

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

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Daryl Selman, President
Judith F. Clark, Executive Director
Aloha House
American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii
Bay Clinic, Inc.
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu
Big Island Substance Abuse Council
Blueprint for Change
Bobby Benson Center
Catholic Charities Hawaii
Child and Family Service
Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii
Courage House Hawaii
Domestic Violence Action Center
EPIC, Inc.
Family Programs Hawaii
Family Support Hawaii
Hale Kipa, Inc.
Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.
Hawaii Behavioral Health
Hawaii Student Television
Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition
Hina Mauka Teen Care
Hui Malama Learning Center
Kaanalike
Kahi Mohala Behavioral Health
KEY (Kualoa-Heeia Ecumenical Youth)
Project
Kids Hurt Too
Kokua Kalihi Valley
Life Foundation
Marimed Foundation
Maui Youth and Family Services
Palama Settlement
P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.
Parents and Children Together (PACT)
Planned Parenthood of Hawaii
REAL
Salvation Army Family Intervention Svcs.
Salvation Army Family Treatment Svcs.
Sex Abuse Treatment Center
Susannah Wesley Community Center
The Catalyst Group
The Children's Alliance of Hawaii
Waikiki Health Center
Women Helping Women
YWCA of Kauai

January 31, 2014

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
And members of the Committee on Health

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
And members of the Committee on Human Services

Testimony in Support of SB 2449 Relating to Project Kealahou

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports SB 2449 Relating to Project Kealahou.

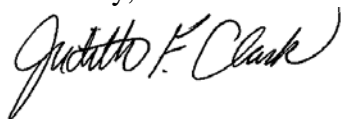
Project Kealahou provides mental health and family support services to girls who have experienced trauma. The program is currently funded through a federal grant that will be phased out.

Funding from the Hawaii Legislature will allow this effective, evidence-informed program to continue to provide therapy and education to the girls and their families, which results in better parent/child communication and increased school attendance. The program reduces the risk of suicide and family violence as well as future involvement in the juvenile and adult criminal justice systems.

I have served on the Executive Committee for Project Kealahou for the past 5 years and have seen the positive effects on the youth and their families.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

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COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Sen. Josh Green, Chair

Sen. Rosalyn Baker, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

Sen. Josh Green, Vice Chair

Monday, February 3, 2014

1:20 p.m.

Room 229

SUPPORT FOR SB 2449 - Funding for Project Kealahou

Aloha Chairs Green and Chun Oakland and Members of the Committees!

Hau`oli Makahiki Hou! My name is Kat Brady and I am the Coordinator of Community Alliance on Prisons, a community initiative promoting smart justice policies for more than a decade. This testimony is respectfully offered on behalf of the 5,800 Hawai`i individuals living behind bars, always mindful that approximately 1,500 Hawai`i individuals are serving their sentences abroad, thousands of miles away from their loved ones, their homes and, for the disproportionate number of incarcerated Native Hawaiians, far from their ancestral lands.

SB 2449 appropriates \$50,000 for the continued funding of Project Kealahou within DOH.

Community Alliance on Prisons supports funding this important program. Thirty-six percent (36%) of adult incarcerated females started in the juvenile system as Dr. Marilyn Brown's research entitled, *Motherhood on the Margins*, found.

There are not enough services for girls and we all need to fill this urgent community need by supporting programs that help our girls reach their fullest potential.

Mahalo for the opportunity to voice support Project Kealahou and for all of Hawai`i's girls!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HTHTestimony](#)
Cc: afernandez@hawaiiublicpolicy.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2449 on Feb 3, 2014 13:20PM
Date: Friday, January 31, 2014 2:58:36 PM

SB2449

Submitted on: 1/31/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Feb 3, 2014 13:20PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hawaii Public Policy Advocates	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Project Kealahou is an extremely important and effective program in the state Dept. of Health to assist girls who have been the victims of trauma. Providing minimal additional state funding, the program will be able to continue to access federal funding. Please support this program.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Cc: ajc@aloha.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2449 on Feb 3, 2014 13:20PM
Date: Friday, January 31, 2014 2:17:14 PM

SB2449

Submitted on: 1/31/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Feb 3, 2014 13:20PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alika Campbell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a social worker who has worked with youth and young adults for 15 years, I strongly support Project Kealahou. I have been on the governing/guiding council for several years and have seen the good work that the project has been able to do. The trauma informed approach of the project has not only helped the individual girls that they have worked with, but has also promoted a system-wide review of how we intervene with "at risk" youth. By understanding their trauma histories and flipping the coin to see them as "at promise" instead of "at risk" Project Kealahou has been able to support their strengths and make a positive impact on the youth and families they have worked with. I urge the Committee to support SB2449 to provide funding for this important program.

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Cc: Awai76@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2449 on Feb 3, 2014 13:20PM
Date: Saturday, February 01, 2014 1:33:40 PM

SB2449

Submitted on: 2/1/2014

Testimony for HTH/HMS on Feb 3, 2014 13:20PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ellen Awai	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I stand in strong support of the Kealahou project for young women! I have been a behavioral health professional, advocate and a member of various advisory councils with SAMHSA for over a decade. I have been involved with various trainings on mental health, substance abuse, trauma, homelessness/housing and suicide prevention. I have come to a great understanding of trauma in the lives of youth, especially those of females. Please support this bill SB2449.

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