



WORKING TOGETHER TO HELP OTHERS

Please join us for the 11th Annual Post Legislative Forum

"The Good, Bad, and the Ugly"

Sponsored by the Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans (HARA) and Kokua Council
Wednesday, May 24, 2017 8:30 am to noon at the State Capitol, Room 325
Cost: Free A continental breakfast and light lunch will be provided.

Invited Speakers include:

Senator Ronald Kouchi, Senate President	Representative Joseph Souki, House Speaker
Senator Jill Tokuda	Representative Sylvia Luke
Senator Will Espero	Representative Gregg Takayama
Senator Rosalyn Baker	Representative Scott Saiki
Senator Josh Green	Representative Dee Morikawa
Senator Les Ihara, Jr.	Representative Delia Au Belatti

“Shining Light Awards” will be presented to individuals who have contributed to advancing issues in the Legislature and the community of senior advocates in the legislative process.

To reserve a space, **please RSVP** by calling 722-9937 or email: wongj060@hawaii.rr.com.

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 2018 Legislative Session and beyond.

Kokua Council Windward: Thursday, May 11: “Making Democracy Work” with Pearl Johnson

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: Pearl Johnson: “Making Democracy Work”

Pearl Johnson served as president of the League of Women Voters from 2000 to 2004. Pearl now hosts the League's television program, *Making Democracy Work*, which is aired the third Tuesday at 7 pm and repeated the following four Wednesdays at 5:30 pm on Olelo channel 53. Pearl will share some of the major highlights and issues of her television program.

General Summary of the 2017 Legislature by Jim Shon

This year, if anyone received any additional funding it was a major victory. Among the positives were more funding for Kupuna Care, for the Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC), and for the Long Term Care Ombudsman.

A new and hopeful bonus was the tentative approval of a new program that will pay for services for working families who are caregivers.

So considering what was modestly requested, seniors did OK for program support. The real issues remaining are the lackluster quality controls for community based care homes and services and the actual, real impacts of existing programs.

Last year the Executive Office on Aging did a short two-month snapshot of services provided to seniors through the ADRCs. The results were, to put it mildly, discouraging.

Analysis of November 2016 ADRC Report to the Legislature On The Effectiveness of the ADRC System

Pursuant to HB 1878, ACT 138 Requiring the Executive Office on Aging (EOA) to Evaluate the Effectiveness of the Aging and Disability Resource Centers. This can be found on the web at:

<http://health.hawaii.gov/opppd/files/2016/10/Act-138-EOA-Annual-Report-111416.pdf>

Background. According to statistics provided by the University of Hawaii's Center on the Family, Hawaii's aging population is heavily weighted towards females.

For Example.

- There are Approximately 138,000 seniors aged 70 or older.
- Of the 138,000, 80,000 (58%) are female, and 58,000 (42%) male.
- Of those aged 75 or above, there are about 97,000.
- Of the 97,000, 57,000 (59%) are female, and 39,000 (40%) male.
- Of those aged 80 or above, there are 62,000.
- Of those 62,000, 38,000 (61%) are female, and 24,000 (39%) are male.

KEY TAKEAWAY: Whatever programs and services provided, and their quality, older women are a majority of the customers. Therefore, if Hawaii's efforts to serve the elderly are less than expected, women are greatly disadvantaged as a group.

The November 2016 EOA Report on the effectiveness of the ADRC System looks at so called Long Term Support Options and Benefits (LTSS) between August 15 – October 25 – *a two month snapshot* of first time Kupuna Care Customers.

Kupuna Care services are adult day care, assisted transportation, attendant care, case management, chore, home delivered meals, homemaker, personal care, and transportation. It is easy to see that those needing one service might well need others.

EOA Study Demographics By County

Demographics	Hawaii	Honolulu	Kauai	Maui
Median Age	87 n=20	82 n=486	85 n=20	76 n=76
Male	40%	34%	45%	30.6%
Female	60%	65.8%	55%	67.3%
Live Alone	45%	29.9%	25%	37.8%

KEY TAKEAWAY: These demographics suggest that those seeking services were generally 80 years of age or older, and, similar to our statewide gender breakdown, 60% female and 40% male.

KEY TAKEAWAY: The report indicates that there were 11,400 contacts to ADRCs during the study period. Therefore, we must ask why only 626 were "qualified" or only 5% received services. Overall, for this two-month period, attention was paid to creating a service plan for this 5%, yet only 14.4% of these customers received a first service. The lowest was for Honolulu with only 5.7%. Clearly, the ADRCs are not yet a major factor in coordinating or providing services to our most vulnerable elders.

KEY TAKEAWAY: From the time a senior consumer requests assistance, it is not taking an extraordinary amount of time to receive an assessment and support plan - at least for 75% of the customers. However, for the last 25%, these can take well over a month in Hawaii and Honolulu counties. Why it takes so much longer is not well explained. This is before services are even delivered.

KEY TAKEAWAY: Clearly, for those who qualify for more than one service, the ability of ADRCs to deliver more than one service is limited. Because 80 year olds are most likely to require support in multiple of areas of Instrumental Activities of Daily Living and even more fundamental Activities of Daily Living, it is not clear how ADRCs are able to service the full needs of these customers.

CONCLUSIONS:

While it is important to see raw data, the report is not strong on analysis of systems or policies that might be helpful to administrative, legislative, and stakeholder oversight. *The statistic that stands out the most, is that for over 11,000 contacts by consumers, only 5% entered the ADRC system.* Discussion in the report is often confined to observing what the tables say, but not why. In other words, when services are not timely or complete: What should be done about it? This leads to the following observations:

It is not clear from the report why EOA and the ADRCs were not able to provide statistics on at least one full year of their operations. Acknowledging that there is a gradual phase in of these operations, more data should be available. It is not clear if we can safely multiply the numbers by six for a relatively accurate picture of ADRC annual effectiveness. Context is meaning. How do these data compare or relate to other sources of data such as census data? Is a particular number unexpectedly high or low?

[further conclusions are omitted here due to lack of space—see more on web at kokuacouncil.org]



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Wednesday May 24: The Good, Bad, and the Ugly" at the State Capitol
 Note date/place change this month

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

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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)

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