



# HAWAI'I STATE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

## FALL 2021 NEWSLETTER



### MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In Hawai'i, we have two seasons *Kau* (summer) and *Ho'olio* (winter). Our transition into winter is subtle but vital to our stability and growth. The long, warmer days that fuel us transition into wet days that replenish our aquifers, and cool evenings that invite humpback whales to mate, calve and nurse their young in our waters - a glorious cycle of creation. The Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence has also been experiencing significant transition and growth in the last six months.

**Transition.** Changes within the staff and board leadership. We are grateful for the contribution of Matāpuna Levenson, Training and Technical Assistance Director during her time with us and look forward to future collaborations in her new role at API-GBV. We are indebted to Steven Dick (now Immediate-Past Board President) and Darlene Pires (now former Board Vice President) for their leadership during some of the most difficult periods of the pandemic.

When our lease was up this summer, we chose to move out of the office in downtown Honolulu, to a co-working space in Kaka'ako. This strategic move allows us to address the new realities of working while meeting the financial and staffing needs of the coalition.

**Growth.** The changes in staffing, board leadership, and introspective work of the strategic planning process provided the opportunity to re-evaluate the staffing needs of the coalition to further serve the community. We created and filled two new positions this summer: Program Assistant, Phyllis Aira Sheer Raquinio, and Program Director, Vanessa Corwin. In October, we welcomed **Sanoe Ka'aihue (ED of Women Helping Women in Maui County), HSCADV's first Native Hawaiian and survivor as Board President.** We also welcomed Amanda Pump (Director of O'ahu Programs, Child & Family Service) as Vice President and Christina Basham (Program Director on Hawai'i Island, Child & Family Service) as Secretary. Dennis Dunn, one of HSCADV's founders remains the Treasurer. HSCADV's network of members expanded with the inclusion of Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center, The Children's Law Project of Hawai'i - Hawai'i Island, Hawai'i Rise Foundation and Women In Need. With these changes, I believe we are well-positioned for stability and future growth.

**Resilience.** At the writing of this letter, the world is responding to another COVID-19 variant, *omicron*. Just when we thought we were through the worst of it, our resolve is tested yet again. The very real fatigue we all feel sets in faster and takes longer to dissipate. While all of our systems (judicial, government, financial, social services and law enforcement) have been pushed to their limits, as community advocates, we emerge stronger and remain steadfast through our commitment to survivors and their families.

This holiday season, as you top the tree with a star, light the candles on the *menorah* or *kinara*, or any way you celebrate the transitional power of the winter solstice, we wish you and yours peace this season and in the new year.

Yours in service,



# COALITION UPDATES

## NEW BOARD OFFICERS

HSCADV welcomes the following new officers onto the board.



**Sanoë Ka'aihue**  
**President**

Women Helping Women



**Amanda Pump**  
**Vice President**

Former Secretary  
Child & Family Service O'ahu



**Christina Basham**  
**Secretary**

Child & Family Service  
Kona

## NEW STAFF



**Phyllis Aira Sheer Raquinio**  
**Program Assistant**

Phyllis (she/her/isuna) was born and raised on the island of Maui and is a graduate of the Master of Public Health program at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. She values continuous learning in academic, workplace, and personal settings and considers collaborating with professionals in different fields a vital aspect of helping the community.

**Vanessa Corwin**  
**Program Director**

Vanessa (she/her/hers) was born and raised in Honolulu and received her MA in Curriculum & Instruction at Washington State University. Prior to joining HSCADV's staff, she worked at Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse and the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center in Washington, providing direct services to sexual assault and domestic violence survivors.





# COALITION UPDATES CONT.

## OTHER COALITION NEWS/UPDATES

HSCADV collaborated with the Pre-Medical Association, Pre-Physician Assistant Association, and Mortar Board Honor Society at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa to source much needed toiletry and diaper donations to member programs and shelters.

We also hosted a supervision training series with the State Department of Health and Cathy Cave of Inspired Vision, LLC.



Pictured (from left to right): Lauren Nakamine (Mortar Board), Phyllis Raquinio, Angelina Mercado, Xoe (HSCADV's canine staff), Vanessa Corwin



## WE MOVED!

In July 2021, HSCADV moved out of their old office space in the Finance Factors building in downtown Honolulu to coworking offices at the Hub Coworking Hawai'i in Kaka'ako. HSCADV staff are working remotely or hybrid from home and the Hub offices. Mail can be sent to the HSCADV at P.O. Box 214, Honolulu, HI 96810, and you can reach us by email or phone at (808) 832-9316.



# NEW MEMBER PROGRAMS

This summer and fall, four new organizations joined the Coalition, increasing HSCADV's membership to 24 programs within 16 organizations.



## HAWAI'I HEALTH & HARM REDUCTION CENTER (H3RC) - O'AHU

H3RC is dedicated to supporting and providing services to Hawai'i communities through clinical services, outreach and education, immediate referrals to harm reduction services, and support and services for transgender individuals.



## THE CHILDREN'S LAW PROJECT OF HAWAI'I - HAWAI'I ISLAND

The Children's Law Project of Hawai'i provides youth-focused legal advocacy through serving as guardians ad litem, advocating for children's best interest in family court, and providing legal representation in guardianship and adoption cases.



## HAWAI'I RISE FOUNDATION - HAWAI'I ISLAND

The Hawai'i Rise Foundation/Ulu Wini provides transitional housing for families leaving violence, housing assistance, community outreach and education, and social support and services for tenants of Ulu Wini on Hawai'i Island.



## WOMEN IN NEED - O'AHU, KAUA'I

Women In Need provides support and services for women through transitional housing, resource referrals, employment assistance, and domestic violence education for women on O'ahu and Kaua'i.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## TRAINING SESSIONS



### December 2021 Virtual Caregiver Education and Wellness Class Calendar

HSCADV's Training & Technical Assistance Specialist, Chelsey Stewart, will be presenting a training titled, **Identifying, Preventing & Responding to Domestic Violence & Abuse** hosted by the St. Francis Healthcare System of Hawai'i on **December 8**. Information on healthy relationships, domestic violence, and elder abuse will be provided, as well as resources for nurturing healthy relationships and increasing protective factors against abuse. Registration is now open.

**EXERCISING CULTURAL HUMILITY WITH THE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER COMMUNITIES**

HEATHER LUSK KUNANE DREIER

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2021  
9-11AM HST

This webinar will feature interactive discussions on the history of LGB&T populations in Hawai'i and what we know about how domestic and sexual violence impacts those in the LGB&T community. Advocates will learn various resources, policies, and applicable techniques to best support LGB&T survivors.

\*This training is limited to advocates and employees of HSCADV member programs.\*

Register at <https://linktr.ee/hscadv>

HSCADV is hosting Part 1 of a two-part **LGB&T and SA Training Series** presented by the Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center on **December 9**. This webinar is interactive and participants will learn resources and techniques to best support and serve LGB&T survivors. Registration is now open for HSCADV's member programs.

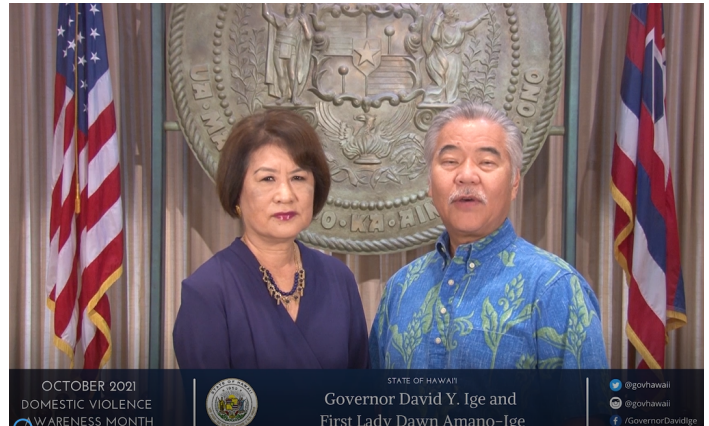


# DVAM 2021 RECAP

## DVAM 2021 PROCLAMATIONS

Governor David Ige, Mayor Rick Blangiardi, and Mayor Derek Kawakami signed Domestic Violence Awareness Month proclamations for the state, Honolulu County, and Kaua'i County, respectively.

The proclamations reaffirmed the importance of community effort to learn about preventing domestic violence and supporting survivors and service organizations and the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on domestic violence. The Governor and First Lady also shared a video with their support for domestic violence survivors and service providers in Hawai'i.



## HONOLULU HALE LIT UP IN PURPLE

From **October 18 - 24**, Honolulu Hale lit up in purple to commemorate DVAM. This is the second year in a row that Honolulu Hale has shown their support for DVAM by lighting up in purple to bring awareness to the public on domestic violence and provide solidarity for victims and providers.

## EVERY1 KNOWS SOME1

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

## NNEDV NATIONAL DVAM CAMPAIGN #EVERY1KNOWSSOME1

HSCADV participated in the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV)'s national DVAM social media campaign, #Every1KnowsSome1. The campaign focused on how common domestic violence is and that it is more than physical violence. The coalition shared posts provided by NNEDV to spread awareness and education and initiate conversations on domestic violence.

## HSCADV DVAM SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGNS AND EVENTS

In addition to participating in NNEDV's #Every1KnowsSome1 campaign for DVAM, HSCADV also uploaded posts on social media focusing on our member programs and spreading awareness and education on the misconceptions of domestic violence. Some of our educational posts highlighted stalking with the release of Netflix's series "You", strangulation, support for the LGBTQ+ community for Pride Month, the intersectionality of culture and domestic violence, and (cont.)



# DVAM 2021 RECAP CONT.

## HSCADV DVAM SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGNS AND EVENTS CONT.

the importance of the power and control wheel in domestic violence.

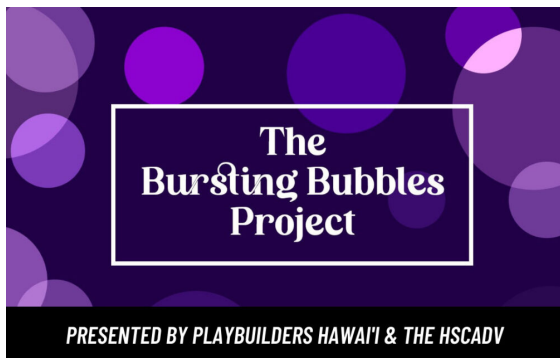
On **October 13**, HSCADV participated in CFS's DVAM sign-waving in front of the Nimitz Business Center. The sign-waving brought domestic violence awareness outside of our normal work areas.



Pictured: CFS staff



Pictured: HSCADV and CFS staff



Watch this amazing 30-minute special on 'Ōlelo 53 on:

- 10/24 at 7:30 pm
- 10/25 at 8:00 am
- 10/26 at 3:30 pm
- 10/27 at 10:00 am

A project created with and for domestic violence survivors in collaboration with 'Ōlelo Community Media, "Bursting Bubbles: Norina's Story" is the final installment followed by a panel discussion featuring local domestic violence experts.

## BURSTING BUBBLES: NORINA'S STORY

The **Bursting Bubbles Project** is a collaboration between HSCADV and PlayBuilders of Hawai'i to produce a four-part series focused on the real words and stories of local survivors performed by either the survivors themselves or professional actors, followed by a one hour conversation about domestic violence by local experts and service providers. This year, HSCADV and PlayBuilders presented the final installment of the project: **Norina's Story**, which follows the true story of Norina Barcenas, founder of Wings International Ministry, and featured the following panelists - Sanoë Ka'aihue, Rev. Al Miles, and Elaine Valdov.



# 2021 HSCADV CONFERENCE RECAP



Mahalo to everyone who attended and helped organize the 2021 HSCADV Conference, **From the Margins to the Center: Building Solidarity Across Movements**, on **June 15 - 17**. This year's conference attracted more than 180 participants from all major Hawaiian islands and the U.S. continent and was aimed at centering the experiences of domestic violence survivors who are often marginalized in our community.

HSCADV is grateful to have had a diverse audience that included many victim advocates, educators, counselors, and community members in the workshops and breakout sessions.

To bring awareness to domestic violence and its intersections of colonialism, racism, homophobia, and ableism, the 2021 Conference featured many experts in their respective fields. We were honored to have **Valli Kalei Kanuha, Ph.D., Assistant Dean for Equity and Justice at the University of Washington School of Social Work, as this year's Keynote**. Following the Keynote, attendees were able to join the following sessions:

- "Kuleana and Community: For Kānaka and Other Pacific Islanders in Hawai'i" - Moderated by C. Melenani Wai'alae. Guests were Dr. Jonathan Osorio, Delia Ulima, Tolua Samifua.
- "Survivor Defined & Centered Advocacy" - Sarah Khan
- "Queerness and Justice: Exploring the Intersectionality of Violence" - Moderated by

Ian Tapu. Guests were Thaddeus Pham, Shayna Lonoaea-Alexander, Keiva Lei Cadena.

- "Spiritual Abuse: Frequently Utilized, Difficult to Identify" - Rev. Al Miles & Clara Priestler
- "Assessing Risk of Homicide or Near Lethal Violence in Collaboration with Survivors - Centering Their Experiences" - Dr. Jill Messing
- "Engaging Men and Boys" - Ed Flores, William Arakaki, Wendell Say
- "Navigating Conflict: Elevating Emotional Safety and Relational Repair" - Cathy Cave
- "Negotiating with Allies About Survivor Confidential Information" - Alicia Aiken
- "To Live Without Fear and Violence: Serving Survivors of Domestic Violence with Disabilities" - Ashley Brompton



Pictured: C. Melenani Wai'alae, Greg Ryan & Associates, with guests Dr. Jonathan Osorio, Delia Ulima, and Tolua Samifua (Kuleana and Community: For Kānaka and Other Pacific Islanders in Hawai'i)



# 2021 HSCADV CONFERENCE CONT.

## STAR ADVOCATE



**Doris "Dorie" Ciskowsky**

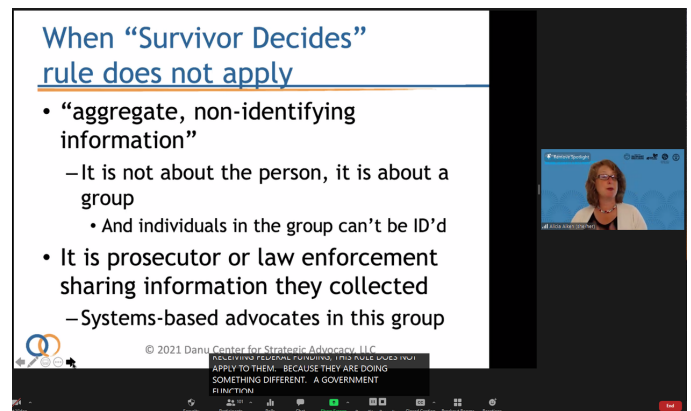
The final event of the conference also included an award ceremony for this year's "Star Advocate," Doris "Dorie" Ciskowsky.

Dorie is the Misdemeanor Unit Supervisor at the City and County of Honolulu Department of the Prosecuting Attorney's Victim Witness Kokua Services and was nominated by six of her colleagues, supervisors, and employees. Described by her friends as the epitome of a true role model of an advocate, Dorie goes beyond the call of duty when working with both victims and witnesses. She has the natural ability to identify specific needs of victims even when encountering them in their most passionate state of mind and is known to have the finesse to redirect and guide them to their immediate needs.

Congratulations, Dorie, on being this year's Star Advocate!

Mahalo to the following organizations and individuals for their support in making the 2021 HSCADV Conference happen:

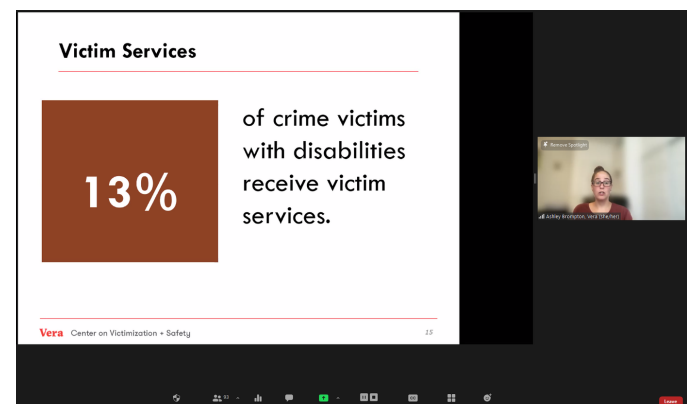
- The incredible team at Under My Umbrella
- Mark Noguchi
- Makana Risser Chai
- Isle Interpreters
- Hawai'i Interpreting Services



Pictured: Alicia Aiken, Danu Center for Strategic Advocacy, Confidentiality Institute (Negotiating With Allies About Survivor Confidential Information)



Pictured: Ed Flores, Ala Kuola (Engaging Men & Boys)



Pictured: Ashley Brompton, Vera Institute of Justice Center for Victimization and Safety (To Live Without Fear And Violence: Serving Survivors Of Domestic Violence With Disabilities)

# FEDERAL POLICIES



## VOCA FIX

In July, the U.S. Senate unanimously passed H.R. 1652, the VOCA Fix to Sustain the Crime Victims Fund Act of 2021 (“VOCA Fix”). The bill was signed by President Biden.

VOCA is the largest source of federal funding for domestic and sexual assault services in the country and is not taxpayer funded. VOCA funds come from federal criminal fines and fees that are deposited in the Crime Victims Fund (CVF).

This legislation will stave off more drastic cuts and help local programs as they work to meet the growing demand for services.

A collaborative effort of more than 1,700 victim rights organizations, government agencies, and 56 Attorney Generals supported this legislative fix.

## VAWA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2021 (H.R. 1620)

The U.S. Senate is currently negotiating a bipartisan reauthorization bill after the House passed H.R. 1620, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2021, with strong bipartisan support. H.R. 1620 includes key improvements and no rollbacks of the current Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) protections and provisions.

## FVPSA IMPROVEMENT ACT PASSED (H.R. 2119)

In October, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Family Violence Prevention and Services (FVPSA) Improvement Act, H.R. 2119. FVPSA was last re-authorized in 2010, and a re-authorization bill updating the decade-old legislation was long overdue. The bipartisan bill, H.R. 2119, has received input from national, state, and local organizations around the country to update services and resources to best meet the needs of survivors of domestic violence, family violence, and dating violence.

Among the many important amendments included in this House bill, **the establishment of a Native Hawaiian Resource Center parallel to the included Alaska Native Resource Center is a significant win for Hawai‘i and the result of the grassroots advocacy of Pouhana ‘O Na Wahine.** The resource center is intended to ensure all Indigenous people have access to culturally sensitive family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence resources. The amendment was introduced by Congressman Kahele. (cont.)

# FEDERAL POLICIES CONT.



## FVPSA IMPROVEMENT ACT PASSED (H.R. 2119) CONT.

This house version also includes investments in domestic violence prevention and expands support for and access to culturally specific programs and excludes reinstating a match requirement, reducing the authorization amount to \$270 million, increasing accountability and reporting measures and the prohibiting the use of funding for abortion services referrals.

## AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING

This fall, FVPSA released American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding for domestic violence and sexual assault services.

- Of the \$198 million funding for sexual assault services, Hawai'i will receive \$1.14 million.
- Of the \$550 million funding committed to detecting, diagnosing, tracing, monitoring, and mitigating COVID-19, the state of Hawai'i will receive \$1.88 million.
- Of the \$200 million funding to respond to COVID-19, the state of Hawai'i will receive \$498,384.