



KŌKUA MAU

“Continuous Care”

Hawai‘i Hospice and Palliative Care Organization

2nd Kōkua Mau eNewsletter

12/13/12

Dear Jeannette

Happy Holidays. As the year draws to a close and you make decisions about your end-of-year giving, we hope that you consider a donation to our very own Kōkua Mau.

Our work cannot occur without assistance and financial support. Kōkua Mau, as a local community-benefit organization, is fueled by the passion of dedicated volunteers with a lean budget and every penny spent on making our work possible. Your generous tax-deductible gift will allow us to have a real impact on improving quality of life for those with serious illness and their loved ones.

Membership and donations are an essential part of keeping Kōkua Mau fiscally sustainable. Show your support and become a member: A donation starting at \$40 or more, will grant you [individual membership](#) to Kōkua Mau. We especially encourage [organizational membership](#) by community leaders that support our mission. If you think your organization is interested, please contact Jeannette. Details for joining are to the right of this newsletter.

All members are honored on the [Kōkua Mau website](#) (unless you tell us otherwise).

For over 13 years, Kōkua Mau has been a voice for outstanding hospice and palliative care and services in Hawai'i, providing

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Featured Article



**Join Kōkua Mau as a
members now: your
membership counts for
2013!**

We have listened to your feedback. We are offering the Stakeholder Kōkua Mau [Membership](#) for 2013 starting at \$40 (\$25 for students or persons in training) per year. And yes - it is tax-deductible.

Membership is the backbone of Kōkua Mau's budget and helps us to be a financially sustainable organization. Just follow the steps outlined on our [website](#).

Our Members

high-quality information, trainings and ever growing networking opportunities, such as Palliative Pupus and our Monthly Meetings.

[Visit Our Members](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Kōkua Mau is involved with a number of different activities to further our mission and vision. Some highlights:

Palliative Pupus - the [bi-monthly clinical case discussion](#) has grown so that we are now meeting in a larger room!! This is co-sponsored with Queens Pain and Palliative Care Dept.

Kōkua Mau meetings - [held monthly](#) feature local programs and speakers, as well as a chance to discuss current issues and get updates on local events. All are welcome!!

Three new informational sheets - were created to help people better understand the decisions they may need to make when facing serious illness. All are available free for download - Questions about [CPR](#), [Tube Feeding](#), and a revised [Advance Directive](#) brochure. (A longer, comprehensive brochure is nearing completion!)

Our [website](#) is a well-used community resource, getting over 10,000 hits a month and providing resources and information for community members and professionals.

POLST - Kōkua Mau continues to be the Hawai'i repository for all things related to [POLST](#), including the webpages with all materials for free download, a Speakers Bureau, and our POLST advisory committee which helps to answer new (and old) questions. POLST continues to be an important issue, as our recent, well-attended Kōkua Mau meeting showed.

Our monthly newsletter, has expanded to nearly bi-weekly, reporting on local events, new resources and issues of national and local importance. Over 900 people now receive the newsletter!!

Supportive Care - We continue to work with HMSA on developing a pilot that will allow certain patients to enroll in hospice AND receive some disease modifying treatments, similar to the UHA benefit. We are hoping for a July 1 start date for this state-of-the-art program!!

Please contact [Jeannette](#) with any questions.

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Save the date: Wed. Feb 13, 2013

3rd HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE CONFERENCE IN KAILUA KONA, HAWAII ISLAND

Attendance will be limited. **RSVP to Hospice of Kona at 324-7700 today** to reserve your space.

This event is for Clinical Health Care Professionals and is designed to optimize awareness of options/services to specific patients in your care. Building resources and networking with other health care providers will be an additional benefit.

Key note Speaker:

Dr. Ira Byock, Chair, Palliative Medicine, the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth, Director of Palliative Medicine, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. Dr. Byock is on the front lines of hospital care and illuminates one of the most important and controversial ethical issues of our time.

Also among the presenters are well known experts:

- Daniel Fischberg, MD, PhD-Medical Director, Pain & Palliative Care, Queens Medical Center
- Stephen Denzer, MD-Medical Director, Hospice of Kona
- [Download the PDF flyer](#)

Hawaii Community Feedback Survey

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH) invites you, your colleagues, and those you serve to participate in the Hawaii Community Feedback Survey. The purpose of the survey is to gain input from community stakeholders, like you, about your concerns regarding health and quality of life within your community.

Please help HAH through the following three ways:

1. complete the 10-minute [survey](#),
2. forward this invitation to your board, committees, colleagues, email distribution lists, and relevant contacts, and
3. include this request in your newsletters and email communications.

HAH seeks community health workers, public health professionals, and community residents responses as part of a larger statewide community health needs assessment. The broader and greater the participation, the better.

HAH will use participant responses to analyze local opinions about the top health and related concerns in their communities. All responses are

confidential.

The link for the Hawaii Community Feedback Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HawaiiCommunitySurvey2012>.

The survey will close on Friday, December 21st. Thank you in advance for your participation and assistance with disseminating this request. For questions or additional information, please email jennifer@healthycities.org.

The Conversation Project

We always talk about the fact that having 'the conversation' is an important, but often a difficult and emotionally challenging task. We wanted to tell you about a new resource available on-line: [The Conversation Project](#), spearheaded by national columnist Ellen Goodman.

It's not easy to talk about how someone wants their end of life to be. But it's one of the most important conversations you can have with your loved ones. The Conversation Project is dedicated to helping people talk about their wishes for end-of-life care. The Conversation Project offers a [Starter Kit](#) that will help you or your organization to get your thoughts together and then have the conversation.

The Conversation Project isn't about filling out Advance Directives or other medical forms. It's about talking to your loved ones about what you or they want for end-of-life care. Explore their virtual kitchen table, with videos or step-by-step PDF files. The holidays are often a good time for these conversations, as we spend time with loved ones.

If people from Hawaii use these materials, please let me know your experiences.

Aloha and hope you have a wonderful holiday season -

Jeannette Kojane
Executive Director

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