November 2014 Newsletter

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KPAA Membership Meeting will Highlight the 2014 Kauai Youth Report

Please join us for our Winter Membership Meeting on Friday, December 12th from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. at Kauai Community College, OCET Building, Room 106 C/D. Featured on the agenda is the recently published Kauai Youth Report, the second report put out by the Keiki to Career initiative. Find out how our young people are doing from data on 26 indicators of youth development. Outcomes focus on four categories: kindergarten readiness; academic success; college and career readiness; health and well-being; and connectedness and contribution. To view or download a copy, go to http://keikitocareer.org/outcomes/. Open to the public, registration and refreshments begin at 2:30 and the program starts at 3:00. Your RSVP will assist us in planning refreshments; contact 632-2005 or kpaa@kauainetwork.org.

Kauai Imaginarium on Design Thinking

Nearly one hundred Department of Education students, teachers and principals from 5 public schools as well as community partners participated in an exciting 2-day Design Thinking workshop on October 6 and 7. They learned a process to find innovative solutions to challenges, based on the needs of those who will benefit from the solution and the use of prototypes to test solutions. Across the country, design thinking is gaining momentum in business and education sectors. Schools developed a set of opportunities where design thinking can be used at their school and created plans to share the process with other students and teachers.
KPAA was the organizer of this event. We extend warm thanks to the wonderful trainers, team coaches, volunteers and sponsors, that included: The Learning Coalition, Hale Uluwehi Charitable Fund, Public Schools of Hawaii Foundation, Young Brothers, Grove Farm Company, Bank of Hawaii, Kauai Community Federal Credit Union, Oceanit, Meneehune Water Company, Kauai Island Utility Cooperative and the County of Kauai.

**Kauai’s Tourism Strategic Plan**

Through a contract with the County, KPAA is facilitating an advisory group of tourism stakeholders to lay the groundwork for an update to the 2006-2015 Kauai Tourism Strategic Plan. The plan’s current applicability, priorities and progress have been assessed through an on-line survey for industry stakeholders to comment on current and emerging trends, issues of concerns and opportunities. Next steps will be to set achievable priorities for the period 2015-2018 and define strategies to implement those priorities and measure progress. The Plan is scheduled for completion in June 2015.

**Questioning Your Property Tax Classification?**

The County Department of Finance has announced that qualified real property owners who believe their properties were given the wrong tax classifications for the 2014 tax year can apply for reclassification. Bill No. 2558, which was recently passed by the County Council, allows qualified real property owners a one-time reclassification for the current tax year. The deadline to apply for a reclassification is Wednesday, December 31. To be eligible for consideration, applicants must submit a new “Use Survey Form” to the Real Property Assessment office. Anyone with questions about their tax classification can call 241-4224 or log on to [www.kauai.gov/realpropertyclass](http://www.kauai.gov/realpropertyclass) to complete the required Use Survey Form.

**Give Back to Kauai by Donating to KPAA**

KPAA relies on the financial partnership of the community – that’s what enables us to serve Kauai and initiate programs that benefit the island. Your support of KPAA’s work helps us carry out our mission of “*bringing together diverse groups for collaborative planning and action to achieve targeted community goals.*” Please **Give Back to Kauai** by partnering with us through your financial contribution or donation of time or other resources. Donate securely online at [www.kauainetwork.org/donate-today](http://www.kauainetwork.org/donate-today). Working together we can achieve positive change. Mahalo!

**Facebook – Like Us!**

Kauai Planning & Action Alliance continues to post on Facebook the latest news about our activities and related member and community information. We invite you to **Like Us** at [http://www.facebook.com/kauainetwork.kpaa](http://www.facebook.com/kauainetwork.kpaa)

**Mahalo to KPAA's New & Returnning Members since August 2014**

**General Members**
- Catholic Charities Hawaii-Kauai Community Office
- Hale Opio Kauai, Inc.
• Kauai Visitors Bureau
• Wilcox Health Systems/Hawaii Pacific Health

Supporting Members
• Aunty Lilikoi Products

Patron Members
• Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort & Spa
• Saiva Siddhanta Church – Kauai’s Hindu Monastery

Become a KPAA Member!
Join others who believe that by collaborating and working together we can solve challenging issues facing Kauai. Becoming a member is easy - just follow this link to join a great network of people and organizations working to make Kauai an even better place for all of us.