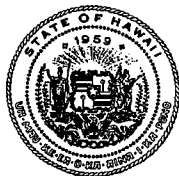


**GM442**

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO, M.D.  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P.O. Box 3378  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

### Senate Committee on Health

### G.M. 350, G.M. 417, G.M. 441 & G.M. 442, Gubernatorial Nomination for Consideration and Confirmation to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Service Area Boards

Testimony of Chiyome Leinaala Fukino, M.D.  
Director of Health

April 13, 2010, 2:00 p.m.

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health strongly supports the confirmation of **G.M. 350**,  
2 Colleen O'Sullivan, R.N. (6/30/11) to serve on the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Hawai'i Service  
3 Area Board (HSAB); **G.M. 417**, Ellen Alissa Heid (6/30/14) to serve on the Mental Health and  
4 Substance Abuse, O'ahu Service Area Board (OSAB); **G.M. 441**, Eloise Joey Enos (6/30/14) and  
5 **G.M. 442**, Peter Gonzalez (6/30/11) to serve on the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Maui Service  
6 Area Board (MSAB) for terms to expire as parenthetically indicated.

7 **Fiscal Implications:** Not applicable.

8 **Purpose and Justification:** To confirm the appointments of Colleen O'Sullivan, R.N.; Ellen Alissa  
9 Heid; Eloise Joey Enos and Peter Gonzalez to serve on the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Service  
10 Area Boards on Hawai'i, O'ahu and Maui respectively.

11 Pursuant to Chapter 334-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes on Service Area Boards, the members of  
12 the Service Area Board are service area residents, who are consumers or nonproviders of mental health  
13 services and service area providers with a majority being non-state employees and nonproviders of  
14 mental health or other health services.

1           **Colleen O’Sullivan**, community member, is being recommended for her first four-year  
2 appointment to the Hawaii Service Area Board (HSAB). Ms. O’Sullivan currently works as the Clinical  
3 Administrator at North Hawai`i Hospice and has lived and worked on the Big Island for the past 20  
4 years. A significant portion of Ms. O’Sullivan’s work history has been related to the behavioral and  
5 mental health field on the island of Hawai`i. Specifically, she has worked with the high-acuity Felix-  
6 eligible youth in the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division, the zero-to-three aged group in the  
7 Healthy Start Program, and in the Psychiatric Unit of the Kona Community Hospital as a Clinical RN.  
8 Ms. O’Sullivan’s experience working with children and families ranging from zero-to-three up to the  
9 end of life, allows her to bring a child and family centered perspective to the HSAB in advocating for  
10 health and substance abuse services on the island of Hawai`i.

11           **Ellen Alissa Heid**, a consumer representative, is being recommended for reappointment to a  
12 second term on the Oahu Service Area Board (OSAB). Currently the chairperson of the Board, Ms.  
13 Heid has served with compassion and enthusiasm in advocating for people not only with mental illness  
14 but also people living with HIV/AIDS. She is committed to live her recovery by not only dealing with  
15 her own mental illness, but by being a lightning rod in helping to improve the mental health system in  
16 Hawaii. Thus, with this passion and desire, Ms. Heid pursued and attained Masters Degrees from the  
17 University of Hawaii at Manoa in Social Work in 2006 and in Political Science in 1992 with a focus on  
18 Civil Rights and Civil Law. Although Ms. Heid has worked on a paid part-time basis, where she  
19 focused her energies in financial counseling for consumers with mental illness and in the housing field;  
20 her volunteer activities have been exemplary, not only locally but also nationally. Some of her volunteer  
21 activities have been at United Self Help, Helping Hands Hawaii, Steadfast Housing, the Mental Health  
22 Services Research, Evaluation, and Training Program, the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and with the  
23 National Association of State Mental Health Program in Washington, D.C.

1           **Eloise Joey Enos** from the island of Moloka`i is being recommended for an appointment to the  
2 Maui Service Area Board (MSAB). A lifelong resident of Hawai`i, Ms. Enos received a Bachelor's  
3 Degree in Criminal Justice. She is fluent in the Hawaiian language and currently works as a substitute  
4 teacher at Kualapuu School on Moloka`i. Ms. Enos is a caregiver for her brother who was diagnosed  
5 with serious and persistent mental illness at an early age, which led to her involvement with NAMI and  
6 her attendance at several conferences on Oahu through the Department of Health's Mental Health  
7 Transformation Incentive Grant. This experience has made Ms. Enos a valuable educational resource  
8 for families on Moloka`i who face similar challenges. Through her work with youth from Middle  
9 School and High School, Ms. Enos has a deep understanding of the needs and special issues facing these  
10 youth who live with mental illness, and she has become a strong advocate for this population to have a  
11 "voice" on the MSAB.

12           **Peter Gonzalez**, consumer representative from Moloka`i, is being recommended for his first  
13 year appointment on the Maui Service Area Board (MSAB). Mr. Gonzalez is a Hawaii Certified Peer  
14 Specialist and spent three years on the State Council on Mental Health (SCMH), where he advocated for  
15 services for consumers on Moloka`i. In 2009, Mr. Gonzalez resigned from his position on the SCMH to  
16 focus on his own mental health challenges. He has since renewed his relationship with his  
17 psychotherapist and has better insights into his recovery. Mr. Gonzalez has also developed a passion  
18 coupled with knowledge about mental illness by being invited to several mental health conferences on  
19 the mainland. He continues to pursue his goal of attaining his Associate's Degree.

20           We respectfully request your favorable consideration in confirming the appointment of Colleen  
21 O'Sullivan, Ellen Heid, Eloise Joey Enos and Peter Gonzalez to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse  
22 Service Area Boards.

23           Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of these volunteers to become Service  
24 Area Board representatives on their islands.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
**VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND SERVICES FOR THE BLIND**

P.O. Box 1088, KAUNAKAKAI, HAWAII 96748  
TELEPHONE No.: 553-9021  
FAX No.: 558-8043

March 24, 2010

Hawai'i Senate Health Committee  
David Y. Ige, Chair  
415 S. Beretania St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Confirmation of Peter Gonzalez

Aloha Senators,

This letter is to support the reconfirmation of Peter to the State Council on Mental Health.

I have been personally acquainted with Peter over the last 25 years and have witnessed his struggles with long term mental health issues, his acceptance of services, and successful adaptation to life here given his difficulties.

His life today seems more stable and functional. I have seen his involvement in the community through the Drop in Center and as well as on various committees dealing with mental health issues.

Peter is both a consumer of mental health services and a community advocate. He is well aware of what is needed and especially what is lacking in our mental health service system. As the Moloka'i representative and state advocate, it is my belief that he will do well in facilitating the entry into services for consumers within the mental health system.

I urge you to reconfirm his membership on the State Council.

Sincerely,

Jerry Mina, M.Ed.  
Certified Rehabilitation Counselor

MOLOKA'I

COMMUNITY  
HEALTH CENTER

April 4, 2010

State Council on Mental Health

RE: Letter of Support for Mr. Peter Gonzalez

To Whom It May Concern,

It is with pleasure that I put forth this letter of recommendation for Mr. Peter Gonzalez, who is applying to be a Board Member on the State Council of Mental Health. I have known Mr. Gonzalez for about 3 years now and have had the privilege of working with him in a professional capacity as his psychotherapist. Throughout this time, I have been afforded the tremendous opportunity to watch him develop his personal insights and professional development as an individual who is both coping with and surviving from a lifetime of mental illness. Mr. Gonzalez suffers from a long history of schizoaffective disorder, depressed mood, and anxiety symptoms, which has had a significantly negative impact on his personal life, experiences, and relationships. Despite these difficulties, he has been able to demonstrate his resiliency in his growth as a person and cultivate both an enduring family and lasting marital relationship.

Another impressive aspect of Mr. Gonzalez is his passion and commitment to serve the Molokai community and strong desire to improve the systems of mental health care on island. This is evidenced by his past work as a board member of the State Council on Mental Health, recent certification as a Peer Specialist, and active involvement in writing for and securing a grant from the state's Mental Health Transformation – State Incentive Grant team. In fact, his strong desire to play an active role in “transforming” the current mental health system of care on Molokai has resulted in his pursuit for a college degree at Maui Community College – Molokai Campus. It is because of this passion and desire to improve himself, actively recover from his mental illness, advocate for all consumers of mental health services, and enhance the quality of primary health care services for the Molokai community that I feel Mr. Gonzalez is a perfect fit for the mission and vision of the State Council on Mental Health.

On a personal level, Mr. Gonzalez is a wonderful human being who continues to work hard to improve himself and survive from his mental illness. He is often easy going, personable, and has a great sense of humor. Mr. Gonzalez demonstrates good responsibility, accountability, persistence, a hard work ethic, and most importantly, a desire to stay open to learning new things that will benefit his own personal development

improve the community he lives in. I have no doubt that he will contribute actively and bring a strong sense of advocacy and passion to the State Council on Mental Health. Futhermore, he will provide a much needed voice for the people on Molokai, most especially for those individuals and families who suffer from the debilitating effects of mental illness. I recommend him without reservation and believe he is very deserving of the honor and privilege to serve as a Board Member on the State Council on Mental Illness.

I appreciate your time and consideration of my support letter for Mr. Gonzalez as you consider the many qualified applicants who are interested in serving on the State Council on Mental Illness. Should you have any questions, concerns, or wish for further communication regarding my recommendation, please feel free to contact me at (808) 553-5038.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darryl S. Salvador, Psy.D.  
Director, Behavioral Health Services  
Licensed Clinical Psychologist  
Molokai Community Health Center

UNIVERSITY of HAWAII®  
**MAUI COLLEGE**



April 1, 2010

To whom it may concern:

Letter of recommendation for Peter Gonzalez

Peter has been my student at Maui Community College for the past two semesters. Peter is a conscientious student and exemplary in his efforts to overcome his handicaps. My daughter has mental illness and I am very familiar with how difficult it is to be motivated to overcome handicaps.

Although Peter has had many issues in the past, he has not let them hold him back. His attitude is focused and he is determined to make the best of his life.

In my classes, Peter has come to class regularly, asks questions, is interested in how what he learns is applied in life. He has learned PowerPoint in one of my classes and then he used it to make a public presentation. He is a great example to anyone as to how to overcome the seemingly impossible and make a better life for himself.

I highly recommend Peter for this scholarship as he exemplifies the type of student that can be best helped by an education.

Please contact me if necessary at [brucesheri@aol.com](mailto:brucesheri@aol.com) or call me at 808-2985-1574.

Bruce Yamashita  
MSEE, MBA, MSIS  
P.O. Box 482220  
Kaunakakai, HI 96748