



Representative Bertrand Kobayashi Community Update

DIAMOND HEAD, KAHALA,
KAIMUKI, KAPAHULU

November 2015

Governor Ige Signs Supplemental Proclamation to Address Homeless Population in Kaka'ako

Gov. David Ige signed a [supplemental proclamation](#) that paves the way for coordinated outreach efforts by service providers and the enforcement of park rules. There is no additional funding connected to this supplemental proclamation. The governor signed the Oct. 16 emergency proclamation after state agencies identified \$1.3 million in funding to be allocated to existing homelessness programs that promote permanent housing.

The following is a breakdown of the \$1.3 million that will be distributed to the following programs:

* *Housing First*

The Housing First program provides ongoing housing assistance, intensive case management and wrap around supportive services for chronically homeless individuals and families. Funding for this program would be increased by up to:

- \$312,500 for the island of Oahu
- \$250,000 for the neighbor islands

* *Housing Placement Program (HPP)*

The HPP provides first month's rent or security deposit, as well as temporary case management, for homeless families with minor children. Funding for this program would be increased by up to:

- \$292,900 for the island of Oahu
- \$207,100 for the neighbor islands

* *State Homeless Emergency Grant (SHEG)*

The SHEG program provides monetary assistance for housing, food, medical and other types of expenses arising from emergency needs, including housing rental deposit and rent, utility costs/deposit, emergency medical care and expenses, transportation and job-hunting expenses. Funding for this program would be increased by up to:

- \$150,000 for the island of Oahu
- \$150,000 for the neighbor islands

It is estimated that up to an additional 1,000 homeless individuals will be served through this increase in funding.

Enforcement of park closure hours is set to begin as early as November 12th. Over the next two weeks, the state will make every effort to inform and educate the homeless population through outreach by sheriff's deputies, Hawai'i Community Development Association staff and service providers who will canvass the parks and provide notices of park closure times and enforcement. Additional signage detailing park closure hours will also be posted.

Gift to the City Will Help Beautify Makalei and Leahi Beach Parks

Makalei and Leahi Beach Parks, two Oahu mini-parks along the slope of Diamond Head, will benefit from a \$511,555 gift to the City and County of Honolulu by commercial real estate investor Jay Shidler. Shidler has given the money to the city specifically to beautify and maintain Makalei and Leahi Beach Parks for a year with the hope that his gift will inspire other residents to donate their money and time to care for other parks in their neighborhoods.

The two mini-parks are located at the foot of Diamond Head and are two of 32 mini-parks on Oahu. The city Parks Department defines a mini-park as a park with 2 acres or less of land. The parks were purchased by the city through condemnation in the 1970's as part of former Mayor Frank Fasi's long-range plan to extend Kapiolani Park to the Diamond Head Lighthouse and prevent development along the Diamond Head coastline. The Mayor's expansion plan for Kapiolani Park never came to fruition.

Shidler became interested in helping the city parks after public funds began to diminish. If people want to help care for parks in their neighborhood, they can contact Mr. Clinton Jamile, the City's Adopt A Park coordinator at 768-3007.

Kahala Elementary School Joins the Ranks of High Performing Schools

The 2014-15 Strive HI Performance System results released by the Hawaii State Department of Education recently shows an increase in the number of high performing public and charter schools. Schools are evaluated based on their performance across four indicators: Achievement, Growth, Readiness, and the Achievement Gap.

Kahala Elementary is one of seven schools moved to the top-tier "Recognition" status by meeting or exceeding performance targets. Schools are doing an excellent job of looking at all of the different indicators and making strategic changes to make an impact for their students. There has been an increase in ACT scores and shows that more and more students are prepared for the rigors of college.

Launched in school year 2012-13, Strive HI is Hawaii's locally designed performance system that is a waiver from the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) law, which looked only at reading and math test scores and imposed consequences for schools that fell short of proficiency targets. Strive HI measures school performance and progress, and tailors supports and interventions for improvement. Its more expansive definition of school performance (along with meeting mathematics and English language arts/literacy standards) includes science proficiency, graduation rates, college enrollment, student achievement growth, chronic absenteeism and more.

Kahala Elementary joins Liholiho Elementary and Waikiki Elementary as Outstanding Strive HI Schools in House District 19.

Alicia Chang Named 2016 Honolulu District Teacher of the Year

Liholiho Elementary School teacher Alicia Chang was named 2016 Honolulu District Teacher of the Year. The Teacher of the Year award is part of a prestigious national program that honors teaching excellence in the United States. Each year the Hawaii State Teacher of the Year is chosen from one of the seven Hawaii Department of Education district teacher winners following a rigorous selection process.

Ms. Chang has collaborated with her colleagues and community organizations to develop a cohesive, enriched curriculum that helps her with student growth. She has introduced and promoted the UH Stomp program, the Honolulu Museum of Arts' Art to Go, Chaminade University's "I am a Scientist," and other noteworthy programs. Chang believes that a teacher's role is finding a starting point to motivate, intrigue, and assist students on their journey of knowledge and discovery.

Eight Kalani High School Students Participate in the Pacific and Asian Affairs Council Global Leadership Program

The Pacific and Asian Affairs Council (PAAC), in partnership with Qatar Foundation International and the McNerny Foundation, has officially launched a Global Leadership Program with twenty participating high school students from Oahu and the Island of Hawaii. The goal of the program is to develop students' 21st-century skills by enhancing their personal leadership and communication skills, strengthening their social identity, and bringing them one step closer to becoming global citizens. The eight Kalani High School students are Priscilla Hsu, Daniel Huang, Ryan Leon Bracamontes, Freja Nielson, Rovi Porter, Amika Okoshi, Nana Otsuka, and Aubree Silva.

The Global Leadership Program kicked off with a four-day leadership retreat to Camp Mokuleia from October 3-6. The students participated in activities that improved their public speaking, increased cultural awareness, and sharpened negotiation and conflict resolution skills.

During this nine-month program, students will participate in PAAC workshops and conferences, and work on a final project which involves bringing an activity from a PAAC conference to their school. The students will stay connected between sessions with weekly accountability calls, where they will set goals and commitments, check in on their progress, and work through obstacles with a coach.

