



hawaii pacific gerontological society

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HPGS 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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HPGS has open enrollment for new members throughout the year. HPGS members may renew for 2026 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



KRISTINA WONG
PRESIDENT

Aloha HPGS Members,

We are excited to officially share that our 10th annual Tony Lenzer Scholarship Fundraising Event has been confirmed for **September 11, 2026, at 15 Craigside**. We are especially proud to announce that this year we will be honoring Suzanne Chun Oakland for her contributions and support of our community. Please mark your calendars — more details to come as we continue planning what promises to be a very special evening.

In addition, we are currently working on creating intentional opportunities for our honorees and both past and present scholarship recipients to connect with one another. The Tony Lenzer Scholarship has fostered meaningful relationships throughout our community, and we are committed to strengthening and sustaining those connections for years to come.

A friendly reminder to please submit your 2026 membership renewal if you have not yet done so.

We're also excited to share that we have added a new feature to our website! Members now can include their company logo and website link either on our main page or within the resource tab. This is a wonderful way to increase visibility while supporting our network. Please refer to the attached featured article for more information.

Lastly, please save the date for our next General Membership Meeting on May 21st at 11:30am, where Senator Sharon Moriwaki will be joining us to share a legislative update. We look forward to seeing you there.

Mahalo for your continued support and involvement,

Kristina Wong

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.

MAHALO FOR RENEWING

HPGS appreciates the 2026 renewals from the following HPGS members since the last newsletter:

INDIVIDUALS

Judith Mikami

Lesley Milligan

John Tomoso

Hope Young

COMPANIES

Kokua Mau

UH Center on Aging

EVENTS

Ohana Care Maui

Wednesday, March 25th

4:30 to 5:30pm + Q&A

Navigating End-of-Life Uncertainty

Kalama Heights, Kihei

Ohanacaremaui.com/speakerseries

Project Dana

Wednesday, March 11th

10:00am at 1727 Pali Highway

Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin

10 Health Habits for Your Brain

& Alzheimer's & Music

Saturday, March 14th

10:00am at 94-821 Kuhaulua St

Waipahu Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii

Wednesday, March 18th

10:00am at 1727 Pali Highway

Lounge adjacent to the

Main Temple, 2nd Fl

Talk Story Group Meeting

Monday, March 23rd

7pm on Zoom

Talk Story Group Meeting

Shelly: 808-990-7373

Germane: 808-207-2521

HPGS NEWS

AARP Hawai'i welcomes Maui resident Grant Chun, a retired attorney and housing executive, as its new state president. The state president, a volunteer position, works closely with the state director, staff and volunteers to lead AARP's work in Hawai'i. "I look forward to working with Grant to improve the lives of kūpuna in Hawai'i and empower people to choose how they live as they age," said Keali'i Lopez, AARP Hawai'i state director. "His commitment to community, combined with his deep understanding of the challenges facing Hawai'i's kūpuna—from housing to caregiving to financial security—makes him an exceptional leader for our volunteer team and for older adults statewide."



"We thank Gary for his continuing years of service on behalf of kūpuna and family caregivers," Lopez said. "He helped us pass a bill to create retirement savings program for workers without payroll savings. His leadership during the COVID pandemic helped us prioritize vaccinations and safety protocols for kūpuna, including kūpuna in community care homes and work with other volunteer organizations in the Kūpuna Food Security Coalition to feed older residents."

WEBSITE UPDATE

The HPGS website (www.hpgs.org) can be updated any time, with any page, so please email Sherry Goya, HPGS Executive Director at sgoyallc@aol.com with any change. The most recent update is from the heading: *Kupuna Volunteer Connections*, where Juna Sanchez was changed as the new Program Manager of OUR KUPUNA. Their phone number remains 808-215-0073, with email juna@ourkupuna.com.

ADDED BENEFIT

As a "company/organization" HPGS member joining or renewing your 2026 membership dues, the Board of Directors has added the following BENEFIT effective this month:

The HPGS company or organization may have their logo and website link on our <https://hpgs.org> website.

We will feature some on the Homepage, then the remaining will be on the "Resource" tab since you are all good resources for our kupuna and families.

HPGS MEMBER ADDITON:

Generations Magazine had a very successful senior fair held at the Windward Mall on Friday, February 20th with 46 tables and approximately over 400 attendees. Tani Salazar, from the **Hawaii Dementia Initiative**, said that It was such a calm, friendly environment at Windward Mall — so we were able to hear their stories and help them get connected to services. When the caregivers expressed their needs or questions, I was able to walk them straight to the tables with those resources, e.g. Kathy's Adult Day Care, Pohai Nani, Alzheimer's Association, Grisworld, etc. It was great having everyone right there! Jazlyn Wandasan, from **Hawaii SHIP** said that they collected a number of inquiries from interested beneficiaries in need of Medicare counseling.