# Island Community Report: O'ahu

**Executive Summary** 



# Current Native Hawaiian Conditions on O'ahu



# **Educational Pathways Data**

- 20% (1,444 of 7,250) of 2021 O'ahu high school graduates were Native Hawaiian.
- 35% of all 2021 Native Hawaiian public high school graduates on O'ahu enrolled in college nationwide, compared to 34% of Native Hawaiian graduates statewide.



#### **Health Outcomes Data**

- COVID-19 vaccines administered as of 9/27/2022 in Honolulu County: 2,263,002 vaccines. 89% of Honolulu County residents received at least one (1) dose (880,730), 81% received two (2) doses (793,600), and 61% received more than two (2) doses (600,390).
- 21% of those vaccinated Honolulu County residents (who received at least one (1) dose) are Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (NHPI). Of the 86% vaccinated NHPI Honolulu County residents, 81% are Native Hawaiian.



# **Quality Housing Data**

- In 2021, of the 47,910 Native Hawaiian households on O'ahu, 58% own their housing units,
- The Department of Hawaiian Homelands has 4,399 leases on O'ahu, 44% of the 9,957 leases statewide.
- DHHL Lands on O'ahu comprise a total of 8,154 acres, 4% of the total 203,981 acre DHHL land holdings.
- As of 6/30/2021, DHHL O'ahu Waitlist is 15,165; 11,196 for Residential, 3,969 for Agricultural, zero (0) for Pastoral lots.



# **Economic Stability Data**

- 16% of Native Hawaiians on O'ahu have some college but no degree, 9% have an associate degree, 13% have a bachelor's degree, and 6% have a graduate or professional degree.
- As of 2015, Native Hawaiian median household income on O'ahu was \$72,678, compared to \$74,460 for the total county population. Native Hawaiian median household income was 98% of the total county population.
- The COVID-19 pandemic had significant negative effect on Native Hawaiian household finances. Many Native Hawaiian survey respondents on O'ahu reported being worse off during than before the pandemic, including an increase from 3% to 14% of Native Hawaiians who were not making ends meet.

### **Current Issues on O'ahu**

# **Hawaiian Immersion Programs at DOE**

Kaiapuni Hawaiian immersion program expanded to Kailua High School in Fall 2022. This school year Kailua High joins 21 other public schools that host the Department's Hawaiian Language Immersion Program, Ka Papahana Kaiapuni — or Kaiapuni for short. OHA's Public Policy staff will continue to provide coordinated advocacy with Aha Kauleo. The current emphasis will be on steps necessary to increase the number of kumu for the Kaiapuni schools. (See Full Report, page 19)

#### Ala Wai Canal Pedestrian Bridge Project

City & County of Honolulu proposed construction of a 20 ft wide pedestrian cable-stayed bridge to connect the Ala Wai Park to the Waikīkī area via University Avenue through Ala Wai Park. Location will necessitate relocating the historic Malia canoe. A draft environmental assessment issued a preliminary determination no adverse effect to the Malia canoe; however, pedestrian bridge has not historically been popular among local residents due to possible increase in traffic, parking disputes and criminal activity. (See Full Report, page 29)

#### **Army Training Land Retention at Three (3) O'ahu Locations**

The Army has begun studies for a draft environmental impact statement to retain state lands that are leased for training purposes in 1) Kawailoa-Poamoho Training Area, 2) Kahuku Training Area, and 3) Makua Military Reservation. The current 65-year lease is set to expire in 2029 with a new 65-year lease being sought from the State of Hawai'i BLNR. Historically, there has been a consistent concern regarding military use of public trust lands and the inability to restore these lands. (See Full Report, page 30)

## **Unfilled Interstate H-3 NHPA Mitigations**

Several actions outlined in the 1987 MOA between the Federal Highways Administration, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the State Historic Preservation Division to fulfill National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 for the H-3 interstate construction. These actions include: 1) no accountability for 14 preservation sites in the Luluku area, 2) missing data recovery reports for two (2) sites in Luluku, and 3) no final disposition of artifacts collected during archaeological work. (See Full Report, page 30)

#### **Long Term Rental/Workforce Housing Shortage**

Native Hawaiians are particularly disadvantaged by land uses that contribute to our local residential housing challenges, including increased rental housing costs and rental housing shortages in particular. The proposed changes to the Land Use Ordinance Chapter 21 regarding transient accommodations seeks to better protect the City's residential neighborhoods and housing stock from the negative impacts of short-term rentals. OHA's Public Policy Staff provided Testimony in support of the proposed changes most recently in March of 2022. (See Full Report, page 44)

#### **Digital Equity**

OHA signed on to the Broadband Hui's Digital Equity Declaration in January 2021 and on June 2, 2021, the Honolulu City Council adopted Resolution 21-104, which supports and adopts the goals set forth in the Broadband Hui's Digital Equity Declaration and Hawai'i Broadband Strategic Plan. OHA has submitted administrative testimony in support of Resolution 21-104.<sup>93</sup> Currently PP Advocacy staff continues to participate in the Broadband Hui and will continue to gather information about the Federal programs and funding that will affect digital equity. (See Full Report, page 51)

# **Current Grantees Serving O'ahu**

Honolulu Habitat for Humanity (\$1,500,000) • Ka'ala Farm, Inc., \$493,270 • Protect and Preserve Hawai'i (\$6,200) • Aloha Week Hawai'i: Aloha Festivals 75th Anniversary (\$10,000) • Aloha Week Hawai'i dba Aloha Festivals: Aloha Festivals Parade (\$10,000) • ODKF Support, Inc. (\$9,900) • Bishop Museum (\$8166) • Huliauapa'a: Kaliuokapaakai Building Capacity in Stewarding Wahi Kupuna Speaker Series (\$1,655) • Koihonua (\$21,935) • Kulaniakea (\$25,000) • Pacific American Foundation (\$25,000) • Institute for Native Pacific Education & Culture: Ka Lama – Teacher Education Academy (\$43,750) • Institute for Native Pacific Education and Culture: Kupu Ola Enhancement (\$33,577) • Institute for Native Pacific Education and Culture: Ho'oulu Waiwai (\$451,298) • Papakolea Community Development Coporation: Papakolea Community Playground Project (\$18,750) • Papakolea Community Development Corporation: Papakolea COVID Support Project (\$10.193) • Papahana Kuaola (\$100,000) • Kokua Kalihi Valley (\$36,059) • Puuhonua Society (\$79,314) • Hui Malama o ke Kai: Papahana Kālai Papa Me Pōhaku Ku'i 'Ai, FB20-21 (\$74,814) • Hui Mālama O Ke Kai: Papahana Kālai Papa Me Pōhaku Ku'i 'Ai, FB22-23 (\$99,840) ● Ulu A'e Learning Center (\$276,053) ● Waimanalo Health Center (\$141,498) • I Ola Lahui, Inc. (\$298,000) • Salvation Army Family Treatment Services (\$236,080) • Kakoo Oiwi (\$358,006) • Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Hawaii (\$56,700) • Ke Kula Nui o Waimanalo (\$37,215) • Kohanaiki Ohana, Inc. (\$8,250) • Adult Friends for Youth (\$31,181) • Salvation Army Family Treatment Services (\$37,194) • Homestead Community Development Coporation: Homestead Advocacy Education Project (HAEP) (\$18,750) • Waianae Economic Development Council (\$7,300) • ODKF Support, Inc. (\$9,405) • Honolulu Habitat for Humanity (\$1,500,000) Statewide: Purple Maia Foundation • Alu Like, Inc.: Kohopono • Alu Like, Inc.: Kulia Like • Educational Services Hawaii Foundation • Adult Friends for Youth • Kanu o ka 'Aina Learning Ohana • University of Hawaii • Hooulu Lahui • Papahana Aloha 'Āina Hawai'i • Moanalua Foundation • Hawaiian Comunity Assets • Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement: Native Hawaiian Trades Academy • Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement: Emergency Financial Assistance • Homestead Community Development Corporation: Homestead Policy Advocacy for the Waitlist (HPAW) • Hawai'i Community Lending • The Hawaiian Church of Hawai'i Nei, FB20-21 & FB22-23 • Huliauapa'a: Ku'u Ēwe, Ku'u Piko, Ku'u Iwi, Ku'u Koko - Mālama i nā Iwi Kūpu • Papa Ola Lokahi • Kaikeha, Inc.: 3rd Annual Garden Island Boogie Board Classic (GIBBC) on Kaua'i, 13th Annual Hubb Keiki Fest • Kaikeha, Inc.: 4th Annual Garden Island Boogie Board Classic (GIBBC) and 14th Annual Hubb Keiki Fest

#### **Current O'ahu Lending**

203 active Native Hawaiian Revolving Loan Fund/ Consumer Micro Loan Program loans; \$7,051,236 total dollar amount