maintaining active relationship with the Hawaii Community College Administration of Justice Program for presentations as well as referring intern/practicum students to volunteer at HNP
- Participation in the 2021 Virtual Hawaii Island Youth Summit reaching 220 students at Konawaena, Kealakehe, Hilo, Waiākea, Kohala & Ka'u High Schools and the Hawaii Youth Challenge Academy. Hosting and participating in annual National Human Trafficking Prevention Month, National Trafficking in Persons Awareness Day and the Red Sand Project



## **OUR CURRENT PARTNERSHIPS** AND STAKEHOLDERS ON HAWAI'I ISLAND

County of Hawaii Prosecutor's Office

**County Council** 

Hawaii Police Department

Hawaii Department of Education

Family Guidance Center

Lili'uokalani Trust

Partners in Development

The Salvation Army

Children's Justice Center

Hope Services Hawaii

#### 2021 STATISTICS\*

P.E.E.R Coconut

Wireless Groups



\*Starfish and Education statistics are included within those respective sections

**Anastasia Ayers** Hawai'i Island Direct Services Program Manager



Anastasia was born on O'ahu and raised in Hilo since the age of nine. She has been the Direct Services Program Manager for Hawai'i Island since 2019. Anastasia holds a B.A in Psychology from the University of Hawai'i-Hilo in 2005 and recently earned a Master of Science in Psychology with an emphasis in Forensic Psychology from the University of Arizona.

Why did you choose to work at Ho'ōla Nā Pua?

I have worked in various roles within social services, and I know there is an enduring urgent need to increase access to services, especially for our keiki. The opportunity to work at Ho'ōla Nā Pua unexpectedly came upon my path and my position here in Hilo was created to fulfill a growing need in our community that Ho'ōla Nā Pua was able to meet. I do believe there is exciting potential for growth in our programs here in Hilo and I desire to replicate the advancement O'ahu achieved so that we may serve more youth and families here on Hawai'i Island.

Can you share something about the impact your program makes that fills your cup?

What I am most grateful for is that I have been blessed with staff that equally share the same passion that I have for helping our keiki. We do not have a separation of programs here on Hawai'i Island and together give attention to where it is needed most, and we continue to holomua (progress)!

**Bethany Hall** Hope & Healing Program Manager



Bethany was raised in both Hawai'i and New Jersey. As the Hope & Healing Program Manager for West Hawai'i Island, she ensures the provision of services to the West Hawai'i youth. Bethany has ten years of service with youth-serving organizations including the Salvation Army, the Boys & Girls Club, and adolescent intensive outpatient programs.

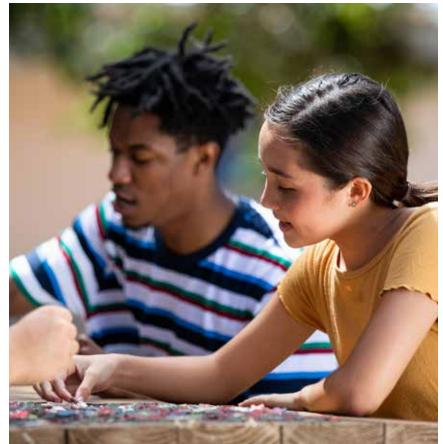
Why did you choose to work at Ho'ōla Nā Pua?

I began as a volunteer with Ho'ōla Nā Pua's Starfish Mentoring Program and applied to be a staff member after having experienced firsthand the meaningful impact Ho'ōla Nā Pua's programs made for our youth and in our community.

Can you share something about the impact your program makes that fills your cup?

My favorite thing about the work that my program does is watching the youth being mentored emotionally finding that safe place that allows them to heal and grow. To see them grow into themselves with confidence with the support of a positive mentor whom they have learned to trust and lean on.





Our group facilitator and program coordinator came across a youth that was in a particular partner agency's program and due to covid restrictions, we had to provide virtual support. The youth graduated from the program and had never met the HNP program coordinator in person. One day the program coordinator was at the store and the youth was working there as an employee and the youth acknowledged that coordinator. The youth recognized, acknowledged, and thanked her for the time they had together in group even though it was virtual. When that face to face interaction happened, the youth knew the connection and acknowledged her."

- Program Manager

Mentoring gives the kids an opportunity to be with someone they can be themselves around and not feel judged, they can share shameful, embarrassing stories with their mentor and be met with support and love. Because HNP staff and volunteers have that trauma informed background, we are able to see these behaviors as the language and expression of trauma. Despite the behaviors, we are going to pursue you anyway and ensure the youth know that "you're valuable and this relationship is valuable. I dont care if you push me away... I'll still be here"

-Program Coordinator

Sometimes we don't always need to know the right words to say, thing to do or the perfect activity planned but just being there to say I'm here whenever you're ready, if you're ever ready just know that I'm here."

-Program Coordinator

**Lovey Silva** Hawai'i Hōkū Program Coordinator



Lovey is from Hilo, Hawai'i and knows well the needs of the youth in her community. Lovey joined the Ho'ōla Nā Pua team in 2020 as part-time staff, advancing to full-time in 2021 as the need for services increased. Lovey will soon be earning an associate degree in Administration of Justice and will continue her studies at the University of Hawaii – Hilo towards a bachelor's degree.

Why did you choose to work at Ho'ōla Nā Pua?

I have always wanted to work with the youth in our community and to be a part of making a difference in their lives. Working with Ho'ōla Nā Pua provided me the opportunity to be a positive change agent in my community.

Can you share something about the impact your program makes that fills your cup?

Being able to help youth and families in my community experience healing in their lives and witness them head on a path of positive change is something I have always wanted to be part of.

### HSI EAD AWARD

#### HOMELAND SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS

HONOR, SERVICE, INTEGRITY

HSI Recognized Ho'ola Na Pua with a 2020 Executive Associate Director Award: Exemplary Partnership Community, Industry, Academia, or NGO

#### **HSI HONOLULU**

During 2020, Hoʻōla Nā Pua — which means "New Life for Our Children" — remained a steadfast partner to HSI Honolulu in combatting sex trafficking and the exploitation of minors in the State of Hawaii. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Hoʻōla Nā Pua survivor advocates were available on a moment's notice to assist HSI Honolulu in identifying and rescuing victims of human trafficking. Hoʻōla Nā Pua provided continuous advocate support to victims and witnesses identified during HSI investigations by connecting them to resources and mitigating their risk of revictimization. Hoʻōla Nā Pua has also been an avid partner and promoter of HSI Honolulu in building partnerships in the medical, tourism, and educational sectors. These community partnerships will benefit HSI Honolulu's mission to counter all manner of criminal activities for years to come. Ho'ōla Nā Pua's commitment to helping victims of trafficking, while supporting HSI Honolulu as we bring those responsible to justice, is both exemplary and admirable.







Founder & CEO Jessica Muñoz & Community Outreach Officer Tammy Bitanga were honored to receive this award on behalf of HNP.

# **EVENTS**

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

**JANUARY** 

Red Sand Project is a participatory artwork created by Molly Gochman that uses sidewalk interventions and earthwork installations to create opportunities for people to question, connect and take action against vulnerabilities that can lead to human trafficking and exploitation. We partnered with our law enforcement and stakeholders to demonstrate our unified approach to addressing the issue of human trafficking in our community.









Held in honor of survivors who have lost their lives at the hands of their exploiters. May we never forget the brutality of this criminal activity.



































# **FINANCIALS**

Total Program Revenue:	\$3,936,209
Individual, Business, or Foundation: Grants: Program Income Special Events: Other: In-Kind:	\$2,098,200 \$1,115,710 \$234,850 \$188,999 \$19,484 \$278,966
Operational Expenses:	\$3,303,610
Programs: Fundraising: General/Admin:	\$2,781,863 \$332,566 \$189,181
Net Assets:	\$10,880,358







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<sup>\*</sup>Term ended November 2021

<sup>\*</sup>Terms ended in 2021

# 2021 **DONATIONS**

#### \$100.00+

Eric Geisler Indru Watumull The Bromley Foundation The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints The Kosasa Foundation The NME Fund Zilber Family Foundation

#### \$50,000-\$99,999

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