



hawaii pacific gerontological society

Volume 45, No. 11

November 2024

HPGS 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers:

Laurie Adamshick, President
Cynthia Arnold, Secretary/Treasurer
Kathy Wyatt, Past-President

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Courtney-Paige DiMaggio
Kendi Ho
Tada Meya
Lesley Milligan
Travis Motosue
Christy Nishita
Kristina Wong

Sherry Goya, Executive Director
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Honolulu, HI 96812
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HPGS.808@gmail.com

HPGS has open enrollment for new members throughout the year. HPGS members may renew for 2024 any time online at www.hpgs.org or print the form and pay with a check.

The Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society distributes monthly newsletters and hosts three general membership meetings.

HPGS encourages all members to submit articles, email the board with suggestions for speakers, and/or volunteer on a committee.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



LAURIE ADAMSHICK
PRESIDENT

Fall greetings!

I think you will agree we had a long, hot summer. But it seems that fall has, at long last, finally arrived, along with the approach of the holidays. More moderate temperatures is something for which I am annually grateful...That and the promise of a homemade Thanksgiving turkey sandwich the day after...

Our newsletter is a little late this month as we were busy preparing for the 8th Annual Tony Lenzer Scholarship Fundraiser which took place last week on November 8th. I am so happy to report that it was an overwhelming success! The food provided by our friends at Arcadia was scrumptious (mahalo Suzie Schulburg, CEO, for your generosity). The wine donated by ALTRES, a long time HPGS member, was superb (mahalo Kristina Wong for your thoughtfulness). The testimonials were both deeply inspiring and, at times, rip-roaringly funny. The incredible evening was capped off by our honoree, Dorothy Colby's expression of gratitude to not just all who helped her along the way, but also to the beautiful people with dementia she has known throughout the years who have moved her and taught her so much. You can read more about this wonderful event in this newsletter.

One of the goals of this special event was to raise scholarship money to support more students and caregivers in their quest to have careers in gerontology and as caregivers for our kupuna. These students will become the next generation of specialists and leaders in understanding aging and geriatric care needs. We will all need them at some point! If you want to support these students and encourage others to join them, it is not too late to consider uniting with us in donating whatever amount you can to our Scholarship Program. The donation form is on our website at hpgs.org, or you can simply send a check to our Executive Director, Sherry Goya, at P.O. Box 3714, Honolulu, HI 96812 and designate it "for the scholarship program". Our scholarship recipients are all tremendously grateful.

Happy Thanksgiving to you!

With gratitude and warmest aloha,

Laurie

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of HPGS is to increase awareness of and interest in the field of gerontology by providing networking and educational opportunities, as well as scholarships, to Hawaii's workforce or other interested parties, in which to support the creation of needed policies and programs that will enhance the quality and age-friendly services to our Kūpuna in Hawaii.

WELCOME TO HPGS

Company

Gimme A Break

Savy Makalena
6750 Hawaii Kai Dr, #1408
Honolulu, HI 96825
P: 808-594-9801
E: savy@gab808.org
W: <https://gab808.org>

Kalakaua Gardens

Miho Katagiri
1723 Kalakaua Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96826
P: 808-892-4503
F: 808-892-4595
E: miho.katagiri@kalakauagardens.com
W: www.kalakauagardens.com

EVENTS

Kokua Mau

Tuesday, November 19th
4pm to 5:30pm
Grieving During the Holidays
Via Zoom

RSVP info@kokuamau.org

Sunday, November 24th
6pm

Bereavement Support Group
Via Zoom

RSVP info@kokuamau.org

Mayor's 48th Annual Craft & Country Fair

Generations Magazine Senior Fair

Saturday, November 23rd

9am to 1pm
Blaisdell Exhibition Hall
Free to the Public

Project Dana

Saturday, November 30th

10am to 11:30am
Caregiver Burnout & Self-Care
Via Zoom

RSVP 808-945-3736 or
csg@projectdana.org

HPGS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The first HPGS General Membership Meeting of 2025 will be held via Zoom on Thursday, January 16th from 11:30am. The guest speaker will be Audrey Suga-Nakagawa from AARP who has all the information needed to explain the 2025 legislative bills supporting Hawaii's kupuna. See the attached flyer with more information and the Zoom link.

HPGS TONY LENZER SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

A great evening was had on Friday, November 8th to honor **Dorothy Colby** for her many years of support for Hawaii's kupuna. The **Arcadia Family of Companies** hosted the event and a delicious meal was enjoyed by 55 attendees.

Mahalo to the HPGS Fundraising Committee Chair, **Kathy Wyatt** and her committee members for putting on a wonderful event. The MC, HPGS President **Laurie Adamshick**, provided a wealth of information about the *Tony Lenzer Scholarship Program Fundraiser* and talked about the background and accolades of Dorothy Colby. **Kendi Ho**, co-chair of the HPGS Workforce Development Committee, talked about the work her committee does each year and how many scholarships have been awarded for 2024. Three scholarship winners thanked HPGS by video for the monies they received to further their education in helping Hawaii's kupuna.

In-person and video testimonials added to the evening in honoring Dorothy. Framed certificates from Governor Josh Green, the State Legislature, and the City Council of Honolulu were presented to Dorothy, along with a koa clock engraved to commemorate the evening from HPGS. There was laughter and happy tears as people spoke, as well as when Dorothy had the microphone. She was so touched and honored for this award and also thanked her husband and children for their support, along with Hale Ku'ike.



Besides those who attended in person on November 8th, there were many people who made donations to HPGS on behalf of the Tony Lenzer Scholarship Program Fundraiser, and HPGS would like to thank all for helping make this year's fundraiser a success. Over \$15,000 was raised to go towards scholarships in 2025 for students in the field of gerontology and geriatric care.



HPGS MEMBER NEWS

HPGS Member and former Board member, **Poki'i Balaz** has been selected as part of the 2024-2025 Health and Aging Policy Fellows cohort in Washington, D.C. She is honored to be the first fellow from Hawai'i and the first Native Hawaiian in this prestigious program. Congratulations!

Kokua Mau has created a new webpage entitled Palliative Care Messaging Tools For Hawaii to help increase public and provider understanding of what palliative care is and how it can benefit those dealing with a serious illness. This effort is part of its messaging role in assisting MedQuest with the rollout of its new palliative care benefit, the first of its kind in the nation. The page includes two patient care stories that demonstrate how palliative care provides comfort and hope, and helps keep patients in their homes. More content is coming in the future. To learn more, go to <https://kokuamau.org/palliative-care-messaging-tools-for-hawaii/>

Each year, **Lanakila Senior Center** hosts a food canned goods drive during the holidays. They hope you will participate by bringing a few canned goods from November 1 to 19th, to their front desk volunteers (1640 Lanakila Ave). They will be presenting these food donations to some of their community partners.



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GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, January 16, 2025

11:30am via Zoom

2025 Kupuna Caucus

Discover the top five kūpuna-related bills in the 2025 Kūpuna Caucus package. Audrey Suga-Nakagawa, AARP Advocacy Director, will explain their significance and how they impact Hawaii's kūpuna and families. Get involved and make your voice heard!

The Kūpuna Caucus is unique from other legislative caucuses as its members include legislators as well as government and community members. Each year it backs a Bill Package containing five kūpuna-related bills.



Audrey Suga-Nakagawa

Audrey Suga-Nakagawa is the Associate Director of Advocacy for AARP Hawaii. She works on public policy issues, legislations that impact the lives of Hawaii's older adults and their families such as caregiving support services, affordable housing for kupuna, anti-fraud and elder abuse protection, and pedestrian safety. She is a specialist on aging issues and elder care services in Hawaii and has extensive experience in health care administration.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7585097318?pwd=SU1kL3hRUIJyZINUTitrYXg4aE5yQT09&omn=87532923037>

Meeting ID: 758 509 7318

Passcode: 4ruPYhNZ2