Dear Jeannette,

We hope that you are having a wonderful holiday season. We wanted to share with you a few exciting updates of activities in Hawaii.

Judi Lund Person, NHPCO Vice President, Regulatory and State Leadership to visit Hawaii

We are very pleased to announce that Judi Lund Person, MPH, Vice President, Regulatory and State Leadership, will be visiting Hawaii and meeting with hospice, palliative and long term care experts. She will be speaking on January 7 with hospice and long term care leaders in the morning and evening and meeting with hospice and palliative care leaders in the afternoon. If you are interested in attending any of these events, please contact Jeannette Koijane.

To find out more about the January 7 schedule and topics go to the Kokua Mau website.
Hawaii is Dark Pink!!

Hawaii has been recognized by the national POLST (Physicians Orders for Life Sustaining Treatments) working group as having a full-fledged POLST program. If you visit the website you can see that we have graduated to a dark pink color!! Congratulations to everyone who has worked to make this a reality. POLST orders are being written around the state and helping people to have their wishes for end-of-life care honored. You can read more about POLST at www.kokuamau.org.

Kokua Mau connections in the media

Dr. Wen-yu Lee, Medical Director of St. Francis Hospice, wrote a thoughtful article about the vital role of hospice in health care reform in the Nov 5 opinion section under the title “Include hospice care in health care reform” (sorry a link is no longer provided by the Advertiser).

Linda Dullin, long term Kokua Mau member and case manager with HMSA's Integrated Case Management Services, recently lost her mother after a long illness. Mrs. Barbara Dullin wrote wonderful and moving article for the Honolulu Advertiser on Nov 27 about her positive experiences with hospice and palliative care. To read the article which appeared shortly after her death please click here.

Jeannette Kojiane, Kokua Mau's executive director was interviewed by Mary Vorsino from the Honolulu advertiser on from Dec 13. Read the full article here

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The next meeting of Kokua Mau's program committee is Thursday January 28, 3-5pm at Hospice Hawaii and all are welcome.

Aloha and Happy Holidays

Jeannette Kojiane