



## Executive Director's Monthly Message

Aloha and Mahalo for reading my monthly message.

As the 2005 school year begins, from pre-schoolers to college students, I extend my best wishes to you all for striving to achieve excellence in education.

There is much to be optimistic about for public housing in Hawai'i with still more to accomplish. We remain focused on repairing and maintaining public housing units across the state and continue to aggressively renovate vacant units. Our goal is to make housing units available to residents, while ensuring the dwellings are safe, clean and comfortable.

Guiding my actions, as always, is a commitment to do what is best for our residents. I hear daily from our residents who expect HCDCH management to be caring, trustworthy, fiscally responsible and results-oriented. My team and I are working hard to fulfill those expectations every day.

I appreciate your kokua in continuing to build on the progress we have made so far.

Sincerely,  
Stephanie Aveiro  
Executive Director



### Resident Services Section Phone Directory

#### Administrator

Barbara Arashiro 832-5900

#### Program Specialists

Michelle Kim	832-5909
Earl Nakaya	832-3837
Neal Ouchi	832-5911
Loren Okamura	832-5900
Allan Sagayaga	832-5908
Rick Sogawa	832-3835

#### Office Staff

Lois Gongob	832-5900
Dave Salangsang	832-3838
Sa Ai olupotea	832-3636

# RSS

## Self-Sufficiency Activities

# Adult Literacy Program



The Adult Literacy Program of Hawaii Literacy has been around for nearly 35 years. It trains volunteers to tutor functionally illiterate adults one-on-one under the internationally recognized Laubach Literacy Method. Throughout the year, the program holds volunteer orientations, primarily at the public libraries, Barnes & Noble and Borders Books. Afterwards, interested volunteers sign up for a 16 hour training course and make a six-month commitment to tutor another person on a weekly basis. Once they complete the course, they become nationally certified adult literacy tutors.

Hawaii Literacy simultaneously recruits and assesses adult students to determine their current reading and writing level. If they are a good match for the program, the students are then paired up with a volunteer tutor. Hawaii Literacy staff provides support along the way.

Hawaii Literacy is always looking for new volunteers and students. The completely free service has made tremendous changes in people's lives and helped many with getting new or better jobs. If you know of someone who may need our help, or if you would like to become a volunteer, please call Heidi or Laura at 537-6706. You can also visit our web-site at [www.hawaiiliteracy.org](http://www.hawaiiliteracy.org) to find out more.



**Association News**

# PUUWAI MOMI



Located right next to Aloha Stadium, "TOUCHDOWN" is more commonly heard at Puuwai Momi. But if the Puuwai Momi Resident Association (PMRA) had its way, people would also here the word "GOAL!" echoing in the streets.

Every Saturday in June, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., the PMRA in partnership with the Association of Youth Soccer Organization conducted a youth soccer clinic for children ages 5 to 13. The youth were split into two age groups where they went through fundamental soccer drills such as kicking, passing and dribbling.



By the second week, the older youth were playing simulated games against one another where they were put their new found skills to the test. It didn't matter who won as everyone had a chance to show off their athletic talents and sportsmanship. The PMRA's future plans involve conducting the clinics again and possibly creating Puuwai Momi's own youth soccer league. So look out football, soccer may just become Puuwai Momi's favorite sport!



**Association News**

## Laiola Swap Meet

The residents of Laiola held their summer swap meet on Saturday, August 6, 2005. Residents were given the opportunity to sell things and at the same time help with building the association's treasury.

Residents were treated with a food booth that sold drinks, hot dogs, chili dogs, sandwiches and saimin. Residents and neighbors brought their lawn chairs to enjoy the jazz band that had come to play. Several residents were brave enough to grab the microphone and sing along with the band. Later in the afternoon, resident were able to showcase their voices as karaoke was available.

According to Association President Maurice Hornos, the swap meet was an event that hopefully will get bigger in the future, but on this particular day, residents were able to enjoy the camaraderie of each other, the ono food and sweet jazz music.

Great job to everyone who participated in the event!





# COMMUNITY SERVICE

## Federal Housing Only:

The community service and self-sufficiency requirement is a legislative mandate by Congress as part of the Public Housing Reform Act of 1998. This provision requires low-income families in public housing to contribute or participate for 8 hours a month in a community service or self-sufficiency activity or a combination of both, as a condition of living in Federal Public Housing.

This community service requirement pertains to all members of the household 18-61 of age. You can claim an exemption from the community service requirement if you meet certain requirements.

To claim an exemption from the Community Service Requirement, complete the "Community Service Exemption Certification" forms which are available at your management office. If you have any specific questions, feel free to call your manager.

### Association News



## WAHIAWA TERRACE PRIDE !

Under the leadership of association President Amalau Lauti, the Wahiawa Terrace Resident Association held their project beautification and cleanup on July 23, 2005.

The keikis came out in full force, showing their pride for their community by picking up trash throughout the project. Adults weedwacked the long grass around the project and raked up loose trash.

With all the hard work, Wahiawa Terrace was transformed in a short time to a spotless community for all to enjoy. Great job to everyone who participated!



### Federal Requirement

## Resident Advisory Board

In 1998, the Resident Advisory Board (RAB) was formed to assist and make recommendations regarding HCDCH's 5-year and annual plan. The RAB consists of nineteen members from around the state. A breakdown of the number of representatives from each island are listed below.

<i>Kauai</i>	2
<i>Maui</i>	2
<i>Big Island</i>	2
<i>Oahu – Windward District</i>	2
<i>Oahu – Leeward District</i>	2
<i>Oahu - Central District</i>	2
<i>Oahu - Honolulu District</i>	5
<i>Section 8 based Representatives</i>	2

The RAB plays a very important role in providing input and suggested recommendations to HCDCH on the 16 components of the PHA- Plan. (see page 4 for an article on the PHA-Plan)

The RAB will be starting their montly meet-ings in September so if you have any comments or feedback on the PHA-Plan, talk to your asso-ciation President who can direct you to the RAB representative for your area.

For more information on the RAB, you can check out the HUD website at [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov).



## Safety and Security



# Poison Tips for your Household

**Our home is where we feel safe and protected. It's a place to relax and forget about all the troubles going on in the world. And it's especially a place where we want our keiki to be safe. Here are some poison prevention tips:**

### Store Poisons Safely

- **Store medicines and household products locked up, where children cannot see or reach them.**
- **Store poisons in their original containers.**
- **Use child-resistant packaging. But remember – nothing is child-proof!**

### Use Poisons Safely

- **Read the label. Follow the directions on medicines and products.**
- **Are children around? Take the product or medicine with you to answer the door or the phone.**
- **Lock products and medicines up after using them.**
- **Is it medicine? Call it medicine, not candy.**
- **Children learn by imitation. Take your medicines where children can't watch.**

### Teach Children to Ask First

- **Poisons can look like food or drink. Teach children to ask an adult before eating or drinking anything.**

**Follow these useful tips to keep everyone in your household safe!**

---

## The PHA Plan - The PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY Plan

The July issue of the RSS newsletter included an overview of the PHA Plan, describing the purpose of the Plan and how important the residents were in the planning process. In the next several months, we will be including a series of articles which will provide a short summary of the major components of the PHA Plan.

**Component 1: Housing Needs.** In this section, HCDCH provides information on housing needs statewide, including a description of the needs of income eligible families for public housing and the section 8 program on the waitlist. HCDCH also includes a description of how the needs will be addressed by listing the strategies that will be implemented to reach its goals.

**Component 2: Financial Resources.** This section provides information on HCDCH's funding sources and how those monies will be used during the next year.

**Component 3: PHA Policies on Eligibility, Selection and Admissions.** This section provides information on when eligibility is verified and what type of information is considered to determine an applicant's eligibility. There is

also information on how the waitlist is organized and identifies the groups that have a preference for admission. This section includes a list of reference materials on public housing occupancy. This section covers policies for both public housing and the section 8 tenant-based rental assistance program.

**Component 4: PHA Rent Determination Policies.** Section 4 covers the rent setting policies that HCDCH uses to determine any discretionary policies on rent, minimum rent, and when rent is re-calculated.

**Component 5: Operations and Management.** This section provides a brief description of the management structure of HCDCH and lists the programs administered by HCDCH. The reference materials also list the rules, standards and policies regarding how the public housing units will be managed.

Watch for next month's article which will cover different components of the PHA-Plan. Remember, the PHA Plan serves as a planning tool to help HCDCH decide how it will reach its goals.