



hawaii pacific gerontological society

Volume 46, No. 9

September 2025

HPGS 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Sherry Goya, Executive Director
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HPGS has open enrollment for new members throughout the year. HPGS members may renew for 2025 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

September greetings to all,

Now that the 2025 HPGS Conference is pau, we want to sincerely thank you for your attendance and support, and fill you in on our next event in November.

Our biennial conference that took place on September 11 and 12 focused on Navigating the Map of Aging and was well attended. Our keynote speakers – Sandy Markwood from USAging, the Lieutenant Governor Sylvia Luke, and Dr. Duke Han from USC – all provided informative and compelling presentations. In addition, it was our pleasure to present 17 other speakers and panels over the course of the two days. The feedback we received was overwhelmingly positive. As in the past, many appreciated the opportunity to network with others. On behalf of the Board, we enjoyed meeting and talking with so many of you! Many mahalos to the entire Board of HPGS for their tireless efforts in organizing our conference.



*Left to right, first row:
Cynthia Arnold, Laurie Adamshick,
Lesley Milligan, Sherry Goya,
and Travis Motosue.*

*Left to right, second row:
Kristina Wong, Kathy Wyatt,
Tada Meya, Courtney DiMaggio,
Kendi Ho and Christy Nishita.*

On the evening of November 14, 2025, HPGS will present its annual Tony Lenzer Scholarship Fundraiser benefitting students of gerontology and associated fields supporting our kupuna. The event will begin at 5:30 pm at Arcadia Retirement. This year's special honoree will be Jeannette Koiwane, Executive Director of Kokua Mau. Under Jeannette's leadership over the past few decades, Kokua Mau has become a highly recognized resource to Hawaii and the nation for information on advance care planning, hospice and palliative care. We hope you will plan to join us for an evening of good eats, great stories, and fun as we recognize an exceptional leader making a difference in our community.

Until next month, much gratitude and 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, and otherwise to support the creation of needed policies and programs that will enhance the quality and number of age-friendly services to our Kūpuna in Hawaii.

WELCOME TO HPGS

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Kelly McGregor
Ashley Naone
Laura St Denis
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HPGS NEWS



The August HPGS newsletter was so filled that the photo of the **Griswold Home Care for Oahu** team was left out. Here it is as the company marked their first anniversary. Congratulations and enjoy many more years of success!

HPGS 2025 BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

The Ala Moana Hotel was abuzz on Thursday and Friday, September 11th and 12th when the **HPGS 2025 Biennial Conference** was held with over 200 people, which included attendees, keynote speakers, presentation presenters, exhibitors, and volunteers. The entire program can be found on hpgs.org.

The highlight of Thursday's lunch was the recognition of the **Na Lima Kokua Award Winners**. Congratulations to the following, and see the program's Pages 10 to 12 for more information.

Business Category: **Susan Jung**

Communications/Arts: **Martha Khlopina**

Government: **Kimberly Itagaki**

Community Service: **Judy Mikami**

Research/Training: **Linda Axtell-Thompson**

Tony Lenzer Scholar: **Kevin Peralta** and **Kristal Xie**

MAHALO to the many sponsors for their support of HPGS and this year's conference. Besides helping to defray the cost of running the conference, there were 20 seniors of 70 years or older who attended the conference at a \$100 discount. The Tony Lenzer Family also helped sponsor six university students to attend the conference, and HPGS' scholarship also allowed four other students to attend at no cost.

GOLD Sponsors: AARP Hawaii, ALTRES Medical Home Care, Kahala Nui and Dr. Tony Lenzer Family

SILVER Sponsors: Arcadia Family of Companies, Generations Magazine, Islands Hospice and Navian

BRONZE Sponsors: MasterCare, Palolo Chinese Home and the University of Hawaii at Manoa's Center on Aging

FRIENDS: Horace Farr, Sherry A. Goya, LLC, Cullen Hayashida, Lanakila Pacific, Quality Life LLC, Rulon & Adamshick LLC and Warren Wong

HPGS 9TH ANNUAL TONY LENZER SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

The **9th Annual Tony Lenzer Scholarship Fundraiser** will be held on Friday, November 14th from 5:30pm at the Arcadia. This year's honoree is **Jeannette Koijane**, due to her commitment since 1988 to serving those who need serious illness care. She has been the Executive Director of Kokua Mau since 2010, working for partners with health plans, health care systems, hospices, government agencies and other organizations statewide. See the registration form attached to this newsletter for more details.

WELCOME TO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The HPGS Board has elected three new Directors at their September board meeting. Please welcome **Joseph Adriano**, the CFO Waimanalo Health System, **Georgjeanna Plummer** with the Alzheimer's Association and **Nargis Sultana** who is a UH student almost done with getting her PhD. Their bios and photos are on the HPGS website.



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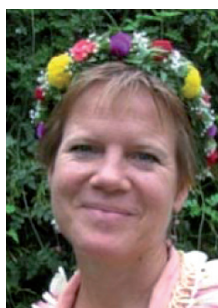
Please join us in person in honoring

Jeannette Kojane

9th Annual HPGS Tony Lenzer Scholarship Fundraiser

Reception at Arcadia with Pupu & Wine

Friday, November 14, 2025, 5:30pm



Jeannette Kojane is this year's honoree of the HPGS Tony Lenzer Scholarship Fundraiser because of her commitment since 1988 to serving those who need serious illness care. Since 2010, Jeannette has been the Executive Director of Kōkua Mau, which was established in 1999 as a statewide network to lead the movement to improve care for everyone.

Kōkua Mau partners with health plans, health care systems, hospices, government agencies and other organizations statewide. With Jeannette's leadership, they strive to make advance care planning and open communication about care and support for those with serious illnesses and their loved ones, including end-of-life, the cultural norm. The Kōkua Mau website is seen as the statewide resource for quality, non-biased information on resources and information on serious illness, including palliative care, hospice care, bereavement and Advance Care Planning, along with Advance Directives and POLST, with information in 13 languages.

Jeannette received her graduate degree in Public Health from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and her undergraduate degree from Cornell University. She has been involved with serious illness care since 1988, beginning in the field of HIV/AIDS, working with the AIDS Memorial Quilt as the Director of International Programs and then a variety of research and educational positions in Berlin, Germany, and San Francisco. Jeannette has also worked in the US Affiliated Pacific Islands helping to develop palliative care programs through a collaboration with the Cancer Council of the Pacific Islands, the University of Hawaii Cancer Center, and the John A. Burns School of Medicine.

Please join us in recognizing and honoring Jeannette at this year's Fundraiser Reception. Proceeds will go to support the HPGS annual Tony Lenzer Scholarship program for students with a serious interest in professional work related to aging, long term care and/or death and dying.



CUT HERE

Name: _____

Company (Optional): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS: \$125 per person. Tickets requested: _____ = \$ _____

TABLE SPONSORS: ____ Gold (\$3000) ____ Silver (\$2000)

Tables seat seven people. LIMITED SEATING

Any seat not spoken for can be donated back to the HPGS scholarship fund. How many seats will be available? ____

DONATIONS: Made to HPGS for the Tony Lenzer Scholarship Fund: \$ _____

Mail this form and check

payable to HPGS to

P. O. Box 3714 • Honolulu, HI 96812

Use the fillable form and pay with a charge card at <http://www.hpgs.org>.

HELP US EVEN MORE! HPGS is a non-profit organization and you can help us even further by adding 3% to your total to cover PayPal's credit card processing fees. Mahalo!

A recorded video testimony is welcomed. Contact Kathy Wyatt at kwyatt01@aol.com.

To learn about Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society, please check out www.hpgs.org