

The background of the cover is a close-up photograph of dark, rich soil with several long, curved, green and yellowish-brown leaves, likely from an iris or similar plant, growing from it. The leaves are scattered across the frame, some overlapping. A semi-transparent dark blue horizontal band is positioned across the middle of the image, containing the title text.

# Annual Report

KKV 2020

**Connection. Community. Resilience.**





## KKV Board of Directors

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## KKV Mission Statement

Together we work toward healing, reconciliation and the alleviation of suffering in Kalihi Valley by serving communities, families and individuals through strong relationships that honor culture and foster health and harmony.



*"Neighbors being Neighborly to Neighbors"*



Dear KKV 'Ohana,

The year 2020 brought new and unprecedented challenges, transforming the ways KKV provides healthcare to our patients.

COVID-19 hit Kalihi hard and brought economic distress, food insecurity, isolation, and terrible loss of life. But trauma was only part of the story. Over the past year, all of us at KKV witnessed countless acts of kindness and dignity in the midst of crisis. Along with the vulnerability of our community, COVID revealed the resilience and strength of our patients and their families.

The pandemic also tested KKV's capacities. Pivoting to new approaches became a way of life in our effort to protect patients and staff amid a rapid and ever-changing crisis. Daily, we felt like we were learning to fly the plane as we built it. KKV staff rallied with resolve to devise new ways to provide care and support. The challenge brought unexpected and profound gifts of growth and deeper connectedness with those we work with and those we serve.

At KKV, we understand health as wholeness. Several years ago, KKV co-developed Pilinaha an indigenous health framework that identifies four vital connections—to place or 'aina (land); to the past and future (culture), to others (family, community), and to one's best self (purpose)—as central to individual and collective health and well-being. We committed to incorporating Pilinaha across all of KKV's services and operations. COVID-19 greatly accelerated this integration and Pilinaha helped give our team the flexibility to respond quickly to the changing environment.

The pandemic reminds us that as a community, we have always been connected. It also reminds us how we are more fragile and more resilient than we know. In the annual report that follows, we share and celebrate the relationships and people who have helped KKV grow stronger this past year. For nearly fifty years, KKV has continued to listen to the voices of our community and to offer our service in a way that welcomes and cares for all.

As our community's journey of recovery begins, we reflect on the outpouring of support—including yours—that fueled all our efforts. Thank you for being here for us and for Kalihi. We cherish our connections with you.

With deep gratitude and aloha,



KKV serves the residents of the historical Hawaiian ahupua'a of Kalihi on the Island of O'ahu. Kalihi's highest peak, Kilohana, is the cosmological home of Papahānaumoku, ancestor to all Hawaiian people and is revered as a place of pilgrimage.

Still a destination, Kalihi is now densely populated by a half-century of immigration and diaspora from across Asia and the Pacific. Today, nearly 40% of Kalihi's residents were born outside of the U.S. and among KKV's patients, 53% are best served in languages other than English. Our patient population is dominated by Pacific Islanders (50%) and Asians (37%), many of whom are Filipinos from families who have lived in Honolulu for decades. Increasingly, Kalihi is becoming home to thousands of Compact of Free Association (COFA) Micronesians, the fastest growing population in our state.

Many of the Pacific Islanders living in our community are climate change or health refugees. Almost all contend with cultural and institutional barriers as families work to find new opportunities and thrive in Hawai'i.

For Kalihi's immigrant communities, identity is tightly embedded within culture, family, and land. We at KKV are committed to supporting new dialogues of abundance and resilience for the ahupua'a of Kalihi and uplifting and building agency, while rejecting narratives that perpetuate disparity.



"Kalihi" in Hawaiian means "the edge," aptly describing this place where individuals and their families are often caught between cultures, between homes, and between identities.

## Your Hands

Your hands have been chosen  
all that you have been through  
makes them stronger  
makes them move with purpose  
and love  
and gratitude

Your hands are holding  
our community  
our elders  
our families  
our children

Your hands are greeting us with  
warmth in a time when we feel isolated  
they are gentle  
and strong  
and brave

Your hands carry the love of our  
ancestors they are the extension of  
strength  
of the land  
of this valley

Your hands are washing away  
our fears  
calming us  
they are tired  
yet work tirelessly  
to give love  
and comfort  
and connection

Your hands have been chosen  
they are healing us  
and we are grateful

Poem by Megan Inada and Puni Jackson

*In the early days of the pandemic, organizers of KKV's Hui Hoaka emergency response began by writing a poem to our staff. We all knew the work ahead would be hard, but KKV was ready to meet the challenge with love and gratitude. Inspired by our ancestors, grounded by 'āina, KKV dedicated itself to protect and support our patients, our community and our staff in every way possible.*





## 2020 Program Accomplishments

### Primary Care – Medical, Behavioral, Vision

- Served over 10,693 patients in 26 languages and dialects.
- Created the Nā Koa infectious disease clinic for COVID-19 testing and care.
- Provided medical care through 15,771 visits with 6,252 patients.
- Conducted 58% of Medical visits and 90% of Behavioral Health visits through Telehealth.
- Provided optometry care through 1,333 visits with 721 patients.
- Administered 2,883 COVID-19 tests.

### Dental Care

- Provided dental care for 4,491 patients with 8,655 clinical visits.
- Conducted 2,507 Emergency visits for 1,899 patients.
- Conducted 2,690 Oral Exams for 2,275 patients.
- Conducted Prophylaxis-adult and child for 2,865 patients.
- Conducted Oral Surgery during 1,206 visits for 1,018 patients.
- Provided Fluoride treatment during 2,028 visits of 1,823 adults and children.
- Provided staff support for Hui Hoaka, Roots, and Nā Koa clinic.

### Maternal Child Health (MCH)

- Conducted 5,835 Women Infant and Children (WIC) appointments by Telehealth serving 728 women, 412 infants, and 886 children.
- Conducted 1,098 Family Planning appointments and served 108 teens and 566 adults.
- Distributed 1,649 books and 408 family kits to 787 families.
- Provided food supplies to families including 229 packs of chicken, 275 packages of beef, and 119 boxes of fresh produce.
- Distributed baby bags, car seats, and strollers to new parents.

## 2020 Patient Breakdown

- 1,724 uninsured patients (16.1%)
- 5,724 Medicaid patients (53.5%)
- 637 Medicare patients (5.95%)
- 2,608 private insurance patients (24.3%)
- 61% of patients at or below 100% of federal poverty guidelines.
- 70% of patients at or below 200% of federal poverty guidelines.
- 30% of patients unknown.
- 4.2% patients homeless.



### Patient Demographics

- Asian (37%)
- Native Hawaiian (7.4%)
- Other Pacific Islander (43.2%)
- Black/African American (0.59%)
- American Indian/Alaska Native (0.15%)
- White (2.3%)
- More than one race (3.5%)
- Unreported (5.7%)

## Elder Care

- Cared for 1,807 kūpuna ages 50-100.
- Contacted 723 elder patients at least once per week for check-in.
- Called 38 kūpuna more than once per week to provide additional assistance.
- Provided hot nutritious meals and bags of produce to kūpuna delivered weekly to their homes.
- Restarted the popular exercise program through virtual sessions.
- Distributed 20 connected tablets to kūpuna to participate in the virtual exercise program.

## Youth Services

- KVIBE - 10-15 youth participated in regular community workdays at Kaluaopalena community garden.
- KVIBE - 20-50 youth organized a community bike event.
- KVIBE - 100 lunches distributed to community children five days per week from March 15 to July 31.
- Tennis/ Afterschool - 25-35 youth participated in on-site tennis practice January - March.
- Tennis/ Afterschool - mobilized regular group text messaging to stay connected and support homework activities.
- Pacific Voices - 30-40 youth learned about COVID safety through take-home art projects and puzzles.
- Pacific Voices - participated in a design competition to make face masks telling stories about families.
- Pacific Voices - distributed weekly food boxes and other take-home activities to kids and their families.

## Returning to Our Roots

- Provided weekly hot meals and produce bags for distribution to seniors and COVID-19 affected families through Hui Hoaka.
- Purchased produce and other food items weekly from 12 local farm partners, ensuring they had a steady income.
- Provided hot meals free to KKV staff on Fridays for pick-up at Roots Cafe.
- Engaged two cohorts of 20-25 couples in nine-week virtual Birthing-A-Nation Hawaiian pregnancy program.
- Engaged 25 families (estimated 300 people) in the Ehuola program with take-home activity kits and virtual sessions, including cooking lessons.

## Ho'oulu 'Āina

- Coordinated and implemented the KKV-wide Hui Hoaka emergency program.
- Implemented KKV's Emergency Assistance program to provide economic support to families for rent, utilities, and other expenses.
- Expanded agroforestry activities to grow cultural foods and lā'au lapa'au for the community.
- Engaged community healers and KKV providers in harvesting laāau lapa'au.
- Expanded its Umekonomics online market to foster a new economy around 'āina-based products and reciprocity.
- Produced Mo'oTales, an Instagram series focused on the 'āina, Hawaiian culture, and ancestral stories.







"Ho'oulu 'Āina provides the Kalihi community and others beyond our ahupua'a, the freedom to make connections and build meaningful relationships with the 'āina, each other and ourselves. Here the community comes together around forest, food, knowledge, spirituality, and health activity. As we restore this land to productivity, giving back the values of our ancestors, we learn that healing is reciprocal."

- Ho'oulu 'Āina staff





"Food is powerful. Through preparing and sharing food, we strengthen the roots that connect us to the land, the sea, our cultures, our community, our family, and to each other."





KVIBE assembled an outdoor garden bed in front of the warehouse using repurposed wood. The teens set up a new program to grow food for their families.

“We’re trying to get back to our roots. A lot of us are descendants of farmers. A lot of our cultures have been doing this [for a long time]. When we come over here to [Honolulu], we became separated from all those things that we descend from. Having that garden there reconnects us. The same way these bikes are our urban canoes, the garden is like our piece of the ‘aina that we bring into this urban space with us.”

Kuya John-Mark Angei and Mark Sanchez

In 2020, Ho’oulu ‘Āina completed a 4-year pilot program with the Office of Hawaiian Education to develop curriculum for K-12 students around forestry, farming, Hawaiian language and culture, and indigenous practices.

Going forward, we are one of a handful of designated learning sites for schools and have long-standing partnerships with the elementary, middle, and high schools in Kalihi. Fostering new ways to learn and thrive will be more important than ever since Kalihi schools struggled in 2020 to meet even the basic educational needs of students and their families.



# Celebrating Resilience and Looking Forward

# In Memoriam

Feb. 18 1948 - Mar. 14 2020



Dr. David Breese



## Under Dr. Breese's leadership and vision:

- **KKV created Kalihī's school-based sealant** program, the first of its kind in the state.
- **KKV brought** the Advanced Education in General Dentistry, Pediatric Dentistry, and Public Health Residency programs to Hawai'i. This too was the first of its kind in the state.
- **KKV initiated a partnership** with the Dental Hygiene Program at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, which made KKV a clinical rotation and training site for 3rd year dental hygiene students.
- **KKV steered the growth** of KKV's dental clinic to become a Center for Community Oral Health, which serves an integral role in meeting the oral health needs of the Kalihi community and providing a dental home for thousands of families each year.

In 2020, KKV lost Dr. David Breese, the namesake of our Dental program. Dr. Breese joined KKV in February of 1979 and provided public health-focused vision, passion, leadership, and steadfast commitment to KKV and the community for more than 40 years.

His selfless dedication to his patients and to vulnerable populations had impacts far beyond Kalihi and made KKV a pioneer in ensuring that oral health is integral to individual and community well-being and quality of life.

David Breese arrived as a young dentist to Hawai'i in 1975 to fulfill service obligations with the US Navy in Kaneohe. After three years of service, he joined KKV and worked passionately to care for the children and families of Kalihi.

A beloved role model, mentor and friend to countless colleagues, students, and patients, Dr. Breese personified the values of aloha, excellence, and neighborliness. He extended his influence and vision far beyond KKV and was integral to the development of dental programs at other community health centers in Hawai'i. He also helped lead a statewide oral health task force to uplift oral health as indispensable to individual and community well-being.





**Hoaka is the shape of the moon when the land and ocean is abundant.**



It is the crescent shape of the koa leaf bringing light and nourishment to forest understory. It is the flanking shape of people aligning themselves to win a battle both physically and spiritually.

The hoaka is a repeating shape in our work, representing the reoccurring fractals of our efforts. With each new step we take, the hoaka, like an 'umeke, is able to hold everything we encounter. It provides the infrastructure for Hui Hoaka, KKV's culturally grounded emergency effort.

# Hui Hoaka

## At the height of COVID-19 infections in Kalihi, KKV accomplished the following:

- Delivered to 12 households everyday 6 days a week at our peak.
- Completed patient intake with 241 households, representing more than 1850 individuals.
- Educated families about quarantine and isolation, checking in on how they were feeling and connecting them with resources.
- Made 377 no contact deliveries to COVID positive families.
- Called over 5,000 community members in six different languages to check in on high-risk patients with chronic conditions.
- Provided over 100 cellphones and tablets with connected internet plans to patients for tele-health.
- Delivered over 3,500 care packages of food staples such as rice, oatmeal, canned protein,
- Ensured that seniors had necessary food and other supplies including, diapers, masks, cleaning products.
- Provided 2,330 hot, nutritious meals with enough food to feed up to four people.
- Supported patients with over \$400,000 to pay rent, utilities, and even funeral expenses.
- Hired and trained 30+ temporary workers from the community to help with COVID response.

## KKV's COVID Team Abundance

In response to COVID-19, KKV created two new programs: the Nā Koa medical clinic and the Hui Hoaka response program. Nā Koa was set up to test patients for COVID infection and to provide public health information and education. Hui Hoaka conducted and responded to COVID-positive tests and responded with critical food supplies, household goods, medicine, and support that made it possible for families living in high-density quarters to quarantine.

KKV's Hui Hoaka team was composed of Ho'oulu 'Āina staff working with Dental and Vision staff, as well as new hires. The team coordinated patient follow-up, contact tracing, and delivery of supplies. KKV's Roots food program produced, purchased, and packaged hot and frozen meals, bags, and boxes of fresh produce in support of Hui Hoaka.



## Nā Koa Clinic COVID Testing

Month	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
# Covid-19 tests	429	975	378	374	319	408	2883
#Positive	72	279	57	30	40	37	515
Mo. Rate	17%	29%	15%	8%	10%	9%	18%



KKV credits the Pathways program and Pilinaha for enabling us to pivot and respond effectively to the COVID-19 crisis.

We introduced Pathways as a cross training program several years ago to break down department silos and foster bidirectional referrals and program integration.

At the start of each annual training session, the cohort is oriented to the Pilinaha framework through a series of layered story-sharing activities. Their stories of connection to self, others, place, and time allows them to explore the framework through different learning styles and look at the many ways that connections impact and inform our understanding of personal and community health. While the technology is intentionally kept simple, the impact is complex as the staff builds deep and meaningful connections and trust with one another.



We attribute the success of Pathways to a number of things, from strong buy-in from executive management to engaging front-line staff as leaders and curriculum developers. KKV has often heard stories of staff expressing how bewildered they were about “what this Pathways is about.” Later, however, many of these individuals became strong advocates for the Pathways approach. Clinicians were among the most challenging to recruit into Pathways because of the cost and productivity demands of clinical work. Yet KKV’s doctors and dentists are now among its most ardent supporters.

“Pathways broke down self-imposed barriers that delayed true connections with people in different resources of KKV. It connected stories and spirits to reveal that we love, struggle, sacrifice, and succeed together daily. On organizational agility and COVID-response, staff in optometry and dental were re-assigned to help with preparing care packages for homebound kupuna and vulnerable families. We called our COVID-response initiative Hui Hoaka but we also call it Pathways Cohort 9.”

- KKV Staff

*Connection*

# Pathways

# Voyage

We have lashed our hearts  
To souls of islands,  
Joined spirits with birds  
Rising to splendor  
In a gold acquiescence of sun.  
We are voyagers  
And sons of voyagers--  
Our hands work the cordage  
Of peace.

[Excerpt] Perez-Wendt, M. (2008). Uluhaimalama.  
Honolulu, HI: Kuleana OIwi Press.





# Honoring Our Artists: ‘Imaikalani Kalāhele



In spite of shut-downs in 2020, some of the most important artistic stories continued. From September 3 to April 11, 2021, the Honolulu Museum of Art featured an exhibition of work called *O Kalani* by KKV's artist-in-residence ‘Imaikalani Kalāhele.

The title *O Kalani* translates to “from the heavens,” referencing the Hawaiian worldview of our relationship with the divine, while also acknowledging the names of both artists. Uncle ‘Imai Kalāhele is an established Hawaiian poet, activist, singer, philosopher, and painter who has been working and influencing cultural activities at Ho‘oulu ‘Āina for years.

‘Imai grew up in Kalihi and was raised in a rooming house on Fort Street where kauhale-style (communal) living among predominantly Hawaiian families was the norm. He employs an interdisciplinary approach, drawing on material from both the past and current events to create engaging narratives that reflect personal experiences and reflections on being Hawaiian today.

At a very early age, Uncle ‘Imai realized he possessed incredible gifts. “The two things I knew I could do as a kid growing up was to draw and sing.” Aside from raising a family, painting, drawing, sculpting, playing guitar, and composing music has been his life work.

“Artists are storytellers regardless of the media, whether you’re a musician, a painter, a poet, a sculptor or whatever - basically what you’re doing is telling a story.”  
- Uncle ‘Imai Kalāhele

# "Super" Aunty Merina

Back in the early 1970s, Merina Sapolu loved walking around the Kalihi neighborhood knocking on doors. If someone answered, she would respectfully introduce herself and invite them to come to the health center she worked for. At Kōkua Kalihi Valley, she told them they would be cared for and for free! Merina's story embodies the philosophy of care that infuses our daily work: neighbors being neighborly to neighbors.

Often in response to her knock, a person might thank her, and say they were fine. "Oh, that's good, I'm glad," Merina would nod. "Just don't forget, we're here." Merina would stop by again (and again) to say hello and ask how they were doing. "Usually it took at least three tries before I got in the door," she grins. "When they invited me inside, it showed they were willing to trust me."

A native of Samoa, Merina is hard not to warm to with her shining smile that reaches her eyes, and her honeyed voice. "Nowadays, we talk about connection and how long it takes to be connected," says KKV Executive Director Dr. David Derauf. "And part of developing those connections to each other, to our community, to our gifts, is having good mentors to do that. We all need a teacher, someone to be a role model for us, to show us the way. At KKV we call those people 'super aunts.' Merina has done that in this community day in and day out for 45 years."

Merina says, "One thing I tell new outreach workers: Don't look all around the room, just look directly at the person you're talking to. Listen. If someone talks story with you, it's a gift. Always honor that as such."

On December 18, 2020, Merina was honored for her devoted service to KKV. Dr. Derauf fondly introduced her as "the super aunty who welcomed me to KKV 31 years ago, the person who accounts for my still being here today."

Over the years, Merina has taken on many roles at KKV, as a dental assistant, public housing and elder patient navigator, cancer coordinator, and STD/HIV messenger. But always, health education and outreach lay at the core.

Merina has freely shared her door-knocking wisdom with generations who are deeply inspired by this super aunty's legacy. "Outreach workers are the eyes, ears and backbone of KKV," she says. "We're the ones going out into the community to see the needs of the community, what's going on."

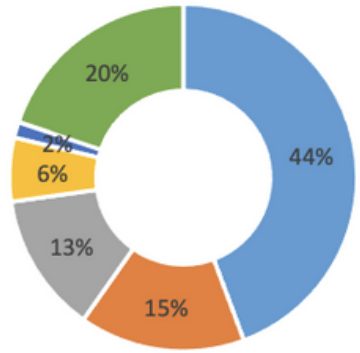
She stresses that this work requires comfortable shoes, eye contact and, above all, a humble, listening heart.





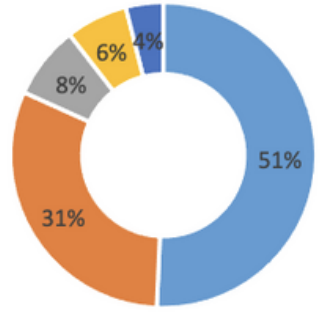
# KKV Financial Graphs FY20

### Expenses



- Medical Services
- Social Services
- Dental Services
- Enabling Services
- Maternal and Child Health
- Management & General

### Revenue



- Patient Services Revenue
- Government Grants & Contracts
- Foundation Grants and Private Donations
- Other Revenue and Support
- Contributed rent, in kind and other



**Revenue & Support 2020 2019**

Patient Services Revenue	8,523,640	9,408,691
Government Grants & Contracts	5,224,606	5,837,171
Foundation Grants and Private Donations	1,302,560	1,890,810
Other Revenue and Support	1,100,133	475,552
Contributions in Kind	220,432	369,684
Contributed Rent	283,774	254,127
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	162,356	172,521
<b>Total Revenue and Support</b>	<b>16,817,501</b>	<b>18,408,556</b>

**Expenses Program Services:**

Medical Services	8,537,243	8,106,330
Social Services	2,969,582	2,785,621
Dental Services	2,508,667	2,914,527
Enabling Services	1,144,104	1,253,579
Maternal and Child Health	283,617	304,789
<b>Total Program Services</b>	<b>15,443,213</b>	<b>15,364,846</b>

**Supporting Services**

Management & General	3,814,862	3,561,989
Fundraising	-	5,534
<b>Total Supporting Services</b>	<b>3,814,862</b>	<b>3,567,523</b>

**Total Expense** 19,258,075 18,932,369

Net Assets, Beginning of Year 17,381,073 17,931,662

Net Assets, End of Year 16,119,335 17,381,073

\* KKV undergoes annual single audits by an independent accounting firm. All such audits have resulted in earning KKV the distinction as a low-risk auditee.

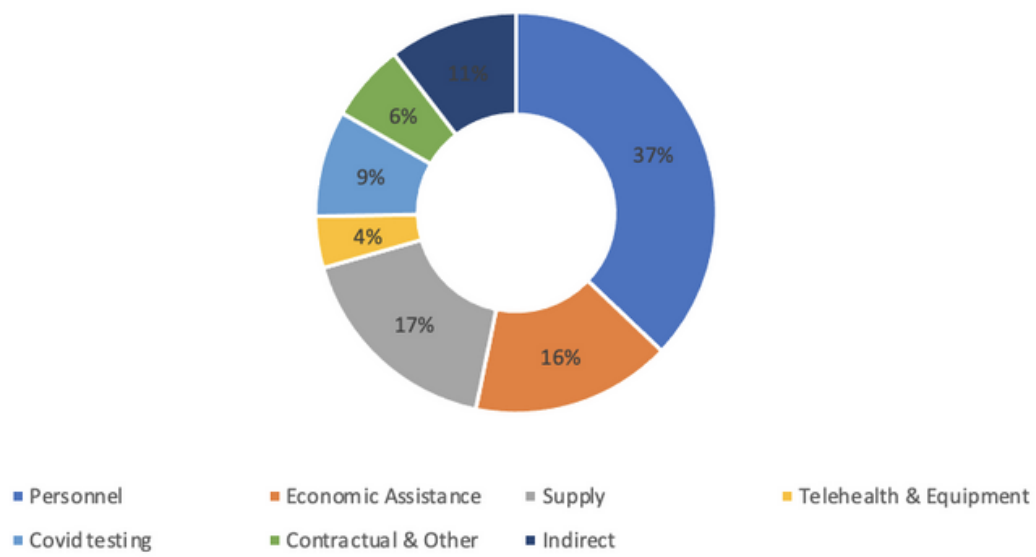




"I'm glad we get to work in these different departments at this time. Experiencing what they are doing to provide for the Kalihi community especially at this time of need and uncertainty. I'm so blessed and proud to say that I work at KKV."

- KKV staff

COVID related grants and support as of Dec 31, 2020




\*We sincerely apologize if we inadvertently did not include every donor organization and are grateful for all community COVID support.

KKV's accounting office juggled numerous COVID-relief grants from federal Cares Act funding coming directly from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to the City & County of Honolulu and distributed through the Hawai'i Community Foundation. In addition, KKV received funding from a wide range of corporate, foundation, and individual supporters. We are grateful to all who contributed and include a partial list of federal, state, local, foundation, and corporate donors below.

- Jeanne Herbert Fund
- Bank of Hawaii Foundation
- Centene Foundation
- Central Pacific Bank Foundation
- City & County of Honolulu
- Consuelo Foundation
- Cooke Foundation
- DOA COVID Farmer Relief
- Freeman Fund
- Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation
- Hawai'i Community Foundation
- Hawai'i Humanities Council Cares Act Grant
- Hawaii Dental Service Foundation
- Healy Foundation
- HRSA
- Aloha Harvest
- Kahala Nui
- Matsuura Foundation
- Na Limahana O Lonopuha
- Nakila & Marti Steele Family Fund
- Omidyar 'Ohana Fund
- Strong Foundation through Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- Stupski Foundation
- Taketa 'Ohana Fund
- Tides Foundation/ Kaiser Permanente





"We serve one of the largest low-income immigrant populations in Honolulu. Our patients could not come to us during the pandemic, so we went to them. We rapidly reinvented ourselves and delivered food and other necessities to our patients in the Kalihi area and provided valuable information on COVID-19 protocols as well as oral health basics. Over the years, we've earned the trust of our patients and we were able to help them at a very challenging time."

- Dr. Jason Hiramoto, Dental Director

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Michelle Mishina

Layout and Design

Ka'ohua Lucas







Our framework is three hoakas holding each other representing family, community, and land/culture with a circle centrally located at the top representing our most vulnerable community members.