



hawaii pacific gerontological society

Volume 47, No. 9

September 2026

HPGS 2026 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 hope you and your loved ones remained safe and are doing well following the aftermath of Lala. Our thoughts are with everyone in our community who may have been impacted.

September is an exciting month for HPGS as we look forward to our 10th Annual Tony Lenzer Scholarship Fundraising Event at 15 Craigside. We are grateful for the wonderful response and support from our members and community and look forward to gathering together for this special event.

We are also pleased to share that HPGS will be awarding six \$3,000 scholarships this year—three to undergraduate/graduate students and three to nursing students. We received a strong group of applicants, particularly among our nursing students, and appreciate the work of our Workforce Development Committee in reviewing the applications and selecting this year's recipients. We look forward to recognizing our scholarship recipients and supporting the next generation of professionals serving our aging community.

Please also save the date for our next General Membership Meeting on Thursday, October 1st, featuring HPGS Board Member Travis Motosue as our guest speaker. Additional information, including his presentation topic, will be shared soon.

Looking a little further ahead, planning for our 2027 HPGS Biennial Conference continues, with our conference committee scheduled to meet again later this fall. We look forward to sharing more information with you as plans develop.

Mahalo for your continued support of HPGS and the work we do together in our community. We look forward to seeing many of you at the Tony Lenzer Scholarship Fundraising Event!

Mahalo nui loa,
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.

WELCOME TO HPGS

Individual

Heaven Nakahashi

EVENTS

Project Dana

Wednesday, September 9th at 10am
Dental Lifeline Network
Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin
Or via Zoom

Saturday, September 12th at 10am
Fall Prevention - Six Steps
to Prevent a Fall
Waipahu Hongwanji Buddhist Temple
Or via Zoom

Wednesday, September 16th at 10am
Support Group Meeting - Talk Story
Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin

Monday, September 24th at 7pm
Support Group Meeting - Talk Story
Via Zoom only

Shelley Paet or Germaine
Kiyomoto-Isara
www.projectdana.org - (808) 945-3736

Ohana Care Maui

Tuesday, September 22nd at 4:30pm
Massage and Stretch
Kalama Heights, Kihei
Jgalvez@ohanacaremaui.com
808-344-1285

AARP Hawaii

Hawaii Caregiver Conference
Friday, September 25th
9am to 3pm
VIA ZOOM

<https://forms.gle/ygUMiy43AtufQEsQ8>
karyn@yesyoucanconciierge.com

Generations Magazine

Generations Senior Fair
at Pearlridge Center
Friday, October 16th, 10am to 2pm
Open to the Public
808-722-8487

Hawaii Parkinson Association

Saturday, October 24th
Starting at 7:30am
Magic Island, Ala Moana Beach Park
go.rallyup.com/HawaiiWalk
808-762-0600

HPGS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The third HPGS General Membership Meeting for 2026 will be held via Zoom on Thursday, October 1st from 11:30am via Zoom. A presentation will be held by Travis Motosue of Financial Benefits Hawaii to educate attendees with new medicare information. A flyer with the Zoom link will be emailed HPGS members at the end of September.



KUPUNA CAUCUS

The Kupuna Caucus has begun the process for drafting its 2027 legislative package. If you have a legislation idea that you think the Caucus should consider, deadline is September 25th. Anyone can submit proposals. Should you so choose, you will have an opportunity to present your proposal at the regular Kupuna Caucus meeting on Friday, October 2. After that meeting, an online poll will be posted for members to choose their top 5 preferences to be included in the Kupuna Caucus legislative package. Feel free to contact Senator Sharon Moriwaki's office at 808-586-6740.

HPGS NEWS

HPGS longtime member, **AARP Hawaii** has a grant program to make communities more livable for people of all ages with tangible improvements that jump-start long-term change. Do you have a great project idea for your community? Apply for a 2026 grant today! Eligible applications will be accepted from January 7 to March 4, 2027 at 2pm PT. Learn more and apply at [AARP.org/CommunityChallenge](https://www.aarp.org/CommunityChallenge). Email: communitychallenge@aarp.org.

Hawaii Meals on Wheels will be holding a Thanksgiving Day benefit to Malama our Kupuna on Thursday, November 26th. There are multiple sponsorships with benefits, as well as anyone can donate as little as \$50 to feed one person for one week. Mail your check to Hawaii Meals on Wheels, P. O. Box 236099; Honolulu, HI 96823-3520 or make your purchase or donation online at hmow.org/thanksgiving. If you have questions, contact Evelyn Fonseca at 808-784-2761 or efonseca@hmow.org.

NEWS FROM SMP HAWAII

Nearly 73% of American adults have been hit by an online scam, adding up to more than \$16.6 billion in losses. In Hawaii, where households are often multigenerational and the cost of living is high, scammers target older adults through grandparent emergencies, fake banks and collections notices, romance profiles, government impersonation, and Medicare fraud. Adults 60 and older lose the most money, but adults ages 18 to 29 report being scammed more often than any other age group. **SMP Hawaii** breaks down the most common scams reaching our older adults and the simple steps families can take to stop them. Learn the warning signs, share them at home, and help SMP Hawaii swat those scams. Call 808-586-7281 (Oahu) or 1-800-296-9422 (toll-free). Leave a detailed message and a local counselor will return your call within 24-48 hours. Please clearly state the best day, time, and phone number to reach you. If you believe your personal information has been stolen, call 911 and contact your financial institutions immediately.