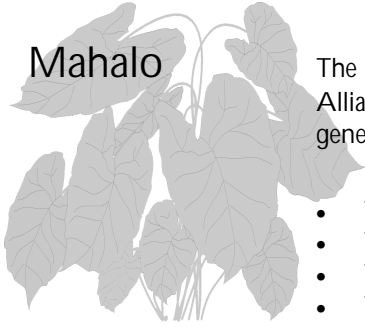


# Mahalo



The *Kaua`i Community Drug Response Plan* is the Kaua`i Planning & Action Alliance's first signature report. This plan could not be possible without the generous financial support of:

- The Hawai`i Community Foundation's Mo' Bettah Together Program
- The Case Foundation
- The County of Kaua`i
- The State of Hawai`i, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division
- First Hawaiian Bank
- Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.

We would like to thank the over 90 volunteers who served on the various committees. They generously shared their insights and knowledge and worked together selflessly and collaboratively (which is not always easy to do).

Bringing people together to collaborate doesn't work unless you have a comfortable and inviting place to meet. Aloha to the County of Kaua`i, State Department of Health, Hina Mauka and our always dependable Queen Liliu`okalani Children's Center for your hospitality.

We would like to thank Sherry Wong of Channing Bete Company, Inc. for her assistance in facilitating and writing the prevention component of this plan.

Special thanks goes to our consultant Nadine Nakamura of NKN Project Planning for her excellent guidance in drafting this plan and her skill in writing the final report. Many thanks to all who carefully reviewed the draft plan and offered their comments, suggestions, and support. We also appreciate the creativity of Linda Greenhow of Kaua`i Design Graphics who helped to make this plan presentable.

The seed of this effort traces back to the Garden Island Resource Conservation & Development, Inc. Its vision, three years ago, was to improve the networking and collaboration infrastructure on Kaua`i. This is the first tangible product of your vision and unwavering commitment.

Finally, we would like to thank Mayor Bryan Baptiste and Anti-Drug Coordinator Roy Nishida for their leadership in initiating this effort and their support of collaboration-building and community-based planning on Kaua`i.

Diane Zachary, President & CEO  
Kaua`i Planning & Action Alliance  
May 21, 2004



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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### **Kaua`i's Drug Problem**

Kaua`i is known world-wide as a beautiful and popular tropical resort destination. But like a growing number of American communities, Kaua`i has a serious and mounting drug problem that affects many aspects of our lives. A few statistics and anecdotal data provide a snapshot of the drug problem on Kaua`i.

- "80-90% of all crimes committed on Kaua`i are drug-related."
- Of the island's population of 58,463, 1,085 adults and 195 adolescents receive some level of treatment for drug abuse each year.
- Over 17% of adolescents report exposure to illicit drug use in school and community.
- About 750 individuals who are on probation, parole, drug court, or awaiting sentencing need help to re-integrate into the community, but services are fragmented or not available.

### **Community Response**

The community's response to this drug problem has been to create a comprehensive, integrated plan that encompasses the elements of drug prevention, enforcement, treatment and community integration. The plan includes a vision of Kaua`i in five years, and specific two-year action plans that will guide us in achieving the vision.

### **Prevention**

The prevention plan divides the county into three districts, coinciding with school district complexes, West, Central, and East Kaua`i. Goals are targeted to the specific risk and protective factors identified in each district.

**West Kaua`i** priority 1-2 year goals include:

1. Reduce alcohol and drug use of people of all ages by increasing community awareness, preventing underage access, enforcing laws, and mobilizing the community.
2. Help youth and parents/guardians strengthen family bonds by creating opportunities for teens to contribute to the family, improve communications, and resist peer pressure.

3. Promote youth social development by creating opportunities to bond with an individual who promotes healthy beliefs and clear standards.

**Central Kaua`i** priority 1-2 year goals include:

1. Support broad-based, interfaith, interracial activities for youth to increase youth and family attachment to the community.
2. Reduce alcohol and drug use of people of all ages by increasing community awareness, preventing underage access, enforcing laws, and mobilizing the community.
3. Enhance students' self-esteem, feelings of self-efficacy, ability to make decisions, and ability to resist peer and media pressure to increase their commitment to school.

**East Kaua`i** priority 1-2 year goals include:

1. Help youth and parents/guardians strengthen family bonds by creating opportunities for teens to contribute to the family, improve communications, and resist peer pressure.
2. Promote early intervention literacy programs for the lowest achieving elementary school students.
3. Promote mentoring, community service, social competence training, and family activities to build youths' sense of personal responsibility for self and community.

**Island-wide** priority 1-2 year goals include:

1. Promote after-school, weekend, and summer youth and family activities that encourage a drug-free life.
2. Increase public transportation access to and from activities.
3. Strengthen and develop the organizational structure of the Kaua`i Drug Prevention Coalition (KDPC).

**Enforcement**

Priority 1-2 year goals include:

1. Monitor and support lobbying efforts that support drug enforcement, support intervention programs, and eliminate inconsistencies in the law.
2. Identify and secure funding for law enforcement and support funding for intervention programs.

3. Prevent illegal drugs from entering Kauaʻi at all points of entry, including harbors, airports, and postal services.
4. Provide an effective way for the community and police to work together to curb illegal drug activity on Kauaʻi.
5. Educate the community on the role of law enforcement, intervention programs, and the criminal justice system.

## **Treatment**

Priority 1-2 year goals include:

1. Coordinate communications and services with planned on-island treatment facilities and promote additional facilities.
2. Provide financial assistance to individuals to cover incidental costs of off-island residential treatment.
3. Develop a substance abuse help line to provide referrals and information to individuals and families in need.
4. Educate the community on the causes and treatment of substance addiction.
5. Provide professional training opportunities for substance abuse counselors, mental health professionals, and social workers.
6. Designate safe drop-in facilities throughout the island and coordinate services so that personnel at these facilities can provide resources for family, addicts, and others.

## **Community Integration**

Priority 1-2 year goals include:

1. Develop “store-fronts” or one-stop shops where ex-drug users can make a transition to a drug-free life in their own communities.
2. Identify and train “navigators” who will work with ex-drug users leaving treatment and/or incarceration until they are solidly integrated into the community.
3. Identify and work with community-based and faith-based organizations to provide community integration support services.
4. Work with Kauaʻi Community Correctional Center to help ex-offenders develop exit plans that will ensure their successful community integration and support families in the process.

## **Coordination & Implementation**

Priority 1-2 year goals include:

1. Identify and secure sustainable funding for drug programs.

2. Adopt a management system to coordinate implementation of the plan over the next two years, including measuring outcomes.
3. Develop and make available information on drug-related community resources to help individuals and families.
4. Coordinate messages to the public to heighten awareness of the goals, activities, and outcomes of the *Kaua`i Community Drug Response Plan*.

## **Funding**

In Year 1, \$1.4 million in federal funding has been secured for Kaua`i through the efforts of U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye. Year 2 funds have been earmarked, but not secured.

In May 2004, the State Legislature approved funding for treatment and prevention. The amount of funds available to Kaua`i, and whether or not the funds will be released is not known at the time of this writing.

## **Keys to Success**

To ensure that the *Kaua`i Community Drug Response Plan* is effectively implemented and drug use is reduced over the next two years, we will need:

- Committed and sustained participation of members on the action team, committees, and coalition.
- Continued, ongoing support by the Administration and County Council.
- Willingness of current and new nonprofit and community-based programs to seek funds for and implement various activities in the plan.
- To secure a new, sustainable funding source for drug programs.
- Willingness to amend and revise the plan over time to address lessons learned and changing conditions.
- Clearly defined outcomes to provide a measurement of success.