

KAUAI PLANNING & ACTION ALLIANCE, INC.

Bringing people together to create a better future for Kaua'i

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CONTACT INFORMATION:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TRAININGS ON KAUAI FOR CERTIFIED SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELORS

(Lihu'e, Hawaii, November 23, 2005) – Kaua'i Planning & Action Alliance (KPAA) is offering the first in a series of professional substance abuse training workshops for substance abuse counselors, mental health professionals, social workers and those who would like to become certified substance abuse counselors (CSACs).

“Really Best Addiction Counseling Practices: What Every Counselor Should Know”, a one-day workshop, will be presented by Michael J. Taleff, PhD, CSAC, MAC, is scheduled for December 7, 2005 at the Kauai Beach Hotel and Resort (formally the Radisson) from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Taleff, who is well known in the field of addiction and treatment, will present this best practices workshop focusing on effective, research-based techniques.

In partnership with the County of Kauai to implement the *Community Drug Response Plan*, KPAA was awarded funding, through the U. S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Methamphetamine program, to implement these training events.

The workshop will satisfy the requirements for 6 hours of continuing education credits for substance abuse counselors and other mental health professionals. The cost is \$25.00 and includes continental breakfast, lunch, and training materials.

According to Diane Zachary, President and Chief Executive Officer of KPAA, “providing educational opportunities on Kauai, for professionals in this field, will enable our island to better meet the needs of recovering substance abusers and have a positive impact on reducing drug use in the community.”

These trainings are a component of KPAA's drug use mitigation goal and community based efforts to combat the "ice" epidemic and other illegal drugs through treatment and prevention programs. "These workshops are a great chance for professional CSACs and those who are currently enrolled in coursework to complete their certification, to earn the continuing education credits they need," says Zachary.

The prospect of new residential treatment facilities on Kauai will also require trained, certified substance abuse counselors to fill staff positions. This series is a way for residents in the fields of healthcare, counseling and substance abuse treatment, to enhance their knowledge and have greater success and impact in their role as health care providers.

Information and registration forms for the workshop are posted on KPAA's website at www.kauainetwork.org or, call KPAA's Lihue office at 632-2005. To be added to the mailing list for future trainings, and for questions about the series, please contact the workshop facilitator, Jude Chamberlin, CSAC, SAP, at 635-0061.

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