

GM551

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Mental Health & Substance Abuse, Maui Service Area Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, TARA BERRY, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Report Title: Mental Health & Substance Abuse, Maui Service Area Board

Current Referral: CPH

(1) Why do you want to be a member of the Board?

I desire to serve the Maui community in a capacity that utilizes my educational, personal and professional experience.

(2) What do you perceive are the roles and responsibilities of a member of the Board?

There is a variety of roles within the board. I have been attending the monthly meeting for nearly 6 months now, and the major barrier the Board is experiencing at this time, is there is no Quorum. Whatever the board needs I will do!

(3) In what ways do you feel that you can help protect the consumer?

Maui has a huge deficiency in ethics responsibility. Having been schooled, trained and employed in Oahu, it is my professional and personal opinion that Maui agencies desperately need to properly train their employees. With this being said, I hold a high regard for consumers.

(4) Given your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a Board member, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise and knowledge that would aid you as a member of the Board.

I have been trained professionally by American Society of Addiction Medicine; Adult Mental Health Division; Substance Abuse and Mental Health Division; University of Hawaii Manoa School of Social Work graduate; 8+ years employed as a Social Worker

I am an active volunteer within the community at such agencies as Cup of Cold Water; Aloha House, MEO, Mental Health Kokua and Hospice.

(5) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

To continue to build a rapport in the community and the Governors office as well as The Senate and House that can reciprocate concern and educational material between all parties involved.

(6) Name three qualities that best describe you and how these qualities will benefit the Board.

1. Passionate concerning others with a reserve in personal gain
2. An active member in the recovery community as well as a consumer of various agencies
3. Compassionate; educated; dedicated; honest

(7) Name a previous experience you've had that will be beneficial as a Board member.

I have both personal and educational experience that benefits the needs based assessment within the Maui community.

(8) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the Board? How would you overcome conflicts of interest?

I foresee none at this time, however, should the need arise I would immediately discuss with the other board members.

Addendum

Employment History:

2009-2011: Po'ailani Dual Diagnosis Facility Kailua, Oahu

Primary Counselor; Clinical Treatment Team

2001-2009: Salvation Army Adult Treatment Services Honolulu, Hawaii

Social Detox; Residential coordinator

Education

2010-2011: Argosy University

Course work in Masters in Forensic Psychology

2005-2009: University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Social Work

Bachelor in Social Work

2002-2005: Kapiolani Community College Honolulu, Hawaii

60+ credits to transfer to University of Hawaii at Manoa

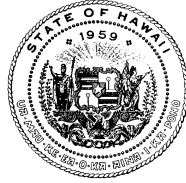
Interests:

Social Equality and Advocacy; Hospice; Mental Health Substance Abuse Advocacy

References:

Verdine Kong 808-268-1414

Linda Schartman 808-264-6864



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

Testimony SUPPORTING GM0551
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the Mental Health and Substance
Abuse, Maui Service Area Board, Gubernatorial Nominee TARA BERRY,
for a term to expire 6-30-20.

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Hearing Date: March 7, 2018, 10:00 a.m. Room Number: 229

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports the nomination and
3 confirmation of Tara Berry to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Maui Service
4 Area Board (MSAB). Ms. Berry fills the community member segment of the board who
5 is a non-state employee, pursuant to Chapter 334-11 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes.

6 Ms. Berry holds a bachelor's degree in Social Work from the University of Hawaii
7 at Manoa and completed one year of master's degree work. She has been involved in
8 providing substance use services for eight years and has been a consumer of those
9 services as well. Having worked in field of substance use challenges, she is acutely
10 aware of the critical nature of the issues facing her community. Ms. Berry hopes to
11 contribute innovative solutions to the substance use needs of the Maui community and
12 to be a voice and liaison for those individuals on the MSAB.

13 We respectfully request your favorable consideration in confirming the
14 appointment of Ms. Berry to the MSAB.

15 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Ms. Berry's behalf.



Dr. Harold T. Ames
P.O. Box 791363
Paia, HI 96779

Office of Senator Rosalyn Baker
415 South Beretania St., 230
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT

February 28, 2018

To whom it may concern,

This letter reflects my opinion to nominate and appoint Tara Berry to Board Member for the Maui Service Area Board on Mental Health and Substance Abuse. I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to become familiar with the content of her character and to see her grow. My first encounter with Ms. Berry was as her facilitator in a co-occurring disorders program in which she showed distinguishing qualities of leadership in her personal recovery and in helping others.

In my professional opinion, the State of Hawai'i should be very pleased in its interventions and combined efforts because Ms. Berry is a prime example how the services within the Adult Mental Health Division can support someone who was living on the streets become reunited with her child and in her leadership role of parent. I believe Ms. Berry has only begun to realize her full potential and believe the opportunity on the Maui Service Area Board on Mental Health and Substance Abuse will ignite some of her unknown qualities. It is for these purposes that I strongly endorse Tara Berry and will be very honored to have her serve under my Chairmanship of the Board of Directors.

With my aloha,

Harold Ames, Ph.D., Φ
Industrial-Organizational Psychologist (PSY-i 6)