



Above photo, from left to right: Keala Kaopuiki-Santos, project manager; Erica Yamauchi, director of communications and engagement; Naomi Leipold, project manager; Tia Hartsock, executive director; Kevin Thompson, project manager; Jodie Burgess, executive administrative assistant

Waiwai Fellowship

In June, we hosted the Waiwai Health Fellowship, a program offered by Kōkua Kalihi Valley in partnership with the Health Careers Opportunity Program. Each summer, youth from the Kalihi community come together to explore health and healing, and expand their understanding of community health and healthcare.



Denim Day

Tia supported Denim Day in April, a global initiative to educate the community about sexual assault.

The Zonta Club sponsors the annual Hawai'i Island event in cooperation with the County Mayor's Office, County Council, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney and Island of Hawai'i YMCA.



About the Office of Wellness and Resilience

Our goal is to strengthen our state systems and services, using trauma-informed care principles as strategies to make Hawai'i a trauma-informed state. We break down the barriers that impact the physical, social and emotional well-being of Hawai'i's people - from keiki to kūpuna.

Fully Staffed!

As of June 1, our office is now fully staffed. Tia was appointed in late December – just in time for legislative session – and Erica and Jodie joined her in late March.

Our project managers Keala (Maui), Naomi (O'ahu) and Kevin (Hawai'i Island) all reside on different islands and joined the office in May and June.

As a team, we are undergoing strategic planning around our mission, vision and values, as well as an updated action plan.

We will feature a member of the team in each newsletter moving forward.

Moving Forward with Momentum



Tia L. R. Hartsock,
Executive Director

As I reflect on my first six months in this role, I want to share just a few of our accomplishments so far, in addition to our legislative update at right.

We are working closely with the Judiciary and Dept. of Public Safety on training modules for their staff and policy development around workforce wellness. We also co-created the first graduate-level class on trauma-informed care at the University of Hawai'i Thompson School of Social Work & Public Health, offered in spring 2023. In addition, we are developing curriculum for a trauma-informed care certificate.

We are in the early stages of launching the first statewide wellness and resilience survey of our state workforce as part of an initiative to make the State of Hawai'i one of the best places to work, as well as creating social determinants of health dashboards we hope will be used to inform the state's future policy priorities.

We are now about a third of the way into our first 100 days as a fully staffed office. We look forward to continued progress as a team, and appreciate your partnership in this amazing opportunity we have to create a trauma-informed state.

Wishing you wellness!

Mālama pono,

Tia

Legislative Update



We are excited about the creation of the Mālama 'Ōhana Working Group (Senate Bill 295/Act 86) within our Office, which will hold statewide listening sessions and bring community partners together, including families with lived experience, to transform the child welfare system. Though House Bill 1340 did not pass, we are still committed to supporting the Breakthrough Therapies Taskforce in beginning a state conversation around innovative trauma treatments (namely, psilocybin and MDMA). Both groups plan to have their first meetings in August.

Several other bills supporting trauma-informed care passed, including our own "housekeeping" bill (Senate Bill 894/Act 87), which supports our long-term efforts in the system and collaboration with the Trauma-Informed Care Task Force.

Ola Pono O Kaua'i

Tia has been a featured speaker at various community events and conferences throughout the islands, including the Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools' Leadership Conference and the Annual Hawai'i Fentanyl & Addictions Summit. In early June, she gave remarks about our mental health workforce at the Ola Pono O Kaua'i conference, as did Gov. Josh Green. The conference theme was Mental Health Through the Lifespan, an important theme in our own work - wellness and resilience from keiki to kūpuna.



This newsletter is a publication of the Office of Wellness and Resilience within the Office of Governor Josh Green, M.D.

Let's talk story!

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