2015 Annual Report

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KPAA
2959 Umi Street, Suite 201
Lihu'e, Hawai‘i 96766

Phone 808.632.2005
Fax 808.632.2018

kpaa@kauainetwork.org
www.kauainetwork.org
Lessons Learned

Kaua‘i Planning & Action Alliance’s mission is to encourage and create the space for collaboration and collective solutions to the island’s challenges. The organization is grounded in the community vision of the last General Plan.

As a result, over the years we have formed groups to work on issues as wide-ranging as combating substance abuse, improving public education, enhancing county and state parks, increasing sustainability, expanding renewable energy, and more. We have facilitated the development of forward-looking plans for several departments and economic sectors. And we have held public forums to focus attention, foster discussion and encourage action on issues as diverse as affordable housing, food self-reliance, transportation, and natural water eco-systems.

Several lessons have emerged from this work. First, Kaua‘i is blessed with incredible people willing to volunteer their time, talent and expertise on issues they are passionate about. They are a fabulous resource. Second, collaboration can be challenging; sometimes it’s difficult to set personal agendas aside to create shared agreements. When it works well, it’s intoxicating. Third, planning is creative and fun; turning plans into action is where the hard but vitally-important work begins, for that’s when change starts. Sometimes commitment drags at this point. And securing funding to support the transition from planning to action can be hard to obtain. Finally, change always takes more time than we hope and can be uncomfortable for some. Yet this is when persistence and commitment to action matter most.

Encouraging action for Kaua‘i,

Mark Hubbard
Chair, Board of Directors

Diane Zachary
President & CEO

KPAA 2015 Programs & Activities

Keiki to Career Kaua‘i (K2C)

- Keiki to Career Kaua‘i (K2C) continues to build partnerships with educators, nonprofits, government and businesses across the island to strengthen the network of services and supports for young people. Read more about this initiative at www.keikitocareer.org.

- Working with 40 community partner organizations, implementation of the 3-Year Navigation Plan moved forward, to develop confidence and skills in children and youth to help them succeed from birth through postsecondary opportunities to careers.

  - The High School to Post Secondary Committee worked to improve the transition from high school to college, and to create more relevance for high school students by increasing access to internships, guest speakers, job shadows, financial literacy and entrepreneurship.

  - The Birth to Grade 3 Committee worked to educate parents and caregivers on child development and the importance of early learning; promote prenatal health care for expectant mothers and their babies; and ensure young children have access to quality early learning environments.

- The K2C Leadership Council guides K2c, tracks progress with objective data and adjusts strategies for maximum success.

- A State Grant-in-Aid (FY2016) submitted to the Legislature was approved in late 2015. Funds are to be released by the Governor in early 2016.

Youth Photo Challenge

- In August, Keiki to Career Kaua‘i launched Through the Eyes of Kaua‘i Youth, an online photo challenge for students in grades 6 through 12. We asked them two simple questions: What do you want to see MORE of on Kaua‘i? What do you want to see LESS of on Kaua‘i?

- Fifty-five student photographers, representing public, charter and private schools, submitted more than 150 beautiful, thought-provoking, imaginative and insightful photos. The body of work tells a story of what young people are thinking about the immediate world around them.

- Professional photographers and videographers Mike Coots, Denis Orme and Serge Marcil offered photography workshops and served as the photo jurors.

- On October 2, at the Exhibition Grand Opening, students participated in a candid youth dialogue with Kaua‘i leaders. The exhibit remained open to the public throughout October.

- All photo entries, may be viewed at www.kauaiphotochallenge.org.
Supporting Economic and Community Development

- At the request of the County Office of Economic Development, KPAA facilitated a 20-member stakeholder advisory group to update the Kaua‘i Tourism Strategic Plan 2006-2015 for fiscal years 2016-2018. To develop the plan, visitor industry stakeholders were surveyed to identify current issues and opportunities. The advisory group met seven times to review data and discuss trends and issues including results from a stakeholder survey. The draft plan was shared with a larger group of visitor industry stakeholders for feedback, with completion of the final plan in July.

- Mayor Bernard Carvalho appointed a Tourism Strategic Plan Implementation Committee to oversee work on the priority strategies. KPAA facilitated the work of this committee and the sub-committees formed around the priority strategies. The plan’s success will rely on the active involvement of industry stakeholders. A progress report, including data to measure success, will be issued in June 2016.

- At the request of the Mayor’s Office, KPAA help organize and facilitated a two-day Homeless Solutions Summit in November and December. The purpose of the cross-sector meeting was to develop collaborative short-term solutions to alleviate homelessness, with a focus on actions that could be taken by Kaua‘i’s faith-based community, with support from health and human service organizations and County and State agencies.

KPAA Member Services

- KPAA’s 2015 Annual Meeting in June “Understanding Kaua‘i’s Housing Shortage” featured a panel discussion with guest speakers Kamuela Cobb-Adams, County Housing Agency Director, Marie Williams, County Long-Range Planner and F. Lee Morey, Principal Broker, Coldwell Banker-Turtle Cove Realty. The presentation can be seen at www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZyI4ntdcj3I&feature=youtu.be.

- E-newsletters kept members and friends informed of KPAA activities, and postings on Facebook shared the latest news about our activities and community information. Find us at www.facebook.com/kauainetwork.kpaa.

Contract Services

- KPAA assisted the Kaua‘i Fire Department in developing a 4-year Strategic Plan. Drawing on a Strategic Plan Assessment conducted in 2014, a Steering Committee and 19-member Working Group met from February through August 2015 to create the Strategic Plan 2016-2019. New mission and vision statements were created, along with a set of values to guide all personnel in their duties and in the implementation of the plan’s strategic initiatives. The plan includes actions to strengthen departmental operations, better serve the public, enhance revenues and operate cost-effectively.

- Facilitated meetings of the Ho‘okele Community Council for the Hawai‘i Department of Education-Kaua‘i Complex Area. The council advises the complex area superintendent.

- Provided support to CH2M Hill in conducting community advisory committee meetings for the Kapa‘a Transportation Solutions Study, which was completed in August.

- Facilitated a public meeting in Kōloa for Hawai‘i Dairy Farms on the project’s Environmental Impact Study process.

- Assisted Kennedy-Jenks Consultants in facilitating a public meeting for the County’s Wastewater Division on the R-1 Recycled Water Project for Waimea Town.
Mahalo to KPAA's 2015 Sponsors & Donors

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Statement of Revenue, Expenses & Changes in Fund Balance (12/31/2015)

REVENUE
Government Grants
Other contributions, gifts and grants
Program service revenue
Other revenue
Total Revenue

EXPENSES
Salaries and wages
Employee benefits, payroll taxes and payroll service fees
Accounting fees
Professional fees
Advertising
Office expenses
Information technology
Occupancy
Travel
Conferences and meetings
Depreciation
Insurance
Other expenses
Equipment rental and leasing
Telephone
Training and professional development
Supplies
Dues and subscriptions
Bank fees
Total Expenses
Excess or (Deficit) for Year
Fund Balance at Beginning of Year
Fund Balance at End of Year