



Governor's Message

No. 203

Flordeline B. Vila

COMMISSION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

1. What qualifications and experiences do you have that will benefit the commission? How has your past volunteer and community service activities/leadership roles prepared you for this position?

For the last 20 years, I have been passionately volunteering my help to anyone in need. I participated in several organizations and committees in doing events in our community. For the last 3 years, I was elected to chair an organization with 500+ members and successful able to revive and gain back the members trust in the organization with the help of my fellow officers. I believe that every member is valuable to the success of the organization.

2. What initiatives would you recommend to increase community service participation for all ages?

Leading a good example by gradually lending a helping hand to anyone in need and encourage others to participate.

3. What would be your top three priorities for the commission?

- 1) Grants are distributed to the right organization whose main objective and services benefit the State-at-Large.
- 2) Grant money are disbursed wisely.
- 3) Educate people the importance of volunteerism and encourage them to participate.

4. What impact do you think the current economic recession will have on volunteerism and what challenges and/or opportunities will the commission face during these times of economic uncertainty?

People became more active and aware about their communities and surroundings. People found more time and ways how they could help their neighbors and community survive. Love, Peace and Harmony flourish within the communities which made people closer to one another.

The commission has an opportunity to get more people involve in their communities by educating people that volunteerism is very important to the success and growth of their community.

Chita Stewart
Chair

Donovan Dela Cruz
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Hawai'i Commission for National and Community Service

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To: Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Higher Education

From: Chita Stewart, Chair
Hawaii Commission for National and Community Service

Date: March 30, 2010

Subject: GM – 203 - Consideration and Confirmation of Flordeline B. Vila to the Hawaii
Commission for National and Community Service

Madame Chair, my name is Isaac Watson and I am the Executive Director of the Hawaii Commission for National and Community Service. I am here today to support the reappointment of Ms. Flora Vila to the Hawaii Commission for National and Community service for the next three years.

As a current member of the Hawaii Commission, Ms. Vila has contributed tremendously to the growth and stability of the commission. As a community representative, Ms. Vila's knowledge of community problems and needs has helped the Commission develop its goals, objectives and priorities as to the type of services that are needed in our community. Her commitment to serving on the Commission as well as her involvement in national service is exemplified by her willingness to take personal leave from her job on Lanai to attend and participate in our meetings. Ms. Vila has become very familiar with the federal rules and regulations of the program and is able to make qualified decisions in helping the Commission make a difference in our community, as well as develop high quality national service programs in our state.

Madame Chair, I strongly urge your support in reappointing Ms. Flora Vila to the Commission in order that she may continue to provide her expertise and insight in helping the Commission to fulfill the more comprehensive role envisioned for the Commission in order to foster and expand an ethic of service and volunteerism throughout the state.