

# Executive Director's Report

For WDC Board Meeting  
Thursday, September 12, 2019

# AmeriCorps VISTA Program

*Corporation for National & Community Service (CNCS)*

Keana Kaupiko started at WDC on September 3.

Responsibilities include researching and coordinating statewide continuity of policies, procedures, strategies and best practices for state and county rapid response, business outreach, labor market information, cross-training, and AJC branding. Keana will be the point person for the VISTA workers on Maui and Kauai.

VISTA workers for Maui and Kauai have been selected.

Challenge: Finding affordable housing on Maui and Kauai.

Living allowance is \$1,500 per month on Maui and \$1,200 on Kauai for one year of service. Allowance is based on local area federal poverty level. Allowance is paid by CNCS.

**Seeking assistance to locate housing on Maui and Hilo. HELP!!**

If housing is located, targeting on-boarding VISTA workers for Maui and Kauai by November.



## Business Engagement & Rapid Response Services Training - Aug 27

Statewide participation with over 65 people ready to learn and implement important information provided by Jeff Ryan, Business Solutions Specialist, USDOL - ETA in DC and Marian Esver, FPO. Mahalo to Board Members Alan Hayashi, Sean Knox General Richardson, David DeLuz, Jr., Neil Gytoku, Kay Fukumoto, Elaine Young for participating and to ALL of our partners at the local boards and American Job Centers. Thank you!

### **August 30: Statewide conference call as follow up to training**

Each county shared vision statement, what doing great, what can be improved, what would like additional support  
Follow up conference call scheduled for Friday, December 13 @ 9am Hawaii Time

# USDOL Monitoring Emergency Disaster Grants for Kauai and Hawaii Islands

August 27 - 30, 2019

Marian Esver, FPO and Jeff Ryan, USDOL  
Adele Manera, Kauai AJC, WDD  
Scott Lever, HI Employment Services  
WDC Staffers Kayla Rosenfeld and Michelle Miyashiro

## August 28: Site visit to Kauai

Kauai American Job Center

Makana O Kauai Group @ Hanalei Bay and Wainiha (dive to remove debris from coral reefs)

National Botanical Garden: Limahuli Garden and Preserve (repository for Pacific Island plant collections;  
rebuilding landslide damage to roads and access ways)

WDC fiscal monitoring of Hawaii Employment Service & federal interviews conducted

6 participants (\$25 - \$40 per hour) Goal: 25 participants  
\$70,305 expended out of the \$500,000 grant  
Grant ends June 30, 2020



# Makana O Kauai - Marine Debris Cleanup

## Hanalei Bay

Divers in 50 feet water collecting marine debris from ocean floor



# Hanalei Bay

Team usually uses kayak to dive for marine debris; Allowable to lease a full boat to ensure diver's safety.

Scott Lever of HI Employment explaining the landscape to federal officers.





# August 29: Site visit to Hawaii Island

## Federal Officers

Sandra Goodale, Hawaii County AJC  
John Kaiwi, HI Employment Services  
WDC Staff

## Hawaii County American Job Center

UH Hilo College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) @ Pepeokeo (restoring the land to rebuild starter plant industry for local farms (ie: taro, sweet potatoes & root plants) and Waiakea station (cultivate pest and disease resistant varieties of papayas, anthuriums)

Hawaiian Sanctuary Tour: demonstration farm - teach people to farm sustainably - live off the land at site

WDC fiscal monitoring of Hawaii Employment Service & federal interviews conducted

9 participants (\$20 per hour) Goal: 50 participants  
\$201,723 expended out of the \$3.5M grant (\$1.6M)  
Grant ends June 30, 2020

# Hawaiian Sanctuary

Guest cabin damaged by ACID RAIN.  
Completed renovated cabin.





# Hawaiian Sanctuary

Disaster grant helped Sanctuary re-establish its community education programs.

Local residents are learning about bees and pollination, and helping to plant vegetation that will attract bees.

Sanctuary hosts free weekly permaculture classes for the community.





# Hawaiian Sanctuary

Recovery Specialist showing height of grass after 3 months when workers finally able to access property.

Workers were able to rebuild roads and walkways.







## Senator Mazie Hirono Visits the Oahu American Job Center

Senator Hirono toured the Oahu American Job Center on Friday, August 30, 2019. She talked individually with an employer, adult, dislocated worker and youth recipients of WIOA services. Notice the statewide workforce funding brochure she is holding! Her visit to the Oahu AJC was highlighted in her newsletter.

Oahu WDB and AJC did an outstanding job coordinating and hosting Senator Hirono.



# Upcoming

Orientation for new hires from Maui and Hawaii islands: September 18

PY18 Annual Report to USDOL: Due October 1

Statewide Executive Directors first meeting held August 15 at Oahu AJC; next meeting at Hawaii County AJC on October 22

Basic WIOA Fiscal Training to be conducted by Leila Shar, Business Management Officer in October/November for local board staff and board's finance members

State Annual Performance Report to USDOL: Due December 1

Board Strategic Planning Session on October 8 from 8:30am - 4:30pm  
Please RSVP by next week, Friday, September 20

Unified State Plan: Due March 1, 2020

Stakeholder sessions:

- November 18 on Maui

- November 19 on Oahu

- Dates pending for Kauai and Hawaii islands



# Aloha Maria!

Thank you for your many contributions to WDC. You will be missed but we hope for future collaboration with workforce in your new position!

WDC Team stepped up to cover key responsibilities:

Jeanne Ohta = Maui WDB

Duke Olds = Youth Services Committee

Jayson Muraki = Sector Strategies & Career Pathways Committee

Thank you WDC Team!

***Best Wishes and Mahalo!***