



**WORKFORCE**DEVELOPMENT  

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COUNCIL

## Quarterly Board Meeting

Thursday, August 17, 2023

9:30 am to 11:30 am

DLIR Offices, Room 321

BOARD PACKET

**MEETING AGENDA  
AND PREVIOUS MEETINGS'  
MINUTES**

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



JADE T. BUTAY  
DIRECTOR

WILLIAM G. KUNSTMAN  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

MARICAR PILOTIN-FREITAS  
ADMINISTRATOR

**STATE OF HAWAII  
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
KA 'OIHANA PONO LIMAHANA  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 329  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
<http://labor.hawaii.gov/wdd/>  
Phone: (808) 586-8877 / Fax: (808) 586-8822  
Email: [dliir.workforce.develop@hawaii.gov](mailto:dliir.workforce.develop@hawaii.gov)

**HAWAII WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
COUNCIL MEETING  
Thursday, August 17, 2023  
9:30a.m. – 11:30a.m.**

Remote Meeting:

*This meeting will be held remotely by Zoom interactive conference technology. Board members, staff, and members of the public may participate in the remote meeting by using the following Zoom link:*

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89173074753?pwd=Rng0VFE1TXJtdjB1RFp2Q1NHa05HUT09>

*If you do not have the technology or ability to join the remote meeting via Zoom, please dial +1 (669) 444-9171 on the telephone to participate in the remote meeting.*

*Meeting ID: 891 7307 4753*

*Passcode: 096147*

*A physical meeting location will be open to the public and will have an audiovisual connection, which will allow individuals at the physical meeting location to participate in the remote meeting. The address of the physical meeting location is 830 Punchbowl Street, Room #321 Innovation room, Honolulu, HI 96813.*

*Meeting materials are available for review at: <https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/workforce-development-council-meetings-2023/>*

Written and Oral Testimony:

*Individuals may submit written testimony by U.S. mail or hand delivery at 830 Punchbowl Street, Suite 317, Honolulu, HI 96813 or by email at [DLIR.Workforce.Council@hawaii.gov](mailto:DLIR.Workforce.Council@hawaii.gov). It is requested that written testimony be received at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Individuals may provide remote oral testimony during the remote meeting at the Zoom link listed above. Individuals participating at the physical meeting location may also provide oral testimony during the remote meeting.*

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

*If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, please contact Jarret Yip at (808) 586-8877 (for TTY/TTD Dial 711 then ask for (808) 586-8877) or email [dliir.workforce.develop@hawaii.gov](mailto:dliir.workforce.develop@hawaii.gov) as soon as possible. Requests made as early as possible will allow adequate time to fulfill your request. Upon request, this notice is available in alternative formats such as large print, Braille, or electronic copy.*

Vision Statement:

*The Workforce Development Council’s vision is that all employers have competitively skilled employees and all residents seeking work or advancement have sustainable employment and self-sufficiency.*

Mission Statement:

*It is the intent of the Workforce Development Council to support and guide the implementation of the Unified State Plan through active collaboration and regional sensitivity for the purpose of aligning, coordinating, and integrating workforce services to meet the needs of employers and residents in order to foster a robust economy.*

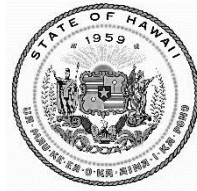
**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order.....*Chair Ken Loui*
  
- II. Approval of Minutes
  - a. June 29, 2023 Meeting Minutes
  
- III. Maui Wildfire Update: Federal Assistance for Rapid Response and Aid for Displaced Workers.....*Anthony Crouch, US Department of Labor / San Francisco office*
  
- IV. Reports and Updates from Executive Director Bennette Misalucha from the period of June 29, 2023, to August 17, 2023
  
- V. Re-Certification of Oahu Workforce Development Board.....*Kelly Ueoka*
  
- VI. Presentation- Applying Responsible Artificial Intelligence-Key Trends.....*Kelly Ueoka*
  
- VII. Reports from Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Core Partners Updates from the period of June 29, 2023 to August 17, 2023
  - a. Adult Education and Career Pathways.....*Della Teraoka and Dan Miyamoto*
  - b. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation..... *Rusnell Pascual-Kestner*
  - c. Workforce Development Division.....*Maricar Pilotin-Freitas*
  
- VIII. Standing Committee Reports for the period of June 29, 2023 to August 17, 2023
  - a. Employer Engagement Committee.....*Chair Cheryl Cross*
  - b. Sector Strategies and Career Pathways Committee.....*Chair Cary Miyashiro*
  - c. Military and Veterans Affairs Committee.....*Chair Trang Malone*
  - d. Special Projects Committee.....*Chair Sean Knox*
  - e. Performance Measures and Financial Accountability Committee.....*Chair Kelly Ueoka*
  
- IX. Reports Related to the WIOA Program Highlights from Each County’s Workforce Development Board for the period of June 29, 2023 to August 17, 2023
  - a. Hawaii County Workforce Development Board.....*Doug Adams, Designee for Mitch Roth, Hawaii County Mayor*
  - b. Maui County Workforce Development Board.....*Chair Leslie Wilkins*

- d. Kauai County Economic Development Board.....*Jackie Kaina*
- X. Announcements and Public Testimony (if any)
- XI. Next Meeting
  - a. Tentatively scheduled for Thursday, November 16, 2023 @ 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM
- XII. Adjournment

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



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**HAWAII WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
COUNCIL MEETING  
Thursday, June 29, 2023  
9:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.  
Online via Zoom**

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, protecting the health and welfare of the community is a priority. The meeting was held remotely, with Board members and staff participating via an online meeting venue.*

**MINUTES**

**MEMBER ATTENDEES:**

Alan Hayashi, WDC Chair, Owner/Principal, Consult 808  
Sean Knox, President, Hawaii Employment Services; Chair, Special Projects Committee  
Kelly Ueoka, President, Pacxa, Chair, Performance Measures & Financial Accountability Committee  
Ken Loui, Vice President, Pacific Marine; Chair, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee  
Brian Tatsumura, Braint808LLC; Chair, Employer Engagement Committee  
Cheryl Cross, Principal Owner, C.A. Cross & Associates, LLC, Vice-Chair, Employer Engagement Committee  
Ian Kitajima, President, PICHTR, Chair, Youth Services Committee  
Cary Miyashiro, President, Quad D Solutions LLC; Chair, Sector Strategies & Career Pathways Committee  
April Acquavella, Consultant, Just Works, Vice-Chair, Sector Strategies and Career Pathways Committee  
Jason Brand, President, Brand Industrial Group  
Eileen Caldwell, Director of Human Resources, Marriott Hawaii and French Polynesia  
Jason Chang, Chair, Oahu WDB; President, Queen's Medical Center  
Keith DeMello, Senior Vice President of Communications & External Affairs, Ulupono Initiative  
Dion Dizon, Business Representative, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers  
Rona Fukumoto, President & CEO, Lanakila Pacific

Shelli Ihori, Associate Director, Workforce Development at Hawaii Pacific Health  
Jackie Kaina, Chair, Kauai Economic Development Board  
Leslie Wilkins, Chair, Maui County WDB; Vice President, Maui Economic Development Board  
Lorna Woo, Director, Government Affairs, International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, District Council 50  
Nalani Brun, (Designee for Derek Kawakami, Kauai County Mayor)  
Doug Adams, (Designee for Mitch Roth, Hawaii County Mayor)  
Jade Butay, Director, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations  
Helen Sanpei, (Designee for Keith Hayashi, Superintendent, Department of Education)  
Scott Murakami, (Designee for James Tokioka, Director, DBEDT)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Gerald Schmitz, Vice President, Lendlease DOD Communities, Vice-Chair, Special Projects Committee  
Trang Malone, Workforce Initiatives Manager, CVS Health, Vice-Chair, MVAC  
Winona Whitman, ALU LIKE Inc. Employment & Training Program, Vice-Chair, Youth Services Committee  
Scott Collins, Hawaii Island Division Chief, HGEA  
Rossella Guardascione, Chair, Hawaii County WDB; Director of Human Resources, Kona Beach Hotel  
Kira Higa, Director of Human Resources, RCUH  
Chuck Shima, Training Coordinator, Plumbers Union Local 675  
Senator Stanley Chang, Hawaii State Senate  
Representative Andrew Garrett, Hawaii State House of Representatives  
Mayor Richard Bissen, Maui County Mayor  
Mayor Rick Blangiardi, Honolulu County Mayor  
Governor Josh Green, Governor of Hawaii  
Lea Dias, Administrator, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Dept. of Human Services  
Erika Lacro, (Designee for David Lassner, President, University of Hawaii System)

**GUESTS:**

Dale Fujimoto, Department of the Attorney General  
Harrison Kuranishi, Executive Director, Oahu Workforce Development Board  
Raymond Duong, Budget Analyst, Oahu Workforce Development Board  
Chris Lum Lee, Principal Guard and Chief Administrative Officer, TriSec, Inc.  
Iain Wood, President, Ship Repair Association of Hawaii, CEO, Pacific Shipyards International  
Travis Niederhauser, Hawaii Area Manager, Phoenix International Holdings, Inc.  
Manu Bermudes, Vice President of Human Resources, Hawaiian Dredging Construction Company  
Derek Kanehira, Senior Vice President, Human Resources, Alexander and Baldwin  
Robert Lietzke, Vice President, Indo-Pacific Western Region, Booz Allen Hamilton  
Edmund Aczon, Executive Director, Hawaii Carpenters Apprenticeship and Training Fund  
Mike Anderson, Regional Director, Inland Boatman's Union of the Pacific  
Tui Scanlan, President, IATSE Mixed Local 665  
Carla Kurokawa, Manager, Employment and Training, Alu Like, Inc.

**STAFF:**

Bennette Misalucha, Workforce Development Council, Executive Director  
Maricar Pilotin-Freitas, DLIR Workforce Development Division, Administrator  
Jarrett Yip, DLIR Workforce Development Division, Program Officer  
Erick Pascua, DLIR Workforce Development Division, Workforce Development Manager  
Lisa Simmons, DLIR Workforce Development Division, Employment Service Specialist  
Jaimee Tabangay, DLIR Workforce Development Division, Employment Service Specialist  
Tricia Malloy, DLIR Workforce Development Division, Program Specialist  
Jayson Muraki, DLIR Workforce Development Division, Employment & Training  
Jacque Dacay, DLIR Workforce Development Division, Job Training Specialist  
Jay Ishibashi, DLIR Workforce Development Division, Program Specialist  
May Ferrer, DLIR Workforce Development Division, Program Specialist  
Czarina Stoddard, DLIR Workforce Development Division, Secretary  
Mily He, DLIR Workforce Development Division, Intern  
Madisyn Beirne, DLIR Workforce Development Division, Intern  
Lia Jimenez, DLIR Workforce Development Division, Intern  
Matthew Jung, DLIR Workforce Development Division, Intern  
Katrina Ramos, DLIR Workforce Development Division  
Daven Kawamura, DLIR Workforce Development Division

- I. Call to Order.....Chair Alan Hayashi**

The Workforce Development Council meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m. by Chair Alan Hayashi.

  - a. Remarks from incoming Workforce Development Council (WDC) chair Ken Loui**

Alan Hayashi called upon Ken Loui to give some remarks as the incoming chair of the WDC. Firstly, he thanked Jade Butay Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) as well as the in-person council members that came from the outer islands including Doug Adams and Eileen Caldwell. He also thanked outgoing chair Alan Hayashi and the other outgoing members, as well as welcomed the new incoming members and the new Executive Director Bennette Misalucha.
  
- II. Approval of Minutes**
  - a. April 28, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Chair Hayashi requested a motion to approve the minutes for the April 28, 2023 meeting. Dion Dizon moved to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2023 meeting. Cary Miyashiro seconded the motion. There were no objections or abstentions. The motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously.
  
- III. Remarks by Governor’s Office**

There was no available representative to give remarks from the Governor’s Office
  
- IV. Remarks from Department of Labor and Industrial Relations Director Jade Butay**

Jade Butay wanted to thank all the members of the WDC, with emphasis on Alan Hayashi and the other outgoing members for all they’ve done in the past years they have been with the WDC. Jade also let the council know that he has been able to attend many commencements over the



summer including the Carpenters apprenticeship, Electricians apprenticeship, and the Ohana of Excellence Academy at Waipahu High School.

**V. Welcome for the incoming council members effective June 30, 2023**

Alan Hayashi wanted to welcome the new members that will be effective on June 30, 2023. The new members include Robert Lietzke, Derek Kanehira, Manu Bermudes, Carla Kurokawa, Edmund Aczon, Mike Anderson, Tui Scanlan.

**VI. Reports and Updates from Executive Director Bennette Misalucha from the period of April 28, 2023, to June 29, 2023**

Bennette gave updates to the council. The updates can be found at the following link:

[https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2023/06/BOARD-REPORT\\_EXEC-DIR\\_June-2023-Board-meeting.pdf](https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2023/06/BOARD-REPORT_EXEC-DIR_June-2023-Board-meeting.pdf)

Bennette also took this time to thank all the outgoing members that were present and take pictures for the WDC newsletter.

**VII. Presentation on the Ship Repair Sector by Ship Repair Association Hawaii (SRAH)**

President of Ship Repair Association Hawaii, Iain Wood presented on the Ship Repair Association of Hawaii. The presentation can be found at the following link:

<https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2023/06/SRAH-WFDC-FINAL.pdf>

- Cheryl Cross asked if there are any available numbers in regard to the impact on the workforce, if work goes to another drydock, region, etc.
  - Iain didn't have any solid numbers to share but recalled a 2019 study through the GIA grant to study the economic impact if ships were shipped to the west coast rather than Hawaii. Per the study 75-80% of the workforce is navy-centric on service combatant ships
- Bennette Misalucha wanted elaboration on what exactly are the challenges facing drydock five.
  - Iain discussed some problems that may come up including that if the drydock construction schedule doesn't hold true the submarines will be moved to drydock four (which is currently dedicated to surface ships).
  - A mitigation strategy includes the building of a floating drydock which is set to be built by 2034 or 2035.
  - Bennette to have a follow-up meeting to talk with Iain and Travis on how the WDC can help mitigate potential problems.
- Ken Loui asked what the potential of growing the sector/industry in Hawaii from where it is now to five – ten years from now.
  - Iain let Ken know that the growth of the industry and future workload depends on how well performance goes. As if the performance goes down there is no guarantee that the ships won't just be relocated to other docks.
- Ian Kitajima asked where the WDC can help in regard to the building of drydock five as it is critical to keep it to keep the ship repair industry alive and thriving in Hawaii.
  - Alan Hayashi called upon Manu Bermudes an incoming member that was previously the HR director at BAE Systems to give insight on the building trades

- side of the drydock construction.
- Manu informed that at Dredging the contract that they were awarded can run anywhere from three to five years and a big struggle being experienced right now is difficulty recruiting for Engineers that have certain criteria or skillsets that can't be found here in Hawaii.
- Mike Anderson wanted to know what the end goal exactly is, if it is to add an entirely new drydock or to facilitate the accommodation of larger ships and a larger drydock.
  - The total amount of drydocks will stay the same, currently drydock three isn't accommodating for the long-term goals of the Navy and will be filled in and replaced with drydock five. With a long-term goal of adding the floating drydock later.

**VIII. Presentation on Agriculture in Hawaii and the initiatives to ensure a sustainable workforce**  
 Keith DeMello and Jason Brand presented on the Agriculture Sector in Hawaii and the initiatives that are happening to ensure a sustainable workforce. The presentation can be found at the following link:

<https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2023/06/WDC-Ag-in-Hawaii-06-29-23.pdf>

- Bennette Misalucha wanted to highlight what Ian Kitajima is doing and how he is trying to bridge the gap between technology and agriculture.
  - Ian observed that many young people want to go into agriculture but eventually they can't stay in after a while because the economics don't make sense.
  - Ian will be traveling to Korea along with ~20 educators from Hawaii to see the agriculture, technology, education, and industry there. Korea is similar to us with the challenges they face of not having enough labor, but they are still trying to sustain themselves.
    - From a government standpoint, programs have been created to create the next generation of agricultural entrepreneurs.
- Sean Knox wanted clarification on one of the slides regarding labor statistics and revenue, Sean was wondering how much percentage includes the seed companies.
  - Jason Brand let him know that they are greater than 50% of employment and revenue. He brought up the fact that they provide economies of scale that other smaller farmers are benefiting from. As the worth of bringing in a full container and selling 50/50 to seed company and local is greater.
  - There are many pros and cons of the large seed companies, but in general from the industry standpoint is not to shrink them but to grow the other 50% that includes the local farmers.

**IX. Reports from Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Core Partners Updates from the period of April 28, 2023, to June 29, 2023**

**a. Adult Education and Career Pathways (Dept. of Education and University of Hawaii)**  
 Helen Sanpei gave an update on the community school for adults where they are continuing to provide career foundations curriculum and they are expanding to Special Ed. They are currently creating the career foundations program for the Department of Public Safety. A workforce preparation program is being designed for inmates prior to their release.

**b. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (Dept. of Human Services)**

Lea Dias or any other representative was not available to give an update on the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

**c. Workforce Development Division (Dept. of Labor & Industrial Relations)**

Jarret Yip gave updates from the Workforce Development Division. The presentation can be found at the following link:

<https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2023/06/WDC-presentation-for-June-29-2023.pdf>

**X. Standing Committee Reports for the period of April 28, 2023, to June 29, 2023**

**a. Employer Engagement Committee**

Brian Tatsumura reported on behalf of the Employer Engagement Committee that they have not met, and the next meeting is scheduled for July 13<sup>th</sup>, the first meeting with the new Committee Chair Cheryl Cross.

**b. Sector Strategies and Career Pathways Committee**

The Sector Strategies and Career Pathways Committee met on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Presenters included Gary Chun the principal of Ohana of Excellence Academy at Waipahu High School, Randy Higa from Workforce Transition Center, and Tui Scanlan president of IATSE Local 665.

- Gary and Randy presented on the Special Education workforce pathway at Waipahu Highschool, from the presentation a meeting with Lea Dias at the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation is set to see if it's possible to duplicate the pathway at different schools.
- Tui Scanlan gave a presentation on his union, IATSE local 665. Cary is also working with him to have a partnership and build a career pathway.
- With the help of Helen Sanpei and Adult education, a meeting with Pacific Resources for Education and Learning (PREL). Using the career foundation to educate incoming COFA personnel on what is necessary to work in the United States.

**c. Military and Veterans Affairs Committee**

Ken Loui gave an update from the Military and Veterans Affairs Committee (MVAC). The next scheduled meeting was on April 20<sup>th</sup>. At the last meeting there was a presentation on Armed Services YMCA from Executive Director Laurie Moore going over the services they provide. The military spouse committee was also “restarted” with new chair Erin Henderschedt. Ken let the council know that the MVAC will have a “opening” since he will be moving out of the chair position.

**d. Youth Services Committee**

Ian Kitajima gave the update on Youth Services Committee. The Youth Services committee hasn't met since the last meeting.

- Ade Ogguniyi gave a presentation at the meeting about Vivistop Honolulu which is a creative lab and the Honolulu Tool Library which is a lending library for tools.
- Isaia Souza also presented at the meeting about how to become a creator/entrepreneur via online businesses and how the younger generation is preparing for future work.

- Ian also let everyone know that both he and Winona are terming out, so the Youth Services committee are not going to have a Chair or Vice-Chair.

**e. Special Projects Committee**

Sean Knox gave the report for the Special Projects committee. The last meeting was June 8<sup>th</sup> unfortunately the July 11<sup>th</sup> meeting was cancelled per scheduling issues. At the June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting the Special Projects Committee went over the unified state plan, the timeline of the WDC strategic plan, and the board makeup for compliance with federal guidelines.

**f. Performance Measures and Financial Accountability Committee**

Kelly Ueoka gave an update on the Performance Measures and Financial Accountability committee. He was able to meet with Shannon Okinaka and is currently reading through the materials that were given to him from Shannon.

**XI. Reports Related to the WIOA Program Highlights from each County’s Workforce Development Board for the period of April 28, 2023, to June 29, 2023**

**A. Hawaii County Workforce Development Board**

Doug Adams reported on the Hawaii County Workforce Development Board since Rossella was not available to report. They met at the beginning of June, which allowed them to bring in the new board members. They have been approved and are from both sides of the island. They are at the end of transitioning the WIOA program into Research and Development.

An RFP is going to be going out for the one stop operator once the Executive Director is in place as a civil servant.

**B. Maui County Workforce Development Board**

Leslie Wilkins gave the board updates from the Maui County Workforce Development Board.

- Leslie wanted to thank Bennette for taking time out of her time during the federal monitoring to visit the Maui AJC, WDD offices, and meet with Luana Mahi. Some board members were lost, the healthcare sector has an interim placement from the executive director of the long-term healthcare facility.
- There is a Job fair planned for July 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> and outreach is happening for the employers for guidance, letting them know that WIOA is not only for job seekers but also for employers.
- Leslie reported that contrary to last year when there were no return funds there are unfortunately some funds that will be being returned. Maui county will be following Hawaii counties lead and changing the Executive Director position to a Civil Service position.

**C. Oahu Workforce Development Board**

Jason Chang gave an update from the Oahu Workforce Development Board. The one-stop operator recertification has been an important task. Board member placements have been happening, two vacancies remain. With the board members being placed committees have been getting revitalized.

**D. Kauai County Workforce Development Board**

There was no representative available to give an update for the Kauai County Workforce Development Board.

**XII. Mahalo to all outgoing council members that will be terming out as of June 30, 2023**

Jade Butay and Alan Hayashi wanted to thank the members that are terming out for their commitment to the workforce of Hawaii. The members include Brian Tatsumura, Ian Kitajima, Brian Lee, Chuck Shima, Winona Whitman, Shannon Okinaka, Kira Higa, and Alan Hayashi.

**XIII. Announcements and Public Testimony (if any)**

Alan Hayashi called upon Scott Murakami new designee for the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT), Scott wanted to extend his thanks to Yang-Seon Kim who was the designee on behalf of DBEDT for many year.

**XIV. Next Meeting Schedule**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 17, 2023 @ 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM.

**XV. Adjournment**

Chair Alan Hayashi adjourned the meeting at 12:02 p.m.

DRAFT

# MAUI WILDFIRE UPDATE



## National Dislocated Worker Grants Disaster Recovery and Employment Recovery DWGs

National Dislocated Worker Grants (DWGs) are time-limited supplemental funds awarded by the Secretary of Labor under Section 170 of WIOA to provide employment-related services to dislocated workers in response to major economic dislocations or other events that cause significant impact on the state and local workforce development system. To enable states and communities to respond to and recover from large, unexpected dislocation events, the Department funds two types of DWGs: Disaster Recovery and Employment Recovery.

The following chart summarizes the two DWG types and provides links for more detailed and related information.

Purpose	Disaster Recovery DWG	Employment Recovery DWG
Provide temporary disaster-relief employment (DRE), as well as employment and training activities, as appropriate, to minimize the employment and economic impact of declared disasters and emergency situations in the affected region.	✓	
Provide resources to respond to major economic dislocations, such as plant closures, mass layoffs, military base realignments, and closures, causing significant job losses.		✓

Qualifying Events	Disaster Recovery DWG	Employment Recovery DWG
<i>Emergencies and major disasters</i> , as defined under Section 102 of the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. 5122), declared by FEMA as eligible for public assistance pursuant.	✓	
<i>Emergencies or disaster situations of national significance</i> , natural or man-made, that could result in a potentially large loss of employment, as declared by the chief official of a federal agency with jurisdiction over the Federal response to the disaster or emergency.	✓	
<i>Relocation of a substantial number of individuals</i> from a state, tribal area, or outlying area to another region due to a declared disaster or emergency.	✓	
<i>Mass layoffs or plant closures</i> that affect 50 or more workers from one employer.		✓
<i>Community impact</i> - Multiple small dislocations occurring over a period of up to 12 months that have significantly increased the number of unemployed individuals in a region or local workforce area.		✓
<i>Higher-than-average demand for employment and training activities from dislocated military service members and dislocated military spouses</i> that exceeds state and local resources.		✓



# National Dislocated Worker Grants

## Disaster Recovery and Employment Recovery DWGs

Eligible Applicants	<a href="#">Disaster Recovery DWG</a>	<a href="#">Employment Recovery DWG</a>
A State	✓	✓
Outlying areas	✓	✓
Indian tribal governments (as defined by the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. 5122(6)).	✓	
Entities eligible for funding through the Indian and Native American program at <a href="#">WIOA Section 166</a> .		✓
Entities determined appropriate to apply by the Governor.		✓
Entities that demonstrate to the Secretary of Labor their capability to effectively respond to particular dislocation events.		✓
Eligible Participants	Disaster Recovery DWG	Employment Recovery DWG
Dislocated workers as defined in <a href="#">WIOA Section 3(15)</a> .	✓	✓
Individuals temporarily or permanently laid off because of the emergency or disaster.	✓	
Long-term unemployed individuals, as defined by the grantee.	✓	
Self-employed individuals who became unemployed or significantly underemployed due to disaster.	✓	

Allowable Grant Activities	Disaster Recovery DWG	Employment Recovery DWG
<p><i>Employment and Training</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Career Services including outreach, intake, labor exchange services, initial and comprehensive assessments, development of an individual employment plan, referral, labor market information, list of eligible training providers, and availability of supportive services. See the Career Services section of <a href="#">TEGL 19-16</a> beginning on page 2 for details.</li> <li>Training Services such as occupational training and work-based learning such as on-the-job training and Registered Apprenticeships. See the Training Services section of <a href="#">TEGL 19-16</a> starting on page 5 for details.</li> </ul>	✓	✓
<p>Temporary <i>disaster-relief employment</i> that enables</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>clean-up and recovery efforts within the declared disaster area and/or</li> <li>delivery of appropriate humanitarian assistance in the aftermath of a federally declared disaster or emergency.</li> </ul>	✓	
<i>Supportive Services</i> to enable individuals to	✓	





## National Dislocated Worker Grants Disaster Recovery and Employment Recovery DWGs

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• participate safely and effectively in disaster-relief employment, and/or</li> <li>• achieve success in employment and training activities (such as assistance with transportation, and childcare).</li> </ul>		

### References

TEGL 16-21 *Updated National Dislocated Worker Grant Program Guidance* (June 16, 2022) <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/advisories/training-and-employment-guidance-letter-no-16-21>

TEGL19-16, *Guidance on Services Provided through the Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and the Wagner-Peyser Act Employment Service (ES), as amended by title III of WIOA, and for Implementation of the WIOA Final Rules* (March 1, 2017) <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/advisories/training-and-employment-guidance-letter-no-19-16>

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) (Pub. L. 113-128) (July 22, 2014) <https://www.congress.gov/113/bills/hr803/BILLS-113hr803enr.pdf>

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**Workforce Development Council**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**  
August 17, 2023

**RE-CERTIFICATION OF LOCAL BOARDS**

- Set up new forms and protocols for the re-certification of local boards. Coordinated various stakeholders who would need to sign off on each measurement.
- Coordinated with local boards on their timelines.
- Ad-hoc Committee met and provided recommendation for board action for Oahu Workforce Development board.

**BOARD GOVERNANCE**

- WDC Board Orientation was held on July 27, 2023 from 8:30 am to 10:30 am. Good feedback from those who attended. Chair Loui would like to see it as an annual event.
- Need to circle with those who missed the orientation session.
- Outreach to Neighbor Islands: Meetings with county mayors have been set. (Maui may need to be re-scheduled in view of the present crisis.)
- In our gap analysis of current board members, we uncovered that Tourism sector is currently under-represented so we have reached out to the Hawaii Tourism and Lodging Association (HTLA) for recommendation on a sector representative.
- New plan to beef up Committee memberships as a “training ground” for prospective board members. Starting with Performance Measures and Financial Accountability Committee.
- Formulating the on-boarding WRITTEN protocols for Board members.
- New designees: Blake Oshiro for Governor Green; Ms. Della Teraoka for University of Hawaii
- Continuing to meet with all board members one-on-one. We are almost complete with this effort.

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

- Held important conversations on delineations of functions, roles and responsibilities between WDC and WDD.
- Instituted changes to Quarterly Board meeting protocols (shorter, more effective, more efficient)
- We welcomed Jacqueline Ho-Lodge as our WDC Assistant.
- Exploratory talks on possible budget for WDC.

**STRATEGIC PLAN**

- WDC Strategic Plan

- Facilitator started interviews with stakeholders.
- Planned Activities prior to the Board retreat, including visit to AJC.
- Board Retreat: Saturday, September 23, 2023 to be held at the new IBEW facility.
- Unified Strategic Plan
  - New Deadline: March 2024
  - Priority is RFP documents for Consultant.
  - Strengthen collaboration with National Governor’s Association (be a part of their Strategic Planning Collaborative)
  - Strategic Plan Guidance Document coming from US DOL will be in mid-September
  - Stakeholder Meeting: August 29 2023
  - Will include private sector efforts
  - National Governor’s Association (NGA) briefing on National workforce trends for Board members and stakeholders – set for September 8, 2023 at 12 noon.

## **COMMITTEE WORK**

- Sector Strategies and Career Pathways – Work with COFA community
- Youth Services – New Chair: Michael Anderson/ Set up meeting with Ian Kitajima for leadership handoff
- Special Projects – Set up resource speakers from internal stakeholders
- Military and Veteran Affairs- Strengthening relationships with military leadership
- Performance Measures and Financial Accountability Committee: Review of functions and role

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

- Brokered meetings with two groups which are both interested to partner with AJC on providing services to their clients. (Palama Settlement and Immigrant Resource Center).
- Newsletter had good feedback for content and form. Now on its third edition. Mahalo to Lia Jimenez, our Hele Imua intern for helping write, edit and lay out the newsletter.
- Was a speaker at the Hawaii Cloud Innovation Summit held last August 1, 2023 at the Hawaii Convention Center. Spoke about “Digital Transformation and Lifelong Learning”.

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

- Future of Work 2024 – original date: September 26, 2023 (Currently in Review on Postponing or Cancellation).
- Workforce Development Month – September 2023 / September 8, 2023 at 12 noon is the Governor’s Signing at the State Capitol.
- Workforce Development Heroes launched. Judges already met to discuss parameters. Governor Green will be recognizing the recipients during the Sept 8 signing.
- Will be the guest speaker at the quarterly meeting of the OWL (Organization of Women Leaders) on September 11, 2023 at the Pacific Club. (Upon the invitation of Board member Cheryl Cross.)

Respectfully Submitted:

Bennette E. Misalucha, Executive Director



<p><b>ABOUT WDC</b></p>	<p>Federally mandated, the Hawaii State Workforce Development Council brings together leaders in the business, labor, education and public sectors to advise the Governor on workforce issues.</p> <p>The council has 41 members and is placed within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for administrative purposes.</p> <p>The members include: Governor, 4 mayors or their designee, 17 private sector members, 8 labor representatives, other core partners and relevant agencies.</p> <p>There are 25 members who are appointed by the Governor and serve 4 year terms. They are confirmed by the State Senate and can serve up to 8 years.</p> <p>The WDC meets four times a year: February, May, August, November.</p> <p>In between meetings, there are seven committees that supplement the work of WDC.</p>
<p><b>STATE'S VISION</b></p>	<p>All employers have competently skilled employees, and all residents seeking work or advancement have sustainable employment and self-sufficiency.</p>
<p><b>WDC BOARD ROLES</b></p>	<p>Establish the <b>new</b> WDC roles which would validate its existence and frame its path forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. POLICY ADVISOR TO THE GOVERNOR : this is a federally mandated role and it is in this capacity that the WDC is tasked with developing the State's Unified Plan.</li> <li>b. CONVENER - Bringing together business, labor, education, and economic development to focus on community workforce issues.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. WORKFORCE ANALYST - Developing, disseminating and understanding current labor market and economic information and trends.</li> <li>d. BROKER - Bring together systems to solve common problems, or broker new relationships with businesses and workers.</li> <li>e. COMMUNITY VOICE - Advocating for the importance of workforce policy, providing perspective about the need for skilled workers.</li> <li>f. CAPACITY BUILDER - Enhancing the region's ability to meet the workforce needs of local employers.</li> </ul>
<p><b>PRIORITIES 2023-2024</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. State Unified Plan</li> <li>2. WDC Strategic Plan</li> <li>3. Board Governance</li> <li>4. Resource Assessment on Statewide Workforce Development Initiatives</li> <li>5. Community Outreach</li> </ul>
<p><b>CHALLENGES</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Budget</li> <li>2. Lack of Human Resources</li> <li>3. Clearly articulated relationship lines between WDC, DLIR/WDD, local Boards, American Job Centers (AJC)</li> </ul>

## CURRENT PROJECTS

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	DATE	ADDITIONAL INFO
<p><a href="#">State Unified Plan</a></p>	<p>The State is federally mandated to write a State Strategic Plan every four years. The next Plan is due in April 2024.</p> <p>Efforts are underway to integrate strategic plans from Core partners and relevant agencies into a Unified Plan that would establish measurements for performance.</p>	<p>Due April 2024</p>	<p>This is a much needed plan because at the moment, there is ambiguous information on how much federal dollars and private sector funding is flowing into the State. Although there are valiant efforts to coordinate, it has not yet been a fruitful exercise.</p> <p>The plan aims to codify the present practices and establish performance measures by which the State can determine its effectiveness.</p>
<p><a href="#">WDC Strategic Plan</a></p>	<p>Because of recent restructure developments, it behooves WDC to establish a new role for itself, with an action plan and measurements for success.</p>	<p>Due January 2023</p>	

	<p>The Board is relatively new and this process would allow them to feel invested.</p> <p>The Board Retreat has been scheduled for September 23 with engagement activities prior to that date.</p> <p>The WDC plan will be amongst other agency plans which will be integrated into the State's Unified Plan.</p>		
<p><b>Proclamation of the (National) Workforce Development Month in September</b></p>	<p>The Governor will proclaim Workforce Development Month during ceremonies on September 8, 2023 at noon at the State Capitol.</p>	<p>September 8, 2023 at 12 noon</p> <p>The date is firm but the time is still tentative</p>	
<p><b>Workforce Development Heroes Awards</b></p>	<p>In commemoration of Workforce Development in September, we will give awards to the State's Workforce Development Heroes. There will be five recipients: 2 from Oahu, 1 from Maui, 1 from Kauai and 1 from the Big Island.</p> <p>The Governor will be recognizing these individuals</p>	<p>Launch: August 7</p> <p>Awarding on September 8</p>	



	during the Proclamation ceremonies on September 8		
<b>Future of Work 2024</b>	<p>Information about the state of the overall job market in Hawaii is difficult to come by. Sectors are siloed.</p> <p>The Future of work is a jobs outlook conference which brings seven major employment sectors together to share their data, their initiatives and potential risks or challenges. The sectors are: Tourism, Defense, Construction, Health Care, Technology, Energy And Public Sector.</p> <p>The event will also feature an economic forecast from Dr. Paul Brewbaker</p> <p>This is in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii</p>	<p>September 26, 2023 7:30 am to 12 noon Sheraton Waikiki Hotel</p>	
<b>Board Governance</b>	Gap analysis of Board needs/ Improve baseline knowledge of board members/	Ongoing	

<p><b>Re-Certification of Local Workforce Development Boards</b></p>	<p>The certification of the local boards lapsed on June 30, 2023.</p>	<p>ASAP</p>	<p>The Oahu recertification will be taken up during the August meeting.</p> <p>Maui and Big Island is anticipated to be on the agenda during the November meeting.</p>
<p><b>Outreach to Neighbor Islands</b></p>	<p>Visit with Mayors and Economic Development Boards and Local Workforce Development Boards to apprise them of the direction for WDC</p> <p>The objective is to build statewide support for workforce development and position WDC as the go-to on workforce matters since it has a wide reach, especially with 17 private sector members and 8 labor representatives</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Preliminary meetings with Mayors have been set for visits to Big Island, Maui and Kauai.</p>
<p><b>Increase participation rate at the American Job Centers throughout the State</b></p>	<p>The American Job Center is the first line of defense for one of the most iconic programs at the Department</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>WIOA fund are intended for underserved populations who have barriers to employment. They include at risk youth,</p>

	<p>effort to communicate to the public and to the other stakeholders.</p> <p>Thus far, we have initiated a newsletter which comes out twice a month. It is called “Ka Nūpepa Lōkahi “ (We are united in purpose to develop our workforce).</p> <p>We are hoping to change the website (Only WDC)</p> <p>We aspire to start a podcast or You tube channel on workforce development issues.</p>		<p>collaboration with the legislators in the area.</p> <p>The tentative title is:</p> <p>“From Waipahu to Waianae: Jobs, Jobs, Jobs”</p>
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# RE-CERTIFICATION OF OAHU WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

SUMMARY: Pass/Fail or Conditional

Board Composition Conditional

Financial Integrity Pass

Sustained Performance Pass

Recommendation To the WDC Board:

The Ad-Hoc Committee, composed of Kelly Ueoka as Chair and Rona Fukumoto and Keith DeMello as members, met on August 7, 2023.

After Careful deliberations, the Committee voted unanimously for the full WDC board to take the following action:

We recommend that the Oahu Workforce Development Board be given **conditional** re-certification, on account of their board composition which falls below the prescribed "majority" as described in 20 USC 3122 (Section 107.b2). To further elaborate, there are two vacancies on the Oahu Board in their 19-seat body. This brought the ratio to 47% instead of the mandated 51%.

The Board will be given 90 days to resolve the matter (on or before November 16, 2023) after which the full certification for two years may be granted by the WDC.

The two-year certification will lapse on June 30, 2025.

Anticipated Board Meeting Date: August 17, 2023

Signed: WDC Local Board Re-Certification Committee



Kelly Ueoka, Chair



Rona Fukumoto, Member

Keith De Mello, Member

**SUMMARY:** Pass/Fail or Conditional

Board Composition Conditional

Financial Integrity Pass

Sustained Performance Pass

**Recommendation To the WDC Board:**

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Anticipated Board Meeting Date: August 17, 2023

**Signed: WDC Local Board Re-Certification Committee**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kelly Ueoka, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rona Fukumoto, Member



\_\_\_\_\_  
Keith De Mello, Member

# REPORTS FROM WIOA CORE PARTNERS



Workforce Development Council Quarterly Board Meeting  
Thursday, August 17, 2023  
9:30 am to 11:30 am

REPORT  
Adult Education Family Literacy Act  
WIOA Title II  
Hawaii State Department of Education

Highlights for the Quarter  
April - June 2023

1. EVENTS

- Integrated Education and Training Basic Design Camp, April 14 - May 12
  - The state director, one local service provider staff from the McKinley and Waipahu Community Schools for Adults, and staff from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations attended the Integrated Education and Training (IET) Basic Design Camp training sponsored by the US Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education (OCTAE), April 14 through May 12. Two sessions a week, two and a half hours each session.
  - The purpose of the training is to assist states in developing an IET program that is required for AEFLA. IET consists of concurrent instruction in academics, workforce preparation, and workforce training.
- National Meeting for State Directors of Adult Education, May 16 - 18
  - The Hawaii state director attended the National Meeting for State Directors of Adult Education May 16 - 18 in Alexandria, Virginia.
- Meeting with local service provider McKinley and Waipahu Community School for Adults, June 9



- The AEFLA state director met with McKinley and Waipahu Community School for Adults to provide program updates and discuss the definition of “basic skills deficient” as criteria for AEFLA program enrollment.
  - Introduced new budget procedures and guidelines for the grant year 2023 starting July 1. This addresses findings from the September 2022 US Department of Education OCTAE virtual monitoring of the Hawaii AEFLA program.
  - Reviewed the definition of “basic skills deficient” in the Hawaii WIOA state plan. A finding from the state 2022 Single Audit of the AEFLA program discovered ineligible participants. There was a discussion to modify the definition to provide more flexibility in enrolling participants.

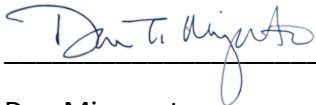
2. FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

- US Department of Education, OCTAE, will conduct onsite monitoring of the Hawaii AEFLA program September 18 - 22, 2023.
  - OCTAE will visit the Oahu American Job Center on September 21, 2023, 10:30 am - 2:00 pm.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Visit the Hawaii AEFLA website <https://bit.ly/HIAEFLA>

Submitted by:



Dan Miyamoto  
AEFLA State Director  
Hawaii State Department of Education

August 10, 2023

Date



**University of Hawai‘i Update**  
**Report to Workforce Development Council**  
August 2023

An exciting project for the University of Hawai‘i (UH) is [Good Jobs Hawai‘i](#). This initiative utilizes braided funds from three grant sources with a focus on providing short-term certificates and credentials that lead to a living wage job in the state of Hawai‘i. Focused on high demand industries that include Healthcare, Information Technology, Clean Energy, Skilled Trades, Creative Industries, and Education, the grants provide funding for tuition and training costs, wrap-around services, program coordination, and hiring incentives for employers across the state.

A key part of the initiative is the use of industry sector partnerships to support strategic engagement with organizations to identify workforce training needs and hire graduates into internships and in-demand jobs. The Good Jobs Hawai‘i project is also reaching into the high schools with opportunities that prepare students for in-demand jobs upon high school graduation.

Connected with this effort is the [Promising Credentials in Hawai‘i report](#) developed to identify high-value industry credentials that prepare students for careers in Hawai‘i. Career and technical education (CTE) programs at the seven Hawai‘i community colleges are being reviewed and revised to better align with these promising credentials to ensure CTE programs are current and relevant for Hawai‘i’s industry needs.

The University of Hawai‘i system has also completed their [Strategic Plan 2023-2029](#). The plan is based on four imperatives which are focused on being an indigenous-serving and indigenous-centered institution, educating more students who are empowered to achieve their goals, eliminating workforce shortages in Hawai‘i, and building a thriving research and innovation enterprise. With one of the imperatives focused on workforce, there will be opportunities for UH to connect with the Workforce Development Council. I look forward to sharing more about our work with the strategic plan at future meetings.

**WDC**  
**Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) Report**  
**July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023**

Hawaii DVR PY22 (July 1-March 2023) Performance Measures Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)		
<b>Participants served (VR)</b>	2837	
<b>Participants exited</b>	207	
<b>WIOA Program Involvement</b>	Adult	322
	Dislocated Worker	7
	Youth	8
	Wagener-Peyser	13
	Adult Education	23
	Job Corps	3
	Youth Build	8
	<b>Total</b>	<b>384</b>
Indicator	PY22 Q4	PY 2022 Negotiated / Required Level
Measurable Skill Gains (MSG)	98/278 = 35% YTD Rate: 35%	35%
Credential Attainment Rate (CA)	1/10 = 10.0% YTD Rate: 10%	20%
Employment (Second Quarter After Exit)	83/207 YTD Rate: 40%	33%
Employment (Fourth Quarter After Exit)	75/207 YTD Rate: 36%	37.5%
Median Earnings (Second Quarter After Exit)	(Forecast: Based on rehabs at exit DVR has estimated median earnings of \$425 weekly or \$5,100 in median earnings over 12 weeks)	\$4,400

**WDC**  
**Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) Report**  
**July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023**

<b>Exit: Achieved Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) Outcome</b>			
<b>Employment Outcomes (SOC Titles)</b>	<b>Participant Count</b>	<b>Average of Wage - Primary</b>	<b>Average of Hours Worked - Primary</b>
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	3	12.13	20
Computer Occupations, All Other	1	52.88	40
Customer Service Representatives	7	14.18	28.5
Dining Room and Cafeteria Attendants and Bartender Helpers	1	24.6	35
Flight Attendant	1	43.87	20
Food Preparation and Serving Related Workers, All Other	2	13.25	18.5
Food Preparation Worker	1	12.54	40
Forest and Conservation Worker	1	17.58	40
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	3	14.02	26.33
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1	17.5	20
Landscaping and Groundskeeping	3	12	17
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1	12	33
Office and Administrative Support	1	10.10	20
Packers and Packers, Hand	1	12	20
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	1	15	20
Psychologists, All Other	1	32.95	40
Security Guards	1	15.25	44
Shuttle Driver	1	23.13	40
Social and Community Service Managers	1	26.63	40
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	5	14.86	27
Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors	1	17.5	20
Teaching Assistants, Preschool, Elementary, Middle, and Secondary School, Except Special Education	1	12.18	40
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>16.929</b>	<b>27.56</b>

**WDC**  
**Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) Report**  
**July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023**

<b>Staff Vacancies</b>	
<b>County</b>	<b>Vacancies</b>
Oahu/Administration and Staff Services Office	4
Oahu Branch	16
Services for the Blind Branch (Ho’opono)	9
Hawaii Branch (Hilo/Kona)	3
Maui Branch (Maui, Molokai/Lanai)	1
Kauai	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>38 vacancies</b>

**Agency Updates**

**1. AJC**

- a. Statewide: HDVR collaborates with community, government, and business partners in various work groups to promote competitive, integrated employment and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for individuals with disabilities. These include the statewide American Job Centers (AJC), the Hawaii Employment First Taskforce, the Association for People Supporting Employment First (APSE), Disability: IN and the Society for HR Management.
- b. Kauai Branch (KB) supported participant to obtain paid internship with the State’s DLIR Hele Imua program at the State Tax office. This DVR participant/client has been extended for an additional 89-day internship associated with their successful completion of work assignments and is being encouraged to apply for vacancies at the State office.
- c. Oahu Branch (OB) meets with AJC monthly to discuss referrals, participants, and services. We have Vocational Rehabilitation Specialists (VRS) who sit at AJC 8 days/monthly to complete intakes and provide services.
- d. Services for the Blind Branch (SBB) aka Ho’opono: Stationed at the Oahu AJC twice per month, SBB Employment Services Specialist (ESS) is available to assist clients with disabilities to job search and collaborates with other HDVR ESS and workers in the employment section of the City and Dept of Labor. Ho’opono staff are helping AJC staff assess job seeker’s abilities, capabilities and when appropriate accessibility, and accommodations for individuals with disabilities.
  - DVR staff collaborate on providing an integrated service model at the AJCs.
  - DVR continues to work with AJC staff on tracking dual enrollments between programs.

**WDC**  
**Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) Report**  
**July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023**

- Ongoing supports from AJC partners include providing tours and information sharing with new VR staff assigned for weekly on-site services for Hawaii residents with disabilities eligible for VR services.

**2. Timeliness**

- The timeframe for processing of DVR applications (30 days) and eligibility determinations (60 days) for persons with disabilities seeking VR services continue to be shortened with DVR's rapid engagement initiatives.

**3. Vacancies**

- Still working to hire qualified individuals for various positions within DVR. We are currently at about a 39-42% vacancy rate.

**4. Administrative Changes**

- a. Lea Dias was hired on July 12 as DVR's Administrator. She has over 30 years of experience and was formerly the Branch Administrator at Hoo pono, Services for the Blind Branch.
- b. Rusnell Pascual-Kestner, Program Specialist, is serving as VR Assistant Administrator temporarily, until that position is filled.

## **Workforce Development Division: Updates for WDC Board Meeting**

**August 17, 2023**

### **National Dislocated Worker Grant**

- Developing grant application to request grant funds to provide services to those affected by the Lahaina Fire.

### **Disaster Recovery Centers**

- WDD staff are deployed to provide services at the DRC in Maui College – Pilina Building.

### **Ready-to-Work**

- Working with Randy Higa to expand the Waipahu High School Ready-to-Work Program to 4-5 other school.

### **Digital Work Skills grant project update**

- Contracts being developed with Hawaii State Public Library System, DOE Community School for Adults, Dept. of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.
- Classes projected to begin on September 18, 2023.
- Target populations to include those in covered populations, WIOA participants, veterans, individuals with disabilities, aging individuals, those with limited digital skill literacy, other target groups.
- Curriculum to include basic computer operations, email, basics of web browsing, video conferencing tools, intro to basic computer applications (word processing, presentations, spreadsheets, etc.), basic computer and network security principles.

## **Work Opportunity Tax Credit program update**

- WOTC program and data migration upgrade to Hirenet Hawaii Geographic Solutions module ongoing.
- Following migration to Hirenet portal, application process will be streamlined with processing times reduced.
- UI (unemployment insurance) verifications have been automated, weekly batch uploads scheduled.
- SNAP/TANF verifications currently being configured with DHS IT staff.



# REPORTS FROM WDC STANDING COMMITTEES



WDC Quarterly Board Meeting  
Thursday, August 17, 2023  
9:30 am to 11:30 am

## REPORT

Employer Engagement Committee  
Highlights for the Quarter

LAST COMMITTEE MEETING: held on July 13, 2023 Presentations:

- Executive Director, Bennette M. gave an update on the Workforce Development Council, including important meeting dates, the executive board retreat, and the strategic plan.
- Discussion on Workforce Development in relation to the "Internet for All" Broadband initiative by the White House and NTIA. Money awarded to the State of Hawaii is being administered by University of Hawaii. Dr. Gwen Jacobs was in attendance and gave an update along with WDC EE Council Chair. NTIA drafts pertaining to Workforce Development were highlighted.

STATUS OF PROJECTS:

a) WOTC: Workforce Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) The State of Hawaii is still experiencing a backlog of WOTC applications. At the last Workforce Development Council Meeting, Anthony Crouch, DLIR Federal Representative was asked what systems or new processes the Federal Government has implemented to help the

States that are experiencing backlogs? Also, what strategies other states might be using to deal with the significant backlog of business-filed certifications? No new initiatives to address this issue have been reported. The Employer Engagement Committee is dedicated to supporting the work of the WDD/DLIR in reducing the State of Hawaii backlog.

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS:**

Presentation by Brian Mikel, Commissioner/Mediator, Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Re: Broadband Initiative: With the full-time appointment of an Executive Director, Cheryl Cross will take a step back from the Broadband Hui, enabling the WDC and State DLIR and WDD to provide more robust support for any Workforce Development overview and insights.

Next Committee Meeting: October 12, 2023, at 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Submitted by:



**Cheryl A. Cross**

Chair  
Sector Strategies and Career Pathways Committee



WDC Quarterly Board Meeting  
Thursday, August 17, 2023  
9:30 am to 11:30 am

REPORT  
Sector Strategies and Career Pathways Committee

Highlights for the Quarter

1. COMMITTEE MEETING: held on August 3, 2023

Presentations:

- Wanelle Kaneshiro, Director, Hawaii Department of Education Workforce Development Branch who gave an overview of her department and its relationship with the CTE office.
- Corey Reincke, Acting Administrator, Hawaii Paroling Authority, who spoke on the need for housing for parolees.

2. STATUS OF PROJECTS:

- a) Career Foundations for Micronesians : working with the COFA community to assist Micronesians to acquire job skills before they come to the US.'  
Work in progress
- b) Workforce Development Diploma: project is still in progress. Discussions are being held by DLIR and DOE.
- c) Linguistics Pathway Subcommittee: The subcommittee Chair Dina Yoshimi, Director of the Hawaii Language Roadmap Initiative shared that she is collaborating with the Good Jobs Hawaii program under Daniel Doerger for possible funding. Daniel intimated that the focus will be on health care. Dina said they are open to helping anyone with language access needs and encouraged engagement with their team.
- d) Partnership with NFL-YET, BGCH, Nanaikapono, Local 665: in progress

- e) Partnership with DOH, HIDOE, Hawaii Language Roadmap Initiative: in progress
- f) SPED partnership with Department of Vocational Rehabilitation: in progress

3. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 5. Next Committee Meeting: September 7, 2023 at 1 pm

Submitted by:

Cary Miyashiro

Chair

Sector Strategies and Career Pathways Committee



WDC Quarterly Board Meeting  
Thursday, August 17, 2023  
9:30 am to 11:30 am

REPORT  
Military and Veterans' Affairs  
Committee

Highlights for the Quarter

1. COMMITTEE MEETING: August 4, 2023, from 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Presentations:

- Purpose of the Workforce Development Council and Military Veterans Affairs Committee, by Bennette E. Misalucha, Executive Director, State Workforce Development Council and Trang Malone, Committee Chair, MVAC
- State Office of Veterans Services, by Jonathan Kimura, Veterans Services Coordinator
- Updates from State Workforce Agency from April 20, 2023, to August 4, 2023, by Jarret Yip

2. STATUS OF PROJECTS:

- a) No current projects

3. FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- State Office of Veteran Services is hiring Veteran Service Officers
- Purple Heart Day Aug 7 – Unofficial observance. Our nation recognizes the men and women who are known as our Purple Heart recipients. The Purple Heart, one of the oldest military decorations, is presented to service members who were injured or killed in service to our country.

- November 2, 2023, from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Military and Family Support Center Skillbridge Showcase open to all DOD ID Card Holders, POC: Arcangel Natal 808-474-1999
- 

5. Next Committee Meeting: October 19, 2023, from 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Submitted by:

Trang N. Malone

Chair

Military Veterans Affairs Committee



WDC Quarterly Board Meeting  
Thursday, August 17, 2023  
9:30 am to 11:30 am

REPORT  
Special Projects Committee Meeting

Highlights for the Quarter

COMMITTEE MEETING: held on August 4, 2023

1. Presentations: none
2. STATUS OF PROJECTS:

Executive Director, Bennette Misalucha provided an update on State Unified Plan and Board Strategic Plan on workforce development.

Every four years, every State is mandated to submit a strategic plan and this one is due in April 2024. The plan would bring together all the elements, current trends, challenges and solutions involved in managing the state's workforce and will include our efforts to align with the State's economic development plans. It is also envisioned to incorporate the ten other core partner agencies' strategic plans.

Bennette also provided an update on Workforce Development Division.

3. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

A WDC board retreat is scheduled for September 23, 2023.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS:



5. Next Committee Meeting:

This has not been scheduled yet. It will tentatively be in mid-late October- early November 2023.

Submitted by:

Sean Knox

Chair

Special Projects Committee

# REPORTS FROM COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS

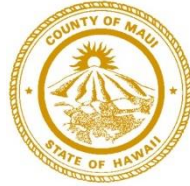
**HAWAII COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD UPDATE REPORT  
(April – June 2023) TO THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL MEETING**

Thursday, August 17, 2023

- Welcome Sheri Ann Cacho, our new Executive Director
  - With a strong background in finance and real estate leasing, Sheri Ann Cacho assumed the position of Workforce Development Economic Development Specialist at the County of Hawai'i's Department of Research and Development on July 17, 2023. Being a local, born and raised in Kea'au, Hawai'i, her connection to the community is deep-rooted and authentic. Her roles at Kamehameha Schools and HomeStreet Bank have equipped her with the necessary skills and experience that she now aims to utilize to uplift her local community. As the Executive Director of Hawaii County's Workforce Development Board, she passionately aims to ignite a sense of motivation and empowerment among individuals, enabling them to recognize their potential and achieve excellence in their professional pursuits. In this capacity, Sheri seeks to make a significant contribution to the local workforce development, fostering growth and prosperity in the region.
- Last Board Meeting occurred June 1, 2023
  - An action item following from the State monitoring that took place May 22 and 23, 2023, WIOA Policy 24-20 Work Experience was approved by the Board and the final version with signatures submitted to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations – Workforce Development Division
  - Sunshine Law and Ethics Training was conducted for new and renewing board members

**RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.**  
Mayor

**KEKUHAUPIO R. AKANA**  
Managing Director



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.mauicounty.gov](http://www.mauicounty.gov)

Maui County Workforce Development Board (MCWDB)  
County of Maui

I. Committee Meetings

A. Sector Strategies and Employer Engagement Meeting: Held on August 10, 2023 at 9:00am

a. Status Updates

- i. Strategies will be tiered as they do with a triage. Short-term goals are in response to the horrible tragedy in Lahaina. This will include adding support to rapid response and being ready to help deploy that. This will require the use of all of our tools and connections to the community to leverage resources. This will also create opportunities to engage community members who would want to support.
- ii. We will also look at long term goals in building resiliency strategies, which at this point in time, workforce and our American Job Center (AJC) partners will be critical. The development of comprehensive economic strategies is important in order to look at the sectors that our community has identified that can add promise to strengthen our economy and develop higher wage jobs.

B. Program and Youth Committee Meeting: Held on August 10, 2023 at 10:00am

a. Status Updates

- i. Workforce hosted a 2-day Online Career Fair on 07/06/23 and 07/07/23. Key note speaker was Maui County's Workforce Development Board President, Leslie Wilkins.
  - Day 1 Employer Focus – Highlighted Areas: Funding Your Workforce for the Future; Internship Opportunities; Employer Benefits with HireNet Hawaii and Maui County Virtual Job Fair
  - Day 2 Job Seeker Focus – Highlighted Areas: Design Your Life – Identifying Career & Life Goals (UHMC); Maui

AJC Resources; Job Seekers “Get Noticed” on  
MauiCountyVirtualJobFair.com

- ii. Workforce was invited by UHMC’s CareerLink to explore the Norwegian Cruise Line (NCL) while being docked at the harbor. NCL hosts Monday ship visits, which was a great opportunity for individuals interested in working with diverse professionals, save on food and housing expenses while living on a ship, travel and see different places, all while being paid. The workforce team had the opportunity to speak with Captain Ron and Carlos Gonzalez, Sr. Manager of Port Operations to shift our community’s mindset that maritime careers are a viable pathway. Dialog began about another dedicated maritime career fair.
- iii. WIOA Youth Program (Ola I Ka Hana) – Kealoha Daubert, Assistant Director, and Jenna Silifaiva, Lead Youth Specialist
  - Reported the program received the executed contract for PY22 effective 07/01/23-03/31/24
  - Reported that program staff are looking forward to the school year being back in session. The program staff have been in contact with school counselors as well as McKinley Community School for Adults for outreach and referrals.
  - Additional outreach efforts include the Maui Food Bank, Maui Police Department’s Critical Outreach and Response through Education (C.O.R.E.) Program
- iv. WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker Program – Ray Saldares, Director
  - Reported the program received the executed contracts for PY22 the following: Adult, Dislocated Worker, and QUEST. Effective 07/01/23-03/31/24.
  - In light of the recent fires, program staff will be working closely with WDD to deploy rapid response efforts and program supports and services.
  - Job Vacancies include two Employment Counselor positions.
- v. DOL Monitoring and Data Validation
  - DOL Monitoring Update – DOL, Employment & Training Administration, Anthony Crouch conducted program monitoring at the AJC on 06/14/23. DOL senior accountant, Ainee Ibarra conducted fiscal monitoring on

6/13 through 6/14. Virtual entrance conference was conducted 6/5/23 to outline the various aspects of governance, which is a key element for WIOA. Exit conference was handled at the State level. Pending receipt of a written performance report.

- WDD Data Validation – Workforce Development Division completed their monitoring last week 08/03-08/04. Also pending receipt of a written report.

II. Forthcoming Events

A. MCWDB Executive Committee Meeting: August 24, 2023 at 1:00pm

B. MCWDB Meeting: September 15, 2023 at 9:00am

III. Announcements

A. Program staff continue to promote the services of the AJC and are motivated to engage in more outreach events. The advantage of being located in the same building as the DMV is having a resource table in the lobby for program services. AJC staff will also make their presence known to increase program enrollment.

B. McKinley Community School for Adults has been holding classes of 4-5 students at the AJC due to a recent fire next to their building. While the building is fine, the electricity needed to be restored. During that time, classes have been held at the AJC, and the instructor has been linking students with program services as appropriate.

C. The County will be partnering with UHMC to host an in-person job fair at Queen Ka‘ahumanu Center. Executive Director, Chentelle Rowland, and AJC Manager, Kamalu Carroll, met with the center’s marketing manager to determine dates. Tentatively looking at either 11/11/23 or 11/18/23. More details to follow.

IV. Next Committee Meetings: TBD

Submitted by:

*Chentelle Rowland*

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Chentelle Rowland  
Executive Director  
County of Maui - Office of Economic Development  
Maui County Workforce Development Board



WDC Quarterly Board Meeting  
Thursday, August 17, 2023  
9:30 am to 11:30 am

REPORT  
Oahu Workforce Development Board

Highlights for the Quarter

1. BOARD MEETING: held on July 20, 2023

Presentations:

- Gary Chun, Assistant Principal, Waipahu High School, and Randy Higa, Owner, Workforce Transitional Center provided an overview of the Waipahu High School SPED Workforce Pathway.

2. STATUS OF PROJECTS:

- a) Recertification of the Oahu Workforce Development Board. Work in progress
- b) Infrastructure Funding Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding with the American Job Center Partners. Work in Progress
- c) WIOA Title I Memorandum of Understanding with the Service Provider. Work in Progress
- d) NDWG QUEST Memorandum of Understanding with Service Provider. Work in Progress.
- e) Hire a Planner III. Work in Progress

3. Next Board Meeting: October 19, 2023 at 1 pm

(end of board packet)

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