

## *Kaua'i Planning & Action Alliance, Inc.*

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

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CONTACT INFORMATION:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
(Photos attached)

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### **KPAA PRESENTS KAUA'I COMMUNITY CHAMPION AWARDS**

(Lihu'e, Hawaii, July 8, 2005) – Kaua'i Planning & Action Alliance (KPAA) has announced the recipients of the 2005 Kaua'i Community Champion Awards – **Kaua'i Hospice, Inc. and The Salvation Army, Lihu'e Corps**. The annual award, now in its fourth year, was presented June 28 at KPAA's annual meeting at Kaua'i Lagoons.

This year, the Kaua'i Community Champion Awards was generously sponsored by King Auto Center. Emil Remigio, representing King Auto Center, presented each award recipient a check for \$500. The annual award honors exemplary achievement in the island's nonprofit organizations and the important contributions they make toward improving and strengthening our community. In addition to the cash award, recipients were given a *kahili*, representing the excellence of their organization.

Accepting the award for Kaua'i Hospice were Phil Clark, Executive Director, and board member Carmen Wong. Captain Mitham Clement accepted on behalf of The Salvation Army, Lihu'e Corps. "It is a pleasure to recognize and support the vital work each of these organizations provides to Kaua'i. They consistently demonstrate excellence in their programs, are firmly committed to fulfilling their mission, have the strong support of their board and volunteers, and they address critical challenges on the island. They are indeed champions in their fields," says KPAA President and CEO Diane Zachary.

Both The Salvation Army and Kaua'i Hospice acknowledge that much of their success depends on the wealth of volunteer hours contributed by board members, individuals, and community agencies that all collaborate on shared goals.

The keys to success for The Salvation Army, Lihu'e Corps include a supportive and interactive Board of Directors; cultivating partnerships with other community organizations; and

fostering appreciative and cooperative relationships with community volunteers. The Family Service Center, Thrift Store and Kokua Soup Kitchen are three important programs in Lihue that provide assistance to people in need.

The Kaua'i Hospice's keys to success include committed volunteers who offer a "special kind of caring"; recruiting and retaining a dedicated and active Board of Directors; empowering others through education to cope with end of life issues; and striving for excellence in every program, goal and objective. Each of their programs is designed to support and ensure the highest quality of life for terminally ill patients and their families.

Previous recipients of this award include Kaua'i Food Bank, AYSO Regions 940 and 941, Friends of Kamalani, Hui O Laka – Koke'e Natural History Museum, Waipa Foundation, Mokihana Festival and Kawaihau District Leadership Coalition. The criteria for the Kaua'i Community Champion selection process was established by KPAA's Board of Directors. They looked for organizations that:

- contribute to the strength of the community and our quality of life;
- demonstrate leadership in their field;
- have strong community support;
- have the active involvement of the board of directors and volunteers;
- embody one or more of Kaua'i's community values as stated in the 2000 General Plan Update;
- have a reputation for excellence and accomplishment; and
- have proven organizational longevity and sustainability.

KPAA's annual meeting also featured keynote speaker Clyde T. Hashimoto, a Kalaheo School teacher and recipient of Hawai'i's 2005 National Milken Educator Award. Hashimoto shared his expertise on education and discussed how the community can help support and strengthen our public schools. Volunteers in the classroom and to help organize school events and activities are of tremendous value, according to Hashimoto.

KPAA is a membership organization composed of non-profit and community-based groups, government agencies, and business associations that work together on issues confronting our island to achieve effective, long-lasting solutions. For more information call KPAA at 632-2005 or visit their website at [www.kauainetwork.org](http://www.kauainetwork.org).

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