

VAL OKIMOTO

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MILILANI MAUKA - MILILANI - WAIPIO ACRES

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2020 NEWSLETTER



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Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

Thank you for the honor and privilege to serve as your voice and advocate in the state House of Representatives. My office continues to help with unemployment insurance and PUA claims, with nearly 50 of our neighbors helped so far.

If you are a small business owner, or struggling to pay your household bills, I encourage you to learn more about the programs highlighted on the opposite page.

My office will continue to work for you and Mililani as we recover from the pandemic. Please continue to reach out and share your thoughts and ideas concerning COVID-19 response, as well as ideas for legislation in 2021.

Although the Capitol remains closed, my office will continue to relay your concerns to appropriate departments and agencies, and assist with any pending unemployment insurance and PUA claims. Please be safe and diligent in doing all we can to keep ourselves and our loved ones healthy.

Sincerely,
Val

NEW CLASSROOM BUILDING



On July 15, 2020, I had the opportunity to participate in a site visit with other Mililani legislators to receive an update on the new classroom building at Mililani Middle School. The much anticipated new three-story building will provide 15 classrooms (five per floor) and over 34,000 square feet of space, along with a new parking area and utilities.

T. Iida Contracting broke ground on Building J eight months ago. The contractor and the Department of Education are working hard to complete the project on time. Summer construction started off with solid a foundation and columns on the first floor.

At the end of summer, the contractor poured concrete for the third and final floor, installed concrete blocks for interior walls on the first and second floors, and continued with electrical and plumbing site work.

SIGN UP FOR E-MAIL UPDATES

Visit: <http://eepurl.com/gvluxb> to sign up for my e-mail list. Mahalo!

RELIEF FOR SMALL BUSINESSES



SMALL BUSINESS
Relief and Recovery Fund

The purpose of this fund is to reimburse small businesses for costs incurred from business interruption due to Emergency Proclamations and help small businesses implement safety precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19

A business can receive a one-time reimbursement for expenses up to \$20,000 to each qualified business that has less than \$2,000,000 in gross annual revenue. Businesses that received grants under this program previously can reapply for up to \$20,000, less the amount previously received (i.e., if received only \$8,000 previously, can apply for \$12,000).

Eligible business types:

- a. Businesses registered with the Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and sole proprietors
- b. Non-profit organizations registered with the Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and designated as tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(19)

Examples of Eligible Expenses include: rent, utilities, payroll, physical Distancing Measures, reimbursable items for commercial fisherman.

For more information, please visit: oneoahu.org/small-business

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR HAWAI'I RESIDENTS



HO'ĀLA ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
FUNDED BY THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

The purpose of the Ho'āla Assistance Program (HAP) is to provide emergency financial assistance to Hawai'i residents facing hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. HAP is made possible through funding from the Hawaii Resilience Fund (Hawai'i Community Foundation and Pierre & Pam Omidyar) and the City and County of Honolulu as a part of the City & County of Honolulu's Household Hardship Relief Program. Assistance is awarded 1 per household and all payments are paid directly to the vendors.

What is funded? mortgage payment, rent payment, utility services, licensed child and elder services, extended medical coverage (COBRA), internet service (up to \$75 per month).

Funds will go directly to vendors whom you have an obligation with.

Eligibility for residents of the City and County of Honolulu:

- Honolulu County Resident
- 18 years of age or older
- Demonstrates a loss of income and/or increased financial need directly resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic
- Household income is 100% AMI or lower

For more information, please visit: hawaiiancouncil.org/hoala