1. Governor Ige has released funds for all GEER Innovation Grant recipients. McKinley Community Schools for Adults in partnership with Women’s Community Correctional Center, Windward Community College, and the University of Hawaii Manoa received $250,000 to train incarcerated women to be GED tutors for their peers, provide college correspondence courses for women in WCCC, and provide reentry and transition services for women wanting to continue their education post incarceration.

2. McKinley CSA’s Career Foundations Program has launched and is currently being offered at Waimea High School, Boys and Girls Club, KUPU, and in the planning stage for Maui High, Kapaa High and Kauai High School along with other partners. This “Career Ready” program’s framework is built on soft skills. These soft skills are standards based and were developed by members of the Workforce and the Department of Education. The standardized lessons focus on Self-Compassion and Personal Growth, Connection & Teamwork, Critical Thinking & Problem Solving, and Customer Service. (See attached informational flyer)

3. McKinley CSA is currently working with Education Incubator to include additional online curriculum for Career Foundations and collaborating with Kauai Economic Development on future educational supports for the community.

4. McKinley CSA has resumed “in-person” classes on 7/19/21

5. The AEFLA Grant has been awarded for 2021-2022. The new Fiscal Year begins in September, 2021.

6. As reporting deadlines approach, the HIDOE is seeking a Data Sharing Agreement between DLIR UI for reporting compliance.

7. We will be holding an AEFLA grant competition in Spring 2022. We will be seeking the assistance from WDC members to review the application and serve as grant readers. More information to come.