

**HAWAII STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
 1177 Alakea Street, Suite 402 • Honolulu, HI 96813 • Phone: (808) 587-0788 • [www.shpda.org](http://www.shpda.org)  
 Kupuna Advisory Council - Plan Development Committee

**DRAFT**

**Meeting Minutes**

October 29, 2024 | 11:30 AM Hawaii Time  
 Virtually via Zoom and Physical Meeting Location at  
 The Keoni Ana Building, 1177 Alakea Street, Suite 402

[https://www.zoomgov.com/rec/share/EaM02YFLzRPBQe5AhbmQfohnNDxMHMinY-8QomplzX4fcpMAYqxEdJRvX\\_B039v\\_alx9vUpDRDn73JCJ](https://www.zoomgov.com/rec/share/EaM02YFLzRPBQe5AhbmQfohnNDxMHMinY-8QomplzX4fcpMAYqxEdJRvX_B039v_alx9vUpDRDn73JCJ)

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**MEMBERS:** Melissa Ah Ho-Mauga, Derrick Ariyoshi, Michelle Cordero-Lee, Ritabelle Fernandez, Lindsey Ilagan, Jeanette Kojiane, Errol Kia'i Lee, Jinyong Lee, Melvin Sakurai, Brandy Shima, Warren Wong

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Poki'i Balaz, Nathan Hokama, Lawrence Nitz, Marilyn Seeley, Mia Taylor

**GUESTS:** Pedro Ayau-Aguiar, Tosa Lobendahn, Tani Salazar, Lori Tsuruda

**SHPDA:** John Lewin, Wendy Nihoa, Terry Visperas

**ATTENDANCE RECORD OF MEMBERS**

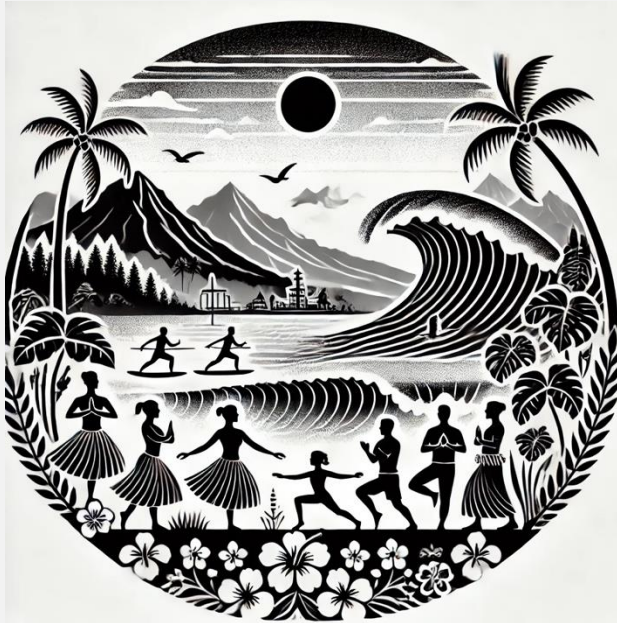
Date	11/2/23	12/8/23	1/12/24	1/25/24	10/29/24	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Melissa Ah Ho-Mauga	X	X	X	X	X					
Derrick Ariyoshi	O	X	O	X	X					
Poki'i Balaz	X	X	X	O	O					
Michelle Cordero	X	X	X	O	X					
Ritabelle Fernandez	X	X	X	X	X					
Nathan Hokama	X	X	X	X	O					
Lindsey Ilagan	X	X	O	X	X					
Jeanette Kojiane	X	X	X	X	X					
Jinyong "Jenny" Lee	X	X	O	O	X					
Errol Kia'i Lee	O	O	X	X	X					
Lawrence Nitz	X	X	X	O	O					
Melvin Sakurai	X	X	X	X	X					
Marilyn Seeley	X	X	X	X	O					
Brandy Shima	X	X	O	O	X					
Mia Taylor	O	O	O	O	O					
Warren Wong	X	X	X	X	X					

Legend: X=Present | O=Absent | /=No Meeting | \*-Chair | \*\*-Vice Chair

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Call to Order	A quorum was established. The meeting was called to order at 11:31 a.m. by M. Ah Ho-Mauga, Chairperson, Kupuna Advisory Council (KAC) presiding.	
Roll Call	Member roll call.	
Welcome	<p>M. Ah Ho-Mauga welcomed members and staff, offering a brief recap of past meetings. The focus was on the State Health Planning and Development Agency’s (SHPDA) application for the All-Payer Health Equity Approaches and Development (AHEAD) grant; the role the KAC would play in supporting grant implementation if Hawaii receives the award; and Kupuna Priorities.</p> <p>M. Ah Ho-Mauga shared six total states have since been awarded the AHEAD grant:            Cohort 1: Maryland and Vermont.            Cohort 2: Connecticut and Hawaii.            Cohort 3: Rhode Island and New York (in five downstate counties: Bronx, Kings, Queens, Richmond, and Westchester.</p>	
Minutes	<p>Motion to accept the minutes from the January 25, 2024, meeting.</p> <p>Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.</p> <p>Call for public testimony – none.</p>	
SHPDA Updates	<p>J. Lewin, Administrator, shared that the Hawaii AHEAD Grant is a significant achievement for the state, promising advancements in primary care and creating opportunities to enhance home- and community-based services. It will also address workforce shortages, improve access to care, and provide solutions for the uninsured, underinsured, and those affected by medical debt.</p> <p>SHPSA will also focus in 2025 on issues such as prior authorizations, increasing Medicare reimbursement rates for Hawaii, and establishing licensing reciprocity.</p> <p>Kupuna Pilot Project. J. Lewin introduced Dr. Pedro Ayau-Aguiar, a Gerontology Fellow in Hawaii, originally from Guatemala, who will return to his home country in 2025 to continue providing healthcare.</p> <p>Dr. Ayau-Aguiar reported the pilot project is underway but in its early stages. He has had the opportunity to learn from others working on the challenges faced by Kupuna and hopes to bring stakeholders together to develop a new system or project that addresses some of these issues.</p> <p>A discussion followed.</p> <p>Public testimony – none.</p>	

<p>Kupuna Advisory Council Priorities</p>	<p>Dr. Ayau-Aguiar provided a presentation summary of themes resulting from the issues and challenges previously provided by KAC Members with the goal of stimulating discussion and figuring out if there are any additions or comments; modify any of the common themes identified. The seven common themes are: Social Isolation, Education, Workforce Shortages, Affordability, Accessibility to Services, Caregiver Support, and Housing. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.</p> <p>In addition to Dr. Ayau-Aguiar’s summaries, the following key issues were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of affordable housing, emergency shelters, and homelessness among seniors</li> <li>• Healthcare workforce shortages and limited options for facility transfers</li> <li>• Insufficient care levels and placement options for seniors</li> <li>• Need for expanded home care services to support aging in place</li> <li>• Fragmented services across networks (e.g., Homeless, Kupuna Aging, Institutional) with opportunities for integration</li> <li>• Transportation issues and caregiver stress</li> <li>• Gaps in services for seniors not eligible for Medicare/Medicaid</li> <li>• Importance of continuity of care and adequate funding</li> <li>• The need for an inclusive, collaborative support community for Kupuna services, involving professionals, healthcare, social services, and volunteers.</li> <li>• Sustainable financial model for Kupuna services.</li> <li>• Role of Artificial Intelligence and Technology.</li> <li>• Digital Equity for Kupuna.</li> </ul> <p>Next Steps. Create a subcommittee to focus on financing for long-term care services for Kupuna. W. Nihoa, Comprehensive Health Planning Coordinator, to poll members for volunteers.</p> <p>Public testimony – none.</p>	<p>W. Nihoa to create poll.</p>
<p>Meeting Logistics</p>	<p>M. Ah Ho-Mauga suggested increasing the frequency. The next meeting date/time was not specified. W. Nihoa, will poll members to schedule next meeting.</p> <p>Agenda items: Financing Long-Term Care Committee; initiatives.</p>	<p>W. Nihoa to poll members to determine next meeting date/time.</p>
<p>Announcements</p>	<p>None.</p>	
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.</p>	

# KUPUNA HEALTH AND WELLBEING IN HAWAI'I



Priority Selection Process

Identifying Key Issues and Challenges



Housing

Social Isolation

Caregiver  
Support

Education

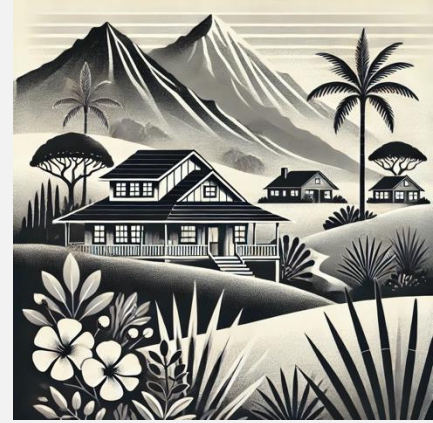
**Key Issues  
and  
Challenges**

Accessibility  
to Services

Workforce  
Shortages

Affordability

# HOUSING CHALLENGES



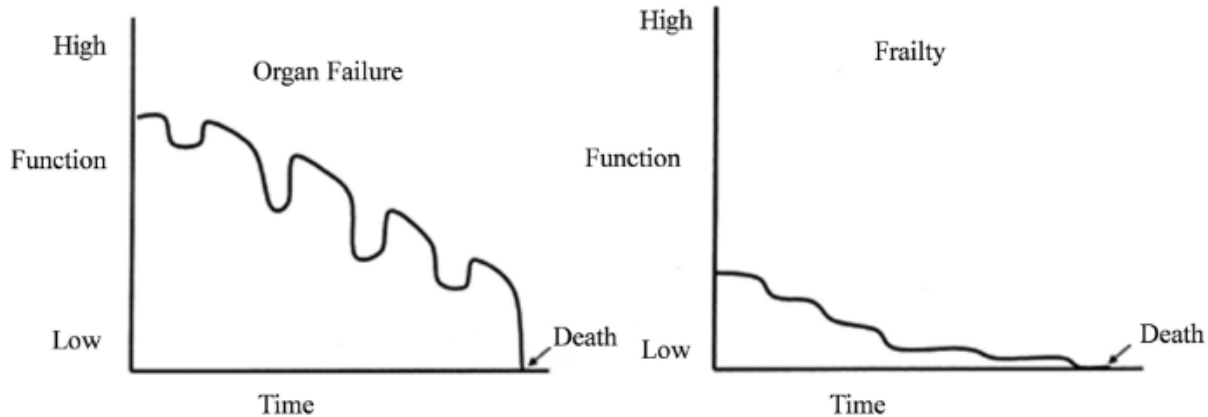
- Lack of affordable housing for seniors

Housing is an important SDH that can affect all aspects of health for Elders.

- Frequent ownership changes disrupting stability, conflicts with landlords.
- Highest requested topic at Elderly Affairs Division
- Increased elder homelessness (Kōkua Mau)
- Housing shortages contribute to workforce shortages

# HOUSING CHALLENGES

## Can I go home?



**Figure 1.** Theoretical trajectories of dying. Reproduced with permission from [Lunney et al. \(2002\)](#).

Cohen-Mansfield, Skornick-Bouchbinder,  
and Brill, "Trajectories of End of Life."

# SOCIAL ISOLATION

Social isolation is associated with increased mental health issues, chronic diseases, cognitive decline, and mortality



- Lack of access to transportation  
Decrease access to food, medical services, community engagement.
- Difficulty in finding new social networks after illness, loss of loved ones, or closures of social establishments



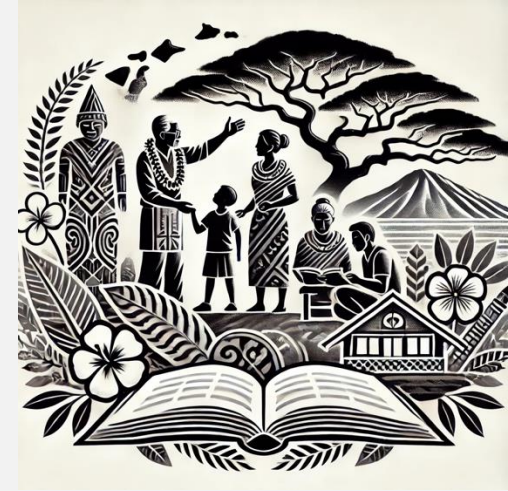
# CAREGIVER SUPPORT



- Poor identification of stressed caregivers
- Lack of mental health and support services for caregivers
- Difficult employment challenges
- Financial health risks for caregivers

# EDUCATION

- Challenges helping patients and families learn about how to manage caregiving needs
- Difficulty in accessing case management services and information on eldercare services



# ACCESSIBILITY TO SERVICES

Services that are lacking or insufficient

- Care Coordination
- Home Based Care Services
- Dementia-related services
- Outpatient palliative care

- Long-Term Care services
- Food and Nutrition services
- Native Hawai'ian Traditional Healing Services
- Services for Healthy Seniors



# AFFORDABILITY



- Increasing caregiving costs with rising life expectancy
- Affordability of services for those who don't qualify for Medicaid/Medicare but aren't wealthy
- Lack of a financially sustainable model for Long-Term Care (LTC) healthcare

# WORKFORCE SHORTAGES

- Healthcare workforce shortages impacting care quality
- Overburdened government support systems and staffing





Housing

Social Isolation

Caregiver  
Support

Education

Key Issues  
and  
Challenges

Accessibility  
to Services

Workforce  
Shortages

Affordability

THANK YOU