

**KAUAI COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD UPDATE REPORT TO
THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL BOARD MEETING
Thursday, May 13, 2021**

Please share plans and projects that the Kauai County WDB is working on to improve systems and operations of services at the American Job Centers and within the WDB.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the Kauai AJC is still not fully opened. Clients are either contacted via telephone or met within the AJC by appointment only.

We have been talking directly with our partners to understand their needs and challenges and to develop a cross-partner plan for COVID-19 response and recovery. Our partners currently come on a scheduled basis to talk and meet with clients. Covid-19 safety guidelines and practices are being followed to allow such meetings.

Our current customer outreach, engagement, and service delivery processes, both virtual and in-person, across partners, seems to be sufficient to our needs but we remain open to any suggestions or improvement requests.

Please explain challenges in services to clients at the American Job Centers and plans to mitigate and/or resolve the issues.

As stated above, the Kauai AJC seems to be providing sufficient services to our clients. We currently follow the County's guidelines on safety and security. Clients are screened prior to entering the AJC and complete a health questionnaire prior to entry.

Is Kauai County WDB anticipating returning unused PY19 WIOA Title 1 funds to WDC? If yes, what is the estimated amount in adult, dislocated worker and youth programs?

These are the balances for each program as of March 2021. There is a possibility funds may be returned.

Adult:	\$35,000
DW:	\$12,000
Youth:	\$20,000

What is the status of the Kauai WDB? The last report in February 2021 indicated that out of 12 board members, 7 were vacant. Have the vacancies been filled? When was the last time the board met and conducted business? What is the date of the next board meeting?

The current KWDB is comprised of 12 members.	5-Business	(5 vacant)
	3-Workforce	(1 vacant)
	2-Government	(1 vacant)
	2-Education	

KWDB met on 11/29/2020 and planned to meet again the 1st week of March to begin regular quarterly meetings. This did not happen as many KWDB members are unavailable. As such, Board Chair gave tacit approval for the Local Area Plan and Draft Policies to be disseminated for KWDB members to review. Approval of the draft Policies pending a formal meeting. Local Area Plan is unofficially up on the County of Kauai website. Further action pending WDC Executive Director contacting Kauai Managing Director Michael Dahilig.

Please provide an update on the efforts of the youth service provider to enroll participants and deliver the services they were contracted to do.

Hale Opio, the Youth provider has sent bi-monthly updates on their status. As of the most recent status they have 3 participants they are working with to enroll.

Due to COVID they continue to face challenges as cohorts are small, but are seeing interest from employers and young adults seeking employee connections. They have been working on enrolling 3 participants but have reached a standstill as these youth do not have proper paperwork to complete the process. Hale Opio coordinator is working with these individuals to get their paperwork in order.

Please share accomplishments and success stories of the WDB and American Job Center.

1) (RR) Loves Bakery company closure on March 31, 2021. One employee who was the Supervisor, found work immediately and got hired full time with Koloa Landing in Poipu as a Bell Attendant/Security Guard; started on April 1, 2021. He first applied for a Casual Bell Attendant; very happy that the job turned out to be a full-time position and starting hourly wage at \$18.

2) (WP)

Assisted a recipient of the Rise to Work program. Originally from Yap an island in the Federated States of Micronesia, one of his past job was running his own business in repair, specifically in Xerox machines, printers and construction repairs. First contact was by phone on March 5, 2021, helped him prepare a resume and informed him, could further provide one on one service at the AJC office, since his only means of internet was his phone. At his first appointment on March 11, 2021, he informed that he was looking for a maintenance position. Mentioned Rise to Work and especially the position at Poipu Beach Athletic Club (PBAC), for Maintenance work. On his second appointment, asked if he applied; said "not yet". Third visit said, "had an interview". On his fourth visit, "hadn't heard back". Finally, with weeks rolling by and the anxiety from mounting billings, as he mentioned to employment specialist. Then he was hired as a maintenance/landscaper for the PBAC, 40 hours per week, @ \$15.00 an hour with a start date of April 29. Although, Rise to Work is a 12-week hiring program, with individual's work skills and past experiences, his performance will speak for itself and could turn permanent.

3) (WIOA) DW participant who was assisted with short course on Business Writing training at Kauai Community College entered a full-time employment beginning 4/22/2021 as a Front

Desk Guest Service with starting pay of \$24 per hour. Individual is also working part-time at Costco as a cashier.

- 4) (WIOA) Adult participant who was provided with Basic Office Skills, Word 2016 Level 1 and Excel 2016 Level 1 trainings was hired by Kauai Independent Food Bank as of 1/19/2021 as part-time. On March 12, 2021 she started working as full-time Office Clerk receiving \$15.00 per hour.