



WORKING TOGETHER TO HELP OTHERS

PLEASE JOIN US FOR LUNCH

**Monday, June 22, 2015**  
**11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Miyama Main Hall, Harris United Methodist Church  
Nuuanu Ave. and South Vineyard Blvd.  
Ample parking - driveway off Nuuanu Ave.

**Part I:** Hawaii Public Radio Town Square, June 18, 5-6 p.m. KIPO 89.3 FM on Oahu

**Part II:** At Harris Church, June 22:

**Agenda:**

**11:30 Luncheon (optional): Various Pizzas, Salad, and Dessert—\$5.00 Donation**

**11:55 Welcome, Introductions and Remarks, Larry Geller, President**

**12:00 Program: "Shaping Honolulu"** with Jennifer Darrah, Lecturer and Graduate Faculty Affiliate, University of Hawaii, Annie Koh, PhD Candidate, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, UH, and Prof. Luciano Minerbi, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, UH. The discussion will be moderated by Beth-Ann Kozlovich, Executive Producer Talk Shows, Hawaii Public Radio.

All of us want to live in a high quality, affordable, people-friendly environment with open space, quality housing, and even preserve farmland for sustainable agriculture. Urban design can be a grass-roots activity, with communities participating with professionals in the design of their local environment.

How do we explain the growing affordable housing shortage while luxury condominiums sprout for the wealthy?

We'll ask the panelists to bring us up to date both on how Honolulu has been planned in the past and to what extent citizens have participated. But more important, since we are advocates: How can citizens participate in urban planning so they don't feel they are simply the victims of it? How do we guarantee walkable streets, open spaces, and an environment welcoming to children, adults and senior citizens? And finally, how might we become involved in current and future planning of our own living environment? Let's learn from our panel how this might be accomplished in Honolulu.

**1:00 Adjourn**

## **The Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans (HARA) and Kokua Council held a very successful 9th Annual Post Legislative Forum at the State Capitol on Wednesday, May 27, 2015.**

About 100 people attended "**The Good, Bad, and the Ugly.**"

The Legislative Review is a forum to hear from legislators about how senior issues fared this session and to allow attendees to share issues and concerns that may be considered in the 2016 Legislative Session and beyond.

Eleven legislators spoke on the session: Senators Donna Mercado Kim, Will Espero, Brickwood Galuteria, Breene Harimoto, Laura Thielen and Suzanne Chun Oakland; and Representatives Della Au Belatti, Dee Morikawa, Gregg Takayama, Cynthia Thielen and Beth Fukumoto Chang.

Sen. Chun Oakland noted that the average age of homeless persons on the streets of Honolulu is 61 years. Gregg Takayama spoke of the inclusion of treatment for autism and cleft palate in required insurance coverage. Sen. Espero spoke about police reform.

The "**Shining Light Awards**" were presented to individuals who have contributed to advancing senior issues in the Legislature and the community of senior advocates in the legislative process.

### **Recipients of the 2015 HARA/Kokua Council Shining Light Awards**

#### **FACE/Drew Astolfi**

FACE, Faith Action for Community Equity, and its State Director Drew Astolfi; worked on the minimum wage campaign; helped organize the Long Term Care public awareness campaign.

#### **Bruce McCullough**

Bruce served as Social Security Pacific Regional Director; he is a member of the HARA Board of Directors and is chair of the HARA's Legislative Committee; he has also chaired PABEA's Legislative Committee.

#### **Gary Simon**

Gary is Director Corporate Affairs and Advocacy, St. Francis Health Care System; he served as Executive Director of St. Francis' Hospice Program and was involved in the conversion of St. Francis Hospital into a senior adult health center; he is former chair of PBEA; and served on PABEA Legislative Committee; he is a member of the Board of the Hawaii Family Caregivers Coalition.

#### **Kathryn Xian**

Kathryn is a human rights activist; she is Executive Director of the Pacific Alliance to Stop Slavery, a nonprofit service provider for survivors of human trafficking; she is chair of the Justice and Outreach Ministry at St. Andrews Cathedral; she works to assist homeless persons, many of them seniors, living on the streets of Honolulu, and has proposed legislation to create a Homeless Person's Bill of Rights.

Additionally, at this year's event, the Hawaii State Fall Prevention Consortium presented an award to

### **Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland**

Sen. Chun Oakland was awarded the "Outstanding Achievement Trophy and Gold Certificate" by the Hawaii State Fall Prevention Consortium for her years of dedication towards the protection and support of our Kupuna through her work in the Legislature.

"For over 6 years Senator Chun Oakland went far beyond the norm working tirelessly to promote fall prevention and support efforts to protect our older adults."

Her name is permanently engraved on the Fall Prevention Perpetual Award which is proudly displayed at the Plaza at Moanalua. It is appropriate to present it at this HARA / Kokua Council event where so many individuals concerned about our senior population and legislative action have gathered to discuss the results of the 2015 Session.

The award was presented by Stan Michaels, Dept. of Health and Consortium representative.

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### **2015 Legislative Update from the Kupuna Caucus (Courtesy Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland)**

The following measures, which were supported by the Kupuna Caucus were approved by the Legislature this past Legislative Session:

#### **SB964, Relating to Aging**

*Appropriates \$3,000,000 in FY16 for the Kupuna Care Program*

#### **SB1113, Relating to Background Checks**

*Expands the scope of background checks conducted by the Department of Health on operators, employees, applicants, and volunteers in health care facilities and other persons providing health care on behalf of the Department of Health to include criminal history record checks, sex offender registry record checks, adult abuse perpetrator and child abuse and neglect record checks, and certified nurse aide registry record checks.*

#### **SB1117, Making an Emergency Appropriation to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation**

*Makes an emergency appropriation of \$15,000,000 in FY16 to support the functions of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation*

#### **HCR14**

Recognizes the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Older Americans Act and designates May as "Older Americans Month" in Hawaii.

#### **HB500, Relating to the State Budget**

Appropriates funds for the operating and capital improvement budget of the Executive Branch for FY16 and FY17.



Kokua Council for Senior Citizens of Hawaii Education Fund, Inc.  
 20 South Vineyard Blvd.  
 Honolulu, HI 96813  
<http://www.kokuacouncil.org>  
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WORKING TOGETHER TO HELP OTHERS

**Please join us on Wednesday, June 22, 2015**

"Shaping Honolulu" Beth-Ann Kozlovich,  
 Jennifer Darrah, Annie Koh and Prof. Luciano Minerbi

**Who Are We?**

**Kokua Council** is one of Hawaii's oldest advocacy groups. There is a **\$10.00 annual membership** to defray printing and postage costs. At each meeting, topical issues are presented for discussion and possible action. We embrace diversity and extend a special invitation to any senior or intergenerational minded individual interested in advocating for these important issues in Hawaii." All are welcome. **WHEN:** 4th Monday of every month, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. **WHERE:** Harris United Methodist Church @ Nuuanu and Vineyard Blvd., Ample parking and a light lunch are provided for \$5 Donation. **REACH US** c/o Harris United Methodist Church, 20 South Vineyard, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**Mission:** "Kokua Council advocates and seeks to empower seniors and other concerned citizens to be effective advocates in shaping the future and well-being of our community, with particular attention to those needing help in advocating for themselves. "

**Board Members**

President Larry Geller, 540-1928, [lgeller@igc.org](mailto:lgeller@igc.org)  
 Vice President Laura Manis, 597-8838, [manis@lava.net](mailto:manis@lava.net)  
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 Treasurer /Advocacy Barbara Service, 732-3688

Treasurer, Education Fund, T.J. Davies, [tidavies@juno.com](mailto:tidavies@juno.com)  
 Charles Carole, Samuel Cox Marc Delorme  
 Richard Miller, Marilyn Seeley, Jim Shon  
**Website:** [www.kokuacouncil.org](http://www.kokuacouncil.org) Newsletter Editor: Henry Curtis

**JOIN KOKUA COUNCIL!**

Yes! I want to join Kokua Council. Here are my annual dues and my contact information. I understand that my phone number will be added to the Kokua Phone Tree and I will receive the monthly newsletter and occasional e-mails. Our fiscal year starts in January. Please make checks payable to **Kokua Council**.

Individual Member \_\_ \$10.00 Life Member \_\_ \$100.00 Organizational Member \_\_ \$25.00

Donations: 501(c)(4) Advocacy \_\_\_\_\_ Education Fund: 501(c)(3) \_\_\_\_\_ (Tax Deductible)

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Mail to: Treasurer, Kokua Council, Harris United Methodist Church, 20 S. Vineyard Blvd., Honolulu, HI 96813