

KAUAI PLANNING & ACTION ALLIANCE, INC.

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

DATE: January 4, 2005

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KPAA LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE

(Lihue, Hawai'i, January 4, 2005) – Kaua'i Planning & Action Alliance (KPAA) has announced the launch of a new, redesigned web site for and about the nonprofit and community groups that provide services on Kaua'i.

The site, www.kauainetwork.org, has several purposes. It will enable community members and agencies to find appropriate services to meet their needs or the needs of their clients in a wide variety of areas. Kaua'i nonprofits can promote their services by being included in the database of organizations. The site also provides information and links to help strengthen the island's nonprofits.

"Our goal was to make this information more accessible to the public and to community organizations on Kaua'i," says Diane Zachary, President and CEO of KPAA. "Using the Internet is a great way to open doors on many levels – outreach, communication and networking. It can be especially helpful to nonprofits that want to benefit from networking with other organizations to build new partnerships, reduce duplication of services and enhance quality of service."

"The site is user-friendly and the content provides benefit to both residents and a wide range of nonprofit entities," says Rayne Regush, web site administrator. "Visitors to the site can easily find information by using a search engine or a site map. The navigational system is simple to follow and a person can search using keywords as well."

The Web site was created by DataSpace Industries (DSI) in Lihue. It was built upon the content of the original site developed a few years ago. "Key changes are the capability that allows the public to easily search for the information they want and for KPAA staff to manage the site and maintain up-to-date information, data, links and content. Plus there's plenty of new information," Zachary said.

The improved site contains an expanded section called "Resources for Nonprofits". It includes numerous links to assist nonprofit organizations address the challenges of

securing sustainable income, finding volunteers, developing a strong organization, and providing excellent service to clients or constituents. Topics include Funding Sources, Grantwriting, Organizational Development, Training, Volunteers, Government, and Other Useful Links.

An important component of the new website's design is the online, searchable "Directory of Community Organizations" database. KPAA is in the process of gathering updated information from all of Kaua'i's nonprofit organizations about their services, thereby creating a handy reference for the community. This section will provide information on hundreds of Kaua'i nonprofit agencies and community-based programs.

The new format will allow organizations to easily update their listing to keep it up-to-date. "Our goal is to have people update their organization's description and services online," Regush indicated. The database is designed to benefit both the public seeking services and nonprofit and community groups providing valuable services. Users are able to search for an organization by name, by type of service, by geographic area, and other criteria to locate the programs that best suit the user's needs.

Kaua'i Planning & Action Alliance is a membership organization for Kaua'i's nonprofits, government agencies, and community groups. KPAA believes that effective, long-lasting solutions to our island-wide issues require collaboration and focused action by a broad cross-section of our population. It provides a forum for nonprofit and community groups, county, state and federal agencies and business associations to work together to find long-term solutions to issues confronting our island home.

Information on KPAA and its programs can be found on the website, along with membership information, a calendar of KPAA committees working on priority goals and publications and reports.

For more information visit the new web site at www.kauainetwork.org or call KPAA at 632-2005.

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