



WORKING TOGETHER TO HELP OTHERS

PLEASE JOIN US FOR INFORMED AND FOCUSED DISCUSSION & LUNCH

Monday, February 27, 2017 Miyama Main Hall, Harris United Methodist Church

11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Nuuanu Ave. and S. Vineyard Blvd.—Ample parking—driveway off Nuuanu Ave

Agenda:

10:30 **Open Board Meeting:** No Formal Speaker: Discussion on Priority Legislation

Anyone interested may attend. Those who want to bring specific legislation to the attention of the Kokua Council Board are invited to participate. It is always helpful to have a short handout outlining the issue, the bill number, etc. For example, on February 27 we are likely to discuss the Death with Dignity proposals.

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

1:00 **Adjourn**

Kokua Council Windward: Thursday, February 9, 2017: “The Future Prospects of Medical Care in Hawaii” **COMMUNITY WELCOME**

Pohai Nani, Club Room, 2nd Floor, 45-090 Namoku Street, Kaneohe

11:30 **(Optional) — Buffet Lunch in Dining Room, \$11.** Reservation and Information: Samuel Cox (808) 779-3606 or revsamuelcox@gmail.com.

12:30 **Program:** Dr. Arleen Meyers: “The Future Prospects of Medical Care in Hawaii”

Dr. Arleen Meyers is a pediatrician with the Hawaii Coalition for Health. She is a long-time advocate for health. She is also a lawyer and a former student of Kokua Council member Dick Miller.

Arleen was one of the demonstrators at the State Capitol Friday, January 15 supporting the Affordable Care Act. Her interest is to provide adequate health care for children and kupuna in Hawaii.

Arlene will address her concerns about the possible abolishment of or cuts to Obamacare, Medicare and Medicaid and what we can do. All seniors should be deeply concerned with these issues.

1:30 **Adjourn**

Kokua Council lawsuit

After months of going back and forth with the Hawaii State Department of Health over not complying with the law requiring the posting of care home inspection reports, and over the redaction (blacking out) of important information, KC reluctantly filed suit in Circuit Court to force the issue. While there have been some initial efforts to settle the suit out of court, state proposals have fallen far short of what the law requires. A hearing is set for February 2 on a Kokua Council motion.

Legislative priorities

Kokua Council priorities are based on several criteria: (1) good objective data; (2) recommendations at the Kokua Council annual community forum; (3) recommendations from the legislative Kupuna Caucus; (3) discussions and analysis by our experienced board; (4) unanticipated but important issues that arise during the legislative session; and (5) capacity of Kokua Council to make significant contributions to the policies and issues involved.

Among the issues KC will offer testimony on will be more financial support for Kupuna Care home services, more funding for the Long Term Care Ombudsman, funding to address the growing epidemic of Alzheimer patients, support for the UH Center on Aging, and an innovative partial funding of home care services for those still employed but heavily burdened by the time and costs of caring for family members. We have not yet identified bill numbers for these and other issues of interest to seniors.

HB#	SB#	Report Title	Measure Title
HB608	SB528	Kupuna Care; Appropriation	RELATING TO AGING.
HB609	SB529	University of Hawaii; Center on Aging; Appropriation	RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.
HB610	SB530	Long-term Care Ombudsman; LTC Ombudsman Program; Appropriation;	MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE OFFICE OF THE LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM.
HB615	SB531	Healthy Aging Partnership; Appropriation	RELATING TO THE HEALTHY AGING PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.
HB611	SB532	Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia Services Coordinator; Appropriation	MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND RELATED DEMENTIA SERVICES COORDINATOR POSITION.
HB612	SB533	Kupuna Caucus; Aging and Disability Resource Center; Appropriation	MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER.
HB607	SB534	Kupuna Care; Caregivers; Executive Office on Aging; Appropriation	RELATING TO KUPUNA CARE.
HB613	SB535	Hearing Aids; Health Insurance; Mandated Coverage	RELATING TO HEARING AIDS.
HB614	SB536	Kupuna Caucus; Fall Prevention; DOH; Appropriation	RELATING TO FALL PREVENTION.

HB616	SB537	Kupuna Caucus; Foster Grandparent Program; Senior Companion Program; Appropriation	RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES.
HB433	SB538	Kupuna Caucus; Care Facility; Inspection Reports; Department of Health; Appropriation	RELATING TO CARE FACILITY INSPECTIONS.
HB432	SB539	Kupuna Caucus; Elderly; Caregivers; Financial Exploitation; Elder Abuse; Penal Code	RELATING TO THE ELDERLY.
HB434	SB540	Kupuna Caucus; Veterans; Long-term Care; Community Living Program; Civil Service Status; Executive Office on Aging; Appropriation	RELATING TO LONG-TERM CARE.
HB431	SB541	Kupuna Caucus; Gerontologists; Licensure	RELATING TO GERONTOLOGIST LICENSING.
HB435	SB542	Kupuna Caucus; Child Custody; Visitation; Grandparents	RELATING TO GRANDPARENTS.

We are not alone...

Key advocates, resources and partners include AARP, Common Cause Hawaii, Faith Action for Community Equity (FACE), Foster Grandparent Program, Hawaii Alliance of Retired Americans (HARA), Hawaii Appleseed, Hawaii Disability and Communication Access Board, Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition, Lanakila Pacific, LTC Ombudsman, League of Women Voters, NAMI, PABEA, PHOCUSED, Partners in Care, Project DANA, Senior Companion Program, Waikiki Community Center, UH Center on Aging and many more. These organizations and leaders assisted Kokua Council in identifying priorities for the 2017 Legislative Session.

Please donate – help support Kokua Council’s lawsuit

To get the Department of Health to post care home inspection reports as the law requires will involve convincing a judge that they must do that. The lawsuit has been filed. We have legal expenses ahead. **Please contribute to our legal fund to help us win for Hawaii seniors and others needing long term care.**

We’re counting on your help to succeed with this challenge. **Please don’t delay**—send in your contribution as soon as possible.

I want to contribute to Kokua Council’s Legal Fund. Please make checks payable to **Kokua Council** and mark them “**Legal Fund**” at the bottom. Please consult your tax adviser as to applicable tax deductions.

\$10.00 \$25.00 \$100.00 \$250.00 Other: _____

Date _____

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

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



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

February 9 Kokua Council Windward: “The Future Prospects of Medical Care in Hawaii”

February 27 General Meeting: Discussion of key legislation

(details on both meetings inside)

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. There is ample parking. A light lunch is provided for a \$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

Vice President Jim Shon, Chejudo12@yahoo.com, Secretary Lyn Moku, lmoku2016@hawaii.rr.com, Treasurer /Advocacy Barbara Service, barbarajservice@gmail.com Treasurer, Education Fund, T.J. Davies, tjdavies@juno.com, Board Members Charles Carole, Larry Geller, Marilyn Seely, Lila Mower, Helen Wagner, Newsletter editor: Larry Geller, Emeritus: Sam Cox, Laura Manis, Richard Miller.

Website: www.kokuacouncil.org



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)

Date _____

Name _____ Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Mail to: Treasurer, Kokua Council, Harris United Methodist Church, 20 S. Vineyard Blvd., Honolulu, HI 9681