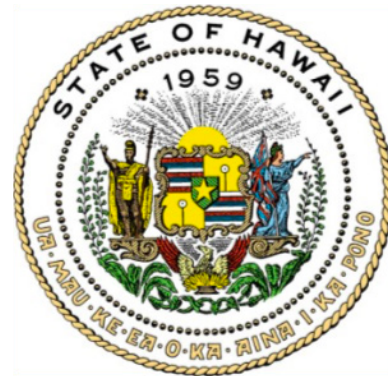


MILILANI/WAIPAHU COMMUNITY REPORT

D) SENATE DISTRICT 18 – APRIL 2020

Serving Mililani Town, Waipio Gentry, Waikele, Village Park & Royal Kunia



Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

It has been over a month since the state mandated the necessary stay-at-home order here in Hawai'i with another month left to go in response to the devastating COVID-19 pandemic. The results have been astonishing as we see the positive impacts of this quarantine in the fewer number of cases being reported throughout the islands. These changes have not been easy, however, and the economic impact they have had on local families and businesses has been staggering.

I have been proud to be one of six appointed to the [Senate Special Committee for COVID-19](#) who have been meeting weekly with state Departments of Healthcare, Education, Transportation, Labor and more as we work together to navigate the hurdles of our our changing economy. These may be challenging times have impacted us all, but I can ensure you that my committment to our community has never been stronger. I have never been more determined to address the concerns of our local families. In doing so, I have been amazed by the many acts of compassion, kindness and generosity I have witnessed by countless volunteers giving back to those in need. It has been nothing short of inspiring.

We have been updating my Facebook pages daily to share the most recent information on COVID-19 and its impact on our community so I encourage you to share and engage as more information becomes available. As we head into another month under our state mandated stay-at-home order, I wanted to share some important updates and resources that may be helpful to you and your family in the weeks to come.



SENATE
VICE PRESIDENT

Chair:
Committee on
Education

Vice Chair:
Committee on
Higher Education

Member:
Committee on
Ways and Means

Hawaii State Capitol
Room 228
(808) 586-7100

senkidani@capitol.hawaii.gov

Pictured Left: Mahalo to the students and instructors of Waipahu High School's Culinary Academy for gifting the Pali Momi staff a gourmet meal made possible by donations from La Tour Bakehouse, Mari's Gardens and Aloun Farms, showcasing how the community is coming together to support one another through this crisis.

UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, over 230,000 individuals (roughly one third of the state's workforce) have lost their jobs, causing the antiquated system to overload. This system which is also used by the Department of Human Services was scheduled to be upgraded this July. Hawaii and Nevada have the highest unemployment rates in the nation.

Changes continue to be made to address issues. The State Unemployment Office is working tirelessly to get all claims into the system to be processed. Almost 200 additional employees have recently been assigned to provide additional assistance including three of my staff. Please see the list of unemployment resources listed to the right to help you navigate your claims and email concerns to the Oahu Claims Office at: dlir.ui.oahu@hawaii.gov

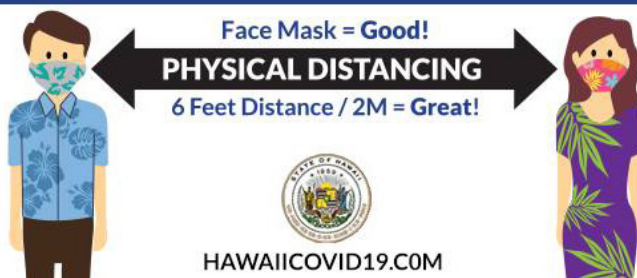
FACE MASKS



Individuals are now required to wear face masks in most public settings such as grocery shopping and riding the city bus, while still abiding by the statewide social distancing and stay-at-home mandates. Everyone has done a great job providing masks for the community from established retail businesses to non-profits and those [sewing their own from home](#) as well! Please note Mask Mandate Exceptions: using ATMs, entering banks, those with asthma or a medical condition that prevents them from wearing a mask, first responders, whose performance of duties may be inhibited by doing so and keiki under 5 years old. In fact, it is dangerous for young children to wear masks as it may result in choking or suffocation.

It is important to continue this practice for the safety of ourselves and others. Click [HERE](#) for a list of where to purchase a face mask. Photo: Legislative interns Nick, Felicity and I wearing our masks while volunteering at the State Unemployment Office.

Protect Yourself and Others



UNEMPLOYMENT RESOURCES:

1. [State of Hawaii Unemployment Insurance](#)

The official state unemployment website to file your claim or check on the status of your claim. Open to file Monday through Friday: 6:30am-11:00pm HST
Weekends & Holidays: 9:00am- 11:00pm HST

2. [Hui Claims Status](#)

To check on the status of your unemployment benefits claim status, please click the link to Hui Claims.

3. [Pandemic Unemployment Assistance \(PUA\)](#)

Federal unemployment support under the CARES Act for otherwise ineligible workers, including self-employed and those whose claims may have already been denied due to such limitations.

3. [Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation \(FPUC\)](#)

FPUC provides a temporary emergency increase in unemployment compensation benefits to eligible individuals for \$600 per week in addition to weekly benefits they receive from other unemployment programs. This will be paid automatically with your unemployment claims.

HEALTHCARE

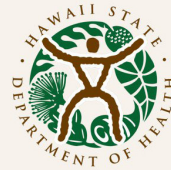
To comply with the stay-at-home mandate, healthcare providers have done an amazing job transitioning services online to offer a wealth of options for patients during this challenging time. These recently introduced “[telehealth](#)” option provides a virtual appointments for patients to consult physicians from the comforts of home without having to enter a doctors office or hospital. Many smaller clinics are also offering these options to ease the stress of patient demand at the hospital as well.

Healthcare providers are covering the cost of testing and in many cases, offering benefits such as waived copays for the likes of mental health to ensure that health-care is provided without the fear of lost insurance benefits. For a list of healthcare resources see those noted to the right.

Need emotional support?

Call our Crisis Line at **1 (800) 753-6879** or text the word “**ALOHA**” to **741741** for support.

HAWAIICOVID19.COM



Get the support you need FREE of charge from the Crisis Line of Hawaii. This free resource is available to the public 24/7. Please see the following numbers to call at your convenience: Oahu: (808) 832-3100, Neighbor Islands: 1-800-753-6879 or text ALOHA to 741741

RIMPAC 2020



We are thrilled to hear the latest update regarding the 27th annual Rim of the Pacific military exercises schedule to take place later this summer. The biennial maritime exercise is the world’s largest international maritime exercise that is normally scheduled from June through August, but in a recent update from Governor David Ige it was announced that it will be held August 17-31 instead.

“I’m pleased the Navy has agreed to postpone the RIMPAC 2020 exercise and will conduct the at-sea-portion this year to help keep Hawaii safe as we continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. I’m working closely with Adm. Davidson to monitor the situation. If conditions change later this summer, we will reassess and respond appropriately.”

HEALTHCARE RESOURCES:

1. [COVID-19 Hawaii](#)

The official state website for updates and resources on managing COVID-19 in Hawaii.

2. [Hawaii State Department of Health](#)

Stay updated with the most recent health updates on COVID-19 in Hawaii.

3. [Aloha United Way](#)

Call 211 for the only statewide hotline partnering with the Department of Health for help finding food, shelter, financial assistance, childcare, disability services, etc.

4. [MEDQUEST](#)

The Department of Human Services MEDQUEST division provides eligible low-income adults and children necessary access to health and medical coverage through managed care plans. Find out if you are eligible and file your application online for medical assistance coverage

5. [Hawaii Foodbank](#)

This dedicated nonprofit has been at the forefront of this pandemic working tirelessly to provide and distribute food throughout the community. Learn more about their efforts as well as more information on their upcoming food drives or to donate or volunteer.

EDUCATION

A unanimous and difficult decision was made by the Hawaii State Department of Education and the Board of Education [to continue distance learning through May 28](#), the official end of the 2020 school year. It was an important decision to make to protect the health and welfare of our students, staff and teachers in light of the COVID-19 to maintain necessary social distancing protocols. I encourage you all to follow HIDOE on Facebook for the most recent education updates as new resources are made available online and more information regarding graduation requirements or modifications. I feel very sad that this pandemic has taken away the opportunity for high school seniors to brave the ceremonies they have looked forward to for many years. Though this experience can never be replaced, it is my hope that a future celebration can take place.



Take a picture with your families in your masks and tag HCAN! Let's #StaySafe together.



[f @hcan_hi](#) [t @hcan_hi](#)

[i @hcan_hi](#) [in @Hawaii Children's Action Network](#)

EDUCATION RESOURCES:

1. [Hawaii State Department of Education](#)

For all the latest education updates for elementary, intermediate, special education, high school and college students, be sure to follow HIDOE on Facebook and Twitter and refer to the link above for a list of COVID-19 information and updates.

2. [State of Hawaii Executive Office on Early Learning](#)

Parents with young keiki can find helpful resources to navigate childcare, supply donations, development and early learning for children 5 years and under. Click the link above for more information from the EOEL.

3. [Hawaii Children's Action Network](#)

This important non-profit is committed to child advocacy and continues to demonstrate it with an extensive list of island-wide resources on everything from food, health, screening sites and more.

4. [Hawaii Public Schools: Continuity of Education](#)

An internal education website to support continued learning during the school closure for schools & teachers as well as an external website for students, parents & caregivers.

CONGRATULATIONS SENIORS!

In the spirit of celebration I would also like to extend my heartfelt aloha and congratulations to all of the incredible seniors in the class of 2020! Though graduation will look different this year it does not diminish the amazing accomplishments you have achieved or take away from this wonderful milestone in your lives. Thanks to your innovation, discipline and commitments to community, I have no doubt that the future of our state is in great hands with your heartfelt leadership at the helm. I wish you all the best for your bright futures ahead! For a list of virtual public school graduation updates click [HERE](#).

2020 CENSUS

The Census Bureau temporarily suspended 2020 Census field data collection activities in March, but steps are already being taken to reactivate field offices beginning June 1, 2020, in preparation for the resumption of field data collection operations as quickly as possible following June 1." The Census Bureau window for field data collection and self-response has been extended to October 31, 2020.

Not sure how this may affect you and your child? Here's a list of "[At-Home Activities that Showcase the Country's Diversity](#)" and the importance of responding to the 2020 Census. Make your voice heard and help Hawaii receive the federal funding we need to provide the best support for local children and their families. Click [HERE](#) for more about the 2020 Census including [language translations](#) and fill out the official online today!

They grow up so fast.

Now's your chance to shape their future.



A kindergartener counted in the 2020 Census this spring will be starting high school when the next census comes around in 2030: That's 10 years of school supplies, teachers, school lunches, and so much more. This is your opportunity to help ensure they have a bright future.

Right now, students across the country are getting an introduction to the 2020 Census through the Statistics in Schools program. This program offers free activities and resources to schools to help prepare their students for an increasingly data-driven world.

Students are learning that the 2020 Census is a count of every person who lives in the United States and its territories. Responding to the census helps your community get its fair share of funding. Census data guides how more than \$675 billion in federal funding is distributed to states and communities each year for schools, health care facilities, roads, transportation, recreation centers, social services, and more.

You have the power to shape your future, and the future of all children, by counting everyone in your home in the 2020 Census.

Learn more about how you can shape your future at [2020CENSUS.GOV](https://2020census.gov).

Get more information about the Statistics in Schools program at [CENSUS.GOV/SCHOOLS](https://census.gov/schools).

Students are also learning these key things about the 2020 Census—and we want you to know them too:

- Starting in March 2020, everyone living in your home needs to be counted. That includes children and newborn babies, citizens and noncitizens, relatives and nonrelatives, and even those staying with you temporarily.
- It's easier than ever to respond to the census. You can respond in 13 different languages, and you can complete it online, by phone, or by mail.
- Your responses to the census are safe and secure. The law requires the U.S. Census Bureau to keep your information confidential, and your responses cannot be used against you in any way.



Shape
your future
START HERE >

United States
Census
2020

Grab-and-go Student Meals

The Hawaii State Department of Education (HIDOE) is implementing the Seamless Summer Option program a few months earlier than scheduled, as approved by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs, to provide free grab-and-go meals for students during the extended spring break period.

The schools below will be providing breakfast and lunch free of charge to children 18 years or younger, regardless of eligibility for free or reduced price meals.

Parents or caregivers who pick up a meal must be accompanied by a child, according to USDA requirements. There will be no personal interaction between HIDOE employees and the community. All meals will be placed in containers. Meals will be located outside of the cafeteria, preferably closest to a driveway or other natural access point on the campus.

For special diet accommodations, send an email to specialdiets@k12.hi.us.



Breakfast service hours: 7:30–8 a.m.

For food safety, meals must be consumed by 10 a.m.

Lunch service hours: 11:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

For food safety, meals must be consumed by 2 p.m.

Mondays thru Fridays, excluding holidays.

Updates will be posted at <http://bit.ly/COVID19HI>

Honolulu District

Dole Middle
Farrington High
Kaimuki High
Kauluwela Elementary
Likelike Elementary
McKinley High
Palolo Elementary

Central Oahu District

Helemano Elementary
Kaala Elementary
Kipapa Elementary
Leilehua High
Makalapa Elementary
Waialua High & Inter.

Windward Oahu District

Hauula Elementary
Heeia Elementary
Kahaluu Elementary
Kahuku High & Inter.
Kailua Elementary
Keolu Elementary
King Intermediate
Parker Elementary
Pope Elementary
Waimanalo Elem. & Inter.

Leeward Oahu District

August Ahrens Elementary
Barbers Point Elementary
Campbell High
Ewa Makai Middle
Honowai Elementary
Kapolei High
Lehua Elementary
Maili Elementary
Makaha Elementary
Nanaikapono Elementary
Nanakuli High & Inter.
Waianae Intermediate
Waianae High
Waipahu Elementary

Maui District

Hana High & Elementary
Iao Intermediate
Kahului Elementary
Kalama Intermediate
Kilohana Elementary
Lahaina Intermediate
Lanai High
Lokelani Intermediate
Maunaloa Elementary
Molokai High

Hawaii Island District

Hilo Union School
Honokaa High
Kahakai Elementary
Kalaniana'ole Elem. & Inter.
Kau High & Pahala Elem.
Keaau High
Kealahou Intermediate
Keaukaha Elementary
Keonepoko Elementary
Kohala High
Konawaena High
Mountain View Elementary
Naalehu Elementary
Pahoa High & Inter.
Waiakea High
Waimea Elementary

Kauai District

Chiefess Kamakahelei Mid.
Kapaa High
Kekaha Elementary
Koloa Elementary
Waimea High

The following locations will begin meal service on:

Monday, April 27

Leeward Oahu District

Leihoku Elementary
Waianae Elementary
Hale Wai Vista Apartment
Complex, Waianae
(Lunch Only)
Ohana Ola Transitional
Shelter, Waianae
(Lunch Only)

Kauai District

Kilauea Elementary

Hawaii Island District

Waikoloa Elementary